



*"Access Energy Cooperative is dedicated to exceeding members' and customers' expectations for safe, reliable, efficient service and environmental responsibility."*

## Vote On or Before August 6

Even if you can not make it to the **Annual Meeting** on August 6, you can still vote in the 2013 election. Ballots will be mailed on July 10th. It is important to **remember** the following points to prevent your ballot from being spoiled.

- Your ballot must be sealed in the yellow ballot envelope provided.
- The yellow ballot envelope must be sealed in an envelope bearing your name and **address**.
- Only one ballot may be enclosed per ballot envelope.
- Your ballot must reach our office by August 6, 2013.

**OFFICES CLOSED  
JULY 4**  
For after hours  
emergencies call  
**800.452.7819**  
or **319.385.1580**

Check out the  
**Annual Meeting**  
section of our  
website

*about*

Annual Meeting

[www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com)



**DISTRICT 1**  
**Fred**  
Hickenbottom  
Fairfield

**DISTRICT 1**  
**Timothy**  
Tedrow  
Fairfield

**DISTRICT 2**  
**Ronald**  
Campbell  
Wayland

**DISTRICT 2**  
**Ronald**  
Clouse  
Mt. Pleasant

**DISTRICT 2**  
**Robert P.**  
Smith  
Mt. Pleasant

**DISTRICT 3**  
**Mark**  
Clifford  
Farmington

**DISTRICT 3**  
**Marvin**  
Newton  
West Point



Highline Headlines is published by Access Energy Cooperative, 1800 West Washington Street, P.O. Box 440, Mount Pleasant, IA 52641, Phone: 319.385.1577  
Highline Headlines (ISSN 1066-7989) is published monthly for \$2.04 per year, per member by Access Energy Cooperative, 1800 West Washington Street, P.O. Box 440, Mount Pleasant, IA 52641 and at additional offices. Periodical postage paid at Mount Pleasant, IA. POSTMASTER: send address changes to HIGHLINE HEADLINES, P.O. Box 440, Mount Pleasant, IA 52641-0440. Copyright 2001, Access Energy Cooperative.

### 2013 Annual Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 6, 2013 • McMillan Park • Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **FREE**  
Music By Jake McVey  
Picnic-style meal with  
Homemade Ice cream  
Pick up dividend checks  
Hot air tethered Balloon rides  
Old Threshers Carousel rides  
Ground train rides  
Pony rides  
Drive-A-Tractor  
Inflatable activities  
Register for door prizes  
Pick up registration gift  
Information booths  
Poster contest winners displayed



7:00 p.m. **BUSINESS MEETING**  
Call to order, Invocation  
Welcome Remarks  
IADG Award Presentation  
Reading of 2013 Notice and Waiver  
Reading of 2012 Minutes  
Nominating Committee Report  
Call for Ballots From the Floor  
Treasurer's Report  
President's Report  
General Manager's Report  
Special Guest Speaker  
Youth Tour Report  
Election Results  
Door Prizes  
(Must be present to win)

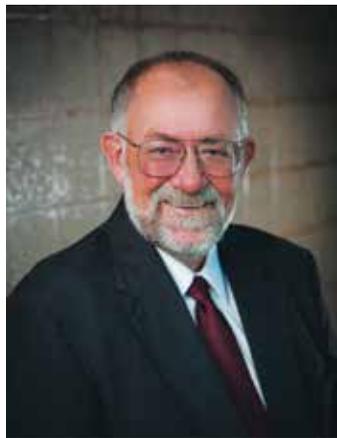
Win one of ten \$75 bill credits courtesy of Sherrill Electric  
**GRAND PRIZE-----Win a 2003 truck**  
**Must be present to win!!**



*Thank You  
Sherrill Electric!!*

Please Recycle

## Manager's Corner



**General Manager/CEO  
Robert Swindell**

**S**afety is your Cooperative's number one priority; for you, for the general public and for our employees. Lately we have experienced a number of incidents where machinery has broken our poles and guy wires. We have been extremely fortunate that no one has been injured as a result of the damage to our lines.

I realize that with the wet spring everyone is in a hurry to get as much

work done as possible when we have a few dry days in a row; but don't be in such a hurry that you sacrifice your safety. Take a few minutes to make sure you know where our electrical facilities are before you start your work. Pay particular attention to any guy wires that extend away from our poles. With the removal of a lot of fence rows, a guy wire that may have once been parallel to a fence may now be in a cultivated field. Damaging one of our guy wires could result in a serious injury, damage to your equipment or broken poles and downed electric lines.

I cannot stress enough the potential danger of a downed power line. Our crews treat every downed wire as if it is energized; and so should you. If you are involved in an accident that results in a down power line never attempt to move it. Keep people away; and contact us.

If you are in a vehicle that is in contact with a power line, stay in the vehicle until utility personnel tell you that it is safe to exit. The only exception would be if the vehicle is on fire. In the case of fire, jump free from the vehicle being sure not to contact

the ground and the vehicle at the same time. Then hop away from the vehicle with both feet close together.

In addition to the potential for a serious injury, damaging our facilities is expensive. Replacing a damaged pole can typically cost over a thousand dollars and the cooperative does bill those responsible for the damage.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ACCESS ENERGY COOPERATIVE!

I hope you will be able to join us on the evening of August 6th as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of our cooperative. Page one of this month's Highline Headlines details the many activities you can enjoy.



## COOPERATIVE INFORMATION

**Access Energy Cooperative**  
1800 West Washington Street  
P.O. Box 440  
Mount Pleasant, Iowa 52641

**Phone:** 319.385.1577  
**Toll free:** 866.242.4232  
**Fax:** 319.385.6873

#### Website:

[www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com)

#### Email:

[contactus@accessenergycoop.com](mailto:contactus@accessenergycoop.com)

#### HOURS:

Monday-Friday  
(closed Saturdays, Sundays,  
& Holidays)  
Office: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Payments can be placed in the dropbox under the flag pole.

#### After Hours Emergencies call:

319.385.1580  
or 800.452.7819

Visa and Mastercard accepted.

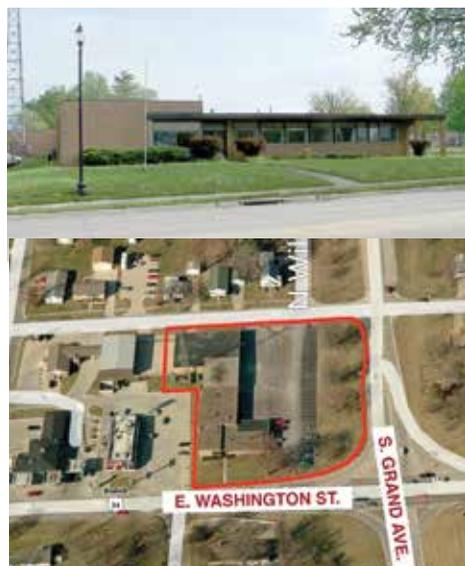
**General Manager/CEO:** Robert Swindell  
**Editor:** Kimberly Brumbaugh  
**Assistant Editor:** Cherity Wibben

#### Officers and Directors:

Marvin Holtkamp	District 3	President
Ronald Campbell	District 2	Vice President
Jerry Barker	District 2	Secretary
Larry White	District 2	Treasurer
Donald Atwood	District 1	Director
Joseph Heckethorn	District 1	Director
Fred Hickenbottom	District 1	Director
Marvin Newton	District 3	Director
Victor Pierrot	District 3	Director

## Building Auction Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 5:00PM

**T**he former Access Energy Cooperative headquarters located at 907 East Washington Street in Mount Pleasant is being auctioned by Sullivan Auctioneers on August 8th at 5:00 p.m.



#### OFFICE AREA

- 4,186 sq. ft.
- GeoThermal HVAC system

#### SHOP AREA

- 8,250 sq. ft. and includes (6) 10'x12' and (3) 10'x13' overhead doors with openers
- Raised dock area that includes offices and basement storage

#### WAREHOUSE AREA

- 6,900 sq. ft. and includes (2) 10'x12' overhead doors with openers
- GFA heat, as well as air conditioned office areas

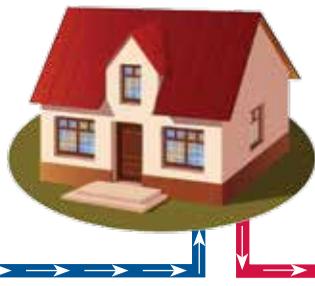
For more information on the auction go to [www.sullivanauctioneers.com](http://www.sullivanauctioneers.com).

## Access Energy Crews Repair Line By Boat During Recent Floods



The heavy rain and storms over the past several weeks have caused our crews to be spending more time than normal with outages and correcting damaged equipment. During the recent flood, services near Ketchum Bridge had to be repaired by boat when trees fell and took down the line.

# Geothermal: Energy From the Ground Up



**G**eothermal energy—created from Earth’s natural heat—has been used for thousands of years to cook and bathe. **Modern** technology has unlocked new ways to harness geothermal potential: to produce electricity using hot water and steam locked below the Earth’s surface, and to heat and cool buildings.

America leads the world in geothermal power production. Nine states generate nearly 3,200 megawatts of capacity, and more than 100 new projects are developing in 14 states, according to the Geothermal Energy Association, the national trade association for geothermal development companies. For comparison, 1 MW can power 750 to 1,000 average homes. Western states boast the most geothermal energy.

## HOW IT WORKS

Typical fossil fuel-burning and nuclear power plants heat water to boiling to create steam. The steam turns a turbine, which generates electricity.

Geothermal power stations cut out the middle man, piping naturally heated water (changed into steam) or naturally occurring steam into a plant to spin turbines. Three different types of geothermal generation exist; the choice depends on the state of the steam or water and its temperature.

- **Dry steam:** The first type of geothermal power plants built, these facilities use steam from a geothermal reservoir (pulled from wells) and route it directly through turbines to create electricity.
- **Flash steam:** The most common, these plants pump water with temperatures greater than 360 degrees Fahrenheit under high pressure to generation equipment. The steam is separated from the water and used to make electricity; leftover water and condensed steam are channeled back into the reservoir.
- **Binary cycle:** These use moderate- to low-temperature groundwater or steam. In a binary cycle system, hot water is pumped from a well and passes through a heat exchanger, where it warms a secondary fluid with a lower boiling point than water. This causes the secondary fluid to flash to vapor, which in turn drives a turbine. The secondary fluid then condenses and returns to the loop system; the water gets pumped back into the well.

## OTHER USES

Geothermal energy offers an array of benefits beyond power generation. In some cases, hot water can be piped directly into systems to heat buildings, greenhouses, and fish farms. Some cities run hot water under roads and sidewalks during winter to melt snow and ice.

The top 10 feet of earth remains a relatively constant 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit year-round. Geothermal heat pumps rely on the energy of the ground to move heat into and out of a building, providing heating and cooling. Also called ground-source heat pumps, these appliances come in two types: a groundwater (**open-loop**) system uses well water; an earth-coupled (closed-loop) model moves a water and antifreeze solution through underground pipes to disperse heat.

While geothermal heat pumps generally operate more efficiently than their air-source cousins, they are more expensive to purchase up front. A federal tax credit equal to 30 percent of the cost for materials and installation, with no limit on total project expenses, applies to geothermal heat pumps through Dec. 31, 2016.

Find a full list of geothermal heat pump requirements, along with a product list, at [www.energystar.gov/taxcredits](http://www.energystar.gov/taxcredits). To see if other rebates are available in your state, check the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency at [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org).

Sources: Megen Howard, Scott Gates, NRECA; U.S. Department of Energy, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Geothermal Energy Association, International Ground Source Heat Pump Association

**Take Control & Save**  
A Cooperative Effort for Energy Efficiency

# Energy Efficiency Rebates & Programs

## ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCES

- \* **Energy Star® Room Air Conditioner**.....\$ 50
- \* **Water heater (Electric only; At least 90% efficient)** .....\$100

## HEAT PUMPS

- \* **Air to Air Source - at least 16.5 SEER (w/Elec. Resist.)**.... \$100 per ton
- \* **Mini-Split Air Source - at least 16.5 SEER** ..... \$250 per ton
- \* **Dual Fuel Source - at least 16.5 SEER (gas back up)** ..... \$250 per ton
- \* **Ground Source - at least 19.1 EER**
- \* **replacing existing ground source unit**..... \$400 per ton
- \* **new & replacing other heat source type** ..... \$750 per ton

## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES .....\$250 per KW

- \* **Capped at capacity. Access Energy Cooperative owns any carbon credits generated.**

## HOME WEATHERIZATION INCENTIVES .....Up to \$500 maximum

- \* **Incentives are available to those who choose to make energy saving improvements recommended by Access Energy Cooperative following a FREE energy audit conducted by us.**
- \* **Improvements must be completed in recommended order by AEC.**

## BUSINESS LIGHTING REBATE

- \* **Must have at least 10 eligible fixtures at a commercial, industrial or ag business member’s account of Access Energy Cooperative.**
  - \* **Fluorescent T-5 and T-8 lighting systems with electronic ballasts**
  - \* **LED (light emitting diode) and LED exit signs**
  - \* **Occupancy Sensors**
- \* **Bulbs and fixtures must be evaluated by AEC to determine eligibility based on an audit of existing lighting prior to any installation of new equipment. A knowledgeable employee from the business needs to be present to guide AEC through the initial walk-through lighting audit.**
- \* **Total rebate amount is limited to \$30,000 per member per year and will not exceed 40% of the total equipment cost.**

## FREE ENERGY AUDITS & REBATE FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- \* **Conducted by a qualified Access Energy Representative**
- \* **Blower door test to check for air leaks and gaps**
- \* **Inspect insulation, doors, windows, lighting, appliances, and much more**
- \* **Weatherization improvements suggested at audit are eligible for incentive up to \$500**

## LOW INTEREST LOANS

Access Energy Cooperative has ERC low interest loans available for the cost of materials and labor for energy efficiency home improvements in new or existing structures. For more details see our website.

Specific requirements apply to individual rebates.  
For more information on rebates, low interest loans or to schedule a free energy audit call 385.1577 or 1.866.242.4232 or visit our website at [www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com).

## When Electricity Came to the Farm

By Victor Pierrot

**A**ccess Electricity provided by the REA came to our farm in the summer of 1947 when I was six years old. I really don't remember much about the pre-electricity period, but I know we had a light-plant powered by a gasoline engine that provided limited electricity in a DC mode, which, according to my Dad, was not very versatile. And it wasn't just lack of convenience. A poorly performing exhaust pipe on that engine nearly ended our family life before it really got started.

When we got the real thing, Dad had an electric water pump installed in the kitchen. And more importantly, he converted a large back porch into a small back porch and built a bathroom in the other half with a big tub and a flush toilet. And the outdoor facility in the back yard became an antique. The big tub was a real luxury for a family of boys who played in the dirt and helped Dad with the combining and straw baling.

As Christmas approached, I learned of a new toy that could now be mine if I was a good boy - an electric train. Santa brought that train on Christmas morning and I was thrilled. And then a sad thing happened. A big ice storm hit our area and many power lines went down. And my train stopped.

Even though I was heart-broken, I recovered quickly because the yard and ditches were perfect for some exciting sledding. While I was trying out the ditch banks and any other slopes I could find,

I saw a power company truck stop out front and noticed the driver talking to my Dad. Our house was situated just off the main highway on a farm road that serviced about 50 other farms, so it was likely that the lineman was getting directions. All day long I saw service trucks going past our house. At first I thought that one truck was making a lot of trips, but I soon realized that there were many trucks. Apparently the REA had sent their entire fleet to our area.

About sundown our power came back on again. But an interesting thing happened as I was putting my sled away. I saw one service truck pull up and park in front of our house and then another and another and another. I couldn't figure out what was happening - was there a particular problem with our transformer?? About that time Mom called me into the house for supper and I couldn't believe what I saw. Mom had prepared a feast for those REA linemen, and somehow Dad had gotten the word to all the trucks. That was one happy bunch of guys! They chowed down like a thresher crew. The story of my silenced electric train was a big topic of discussion during supper.

After polishing off roast beef and mashed potatoes and pie, they thanked Mom profusely and went clumping out the door in their big boots. Each of them made a point to tell me they wanted to hear my train whistle.

Many years later I was at a meeting with Dad when a man came up to him and said, "You probably won't remember me, but I was one of those linemen that your wife fed after that ice storm." He went on to say that he had never forgotten that gesture and he wanted Dad to tell Mom how much he and all the other linemen appreciated it.

## Summer Help

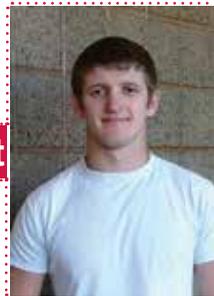
**T**his summer Access Energy has three college students helping out at the cooperative.

Amber Hainline is helping with miscellaneous office duties. This fall she will be attending the University of Iowa majoring in Nursing.



**Amber**

Elliott Carlson is working as an Engineering intern assisting with staking and other various tasks. In the fall, Elliott will be a senior at Iowa State University majoring in Mechanical Engineering.



**Elliott**

Tanner Earp is helping the Mount Pleasant crew and in the warehouse. Tanner will be a senior at Iowa State University majoring in Advertising and Sociology.



**Tanner**

*Celebrating  
75 Years*



Still providing safe, reliable, efficient service... because we care.



Annual Meeting Entertainment  
Miss REC Contest—1954



Annual Meeting Entertainment  
Jared Harness & Blackgrass—2012

# Co-op Birthday Timeline

- May 11, 1935** The Rural Electrification Administration (REA) was created.
- 1937** Five meetings were held to promote rural electrification. About 300 farmers signed applications for organizing the cooperative.
- June 1938** 530 members signed applications with 291 being located in Henry County and 239 in Jefferson County. Board members went door to door to get people to sign up.
- July 5, 1938** Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State.
- July 15, 1938** First official board meeting at Henry County Ag Agent in the post office.
- May 18, 1939** Warner A. Russell approved as Project Superintendent for the "Project Iowa 9069-A".
- October 1, 1939** First office open in the Brazelton Hotel Building.
- November 1939** First advertising campaign began.
- November 3, 1939** A bid of \$132,650.24 by Hoak Construction Company of Des Moines was accepted for building the first section of line.
- July 8, 1940** Substation energized and workmen began connecting the home of members whose wiring had been completed. Parke F. Cornick's home was the first to be energized.
- January 9, 1940** The REA approved allotment for construction of 193 miles of highline on the second section.
- May 1, 1942** Moved into building on North Main Street formerly occupied by R. Brown & Company.
- October 13, 1949** The contract was signed for construction of a new office building and warehouse.
- December 1950** New headquarters building at 907 East Washington, Mount Pleasant was completed.
- 1988** Opened the outpost in Fairfield.
- September 8, 2000** Changed name to Access Energy Cooperative.
- March 25, 2002** Bought out of RUS (formerly REA) funding. No longer received government loan assistance.
- October 2008** Moved into new facility at 1800 West Washington Street.
- July 2013** Celebrating 75 year of safe, reliable, efficient service and environmental responsibility.

# Member Commends Access Energy in ESPN Magazine

**RIGHT NAME, WRONG NUMBER**

We probably should have insisted on a video chat.

<b>CHRIS DAVIS</b> Libertyville, Iowa	You're really hot so far this year. Actually, I'm freezing my butt off. We're behind on the warmth.	Where do you get your power? From Access Energy. They do a good job.	Can you hit 60 this year? Only if we do some weird math. I'm 56 right now.
<b>MIKE TROUT</b> Colorado Springs, Colo.	This year is a little different, eh? No kidding. The garden was in full bloom by this time last year.	What do you look for at the plate? Anything high in protein. I like fish a whole lot.	How do you like being an Angel? I hope I don't find that out for a long, long time.
<b>MATT KEMP</b> Quincy, Ill.	What's your advice on fighting? Stay away from the big drunk guy at the bar.	Can you carry the load this year? Sure. I've got a station wagon, so there's plenty of room.	Whom are you dating? According to my wife, I'm not supposed to be dating anyone.

42 ESPN The Magazine 05/13/2013

# 2013 Scholarship Winners

Three area high school graduates were recently named recipients of \$500 scholarships from Access Energy Cooperative. Receiving the awards were Garrett Gobble of Danville High School, Lauren Hillman of Mount Pleasant High School, and Andrew Whitaker of Harmony High School.

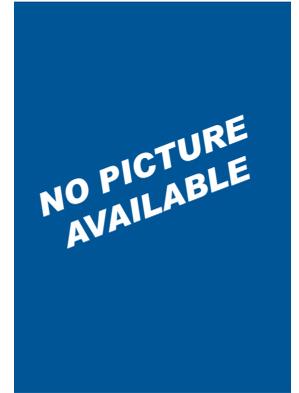
Access Energy Cooperative awards three \$500 scholarships each year, one in each of its three districts. The parents or guardians of the applicant must be members of Access Energy Cooperative. Winners are chosen based on their academics, achievements, community involvement, and a submitted essay.



Garrett, son of Greg and Janice Gobble of West Point, plans to attend Southeastern Community College to obtain an AA degree, then transfer to the University of Northern Iowa to get a BA degree.



Lauren, daughter of Kirk and Anita Hillman of Mount Pleasant, plans to attend the University of Iowa majoring in Biomedical Engineering.



Andrew, son of Clark and Norma Whitaker of Hillsboro, plans to attend Iowa State University majoring in Agricultural Engineering.



June 12, 2013

Chris Davis  
1844 Libertyville Rd  
Libertyville IA 52567

Dear Mr. Davis,

On behalf of Access Energy Cooperative, I would like to offer to you congratulations and our appreciation. A friend of the cooperative came across this article in the May 13, 2013, edition of ESPN The Magazine.

Congratulations on being featured in the magazine!

And THANK YOU for your kind words of appreciation expressed of the cooperative that provides you power. You didn't have to add the part of doing a good job, but all of us at Access Energy Cooperative really appreciate that you think we do a good job, and that you shared that in the interview.

Sincerely,  
ACCESS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

*Robert Swindell*  
ROBERT SWINDELL  
General Manager/CEO



Access Energy Cooperative  
1800 W. Washington Street  
P.O. Box 440  
Mount Pleasant, IA 52641-0440

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Fax 1.319.385.6873  
www.accessenergycoop.com

# Congressional Analysis Fires Up Coal-Ash Debate

In a report issued late last year, the non-partisan Congressional Research Service (CRS)—the policy and legal analysis arm of Congress—may have damaged responsible legislation dealing with coal combustion byproducts (CCBs). How so? By inaccurately claiming that two bills then under House and Senate consideration would not adequately protect human health.

CRS then issued a follow-up report in March reiterating its concerns about CCBs, which include residues such as bottom ash, fly ash, scrubber sludge, and slag generated by coal-fired power plants.

The CRS study looked at the Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act (H.R. 2273), which passed the U.S. House last year, and the Coal Ash Recycling and Oversight Act (S. 3512), which died in the Senate. Both measures directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to continue classifying CCBs as non-hazardous waste. EPA has proposed applying a hazardous tag to CCBs, which would overturn four previous non-hazardous determinations, the last made in 2000.

“Turning CCBs into hazardous waste would cost the utility industry an estimated \$10.9 billion in additional handling costs by 2016, drive up electric bills, and possibly result in 18 percent of coal-fired generation in the country being shut down,” remarks John Cassidy, NRECA senior principal, legislative affairs. “In its 2000 study, EPA determined CCBs do not warrant regulation as hazardous waste under RCRA [the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act] and that oversight was generally in place at the state level to ensure adequate management. Nothing about CCBs has changed since then. Electric co-ops contend coal ash is appropriately regulated and oppose efforts to have it branded as hazardous waste.”

Cassidy adds that CRS failed to acknowledge that S. 3512 mandated the application of CCB controls aimed at protecting human health and the environment.

In response to criticism, CRS earlier this year announced plans to update its coal-ash analysis.

As things stand, 45 percent of CCBs are recycled annually, including about one-third of fly ash (typically used as a Portland cement replacement or in highway construction) and a little more than one-fourth of scrubber sludge (the portion converted into synthetic gypsum for wallboard manufacturing). The remainder of CCBs, more than 70 million tons, ends up in impoundments and landfills.

Each year, the U.S. electric utility industry produces about 130 million tons of CCBs (of which roughly 8 percent is created by generation and transmission cooperatives)—an amount three times the volume of all municipal garbage collected nationwide. Fly ash accounts for more than half of the amount, scrubber sludge (also known as flue gas desulfurization, or FGD, material) approximately 25 percent, bottom ash another 16 percent, and slag about 7 percent.

If these materials were to be deemed hazardous, they would have to be impounded in hazardous-waste landfills, adding substantial costs every year to the operations budgets of electric utilities.



## Energy Efficiency

### *Tip of the Month*

Lighting accounts for about 13 percent of the average household's electric bill—cut costs by choosing new lightbulbs that have increased output and longevity. Some cost more up front, but prices are dropping as technology advances. Check out the label for options on color, brightness, and even dimming and multi-way functions. Combining lights with automatic sensors can cut costs further.

Source: NRECA's Cooperative Research Network

# Propane Appliance Maintenance

## LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS

Only a qualified service technician has the training to install, inspect, service, maintain and repair your appliances. Have your appliances and propane system inspected on a regular basis before the start of each heating season.

## HELP YOUR APPLIANCES “BREATHE”

Check the vents of your appliances to be sure that flue gases can flow easily to the outdoors; clear away any insect or bird nests or other debris. Also, clear the area around your appliances so plenty of air can reach the burner for proper combustion.

## DO NOT TRY TO MODIFY OR REPAIR

Valves, regulators, connectors, controls, or other appliances and cylinder/tank parts. Doing so creates the risk of a gas leak that can result in property damage, serious injury, or death.

## HAVE OLDER APPLIANCE CONNECTORS INSPECTED

Certain older appliance connectors may crack or break, causing a gas leak. If you have an appliance that is more than 20 years old, have a qualified service technician inspect the connector. Do not do this yourself, as movement of the appliance might damage the connector and cause a leak.

# Propane Summer Fill & Pre-Purchase Programs

We are taking orders for Summer Fills and Pre-Purchase Contracts. Here is how our programs work:

## SUMMER FILL

Take advantage of the current lower prices by having your tank filled now. Pay for it within 10 days after delivery and receive our 10-cent per gallon discount. Program ends August 31st.

## PRE-PAY CONTRACT

This program allows you to control the price you pay for propane from now through April 1st of next year. To take advantage of this offer, call and tell us how many gallons you want to lock in by September 30th. We offer two payment options:

- Full Pay: Pay for your entire contracted gallon order in 10 days and receive our lowest price.
- 3-Pay: If you prefer, for a small additional cost per gallon, there is the option of paying in three consecutive monthly installments.

Call 1-866-242-4232 and talk to one of our Customer Service Representatives for details on any of our programs.



# Summer Safety Tips

When the weather gets hot, we head outdoors for sun and fun. Keep in mind some tips from the Electrical Safety Foundation International to make sure everyone has a safe **summer**.

## WATER AND ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

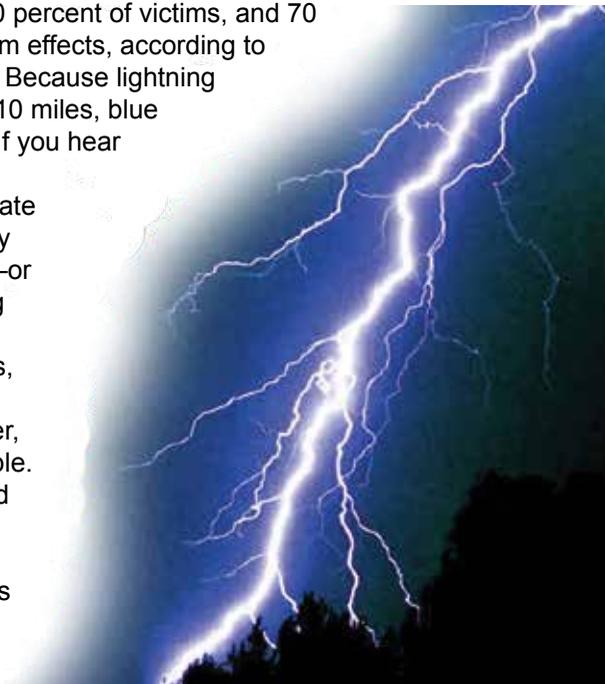
Summer is the season for swimming and boating, and awareness of electrical hazards around water can prevent deaths and injuries. Water and electricity don't mix.

- Sailboats often have masts of 30 feet or more, which are dangerous when they come into contact with overhead power lines. Look up as you get close to shore, and stay at least 10 feet away from overhead lines. Coming into contact with an energized power line causes serious and sometimes lethal electric shock.
- Use covers on outdoor power outlets, especially near swimming pools. Keep cords and electrical devices away from the water, and never handle electrical items before you've dried off.
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to help prevent electrocutions and electrical shock injuries. These devices interrupt the flow of power when they sense a surge. Portable GFCIs require no tools to install and are available at prices ranging from \$12 to \$30.

## LIGHTNING AND STORMS

Lightning strikes are fatal in 10 percent of victims, and 70 percent suffer serious long-term effects, according to the National Weather Service. Because lightning can travel **sideways** for up to 10 miles, blue skies are not a sign of safety. If you hear loud thunder, take cover.

- If weather conditions indicate a storm, stay inside—away from doors and windows—or seek **shelter** in a low-lying area away from trees and any metal, including sheds, clotheslines, poles, and fences. If you're near water, stay as far away as possible.
- If you're in a group, spread out—don't stand close together.
- Indoors, unplug electronics before the storm arrives, and don't use corded phones.
- Avoid plumbing—sinks, bathtubs, faucets.
- Don't forget about your pets. **Doghouses** are not safe from lightning, and chained animals are easy targets.
- If your home is flooded during a storm, don't turn on appliances or electronics until given the okay by an electrician. If there's standing water, don't go inside. The water could be energized.



## WORKING WITH LARGE APPLIANCES

If your air conditioner goes out, keep a few things in mind before you start poking around. Large appliances, such as air conditioners, are responsible for almost 20 percent of consumer-product electrocutions each year.

- Understand your electrical system—know which fuse or circuit breaker controls each switch, light, and outlet.
- Make sure circuits are turned off before starting work and take measures to ensure they're not turned back on while working.
- Use a circuit tester—always test before you touch.

Source: *Electrical Safety Foundation International*

# Lights Out

## Automatic controls can keep lighting costs in check

Whether you can't train your kids to turn out **indoor** lights when they leave a room or need a better outdoor lighting scheme, automatic controls might be a cost-effective solution.

No matter what type you use, the most important thing to remember for any lighting control is to use a type of lightbulb that doesn't need to 'warm up.' All of the lightbulbs for residential use now on the market will work—incandescents, compact fluorescent lamps [CFLs], and LEDs [light-emitting diodes].

## INDOORS

Occupancy sensors are helpful indoors, as long as they're positioned to detect people in any corner of the room. They're also good as task lighting—above places like a desk or kitchen sink—so you get the **extra** light you need while working, but you don't forget and leave it on all **night**.

There are two types of occupancy sensors: ultrasonic and infrared. Ultrasonic sensors detect sound; infrared sensors detect heat and motion.

Timers make an empty home look occupied. If kids are still running in and out, however, timers aren't as effective as occupancy sensors. Plug timers into a wall outlet or install them in the wall, like a light switch or thermostat. New varieties are digital.

Photosensors are generally best outdoors, but new applications have found they're also useful for LED nightlights. When an overhead light is on, the nightlight shuts off automatically.

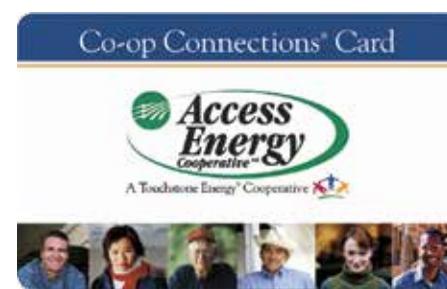
## OUTDOORS

If you already have or are thinking about installing an outdoor security light, consider combining it with a photosensor to keep it from burning all day. A motion sensor goes one step further, if you don't want continuous light.

Timers are commonly used for aesthetic or holiday lighting, sometimes in conjunction with a photosensor—so they turn on at dusk and turn off at a designated time.

Visit [www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com) to learn more about energy efficiency in your home.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy (EnergySavers.gov)



# Coop Connections Card Still Saving Members

In May, twenty-eight **members** saved \$319 on their prescriptions. Total saved so far this year is \$3015 by 144 members.

To find out more on the discounts offered check out our website at [www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com). We continue visiting with area businesses and adding to the list of local deals.

It's easy to save—you just have to show your card to participating merchants.

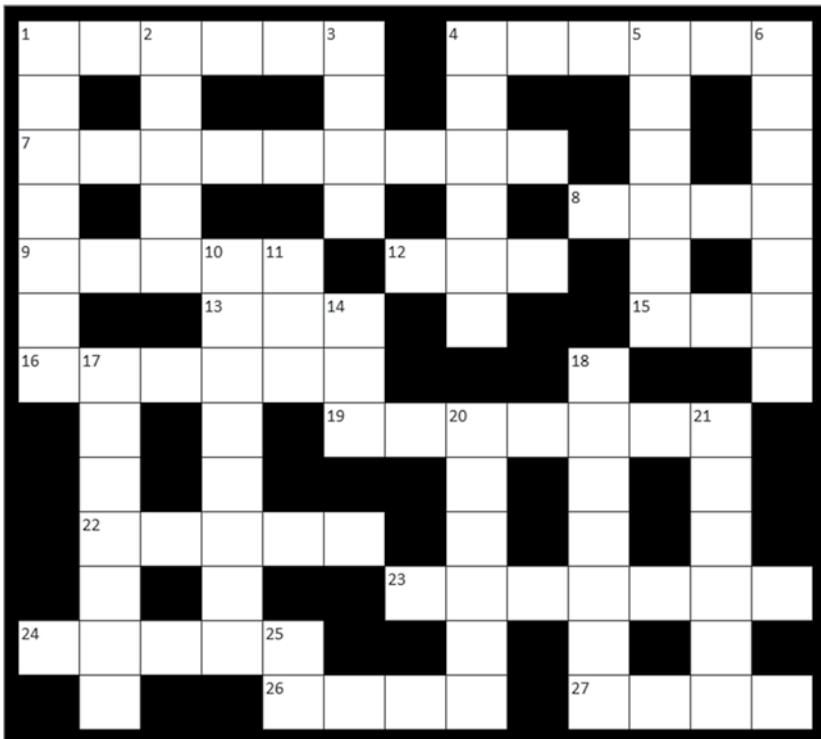
If you own a business and would like to offer a discount for the card, please contact Kim Brumbaugh at [kbrumbaugh@accessenergycoop.com](mailto:kbrumbaugh@accessenergycoop.com) or call our office.

# Win \$25 By Learning About Your Cooperative!

Access Energy Cooperative members can win \$25 by completing the crossword below correctly. Members may clip out their answers and send them by July 26, 2013, to: Access Energy Cooperative, Attn: Crossword Puzzle, P.O. Box 440, Mount Pleasant, IA 52641. Most of the answers are bold and highlighted elsewhere in this issue of the Highline Headlines. If more than one person answers all of the questions correctly by the deadline, a drawing will be held to determine the winner. Only one prize will be given for the crossword puzzle.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



Last month's winner is Tom Crocker of West Point.

## ACROSS

- 1 You can still vote for directors even if you cannot attend this meeting
- 4 These are free to members to find ways to save energy in your home
- 7 These are not safe from lightning, so protect your pets in a storm
- 8 If legislation turns CCBs into hazardous waste it will increase the cost of bills for members who use this type of generation
- 9 With occupancy sensors you get all of this amount of light while you need it
- 12 Opposite of subtract
- 13 Environmental Protection Agency
- 15 Type of bread
- 16 Access Energy hopes you have a very safe one of these
- 19 In May, 28 of these saved over \$300 on their prescriptions with the coop connections card
- 22 Check this for options on energy efficient lighting
- 23 This annual event of members is on August 6, 2013 celebrating 75 years
- 24 Have appliances and your propane system checked before this of heating and cooling seasons
- 26 This type of loop for a ground source heat pump uses well water
- 27 Since lightning can travel \_\_\_ ways for up to 10 miles, blue skies are not a sign of safety

## DOWN

- 1 Your ballot must have this on the outside of your envelope
- 2 Occupancy sensors help you not to leave lights on all through this
- 3 If you hear this thunder, take cover for safety
- 4 This for the annual meeting is on page one
- 5 Automatic controls may be helpful when you can't train family members to turn off these lights
- 6 Seek this in a low-lying area away from trees if you are stuck outside in a storm
- 10 It is important to do this to all of the steps when voting for directors
- 11 Large monkey
- 14 There may be damaged responsible legislation dealing with combustion byproducts because of the policy and legal \_\_\_ of Congress
- 17 Turning CCBs into hazardous waste could cost this industry \$10.9 billion and raise member rates
- 18 These are available for qualified commercial lighting fixtures
- 20 This technology has unlocked new ways to harness geothermal potential
- 21 530 members did this to applications in June 1938
- 25 opposite of from

## ACCESS ENERGY COOPERATIVE NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

The Annual Meeting of the Members of Access Energy Cooperative will be held at McMillan Park in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, at 7:00 p.m., on August 6, 2013, to take action upon the following matters:

1. The reports of officers, directors, and committees;
2. The election of three (3) directors of the Cooperative for a term of three years each;
3. All other business which may legally come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

In connection with the election of Directors scheduled for this meeting, the following members have been nominated for Director by the Committee on Nominations appointed by the Board of Directors of the Cooperative pursuant to the Bylaws.

### THREE-YEAR TERM (Three to be elected)

DISTRICT NO. 1:	Fred Hickenbottom	Timothy Tedrow	
DISTRICT NO. 2:	Ronald Campbell	Ronald Clouse	Robert P. Smith
DISTRICT NO. 3:	George Mark Clifford	Marvin Newton	

You are urged to attend the meeting, hear the reports of the officers, vote for directors, and transact such other business as may come before the meeting.

The featured recipe winner who submitted this recipe will receive a \$10 electric bill credit. Check out our recipe section at [www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com) for a new recipe or to submit your favorite recipe. Or mail us your recipe and we will post it for you.



## Hobo Packets

From the Kitchen of an Anonymus Member

One hamburger patty  
salt  
pepper  
garlic  
3 pats of butter  
2-3 carrots, sliced  
1 medium potato, cubed  
1 small sweet onion, diced  
aluminum foil  
No-stick cooking spray

Take a large piece of aluminum foil and spray with Pam cooking spray, or use the no-stick release aluminum foil they have out now. Place a hamburger patty on the foil; season with salt, pepper, and garlic. Add diced onions, carrots, and potatoes. Salt and pepper the whole package again, and place 3 pats of butter on top. Wrap up the aluminum foil tightly and place on coals, or on the grill. It takes about 45 minutes to an hour, turning once.

[www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com)