

# FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE Open Lines

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
 ★ **HAPPY** ★  
 ★ labor ★  
 ★ DAY ★  
 ★  
 ★ The Farmers Electric office will be closed Monday, Sept. 5. We wish all our members a safe and healthy holiday weekend!  
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month:

An easy way to save energy is to seal air leaks and holes where plumbing pipes run through walls in your home. You can also check wall-mounted cabinets for plumbing holes or air gaps in the back. Fill any holes or gaps with spray foam. Wear protective gloves and use a damp rag for cleanup.  
 Source: Dept. of Energy



P.O. Box 330  
 Greenfield, IA 50849  
 FarmersREC.com | (800) 397-4821

### SAFETY:

## Extreme Heat Can Be Dangerous for Kids

Children who are active during days of extreme heat can experience dehydration, heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat stroke, which is a medical emergency. Parents should call their pediatrician if their child develops any of these symptoms: feeling faint, extreme tiredness, headache, fever, intense thirst, not urinating for many hours, nausea, vomiting, breathing faster or deeper than normal, skin numbness or tingling, muscle aches or spasms. Children and teens adjust more slowly than adults to changes in environmental heat and they also produce more heat with activity than adults while sweating less, one of the ways the body cools itself. Children and teens often don't think to rest when having fun. And they



may not drink enough fluids when playing, exercising, or taking part in sports. Children and teens with ongoing (chronic) health problems, or those who take certain medicines, may be more likely to have symptoms.

*continued on pg. 3*

**Stop by and see us at the Iowa State Fair!**

Visit our booth in the 4-H Exhibits Building. We'll have plastic hard hats and suckers for kids (while supplies last) and a fun co-op safety selfie station!




*Save the Date!*

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Sept. 13, 2022**

# Can You Help Us Find These "Missing" Members?

One of the biggest benefits of being a member of a local electric cooperative is sharing in its success. Every year, once all financial statements have been finalized and audited, the co-op records the margin, or the difference between revenue and expenses. These

margins are held for 15-20 years before being dispersed to Farmers Electric Cooperative members based on their electric usage in the year the margins were recorded.

The list below are the names of those members whose checks have not been cashed, for one reason or another. It's

very important that Farmers Electric finds these people as soon as possible so that we can forward payment.

If you see your name or have information on the whereabouts of any of the members below, please contact us.

AAT Communications Corp.  
 Andrews, Mary  
 Angel, Jose  
 The Boar Stud (Justin Reels)  
 Broad, Warren Lee  
 Cameron, Rochelle  
 Chopard, Steve  
 Clark, Robert  
 Cook, Justin  
 Culp Sr., Lawrence  
 Daiker, Brian  
 Dick's Vending  
 Dickson, Mike  
 Dillinger, Loretta  
 Dimig, Bill  
 Dinkla, Elmer  
 Dudney, Chisum  
 Ellison, Dennis  
 Emmons, Abby  
 Engstrom, Steve  
 Eversull, Irene  
 Ferber, Kathy  
 Froehle, David  
 George, Cara  
 Giles, Eldon  
 Haines, David  
 Havener, Craig  
 Henke, Kasey  
 Henry, Carl  
 Hoffman, Jeffrey  
 Holder, Warren P.  
 Huddleson, Lucille  
 Hughes, Mary  
 Jeffs, Alfred  
 Johnson, Benjamin H.  
 Johnson, Cynthia  
 Jones, Anthony

Jordan, Nichole  
 Kegley, Stephen  
 Kenoyer, Tammie  
 Lamb, Charles  
 Larsen, Jerry L.  
 Larsen, Tisha  
 Lauer, Esther  
 Lawnsdail, Scott  
 Lee, Charles  
 Linhart, John  
 Livingston, Dawn  
 Lundy, Clarine  
 Marquardt, Malissa  
 Martinez, Tracy  
 Maxwell (Virgil) Trust  
 Maynes, Keith D.  
 McKinney, Troy  
 Meador, Marcia  
 Meendering, James  
 Menning, Bonnie Jean  
 Midstates Farm Management (Steve Koch)  
 Minnis, Sherie  
 M. Newton Construction  
 Morgan, Melissa M.  
 Muelhaupt, John  
 Murphy, Jim  
 Nagy, Bernard  
 Nelle, James  
 Nelson, Dan  
 Nelson, Don  
 NEVCO  
 Nordstrom, Chad  
 Norman, Dennis  
 Olson, Chris P.  
 Olson, Doug  
 Otte, Matt

Owens, Katrina L.  
 Palmer, Todd  
 Passehl (David) Estate  
 Peterson, Phyllis  
 Radke, Larry  
 Read, Dennis  
 Rehan, Tony  
 Rice, Joanne  
 Richards, Chancey J.  
 Ricketts, Raymond  
 Root, Elton  
 Rudolf, Robert D.  
 Salsbury, Willis  
 Schirm, Lloyd  
 Sheeder, Steve  
 Shepherd, George  
 Siders, Nicole  
 Signs, Wayne  
 Smith, Joshua  
 Smith, M. Cody  
 Steffens, Nicole  
 Steward, Roderick  
 Stone, Jeff  
 Straight, Amy  
 Stuart, Craig  
 Thomas, Robert  
 Thompson, John  
 Thompson, Justin  
 Town, Kaitlyn  
 Trice, Nancy  
 Uhing, Jill C.  
 Valencia, Robert  
 Van Baalen, Sherman W.  
 Victor, David  
 W&E Company (Bill Reames)  
 Waitt Outdoor, LLC  
 Wallace, Johnathan

Wickersham, Dallas  
 Williams, Don A.  
 Williams, Paul  
 Wilmes, Nick  
 Woosley, Ryan L.  
 Wright, Arthur

The following is a list of members with checks uncashed who have been unreachable for at least three years. If these individuals do not contact the cooperative by Dec. 1, 2022, these funds will be considered abandoned.

Akers, Christopher  
 Beaman, Rose  
 Bernhardt, Robert  
 Drevet, Steve  
 Fletcher, Todd  
 Fowler, Rose  
 Hartz, Mike  
 Lewis, John  
 Lillie, Scott  
 Miller, Edward  
 Nicklaus, Steve  
 Pearson, Steven  
 Platt, Cody  
 Roberts, Jeffrey  
 Ruchti, Rose  
 Scybert, Joseph  
 Sudbrock, Kurt  
 U.S. West Communications  
 Van Baalen, Mark  
 Vowell, Scott  
 Willcox, Dawn



## One More Cast Could be Deadly

Being in a boat on the water while there is lightning in the area can be extremely dangerous. Before you head out, make sure you're aware of the weather forecast and potential for any storms that may roll in. If you find yourself out on the water when you first hear the clap of thunder, stop fishing and head toward shelter on land. Lightning can strike as many as 10 miles away from its source cloud so by the time you hear the thunder you're likely already within that range.

If you are in a boat and cannot get to shore, there are a few things you can do to help protect yourself:

- Lower all fishing rods and radio antennas;
- Crouch down without contacting any metal railings, wiring, or the motor and don't dangle legs or hands in the water;
- Disconnect the VHF radio and GPS.

Some fishing boats may be equipped with lightning protection systems, but the safest thing to do is get off the water as quickly as possible. Then, wait at least 30 minutes after the storm has passed to resume fishing.

# Local Schools Eligible for Free Electric School Bus



**T**he Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will accept applications from Iowa schools for rebates that will cover the cost of an electric school bus and related charging infrastructure. Applications are due Aug. 19, 2022 and will be accepted online at <https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus>.

Eligible school districts given priority for this funding are rural, remote and distant schools; schools with more than 20% of the students from low-income households, and tribal schools. These priority schools are eligible to receive \$395,000 per bus. In Farmers Electric

territory, eligible school districts are: **CAM, Earlham, Exira-Elk Horn-Kimballton, I-35, Nodaway Valley, Orient-Macksburg and West Central Valley.**

The EPA application process is simple and straightforward, even for schools that have not previously applied for federal funds. While this is a "rebate" program, applicants will not have to produce money up front. Rather, the funds will be disbursed upon purchase order, not receipt of the bus.

For application and more information, visit <https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus>.

## Heat-Related Illnesses in Children...from pg. 1

Heat-related illness includes:

**Heat cramps:** The mildest form of heat illness. These are painful muscle cramps and spasms that occur during or after intense exercise and sweating in high heat.

**Heat exhaustion:** More severe than heat cramps, heat exhaustion is caused by a loss of water and salt in the body and happens when the body can't cool itself correctly. If left untreated, it can progress to heat stroke.

**Heat stroke:** The most severe form of heat

illness, heat stroke occurs when the body's heat-regulating system is overwhelmed by excessive heat. The skin may be dry if the ability to sweat has been lost. It is a life-threatening emergency and requires immediate medical care. Helpful tips include:

**Stay hydrated** – encourage children to drink water rather than soda or energy drinks.

**Dress lightly** – Light-colored, lightweight clothes will maximize the evaporation of sweat.

**Plan for extra rest time** – Come inside regularly to cool off, rest and drink water.

**Keep your cool** – Have your child take a cool bath or water mist to cool down.

**Look before you lock and never leave your child in a car** – The inside of a car can become dangerously hot in just a short amount of time, even with the windows open.



# Make the Most of Summer Vegetables

## Easy Pasta Salad

- 2 c. broccoli florets, chopped
- 1/2 red onion, diced
- 1 c. diced cucumber
- 1 c. cherry tomatoes, halved
- 2 c. medium cheddar cheese, cubed
- 12 oz. tri-color rotini
- 16 oz. Zesty Italian dressing

Cook pasta according to package instructions; drain and run under cold water to cool the pasta. In a large mixing or serving bowl, toss together the pasta, chopped vegetables and cheese. Pour Italian dressing over salad and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least an hour or overnight before serving. Toss one last time before serving.



feedingyourfam.com

## Best Broccoli Salad

- 1 c. mayonnaise
- 1 1/2 T. sugar
- 3 T. apple cider vinegar
- 1/4 tsp. fresh ground black pepper
- 1 1/3 lbs. broccoli, finely chopped
- 8 slices crispy cooked bacon, chopped
- 1/3 c. red onion, chopped
- 1/2 c. sweetened dried cranberries
- 1/3 c. sliced almonds

Whisk together the mayonnaise, sugar, apple cider vinegar and pepper. In large bowl combine the broccoli, bacon, onions, cranberries, and almonds. Drizzle the dressing over the top and stir to coat. Cover and chill for one hour before serving. Toss again right before serving.



smalltownwoman.com

August is  
**BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY MONTH**

Drive safe! Red flashing lights mean stop and wait at least 20 ft. behind the bus while children are getting on and off. Stay stopped until the lights stop flashing, the extended stop-arm is withdrawn and the bus begins moving.

Together We Can  
**BEAT the PEAK**

Take these steps to use less energy during the peak hours of 3-8 PM to help us save on costs - savings we pass directly back to you!

- Raise thermostat 2-3 degrees.
- Use fans to feel 4-6 degrees cooler.
- Turn off lights and electronics.
- Grill out to avoid a hot kitchen.
- Take a short, cold shower.
- Leave home to run errands.
- Keep windows and blinds closed.



Open Lines is a monthly publication of Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.

CEO:  
Charles Dunn

2389 Highway 92 | P.O. Box 330  
Greenfield, Iowa 50849-0330  
Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.  
24 hour outside depository  
Ph: (800) 397-4821  
Fax: (641) 343-7187  
www.farmersrec.com

Board of Directors

Dan Westphal, President  
Kevin Tanner, Secretary  
Cary Gilman  
Mark Earhart  
Kevin Stender

Steve Chandler, Vice President  
RoxAnn Rhoads, Treasurer  
Janelle Peiffer  
Kris Petter

The mission of Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., is to deliver safe, reliable, affordable electricity and other services to improve the quality of life within our communities. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.