

living with energy

IN IOWA



Chariton Valley
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

JUNE 2017

Save the Date! ▶ Aug. 7, 2017: Annual Meeting of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Boating this summer?
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SAVE THE DATE!



2017 Annual Meeting of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Monday, Aug. 7

Honey Creek Resort
4:00 p.m. Registration and Meal
6:30 p.m. Meeting



Be sure to check next month's issue of *Living with Energy in Iowa* magazine. It's our special "Annual Meeting Edition" and will include biographies of director candidates, the 2016 Annual Meeting minutes, financial and officer reports, and all the exciting details of our fun-filled evening!



Office

2090 Highway 5 South
P.O. Box 486
Albia, IA 52531-0486

Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

Telephone Numbers

Days, nights or holidays:
641-932-7126 (local)
or 800-475-1702

Website

www.cvrec.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

Here's how local ownership works for you

BY BRYON STILLEY

In recent years, there's been a resurgence in the appeal of buying locally. It's evident by the increased popularity of farmers' markets across Iowa, with shoppers wanting to buy produce or goods that have been grown by their community members. People have a desire to know more about how their food is grown and raised, and buying it from a local farmer helps to bridge that gap.



This change in buying habits is also visible with the promotion of Small Business Saturday in November and the "shop small" movement, which encourage shoppers to return to Main Street and support the local small businesses they know and trust. People of all ages and walks of life seem to prefer buying locally when given the choice.

For electric cooperatives, it doesn't come as a surprise that there's a renewed commitment to supporting local communities and economies with purchases. Local ownership and local control are hallmarks of the cooperative business model, which has served our member-owners well during our 70 years of operation. Member-owner involvement was the key to our formation decades ago, and it's what continues to fuel how we serve you today and the way we plan for the future.

Local ownership and democratic member control – one of the seven key cooperative principles – distinguishes us from other utilities. Every single member of the cooperative has a voice in how we do business. As a member-owner, you elect directors – who also are cooperative members – to represent your interests when it comes to setting policies or making decisions on issues that impact you. One member equals one vote – and every vote counts.

Because your electric cooperative

is owned by your fellow neighbors, friends and community members, decisions are made in the best

interests of the communities we serve. We don't take a one-size-fits-all approach. We know that what works well for a cooperative in northwest Iowa may not work as well for a cooperative in southern Iowa. Because Wall Street investors are not making decisions for the cooperative on your behalf, we can remain flexible and adapt to the unique needs of our region. We can pursue economic development opportunities that are complementary to existing businesses in our area and provide for the sustainable growth of local communities.

While Chariton Valley Electric's core purpose is to provide electricity that's safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible, we're also committed to making our communities quality places to live. We do this in many ways, such as providing good and stable jobs; offering educational opportunities on programs and services such as energy efficiency and safety; encouraging student leadership and education; paying local, county and state taxes; and distributing patronage back to members based on our not-for-profit business model.

Across the country, America's 838 locally owned electric distribution cooperatives provide electricity to an estimated 42 million people in 47 states, covering three-quarters of the nation's landmass. The endurance of the cooperative business model is a testimony to the success of local control and ownership by the same people who rely on electric services to power their homes, businesses and lives. ⚡

Bryon Stilley is the general manager of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

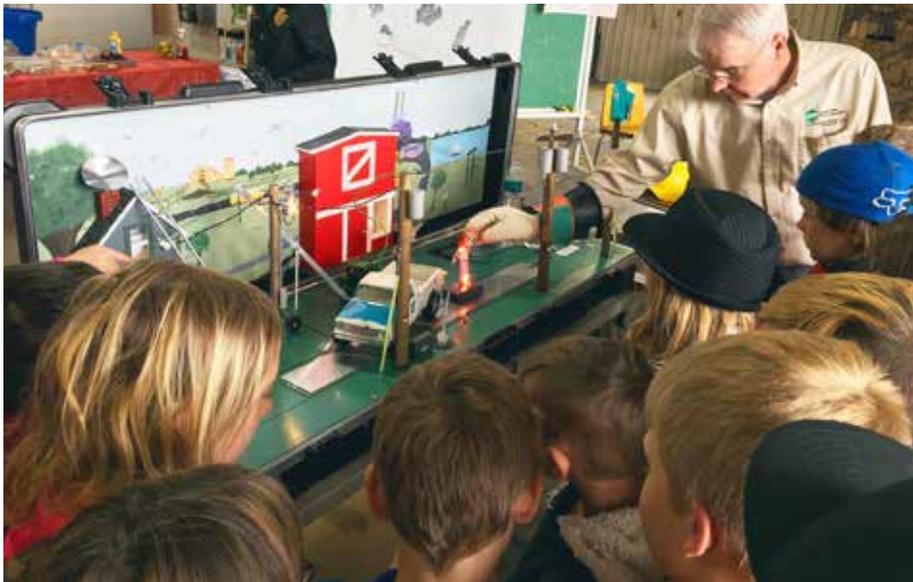
Hundreds of students attend CVEC safety programs

CVEC recently participated in two safety demonstrations, at Twin Cedars Community Schools and the Monroe County Farm Bureau/Albia FFA Ag Safety Day. More than 300 students – elementary through middle school – watched as co-op employees promoted and demonstrated electrical safety around electric lines.

Safety and education are two of Chariton Valley Electric’s top priorities, and we’re excited to have opportunities like these to help educate local youth on the importance of safety around electricity. If your school or organization would like information on CVEC’s safety programs, please contact our office at 641-932-7126. ⚡



During the Monroe County Farm Bureau/Albia FFA Ag Safety Day, CVEC lineman Thad DeMoss helped a student “gear up,” which is always a favorite part of CVEC’s safety demonstrations.



At Twin Cedars Community School, CVEC employee Charles VanDePol demonstrated electric line safety situations with the co-op’s tabletop display.

CVEC awards four scholarships to local graduating seniors

Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., is pleased to announce this year’s \$500 scholarship winners:



Logan Perry, son of Scott and Donnalee Perry of Moravia, will attend Des Moines Area Community College and major in business and entrepreneurship.



Savannah Adams, daughter of Leo and Tammy Adams of Albia, will attend Creighton University and major in accounting, math and Spanish.



Kristen Carlson, daughter of Brian and Diana Carlson of Albia, will attend the University of Northern Iowa and major in computer science.



Mackenzie Curran, daughter of Mike and Kellee Curran of Albia, will attend Iowa State University and major in fashion merchandising and marketing.

“Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative congratulates this year’s deserving scholarship recipients,” said CVEC board president Mike Miller. “We are pleased to be able to help students from families who are members of Chariton Valley further their educational opportunities.” ⚡

EDITOR’S CHOICE CONTEST

Win a large-capacity food dehydrator!

You can make lots of nutritious dried fruit, vegetable snacks and jerky with Cabela’s 10-Tray Deluxe Dehydrator. The unit features a rear-mounted, 900-watt heater and 6.5-inch fan for even drying, along with side air slots that eliminate the need for rotating the trays.

To enter the contest for the \$200 Cabela’s dehydrator, please go to the *Living with Energy in Iowa* website at www.livingwithenergyiniowa.com and complete the entry form no later than June 30, 2017. ⚡



Automated meters will improve efficiency and reliability for members

To help us serve you better, we're installing automated meters within the next 6 months. Electric meters are the sole property of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., so there's no charge to members for the changeover.

By upgrading our equipment and installing new meters with two-way communications, we can reduce costs and:

- Respond faster to outages. The two-way meters tell us when and where there's an outage.
- Provide more accurate and detailed information about outages and restoration times.
- Increase efficiency. Our employees will spend less time on the road reading meters and hunting down outages.

All service personal will be professionally dressed and display a photo ID badge. Please expect a friendly service person to knock on your door before the meter is changed. If no one's home, the technician will leave a door hanger advising you of the meter exchange. Meter installations only take a few minutes, with only a brief interruption in electric services.

Meter installations will take place Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Chariton Valley Electric co-op members don't need to be present during the exchange, if the service person has unobstructed



access to the existing meter. If the technician is unable to replace a meter, we'll leave a door hanger with information and additional instructions.

Should you have questions or concerns, please call us at 800-475-1702 or 614-932-7126, e-mail us at myami@cvrec.com or visit our website at www.cvrec.com. ⚡

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OFFICE CLOSING

Our office will be closed Tuesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

