



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

June 2023

Southwest Iowa REC would like to Congratulate our 2023 Scholarship Winners!

Twelve \$500 Scholarships and Two \$1000 line-worker/electrical trades scholarships were awarded to Fourteen High School Graduates.



Alaina Whittington, Diagonal
Daughter of JP & Amy Whittington. Plans to attend Texas A&M University for political science and history.



Hailey Burton, Lamoni
Daughter of Tim & Erin Burton. Plans to attend Iowa State University for agriculture.



Riley Long, East Union
Son of William & Sarah Long. Plans to attend Southwestern Community College for agriculture business.



Alyssa (Ally) Birt, Southwest Valley
Daughter of Michelle Kennedy and Doug Birt. Plans to attend Southwestern Community College then transfer on to attend Northwest Missouri State University majoring in early childhood education and minoring in criminal justice and agriculture education.



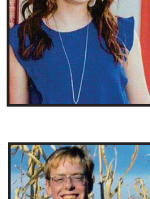
Lauren Triggs, Mount Ayr
Daughter of Jessica & Lucan Triggs. Plans to attend the University of Iowa to study chemical engineering.



Trayce Miller, Creston
Son of Jim & Jenn Miller. Plans to attend Southwestern Community College and then transfer on to Iowa State University for industrial technology.



Anjali Janaki Kathikar, Southwest Valley
Daughter of Jackie Kathikar and Jamy Zinke. Plans to attend Iowa State University to pursue elementary education.



Madison Shields, Mount Ayr
Daughter of Andy & Tara Shields. Plans to major in forensic science and criminology.



LINE-WORKER/ELECTRICAL TRADES SCHOLARSHIPS

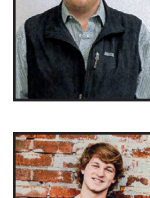
Cody Jones, Lamoni
Son of Stacy Jones. Has been accepted to attend Northwest Iowa Community College line worker program.



Caeden David, Lenox
Son of Darian & Jamie David. Plans to attend Central College majoring in business administration.



Peyton Long, East Union
Son of William & Sarah Long. Plans to attend Southeast Community College for John Deere Ag Technology with an associate of applied science.



Trey Chestnut, Creston
Son of Troy & Salina Chestnut. Plans to enroll in the electrical program at Southwestern Community College.



Emmet Long, East Union
Son of William & Sarah Long. Plans to attend Southwestern Community College and then transfer to Northwest Missouri State University to study animal science.



Riley DeGonia, Creston
Daughter of Crystan & Carl DeGonia. Plans to attend North Iowa Area Community College for diesel technology.



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



CEO's COMMENTS:

Annual Meeting Information & Election Process

The 20th Annual Meeting of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative will be held at the Lenox Community Center on September 7, 2023. **A major item of business at this meeting will be the election of three (3) directors to a term of three (3) years. The following information on the director election process and qualifications comes from the Bylaws of the Cooperative.**

There shall be two (2) numbered Geographic Regions for the Cooperative, each of which shall be divided into four (4) Districts, and election of directors shall be by such districts, with one (1) director representing each District. In addition, two (2) at-large directors will be elected, one (1) from each Region. Directors shall reside in and receive service from the Cooperative at a location within the district (or Region in the case of at-large directors) they are elected to represent. The geographic area of each Region shall initially be as set forth in the Plan of Consolidation of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative, and revised as necessary by the Board of Directors. The district boundaries shall be described hereafter in these Bylaws of the Cooperative and shown on a map of the cooperative service area, with such description and map maintained at all offices of the Cooperative and kept available to members.

Any member of the Cooperative shall be eligible to become a director if said member has a legal capacity to enter into a binding contract and said member's election as a director would not violate any other provision of the Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative.

Additional Director Qualifications. In addition to the foregoing, No Member shall be eligible to become or remain a Director or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who:

- (1) within five (5) years preceding a director candidate's nomination was or during service on the Board of Directors is finally adjudged to be guilty of a felony;
- (2) within five (5) years preceding a director candidate's nomination was an employee of the Cooperative or the spouse of an employee of the Cooperative;
- (3) is or becomes, or at any time during the five (5) years preceding a director candidate's nomination shall have been, employed by a labor union which represents, or has represented, or has endeavored to represent any employees of the Cooperative;
- (4) is a grandparent, parent, co-habitant, child, or grandchild of an employee of the Cooperative;
- (5) is a person that is a grandparent, parent, co-habitant, child, or grandchild of an incumbent director whose district seat is not up for re-election at that time;
- (6) is in any way employed by or substantially financially interested in an enterprise competing with the Cooperative or any Cooperative-affiliated business;

- (7) is or becomes the full-time employee or agent of, or who is or becomes the full-time employer or principal of, another director;
- (8) is engaged in conduct that is a violation of law or violation of a Cooperative policy or policies, or whenever a director has materially failed to satisfy his/her duties as a director, including the duty to regularly attend meetings of the Board of Directors; or
- (9) is employed by, materially affiliated with, or has a financial interest in, any individual or entity possessing a conflict of interest with the Cooperative or a Cooperative subsidiary.

For purposes of this Section, financially interested shall not include beneficial ownership of less than 5% of the bonds or the combined voting power of all issued and outstanding voting securities of a publicly held corporation whose stock is traded on a major stock exchange or quoted on NASDAQ.

In regard to the restrictive provisions of this Section that are based upon close relative relationships, no incumbent director shall lose eligibility to remain a director or to be re-elected a director if, during a director's incumbency, a director becomes a first kindred relative of another incumbent director or of a Cooperative employee because of a marriage or an adoption to which the director was not a party.

The following directors' terms expire at the Annual Meeting in September:

Marilyn Werner (Region 1, District 2) – Union County: Sand Creek Township, Jones Township, and Pleasant Township. Ringgold County: Sections 1-24 of Tingley Township, Union Township.

Kay Fast (Region 2, District 6) – North Border: U.S. Highway #34 to U.S. Highway #71, J20 to U.S. Highway #48. South Border: Assigned Area of Service. West Border: U.S. Highway #71 to J20, U.S. Highway #59. East Border: U.S. Highway #148.

Ken Peppmeier (Region 1, At-Large) – All of the former service territory of Rideta Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Candidates for election to the Board of Directors shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee, which Committee shall be elected by the Board of Directors, not less than sixty (60) nor more than one-hundred twenty (120) days before the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected. The Nominating Committee shall consist of no less than three (3) nor more than ten (10) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation on the Committee to the geographical areas served by the Cooperative. Said Nominating Committee members so elected shall nominate candidates for election to the Board of Directors and a list of the nominations so made shall be posted at the offices of the Cooperative no less than 45 days prior to the date of the meeting.

Any twenty (20) or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which directors are to be elected, and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations by the Committee is posted; such nominations so made by such members to be subject to the same service location requirements as nominations by the Nominating Committee heretofore prescribed.

The election of the directors shall be by ballot, and each voting member shall be entitled to cast one ballot for each director to be elected from the member's Region. To the extent the same is specifically authorized by the Board of Directors, members may vote by mail-in ballot. The election of directors shall be subject to ratification by a majority of all members present at the Annual Meeting of members, and directors elected shall qualify and take office immediately following the Annual Meeting of Members.

If you are interested in being considered as a candidate for one of these director positions, and meet the requirements stated above, please contact Phil Kinser at 888-220-4869. Your name will be given to the Nominating Committee and they will contact you to discuss the matter further.



Phil Kinser

Reed Earns Trip to Washington, D.C.



Congratulations to Aubrey Reed of Mount Ayr for being selected to represent Southwest Iowa REC on this year's Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Aubrey, a Mount Ayr Community High School sophomore, was selected by an independent committee through an essay and interview process. She will represent Southwest Iowa REC on an all-expense-paid trip to our Nation's Capital June 17-23 with more than 1,500 students from all over the country. While there, Aubrey will meet with legislators, tour historic sites, museums, and memorials, meet other student leaders, and learn more about the history of the electric cooperative business model. Aubrey is the daughter of Debra Reed and Eric Dolecheck of Mount Ayr.

Operation Round-UP® 2023

Each month, Southwest Iowa REC simply “rounds up” the electric bills of participating member-owners to the next highest dollar. All **Operation Round-UP®** donations are placed in a separate fund to be disbursed for charitable purposes only. The Operation Round UP committee has donated \$297,650 to individuals and community improvements since its start in 2009.

A committee comprised of community leaders, Southwest Iowa REC employees, and directors receives and evaluates all donation requests. This committee makes recommendations for disbursements to the full Southwest Iowa REC Board of Directors. The REC Board has the final approval of all **Operation Round-UP®** disbursements.

Typically, **Operation Round-UP®** funding will be used to address individual and community needs such as food, shelter, clothing, health, education, and service projects. **Operation Round-UP®** funds cannot be used for political purposes.

Individuals or organizations requesting donations do not have to be members of Southwest Iowa REC. Recipients need to be a resident and located in one of the 11 counties we serve. These counties include: Adair, Adams, Cass, Decatur, Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Ringgold, Taylor, and Union.

Southwest Iowa REC is committed to improving local residents’ quality of life. **Operation Round-UP®** is an innovative way to continue to make a difference in our local communities. We encourage individuals and organizations with needs to apply for **Operation Round-UP®** donations. Applications can be requested from any of our three offices or online at www.swiarec.coop under the “Community” tab.

Of our 5,615 accounts, we’re excited that 4,044 meters are signed up for **Operation Round-UP®**.

If you’re not currently signed up – why not call today and join in?

Operation Round-UP® = Small Change That Changes Lives!



Ringgold County Fair Association is pledged \$5000 for a multi-use facility that will provide ample space and accommodations for machinery, livestock, and various agricultural and educational demonstrations. **Pictured left to right:** Southwest Iowa REC Operation Round Up committee member, Cacey Quick, Ringgold County Fair Association Representatives Dr. Keith Miller, Marci Werner, Craig Winemiller, Tucker Winemiller, and Mike Wimer with granddaughter, Sebe Bolles.



Southwest Valley School received \$3500 for the purchase and installation of a new scoreboard at the high school football field. – **Pictured:** Southwest Iowa REC General Manager/ CEO Phil Kinser, Southwest Valley Activity Director, Allen Naugle, and future Timberwolf, Daxtyn Naugle.



Stanton Public Library received \$500 to aid in the purchase of a portable LCD projector and a screen. **Pictured:** Tim Pfeiffer, Southwest Iowa REC Operation Round Up committee member, and Shelly Anderson with Stanton Public Library.

Congratulations!

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.

Source: Dept. of Energy



Snickers Caramel Apple Salad

A great dessert salad that combines so many amazing flavors and textures!

Ingredients

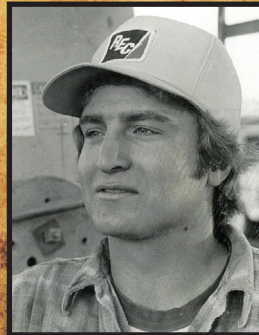
- 6 regular size Snickers Candy Bars
- 4 medium apples, I used Red Delicious
- 1 (5.1 oz.) package Vanilla Instant Pudding, dry, do not prepare
- ½ cup milk
- 1 (16 oz.) tub cool whip, thawed to room temp
- ½ cup caramel ice cream topping

Instructions

1. In a large mixing bowl, combine vanilla pudding packet, ½ cup milk and cool whip together until mixture is well combined.
2. Dice apples and Snickers into bite size pieces and stir into pudding mixture.
3. Either keep in same bowl or transfer to a serving bowl and drizzle with caramel ice cream topping.
4. Chill for at least 1 hour before serving.



Paul Vanderholm Retires



We want to offer our warmest congratulations to Paul Vanderholm for his impressive 26+ years of service at Southwest Iowa REC!

Paul has been a lineman at the Stanton office, first from 1978-1987, then returned to Southwest Iowa REC in 2005.

Thank you, Paul, for all your years of hard work and dedication. We wish Paul happiness and fulfillment in retirement.



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415 Broad Ave., Stanton, IA 51573

Phone Number: (888) 220-4869

Board of Directors

Marilyn Werner, President	Phil Kinser, CEO
Mark Herzberg, Vice President	
Ken Peppmeier, Secretary	
Kay Fast, Treasurer	
Alan Spencer	Deena Moore
Dana Morgan	Terry Barnes
Jason Smith	Dale Walkup

Southwest Iowa REC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.