



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

# Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

June 2020

## Board Approves \$323,000 Patronage Payment

The Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors has approved payment of patronage dividends in 2020. This payment is normally scheduled for October each year but the decision was made to move this up to June to help our members deal with the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We realize that many of our members may be struggling to pay bills and this action was one way we could help. We will return 100 percent of the remaining dividends allocated to the members for the year 2003 and 10 percent of the current allocation for 2019. The total payment back to our members will be approximately \$323,000. Dividends will be distributed to you in June and will appear as a credit on your

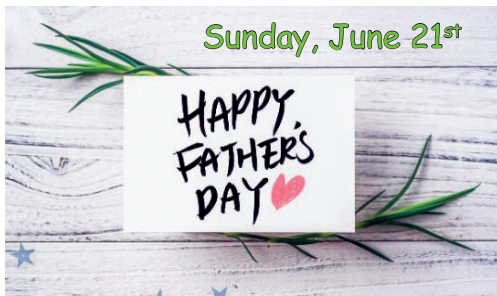
electric bill for those who are still active members of the cooperative. Former members will receive a check. There are substantial savings to the cooperative in applying these dividends to your account versus mailing out checks.

If you have questions regarding the taxability of these dividends, please consult your tax preparer. Patronage dividends reduce the net cost of electricity to members. It is one of the principles that provide the basis for the cooperative business model.

Our current policy on patronage dividends allows the board flexibility in the amount of patronage that will be returned to the members. There are several factors to consider when determining this amount, such as the co-op's



current cash position, equity level and major improvements needed to keep the system in good condition and provide all members with reliable electric service. Deferred patronage dividends are used by the cooperative to help finance major construction and maintenance projects. This allows us to reduce the total amount of long-term financing that is required, thus reducing the total interest expense.



Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

Our offices will be closed Friday July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.

COVID-19 updates available on our facebook page and website.

## CEO's COMMENTS:

# Annual Meeting Information & Election Process

The 17th Annual Meeting of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative will be held at the Lenox Community Center on September 10, 2020. We will be monitoring the COVID-19 situation over the summer and will make a final decision on holding an in-person meeting, or another alternative meeting method, as the date nears. 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.



**Phil Kinser**

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.

## Southwest Iowa REC would like to Congratulate our 2020 Scholarship Winners! Twelve \$500 Scholarships were awarded to High School Graduates.



**Cayden Lambert, Mount Ayr**  
Son of Edwin and Tracy Nickell. Plans to attend the University of Iowa to pursue Statistics and Sports Studies.



**Addison Shay, Mount Ayr**  
Daughter of Tory and Brandi Shay. Plans to attend Graceland University pursuing Dentistry.



**Bradley Johnson, Bedford**  
Son of James and Elaina Johnson. Plans to attend University of Iowa or Northwest Missouri State University pursuing Computer Science.



**Easton Hultman, Stanton**  
Son of Bret and Danis Hultman. Plans to attend Iowa State University pursuing Agricultural Business.



**Cole Mobley, Diagonal**  
Son of Wyatt and Josie Mobley. Plan to pursue Diesel Mechanics.



**Anika Wenstrand, Red Oak**  
Daughter of John and Teresa Wenstrand. Plans to attend Iowa State University pursuing Elementary Education.



**Kaley Adams, Mount Ayr**  
Daughter of Charles and Donnel Adams. Plans to attend Indian Hills Community College pursuing Physical Therapy.



**Matthew Burton, Lamoni**  
Son of Tim and Erin Burton. Plans to attend Iowa State University pursuing Agriculture Studies.



**Kayley Myers, Southwest Valley**  
Daughter of Jack and Billie Myers. Plans to attend South Dakota State University pursuing Bachelor of Science in Nursing.



**Ryker Hickman, Mount Ayr**  
Son of Doug and Susan Hickman. Plans to attend South Dakota State University pursuing Animal Science and Animal Health.



**Jamie Stackhouse, Mount Ayr**  
Daughter of Rob and Lesa Stackhouse and Kelly Richards. Plans to attend Graceland University to pursue Agricultural Business.



Southwest Iowa REC also awarded one \$1,000 scholarship to an individual attending Powerline School or pursuing an Electrical trades degree.



**Connor Brown, Clarinda**  
Son of Greg and Susan Brown. Plans to attend Metropolitan Community College enrolling in the Utility Lineman Program.



## When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

Seek shelter indoors or in a hard-topped vehicle. If you can't get to shelter:

- avoid open fields and hilltops.
- stay away from tall, isolated trees and objects.
- spread out (if you're in a group).

**#StormSafety**



**June 21-27 is  
Lightning safety  
awareness week.**

**For storm safety tips,  
updates and outage related  
information, please like our  
Facebook page at  
[facebook.com/swiarec](https://www.facebook.com/swiarec)  
or search for  
Southwest Iowa Rural  
Electric Cooperative.**

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Home cooling makes up a large portion of your energy bills. Try to keep the difference between the temperature or your thermostat setting and the outside temperature to a minimum. The smaller the difference, the more energy you will save.

## Upside Down Banana Cake

Banana Upside Down Cake is an incredibly moist and flavorful dessert, but it makes a great breakfast or snack, too. You can't go wrong if you serve this cake with toasted pecans and caramel sauce!

### Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 4.5 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- About 3 bananas sliced into 1/4-1/3 inch rounds

### For the cake batter:

- 1/3 cup unsalted butter-softened
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup plain Greek yogurt or sour cream
- 2 large eggs
- 2 overripe bananas-mashed (about 1 cup)

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- dash of salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

### For Caramel Glaze:

- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup heavy cream
- 4 Tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Grease 8 x 8 x 2 inch square cake pan or 9 x 2 inch round cake pan. The pan must be 8 cups volume (cake will overflow 8 x 8 x 1 1/2 inch square pan, it has only 6 cup volume)
2. Spread 2/3 cup brown sugar on the bottom of the pan and scattered pieces of butter (4.5 Tbsp). Place the pan in the oven for 5-7 minutes (until butter has melted). Remove from the oven and stir butter and sugar and spread evenly on the bottom. Arrange sliced bananas to cover the bottom. Set Aside.
3. To make the batter in a bowl stir together dry ingredients ( flour, whole wheat flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt), set aside.
4. In a large bowl cream 1/3 cup butter and 3/4 cup sugar. Add eggs and vanilla and mix to combine. Add Greek yogurt and mashed bananas and mix to combine.
5. Turn your mixer on low and add dry ingredients mixture. Mix just to combine. Pour the batter over bananas, smooth the top and bake. Bake 30 minutes at 350 F, then reduce the heat to 325 F and bake for additional 25-35 minutes until the toothpick inserted in the center comes out completely clean.
6. Let it cool in the pan completely, or at least until the bottom is barely warm before inverting on the plate. Use a knife to loosen the edges from the pan, place a plate upside-down on top of the pan, then invert cake.

### To make caramel glaze:

1. In a saucepan combine butter, brown sugar, heavy cream and salt and bring to boil over medium heat stirring constantly. Simmer for 2-3 minutes, remove from heat and let it sit for 1-2 minutes. Pour 2/3 of the glaze over the banana layer. Reserve leftovers of the caramel glaze for serving.
2. The glaze thickens as it cools and pale in colors!!!
3. When serving reheat the leftovers of the glaze and drizzle on each slice. Sprinkle with toasted chopped pecans if desired. You can also top each slice with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or whipped cream.



**2020 Energy Efficiency & Beneficial Electrification Program Delivery Costs = \$.0028/kwh**



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### Board of Directors

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Mark Herzberg, Vice President  
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Kay Fast, Treasurer  
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Dana Morgan  
Jason Smith  
Deena Moore  
Terry Barnes  
Dale Walkup  
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