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

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HEADLINES

SAFETY DRIVEN | ENERGY SMART | COMMUNITY INVESTED

The Season for Giving

DAVE OPIE
General Manager

As the holiday season approaches and the air turns crisp, I'm reminded that this truly is the season of giving. It's a time for gratitude, generosity and looking out for one another—and at Clarke Electric Cooperative, that's something we take to heart year-round.

You've probably heard us talk about our concern for community. It's not just a nice phrase, it's one of the core principles that make electric cooperatives like ours different from other utilities. We're here to keep the lights on and make life better for the members, neighbors and friends we serve. 39-32-03-01

Over the years, we've faced more than a few challenges together. Every time, our co-op family has stepped up to come together to support those in need, to keep our community strong and to build something better for the future. That spirit of generosity is never more evident than this time of year

While it's a festive time, the holidays can be a financial stressor for many families in our area. For some, it may even come down to being able to buy gifts or pay the utility bills. We're here to help. If you need advice on saving energy to reduce your energy bill, want to explore payment plan options or simply have questions, please contact us. You may

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The Clarke Electric office will be closed

Nov. 11
for Veterans Day
and
Nov. 27-28
for Thanksgiving

Membership Matters!

One of the benefits of being a member of Clarke Electric Cooperative is receiving money in the form of a patronage dividend. After all annual expenses have been paid, the leftover money is allocated to different accounts, including the payment of dividends back to its members.

If you moved out of our service territory before the 20-year rotation, a check will be mailed to your last known address. Remember to keep your address updated with the cooperative so you can receive your patronage dividend. If you are a current member, you will receive credit on your December bill.

We work for you, and membership does matter!

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

Pictured, from left: Wolfgang and Annette Brummel, and CEC Manager of Member Services Jason Gibbs

Shining the Light on Local Volunteer Annette Brummel

Each year, the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa seek to recognize local volunteers across the state for the Shine the Light contest. This year, three people were selected as winners and earned a $3,000 donation to their favorite charity.

Annette Brummel was nominated this year for her work leading the Murray Saddle Club. Though she didn't win the grand prize, Clarke Electric wanted to reward her efforts with a $1,000 donation to the organization.

While Annette's primary job is as an LPN, she has been steadfastly committed to teaching children and adults of all ages good horsemanship and how to have fun with their animals. Each summer, many kids and their families come to demonstrate their skills and show off their horse's talents.

The Shine the Light contest celebrates our cooperative's commitment to community. During the month of June, nominations may be submitted to recognize local volunteers who are making a positive difference in their communities. Watch for details on the 2026 Shine the Light Contest by visiting www.IowaShinetheLight.com.

Thank you, Annette, for volunteering your time and talent, and for making our community a better place!

CEC Helps Lineville Fire Department Rebuild

After years of determined fundraising, the Lineville Volunteer Fire Department finally saw a long-awaited dream take shape. This summer, they broke ground on a much-needed expansion—adding a 60 x 70 steel building to their aging, undersized two-bay station. The new addition promised four extra bays, a dedicated office area, and valuable training space. Even though the finishing touches were still underway, volunteers were already proud of the progress and eager for what the future held.

That future was suddenly put on hold. On August 7, a powerful thunderstorm swept through Lineville with fierce winds that uprooted trees, tore roofs from buildings, and tragically reduced the fire department's new addition to rubble.

Support soon reached beyond Lineville's community as volunteers poured in from across the area to help with the clean up. Clarke Electric Cooperative, along with its generation and transmission cooperative, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, and its cooperative bank, CoBank, came forward with a combined donation of $5,500. Their gift will help the fire department rebuild stronger than before and continue its vital mission of protecting and serving the community.

Though the storm may have torn down walls, it also revealed the unwavering spirit of Lineville—where dedication, generosity, and unity ensure that even the toughest challenges can be overcome.

Pictured, from left to right: Keegan Ellis, Lilian Ellis, Deanna Brennecke, Jeff Landrum, David Brennecke, Jacob Snow, Norty Ellis, Dean Ellis (below check), Jani Ellis, Mike Ellis, Brentt Snow, CEC Board Member and fireman, Zach Robinson, and Jason Gibbs, Clarke Electric Cooperative.

Curious About Electric Trucks? Ask Us

This summer, we added a new vehicle to our operational fleet — and it's not powered by gasoline or diesel.

The co-op recently purchased a 2023 Ford F-150 Lightning all-electric pickup truck from our local Ford dealership as part of a pilot program to assess electric vehicle (EV) performance under real-world utility conditions. The initiative is designed to collect data on operating range, energy consumption, charging efficiency, and potential cost savings while sharing lessons learned with our members. 4-36-04-00

Since deployment, the Lightning has generated strong interest and many questions about its range, charging process, and suitability for daily field operations. Many of our employees have been overwhelmingly surprised by the Lightning's performance, features, and practicality.

Our field staking engineer currently operates the truck throughout our service territory, often driving 150 to 200 miles per day, and rarely depleting more than 60% of the truck's battery life. The truck is fully recharged every evening by a basic 30-amp, 220-volt charging station.

Members interested in EV technology are encouraged to give us a call or visit our office to look the truck over. We can share our experience and discuss the truck's functionality in the rigors of our work and how this truck works to serve you!

Looking Out for You:
September Outages

Cause unknown: 8
Animal/bird: 6
Equipment failure: 4
Customer caused: 3
Lightning: 3
Trees: 3
Maintenance: 1

Giving...from pg. 1

also qualify for assistance from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) program through the Iowa Department of Health & Human Services. Applications are accepted through April 1, 2026. Visit https://hhs.iowa.gov to find out more.

At Clarke Electric Cooperative, we believe concern for community is more than a principle—it's the heart of who we are. And during this season of giving, we're especially grateful to be part of such a caring, generous community.

From all of us at Clarke Electric Cooperative, we wish you and your loved ones a joyful, safe and bright holiday season!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY
TIP OF THE MONTH

With the holiday season approaching and more time spent in the kitchen, consider ways to save energy in the heart of your home. When possible, cook meals with smaller, energy efficient appliances, such as toaster ovens, slow cookers and air fryers. When using the range, match the size of the pan to the heating element. Keep range-top burners and reflectors clean so they reflect heat more efficiently. After your holiday meals are complete, load the dishwasher fully before starting the wash cycle.

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

Upgrades at Clio Substation Will Help Boost Reliability

CEC crews install new feeder circuit out of the Clio substation as part of the co-op's efforts to replace aging equipment and increase reliability.

Pictured, left: Linemen Zach Stewart and Chris Oberbroeckling install isolation switches between two circuits at the Clio substation in Jefferson Township. Photo at right shows the completed pole.

CEC crews work to change and upgrade the 3-phase pole that serves as the exit structure from the Clio substation. Watching from the ground for safety is Max Hunter.

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P.O. Box 161 | 1103 N. Main | Osceola, IA 50213-0161
(641) 342-2173 | (800) 362-2154
cecnet.net

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Mon.-Fri.: 7:30 AM - 4 PM | Outside depository available 24/7

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