CLARKE
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Safety Driven • Energy Smart • Community Invested
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Volume 84, No. 6 | June 2024

# HEADLINES

SAFETY DRIVEN | ENERGY SMART | COMMUNITY INVESTED

## Congratulations, 2024 Scholarship Winners!

Clarke Electric has awarded $10,000 in scholarships to 15 area seniors to assist them as they continue their education beyond high school. As a local electric cooperative, Clarke Electric supports the youth in our communities with an annual scholarship opportunity in accordance with our cooperative principles. Congratulations to these students as they embark upon their futures!

**Isaac Sundquist**, Chariton HS, son of JoAnn and Dr. Philip Sundquist of Chariton. Isaac plans to study Electrical Engineering at South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.

**McKinleigh Milledge**, Chariton HS, daughter of Salli and Tim Milledge of Chariton. McKinleigh plans to pursue a teaching degree at the University of Northern Iowa.

**Madisyn McCoy**, Clarke HS, daughter of Misty and Robert McCoy of Osceola. Madisyn plans to study Biology or Kinesiology at the University of Iowa.

**Elli Blackford**, Clarke HS, daughter of Ty and De Blackford of Osceola. Elli plans to study Animal Science and Ag Business at Iowa State.

*continued on page 2*

*See page 4 for photos from the May 21 storm recovery and mutual aid to Farmers Electric Cooperative in Greenfield.*

**Reading pays!** We have hidden two of our members' account numbers in this issue. If you find your member location number, call during June to have $10 deducted from your monthly energy account.

THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE

# Board Approves $350,000 in Patronage

FORVIS, LLP, of West Des Moines completed the 2023 financial audit for Clarke Electric. Cheryl Clauson, auditor, presented the audit report to the board of directors at its April meeting. The report showed all financial and operational documents to be fairly presented and in accordance with government auditing standards. The board reviewed the balance sheet and related statements of operation, member's equity, cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements.

The audit is an important tool for the board of directors to provide them with a tool to measure the cooperative's financial health, maintain integrity and provide transparency as well as conform to regulatory compliance.

During the meeting, the board voted to allocate $475,000 of Clarke Electric's 2023 margins back to the members as patronage capital. The board also approved paying patronage capital to members for the remainder of 2006, 2008 and a portion of 2011 allocations, in the amount of $350,000. 21-23-05-00

**SAM WALKUP**
Mgr. of Finance

Current members of Clarke Electric during those years will see a credit on their bill in December, or as a check by mail for inactive (former) members. Issuing credits saves on labor and postage costs for our members. Inactive account distributions of less than $5 will roll over to future years and a check will be issued when the minimum amount of $5 is reached.

ENERGY SMART

# Scholarships...from pg. 1

**Montana Morgan**, Clarke HS, son of Shelly and Terry Morgan of Osceola. Montana plans to study eSports at Marshalltown Community College.

**Cort Selsor**, Clarke HS, son of Paula and Shane Selsor of Osceola. Cort plans to attend Southwestern Community College to study HVAC in its Applied Engineering Technology program.

**Ashlyn Crawford**, Clarke HS, daughter of Molly and Brian Crawford of Osceola. Ashlyn plans to attend the University of Iowa to pursue a degree as a Radiology Technician.

**Victoria Henry**, Clarke HS, Renee Ritter and Dusty Henry of Osceola. Victoria plans to pursue a degree in Business Management from Central College in Pella.

**Jack Cooley**, Clarke HS, son of Marcy and Jim Cooley of Osceola. Jack plans to attend Iowa State and major in Ag Studies.

**Austin Vander Werf**, Interstate 35 HS, son of Lindsay and Joseph Vander Werf of St. Charles. Austin plans to study Kinesiology and Health at Central College in Pella.

**Chase Dixson**, Interstate 35 HS, son of Leanne and Michael Dixson of Osceola. Chase plans to study Sports Marketing / Management at Northwest Missouri State.

**Libby Stuart**, Interstate 35 HS, daughter of Nikkole Anderson of Des Moines and Joe Stuart of New Virginia. Libby plans to attend Des Moines Area Community College.

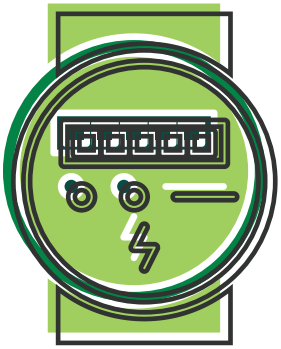
**Aleksys Gannon**, Murray HS, daughter of Tish and Nick Gannon of Murray. Aleksys plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa to major in Exercise Science/Kinesiology.

**Addilyn Danley**, Murray HS, daughter of Jenni and Caleb Danley of Osceola. Addilyn plans to attend the University of Iowa to become a pediatrician.

**Cole Poush**, Wayne HS, Corydon, son of Ranae and Joe Poush of Humeston. Cole plans to pursue a teaching degree at Northwest Missouri State.

# Your Meter Will Be Replaced

Beginning this month, Clarke Electric is systematically replacing all its meters including all member-consumer locations.



Due to the large number of meters that will be changed out, we have hired a contractor, Anixter, to perform the work for the cooperative. If you see some unfamiliar faces or an Anixter truck or van, please don't be alarmed. You can verify that they work for us by looking for the magnetic sign on the truck or van with the Clarke Electric name and logo.

If you cannot see the truck or van clearly, feel free to call our office during normal business hours to verify that contractors are working in your area. We ask for your patience and understanding through this process. The interruption to your service will be minimal, but not something we take lightly.

The contractor will knock on the door to let the homeowner know that power will be momentarily shut down. In most cases it will take less than 2 minutes to swap out the meter and restore power. If no one is home, the contractor will go ahead and complete the work, then leave a door hanger, so you know they were there and completed the meter exchange.

Thank you so much for your understanding.

## Save THE Date!

## ANNUAL MEETING

**Clarke Electric will celebrate its 84th annual meeting of the membership on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024.**

**We are planning to host the meeting as a drive-through event at the headquarters. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, give us a call.**

**Watch the newsletter for more details!**

COMMUNITY INVESTED

# Operation Round-Up Awards Local Groups

The Decatur Co. Cattleman's Association and the Leon Community Playground Committee have both received $5,000 grants from the Clarke Electric Operation Round-Up program.

The Decatur Co. Cattleman's Association will use the funds to purchase a new grill, which they use at community events their annual meeting and more to promote beef products in Iowa. The group is active throughout the year with educational efforts, tracking legislation that can either help or hinder Iowa cattle farmers, and supporting local youth with scholarships.

The Leon Community Playground Committee will put funds toward a new playground at one of Decatur County's greatest tourist attractions, Little River Recreational Park.

With a price tag over $430,000, this park will be an all-inclusive playground with modern and accessible equipment for children of all abilities. Local volunteers will be building the equipment June 10-15. The playground is located on the east side of the lake along Lake Road.

*CEC Manager of Member Services Jason Gibbs, right, presents the $5,000 award to the Decatur County Cattleman's Association.*

*CEC Manager of Member Services Jason Gibbs, second from right, and Billing Specialist Kim Griffin, third from left, present the $5,000 award to the Leon Community Playground Committee.*

**WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU? @ cecnet.net**

Statewide outage map | Leased Light Program | SmartHUB | Rebates & Online Forms | Operation Round-UP | Call Before You Dig | Email newsletters | RECare

# AFTER THE STORM

## Clarke Electric Assists Neighboring Co-op In Need

Spring storms are nothing new in Iowa, and Clarke Electric makes a point every year to raise awareness of staying safe during times of severe weather. But on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 21, a powerful storm front spun tornadoes that left a trail of devastation close to home. 44-29-03-00

Hardest hit was nearby Greenfield, home to Farmers Electric Cooperative, where a powerful tornado killed five people and injured dozens of others. Similar in size to Clarke Electric, Farmers Electric experienced systemwide outages. Our co-op had a total of 52 outages mainly concentrated in one area that were resolved quickly and allowed CEC staff to jump in to provide mutual aid, knowing that Farmers Electric's employees had also suffered property damage or loss. Working together, crews had power restored to all Farmers members by early Friday.

Our hearts go out to the Greenfield community and our fellow electric co-ops both in Greenfield and across Iowa as they recover from devastating losses in their communities.

*The CEC line crew didn't hesitate to jump in and help Farmers Electric restore power to its members.*

*Cooperative and community pride on display, despite a bent flagpole.*

*Miles of line needed repair following the May 21 storms in and around Greenfield.*

*Clarke Electric line crews (white trucks) work alongside Farmers Electric line crews (yellow trucks) on power restoration May 22.*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**OFFICE HOURS**
Mon.-Fri.: 7:30 AM - 4 PM

**Summer Hours (May 6-August 22)**
Mon.-Thurs. 7 AM-4 PM, closed Friday
Phones answered Mon.-Fri. 7 AM-4 PM

Outside depository available 24/7


**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**Vice President:** Randy Rouse
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**Asst. Sec./Treasurer:** Randy Barnard

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Larry Keller
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Natalie Rydl

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