

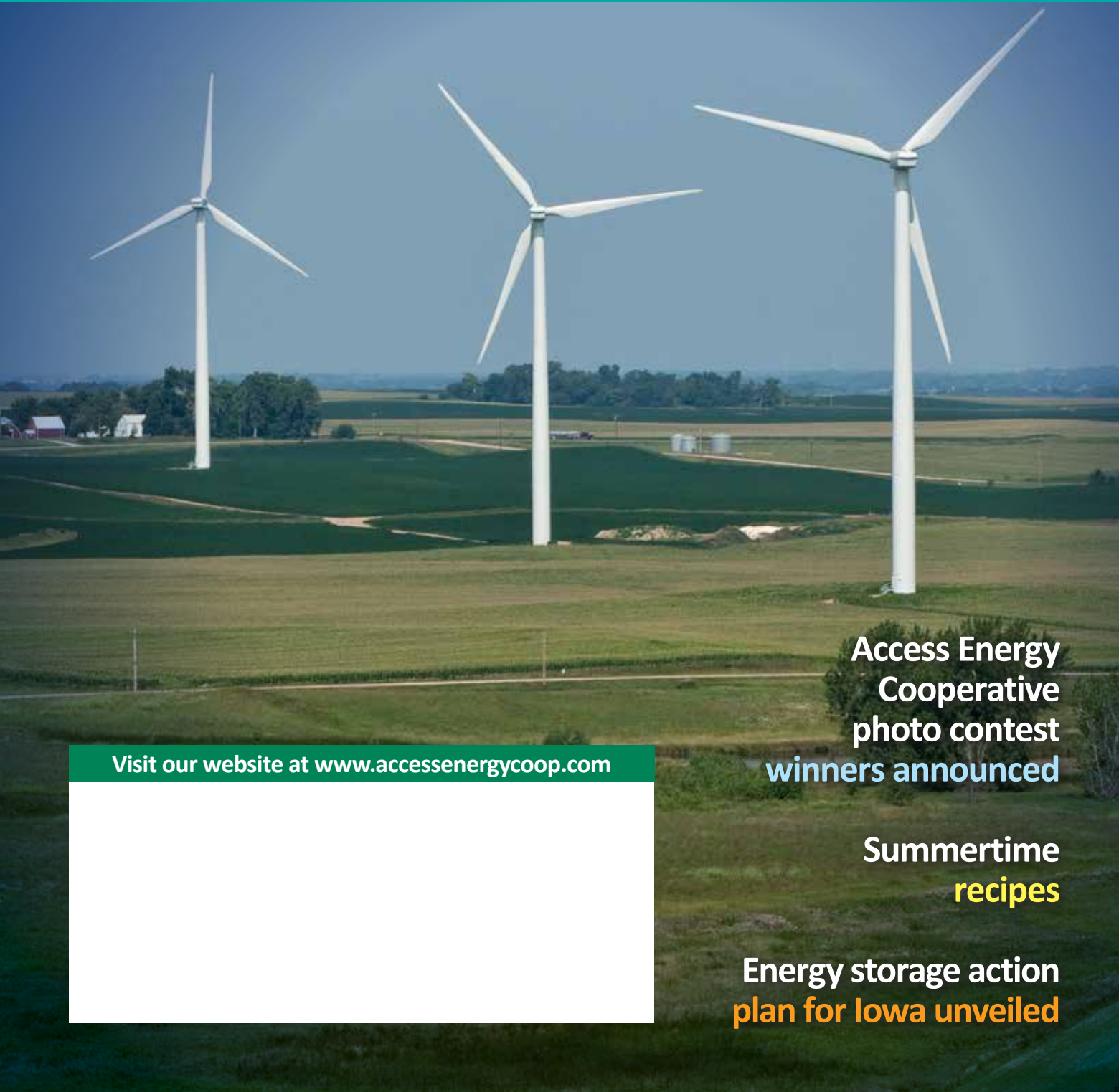
living with energy

IN IOWA



JUNE 2019

Access Energy Cooperative announces candidates for board election ▶ Page 12



Access Energy
Cooperative
photo contest
winners announced

Summertime
recipes

Energy storage action
plan for Iowa unveiled

Visit our website at www.accessenergycoop.com



UPCOMING EVENTS



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

- July 4 Office closed for Independence Day**

- July 8 Board election opens. Online voting available and packets mailed**

- August 5 Online voting closed and no longer accepting mailed in ballots**

- August 6 Annual Meeting of Members – ballots still accepted at the meeting**

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.

Office: Access Energy Cooperative
1800 W. Washington St., P.O. Box 440
Mount Pleasant, Iowa 52641
Phone: 319-385-1577 or 866-242-4232
Fax: 319-385-6873
Call Before You Dig (Iowa One Call): 8-1-1
Website: www.accessenergycoop.com
Facebook: facebook.com/AccessEnergyCoop
Twitter: twitter.com/AccessEnergyC
E-mail: contactus@accessenergycoop.com
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: Chery Wiben
Officers and Directors:

David Hollingsworth	District 1	President
Marvin Newton	District 3	Vice President
Robert P. Smith	District 2	Secretary
Fred Hickenbottom	District 1	Treasurer
Marvin Larson	District 1	Director
Jerry Barker	District 2	Director
Larry White	District 2	Director
Robert Chesnut III	District 3	Director
Marvin Holtkamp	District 3	Director

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

Updated metering system coming this fall

BY KEVIN WHEELER

Access Energy Cooperative is dedicated to exceeding our members' expectations for safe, reliable, efficient service while being a good citizen in our communities. We are always looking forward, making sure the cooperative is well-positioned to meet your needs today and in the future.

Technology is continually evolving and creating new opportunities to provide you with improved services. In 2002, Access Energy Cooperative installed an automated meter reading system that provided our members with the best available method to receive electricity data in more frequent incremental time periods. Since that time, electrical metering technology has continued to advance just like nearly all forms of technology used today. For example, iPhones didn't even exist when we installed our first automated meters!

While this early version of the system has been a valuable tool for us, it has exhausted its useful life. It is difficult to acquire replacement parts, and we are spending resources to maintain an outdated system. Just as TVs, computers and cell phones have been enhanced in the past two decades, so has automated metering technology.

In recent months, we have spent considerable time evaluating upgraded technology and are pleased that a modern and robust solution is available to meet the expectations of our members. The most important priorities are that it provides safe, reliable and efficient service.

Upgrading our metering system

provides cooperative members and staff with key information that is beneficial in designing, operating and maintaining our electric system. For example, we'll have access to timely outage data, which helps us to restore power more efficiently to you when there's an outage. Through SmartHub, members will be able to see their near real-time energy use, giving you the power to make decisions on how you are using electricity.



We believe our members will appreciate the exceptional benefits of the new metering system. However, we have developed a fee-based, opt-out program should a member prefer not to have their new meter communicate directly with us. We have been using automated meters for nearly two decades, so we do not manually read meters. If the meter does not communicate remotely, we will have to read it manually. It will cost the co-op extra staff time and fuel to do so. Paperwork for opt-out decisions is available at the cooperative office and must be completed and received at our office by August 15.

Next month in *Living with Energy in Iowa*, we will discuss the benefits in more detail and dispel some common myths related to radio frequency emissions and privacy. Most importantly, Access Energy Cooperative would never invest in a technology that presents a health or safety risk to our members or employees. Like you, many of us are also members of the cooperative and care about the same things you do. ⚡

July – Access Energy Cooperative starts installing routers and repeaters at substations

August 15 – Deadline to apply for opt out program

September – Access Energy Cooperative begins meter upgrades

December – Expected completion date for meters to be installed and operational

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Sheryl Dorn

Sheryl Dorn is the Director of Administrative Services at Access Energy Cooperative. She has been serving our members in the role for 21 years.



As the Director of Administrative Services, Sheryl is responsible for overseeing the billing and member account activities of the cooperative. She supervises four Access Energy Cooperative team members that assist with accounts and billing questions.

Thank you, Sheryl, for all you do for the members of Access Energy Cooperative! ⚡

EMPLOYEE NEWS

Welcome new employees

Access Energy Cooperative is happy to announce new and returning employees to our cooperative team.

Colton Stephens has returned to the cooperative as a Journeyman Lineman. We are happy to have him back!



Colton Stephens

Gina Smith joined our cooperative family as the Operations Assistant/Radio Dispatcher. She will be working in our operations department.



Gina Smith

Please welcome them to Access Energy Cooperative! ⚡

SAFETY MATTERS



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

OFFICE CLOSING

The Access Energy Cooperative office is closed on

Thursday, July 4

for our nation's Independence Day.



TIP #10

Did you know?

Did you know that you can control your energy use with the Access Energy Cooperative SmartHub app on your mobile device?



SmartHub allows you to set a maximum usage limit on your account and alerts you if you go over that limit. This helps give you control to monitor your activities to meet your energy saving goals.



ANNUAL MEETING

Save the Date!



Aug. 6, 2019 at 5 p.m.

Access Energy Cooperative
2019 Annual Meeting
of Members

Board election
opens July 8.

New this year is online voting! Members can vote for directors online from July 8 until Aug. 5 at 4:30 p.m. Information on how to vote online will be printed on the ballots that will be mailed on July 8.

HOW YOUR CO-OP WORKS

Candidates running for director at this year's Annual Meeting on August 6

The Nominating Committee of Access Energy Cooperative, duly appointed by the Board of Directors, nominated the following candidates to run for 3-year terms, all to be elected at the Annual Meeting of Members. ⚡

District 1

- Fred Hickenbottom
- Clifford Nichols

District 2

- John Arp
- Robert P. Smith

District 3

- Marvin Newton
- Ernest Schiller

District 1



Fred Hickenbottom



Clifford Nichols

District 2



John Arp



Robert P. Smith

District 3



Marvin Newton

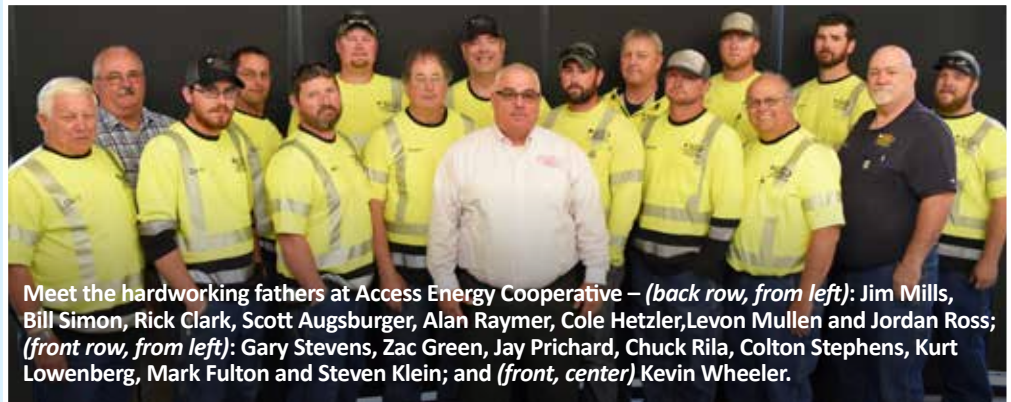


Ernest Schiller

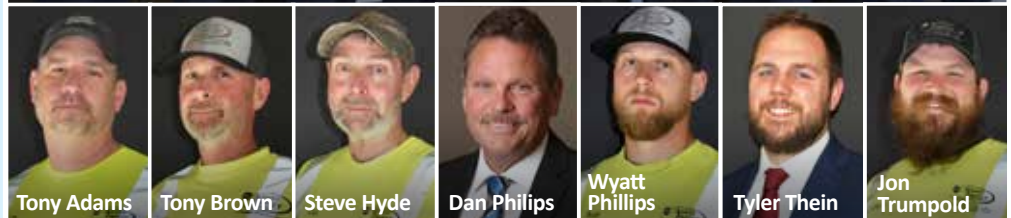
FATHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

Happy Father's Day

Access Energy Cooperative wishes all dads everywhere a happy Father's Day, with a very special tribute to the dads at Access Energy Cooperative. These dads 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 men at Access Energy Cooperative who helped that light come on for you. Happy Father's Day! ⚡



Meet the hardworking fathers at Access Energy Cooperative – (back row, from left): Jim Mills, Bill Simon, Rick Clark, Scott Augsburger, Alan Raymer, Cole Hetzler, Levon Mullen and Jordan Ross; (front row, from left): Gary Stevens, Zac Green, Jay Prichard, Chuck Rila, Colton Stephens, Kurt Lowenberg, Mark Fulton and Steven Klein; and (front, center) Kevin Wheeler.



Tony Adams

Tony Brown

Steve Hyde

Dan Phillips

Wyatt Phillips

Tyler Thein

Jon Trumpold

Congratulations to Access Energy Cooperative's photo contest winners!

This year's winning Photo Contest entries will appear in the 2020 Access Energy Cooperative calendar, and each will receive \$50. Thank you to everyone who submitted entries.

The calendars will be available for you to pick up at the Annual Meeting – or you can stop by our office after August 6. 🌿



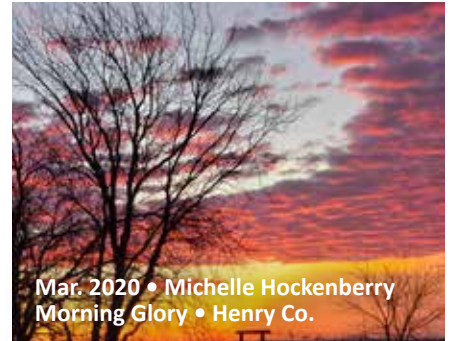
Dec. 2019 • Linda May
A Winter's Day • Des Moines Co.



Jan. 2020 • Jodi Campbell
After the Ice New Day • Henry Co.



Feb. 2020 • Ruth Isenhower
Red-Headed Wood Pecker • Henry Co.



Mar. 2020 • Michelle Hockenberry
Morning Glory • Henry Co.



Apr. 2020 • Lindi Harryman
Graceful • Jefferson Co.



May 2020 • Brooklyn Pardall
Citrus Skies • Lee Co.



Jun. 2020 • Gene Stewart
Sunset Rural Mt. Pleasant • Henry Co.



Jul. 2020 • Jeanette Avery
Over the Rainbow • Henry Co.



Aug. 2020 • Brooklyn Pardall
Full Bloom • Lee Co.



Sept. 2020 • Martha Stark
Bridge at Lake Darling • Washington Co.



Oct. 2020 • Beatrice McDowell
A Walk in Geode • Henry Co.



Nov. 2020 • Gene Stewart
Backyard Sunset • Henry Co.



Dec. 2020 • Lindi Harryman
Cuddle Up, It's Cold! • Jefferson Co.