

living with energy

IN IOWA



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

MAY 2019

Access Energy Cooperative helps the community and students ▶ See Page 12-13

Capturing Iowa's beauty & co-op stories

Visit our website at www.accessenergycoop.com

**Access Energy
Cooperative**
revolving loan fund
helps area projects

8 recipes to
celebrate
beef month

Give your kitchen
a makeover!

UPCOMING EVENTS



May is National Electric Safety Month

May 27 Office closed for Memorial Day

June 14-20 Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C.

When the office is closed, you can call us 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 866-242-4232 or use our SmartHub App – for answers to billing and account questions, paying your bill and service interruptions. ⚡



Access Energy Cooperative is dedicated to exceeding members' expectations for safe, reliable and efficient service, while being a good citizen in our communities.

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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Friday, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Call our office 24/7: 319-385-1577.

Payments can be placed in dropbox under flag pole. Visa and MasterCard accepted.

General Manager/CEO: Kevin Wheeler
Editor: Kimberly Davis
Assistant Editor: Cherity Wibben
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Marvin Holtkamp	District 3	Director

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

Is a co-op career in your future?

BY KEVIN WHEELER

Access Energy Cooperative prides itself on powering lives, empowering communities and the great career opportunities that electric co-ops provide.

In many rural Iowa communities, the electric cooperative has a reputation as a stable employer that offers professional opportunities and solid benefits in an innovative and exciting industry. For young people who are looking for options outside of the traditional college path, electrical linework is a great alternative that offers great pay, fulfilling work and career advancement. High in demand, lineworkers must have technical knowledge of electricity and power equipment and possess the physical endurance to climb poles and handle heavy gear in adverse weather conditions.

We also employ professionals with degrees in accounting, human resources, communications, engineering, information technology, economic development, business management and more. If you're

looking to earn an advanced degree, you can put that education to great use in rural Iowa by working for a locally

owned electric cooperative. Many of our employees have enjoyed long careers at the co-op that provide competitive salaries and excellent healthcare and retirement benefits

We're also proud to support the employment of veterans, active military service members and their

spouses. Access Energy Cooperative assists local initiatives that work to increase employment opportunities for veterans in rural communities and provide needed resources and support.

For most of us at Access Energy Cooperative, the most fulfilling part of the job is seeing how our efforts directly improve the quality of life for the families and businesses we serve. Because the co-op is locally owned and governed, we're committed to making a difference in the community. As you think about your future, we hope you consider a cooperative career! ⚡



MEMBER PARTICIPATION

Thank you to our members!

Thank you to our members who attended the Member Advisory Committee Meeting on March 7 and engaged in a valuable discussion with Access Energy Cooperative's board and management. The members received a presentation of current and future cooperative and industrial-related initiatives and events. The members attending the meeting also shared their concerns and questions. We appreciate our members' input to help guide the direction of Access Energy Cooperative! ⚡



Access Energy Cooperative's Advisory Committee hears information about cooperative business initiatives.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Welcome new employees

Access Energy Cooperative is happy to announce three new members to our cooperative team. **Ben Smith** and **Kaleb Storts** joined the cooperative in April as apprentice linemen. They both are from Missouri and enjoy hunting in their spare time.



Ben Smith



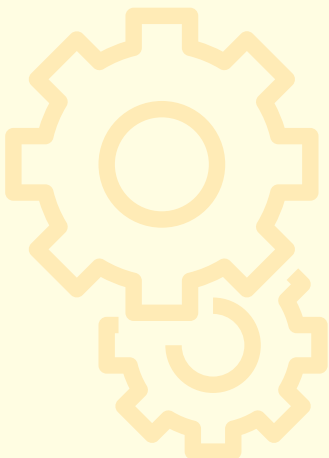
Kaleb Storts

Kassie Bulen, a junior/senior engineering student from Missouri S&T, will join us as a student intern. She will be working with our engineering team throughout the summer.



Kassie Bulen

Please join us in welcoming them to the Access Energy Cooperative team! ⚡



SAFETY MATTERS



**MOVE OVER
SLOW DOWN**



Most of our linemen have families and children. Help us wish the moms of those kids a Happy Mother's Day by keeping our lineworkers safe! If you see workers on the side of the road, move over to the other lane and slow down. We all thank you! ⚡

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Co-op instrumental in physical therapy project



(Pictured from left) Access Energy Cooperative representatives Kim Davis, director of member services and public relations, and Kevin Wheeler, general manager/CEO present a check to Fairfield Universal Therapy Group Managing Members Adam and Dana Conilogue.

Access Energy Cooperative is pleased to support Universal Therapy Group in Fairfield, through the cooperative's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) for the purchase of a physical therapy clinic in Fairfield. By securing this loan, Adam and Dana Conilogue, managing members, and their team can continue providing high-quality healthcare services in an identified rural underserved area. They are fully committed to quality care for the citizens of Fairfield and Jefferson County. ⚡

Co-op supports Fairfield building project

A groundbreaking was recently held in Fairfield for the construction of a new 30,000 square-foot shell building in the community's newest business and industrial park. The groundbreaking followed a ceremonial close on a \$500,000 loan to the Fairfield Economic Development Association (FEDA) from Access Energy Cooperative's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). The facility will be located on a three-acre parcel within FEDA's 61-acre business and industrial park and will be marketed to companies considering expanding within, or relocating to, Fairfield.

The project is a culmination of discussions that began in early 2016 to position the City of Fairfield for further growth and the creation of new jobs. By August 2016, a 28E partnership agreement was formalized between FEDA and the City of Fairfield, Jefferson County, Access Energy Cooperative and Northeast Missouri Electric Power Cooperative (Northeast Power). Sanitary sewer infrastructure was brought to the site with the assistance of a low-interest loan from Access Energy Cooperative's RLF. Later that same year, the cooperative invested in three-phase electric service to the site – positioning the site for commercial and industrial development.

In 2018, USDA Rural Development awarded a \$300,000 grant to the cooperative for the Fairfield shell building project. This grant, in turn, is available to FEDA in the form of a loan, plus \$60,000 in matching funds from Access Energy Cooperative.

“Access Energy Cooperative and Northeast Power are pleased to partner with the Fairfield Economic Development Association, Jefferson County and the City of Fairfield to bring this building to fruition. One of the key pillars we are grounded on is commitment to community, and we take great pride in assisting with economic development in southeast Iowa. This project allows us to bring

new development to this area, with great visibility to Fairfield. We look forward to working with the partners in showcasing Fairfield and Jefferson County,” says Kevin Wheeler, general

manager/CEO of Access Energy Cooperative.

The construction of the shell building is expected to be complete by September 2019. ⚡



Access Energy Cooperative and FEDA closed on a \$500,000 loan for the Shell building project. Pictured (front, from left) Kevin Wheeler; Greg Lowenberg, treasurer, FEDA board of directors; Tim Kuiken, president, FEDA board of directors; (back from left): Joshua Laraby, executive director, FEDA; Nikki Sobaski, director assistant, FEDA; John Morrissey, legal counsel, FEDA; and Bruce Nuzum, senior vice president, Iowa Area Development Group.



A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the construction of a 30,000 square-foot shell building in Fairfield's newest business and industrial park.

MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

Happy Mother's Day to all moms!

Access Energy Cooperative wishes all moms everywhere a happy Mother's Day, with a very special tribute to the moms at Access Energy Cooperative. These moms work hard every day to keep your power on – and to keep your electric cooperative running as safely, efficiently and reliably as possible. When you switch on your next light, remember the hard work of the women at Access Energy Cooperative who helped that light come on for you. Happy Mother's Day! ⚡



Meet the hardworking mothers at Access Energy Cooperative – (back row, from left): Kim Davis, Diane Magnani, Cherity Wibben, Carol Baylor, Tammy Snavelly and Courtney Williamson; (front row, from left): Marva Crowl, Tammy Davis and Jenn Helling. Not pictured: Sheryl Dorn.

Co-op helps Habitat for Humanity project and students



Access Energy Cooperative's Alan Raymer talks to students about energy efficiency – (from left): Shawn Peck, Industrial Tech instructor, Fairfield High School; students: Konnor Burkhart, Anthony Osborn and Nick Frisbie; and Raymer.

Access Energy Cooperative recently assisted the Fairfield Habitat for Humanity project by testing the home for energy efficiency. The Fairfield habitat program, spearheaded by Kathy Brown, partners with the Construction Tech class at the high school, led by Industrial Tech Instructor Shawn Peck. Access Energy Cooperative Member Services Representative Alan Raymer, and Director of Member Services and Public Relations Kim Davis, conducted an energy audit, including a blower door test and thermal imaging



to record how well the home was insulated. The tests revealed that the students had done a very successful job on building an energy-efficient home, which will help the future resident of the building with lower heating and cooling costs. ⚡

Meet Daniel Philips

Daniel Philips is the Director of Operations at Access Energy Cooperative, a position he has held since Donald Roach retired in September 2018. Before accepting his current duties, Philips has held other positions throughout his 31 years of serving our members, including Safety Director, District Foreman, Crew Foreman and Journeyman Lineman in Fairfield.



As your Director of Operations, Philips oversees the operational activities of the cooperative, including managing the cooperative's electrical system workload, vegetation management program, maintenance programs and outage management. He is also in charge of fleet maintenance, material ordering and warehousing.

Access Energy Cooperative is lucky to have such a loyal and dedicated employee working with our crews and maintaining your system. Thank you, Daniel! ⚡

HOW YOUR CO-OP WORKS

Candidates for board of directors

The following members have been nominated by the committee to run in this year's election to be held at the annual meeting of members on August 6, 2019:

District 1

Fred Hickenbottom
Clifford Nichols

District 2

John Arp
Robert P. Smith

District 3

Marvin Newton
Ernest Schiller



Pictured from left to right: Dean Mabeus, Myrna Folkers, Amy Pullis, Tim Myers, Bob Scarff, Bob Wilson, Kenny Whitham, Jerry Leazer and Brandon Ledger

Thank you to the 2019 Nominating Committee for your active involvement in your cooperative. The Nominating Committee is charged with the responsibility of nominating qualified members to run for a seat on the board of directors. ⚡