



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

October 2022

Annual Meeting Recap



Congratulations!

To all our door prize winners
and the \$100 Survey winner,
Richard Mackey



THANK YOU! to the members and guests that attended the Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 8th at the Lenox Community Center. An enthusiastic crowd of members and guests gathered to enjoy a ribeye steak sandwich meal, prize giveaways, and the business meeting of your Cooperative. The main business item was the election of three (3) directors to a 3-year term each. Incumbents Terry Barnes and Mark Herzberg were re-elected to the Board of Directors and Alan Spencer was elected to fill the District #8 position. Congratulations to those candidates for being elected to the board and to the other candidates that ran for a board seat.

A big thank you to the Nominating Committee of John A. Overholtzer, Eric Marsh, Michelle Beck and Bob Allen for selecting the slate of candidates and to the Election Committee of John A. and Mary K. Overholtzer, Eric Marsh, Joe and Lisa Kernen, Bob and Maurine Allen, and Michele Beck for counting the ballots and certifying the election.



Pictured: Winner of 6 months of Free Electricity- Marvin Reents, Phil Kinser- Southwest Iowa REC General Manager/CEO, and Grand prize winner of 1 year of Free Electricity- Robert Sellers



CEO's COMMENTS:

Celebrating Membership

October is National Co-op Month



Phil Kinser

Fall is a busy time, and October is a particularly eventful month with school, community and sports activities in full swing. It's also when all cooperatives celebrate National Co-op Month.

When I say Southwest Iowa REC celebrates Co-op Month, it really means we are celebrating you! After all, our co-op wouldn't exist without you, our members.

Our core business purpose is to serve as your electricity provider, but the larger mission of the co-op is to help make our corner of the world a better place. "Concern for community" is one of seven guiding principles that all co-ops share.

Similar to how our wires run through our service territory, our concern for community flows through all of our decisions—because being a co-op means being a responsible partner and good neighbor.

Southwest Iowa REC works to help our community thrive through initiatives led by our employees and local board that's comprised of neighbors who live right here in our community. Because we're local, we understand our community's unique needs and strive to help meet them.

We're proud to support local youth through our Youth Tour and scholarship programs. With your help, we offer Operation Roundup to provide assistance to our community's most vulnerable. We partner with and support area economic and community development entities.

The word "cooperative" is close to "cooperation," meaning people working together towards a common goal—mutually benefiting one another and the larger community. That's the essence of the cooperative spirit. Our employees and member-elected board members are invested in the community in which we live and serve.

Above all, as a co-op we put our members' priorities first. As your trusted energy partner, we know that saving energy and money is important to you. That's why we have numerous programs in place to help, including energy efficiency rebates, information, and energy audits.

We want to empower you to manage energy use at home. If you haven't already, I encourage you take a moment and download our app, SmartHub. Through the app, you can conveniently monitor and manage your energy use. And we're of course here to help, so give us a call if you have questions about your energy bills.

Southwest Iowa REC is continuously examining ways to operate more efficiently while continuing to provide the highest level of friendly, reliable service you expect and deserve. After all, we're your local co-op. We were built by the members we serve.

Focused on YOU.

Electric cooperatives were created to serve their members. Because we're a co-op, we're able to adapt to our community's unique needs. That's the power of co-op membership.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

2022-2023 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ATTENTION: RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

The 2022-2023 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season.

The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

If you are not sure where to apply, **Dial 2-1-1**, or visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/where-apply> to contact your local community action agency, or write to:

LIHEAP
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

INCOME MAXIMUMS

<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Annual Gross Income</i>
1	\$27,180
2	\$36,620
3	\$46,060
4	\$55,500
5	\$64,940
6	\$74,380
7	\$83,820
8	\$93,260

For households with more than eight members, add \$9,440 for each additional member.

2022-2023 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEN TO APPLY:

- **Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled:**
October 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023
- **All other households:**
November 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023

WHAT TO TAKE:

- **Proof of Income** (for all household members age 18 and over) Depending upon your household income type, income documentation from the past 30 days, the last 12 months, or last calendar year, whichever is easier or more beneficial for you.
- **Proof of Social Security Numbers for all household members** (documentation required)
- **Most recent heat bill**
- **Most recent electric bill**

WAGE EARNERS:

Please bring copies of your check stubs for the 30-day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME:

This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified. Additional income not listed here may be required.

EMPLOYEE UPDATES

Congratulations to Scott Geer for 35 years of service. Scott is the Line Foreman at the Stanton Location.

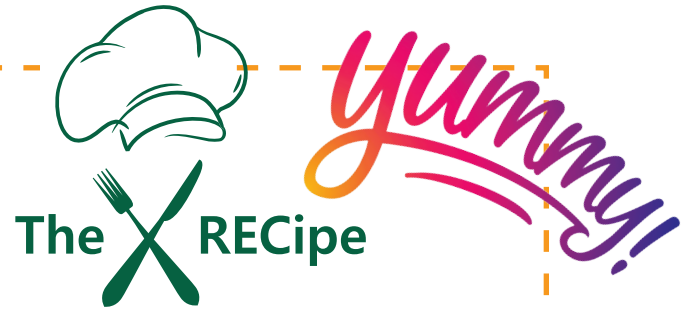


Lazy Lasagna

- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 jar spaghetti sauce
- 1 bag frozen cheese ravioli (25 ounces)
- 2 cups mozzarella cheese, divided



1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a medium skillet, crumble and brown the ground beef over medium heat until completely browned. Drain off the excess fat
3. Reserve ¾ cup of the spaghetti sauce; set aside. Add the remaining spaghetti sauce to the skillet with the ground beef. Stir well then cover and simmer over medium-low heat for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
4. Spread ¼ cup of the reserved spaghetti sauce into the bottom of a 9x13 inch glass baking dish. Arrange one third of the frozen ravioli in a single layer in the pan.
5. Top the ravioli in the pan with half of the ground beef mixture, then sprinkle with 1/3 cup of the shredded mozzarella cheese.
6. Place another 1/3 of the frozen ravioli in a single layer over the meat sauce and cheese. Top with the rest of the meat sauce and another 1/3 cup of the shredded mozzarella cheese.
7. Place the final 1/3 of the frozen ravioli on top of the casserole. Top with the remaining ½ cup of the spaghetti sauce. Sprinkle with the remaining 2/3 cup of shredded mozzarella cheese
8. Bake the casserole at 350F for 30-40 minutes, until the cheese is completely melted and beginning to bubble around the edges.



RECare Customer Contribution Fund

Southwest Iowa REC's RECare program makes it easy to help Cooperative neighbors in need this winter. With rising heating fuel prices this season, more and more Iowans are seeking assistance with energy, heating and weatherization costs. While some federal and state dollars exist to help those in need, there are still shortfalls.

Consider a monthly contribution to Southwest Iowa REC's RECare program. Your contribution – whether it is \$1 or \$10 a month – when combined with those of other generous members, can go a long way in helping those who can't afford winter's heating bills. To help, fill out the form:



Consumer Authorization Form

Yes, I want to be a part of "members helping members" and contribute to RECare.

___ I will make a 1-time contribution to RECare. My check is enclosed.

___ I will contribute \$___ per month to RECare. I understand that this amount will be automatically added to my monthly electric bill.

Name _____ Account # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

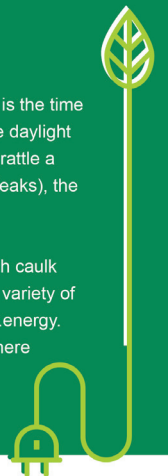
Mail to: RECare – SW Iowa REC
 1801 Grove Avenue; Box 367; Corning, IA 50841
 OR RECare – SW Iowa REC
 1502 W South Street; Box 391; Mt Ayr IA 50854
 OR RECare – SW Iowa REC
 415 Broad Avenue; Box 460; Stanton, IA 51573

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

With winter weather on the way, now is the time to seal drafty windows. If you can see daylight around a window frame or if you can rattle a window (movement means possible leaks), the window likely needs to be sealed.

Most window leaks can be sealed with caulk or weatherstripping, which come in a variety of compounds and materials. Visit www.energy.gov/energysaver to learn how and where to seal air leaks.

Source: energy.gov



2022 Energy Efficiency & Beneficial Electrification Program Delivery Costs = \$.0028/kwh



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 1801 Grove Ave., Corning, IA 50841
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