



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

December 2017

Congratulations, Sam!

Southwest Iowa REC's Sam Elsberry has successfully completed a comprehensive lineworker certification program. The Lineworker Certification Program is the time-tested benchmark of apprentice and lineworker training programs and is administered through the Northwest Lineman College in Meridian, Idaho.

The Lineworker Certification Program is a distance-learning training program offered to electric utility and construction companies for the certification of their lineworker employees. This program is most

commonly used as the curriculum component of apprenticeship leading to journeyman certification. The remainder of Sam's training leading to journeyman status will come from on-the-job training.

Congratulations to Sam who can look forward to a very rewarding career at Southwest Iowa REC.



The Employees and Directors of Southwest Iowa REC would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for your continued support and may you and your loved ones have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.



• MERRY •
Christmas
— & —
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Apply Now for 2018 Youth Tour

As part of our commitment to community, Southwest Iowa REC is excited to offer the NRECA's Washington, D.C. Youth Tour trip to area high school students again this year! Interested students will compete for the opportunity to be selected by their local electric cooperative. Southwest Iowa REC will choose a high school junior from the qualified applicants. Among other criteria,

this high school student must have parents or guardians that are members of the cooperative. The contest is for an expense-paid trip to our nation's capital.

Students on the tour will learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the



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Employees

- Lucas Dalton
- Ginny Eighmy
- Sam Elsberry
- Scott Geer
- Chance Greenman
- Denise Hallquist
- David Head
- Les Helvie
- Phil Kinser
- Ben Knapp
- Shayne Larson
- Jamie McManis
- Sarah Newton
- Tim Pfeiffer
- Tanner Rinehart
- Marilyn Rubel
- Duane Schafer
- Zach Schafer
- Bill Scharfenkamp

Directors

- Tysen Sederburg
- Cody Stackhouse
- Danny Stamps
- Mike Stargell
- Ken Van Wyhe
- Paul Vanderholm
- Nathan Weeda
- Wendy Wimer
- Dick Ballantyne
- Kay Fast
- Mark Herzberg
- Dennis Meier
- Deena Moore
- Dana Morgan
- Ken Peppmeier
- Jason Smith
- Dale Walkup
- Marilyn Werner



Southwest Iowa REC offices will be CLOSED on Monday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Dec. 26 for Christmas and Monday, Jan. 1 for New Year's. Have a safe and happy holiday!

Scholarships Available for High School Seniors

Southwest Iowa REC will once again offer scholarships for the 2018-2019 school year to graduating high school seniors. Students applying for the \$500 scholarship must be enrolled full-time at an accredited college, university or vocational/technical school. The parent or guardian of the student must be a Southwest Iowa REC member and the student **MUST RESIDE** in the REC-served residence. The \$1,000 scholarship is open to ALL high school and non-traditional students within Southwest Iowa REC's territory attending an Accredited Lineman School or other electrical trade program.

Applications are available at your high school guidance counselor's office or you may fill out the form at right. Students may also go to our website www.swiarec.coop to print the application. Recipients of the scholarships will be chosen by a selection committee appointed by Southwest Iowa REC whose decisions are final.

Scholarship Information

Please send me the Southwest Iowa REC Scholarship Application form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

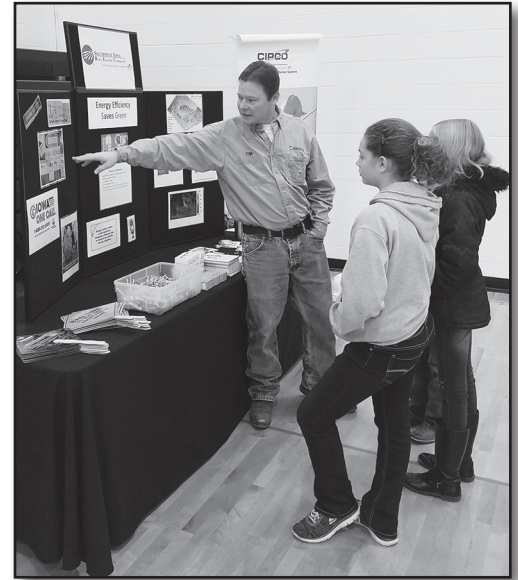
High School: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

REC Account #/Location#: _____

Twelve (12) \$500 scholarships will be awarded. In addition, two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be available for students planning to attend an Accredited Lineman School or electrical trade program.

Completed applications and a photo must be received at the REC Office by **March 1, 2018** to be eligible.



Page County Agri-STEM Festival

Southwest Iowa REC held a booth at the Page County Agri-STEM Festival on Saturday, Nov. 4. STEM is the acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. Individuals who stopped by the booth were given the opportunity to learn more about kilowatts and how they convert to watts in energy consumption. A drawing was held for those who correctly solved the following problem:

Kilowatt = 1000 watts

Kilowatt Hour = The energy used if 1 kilowatt is left on for 1 hour

Incandescent Light Bulb = 60 watts

L.E.D. Light Bulb = 9 watts

Cost of a Kilowatt Hour = \$0.12

Each light bulb was left on for 1 hour, how much less did it cost to power the L.E.D. than the incandescent?

Congratulations to Adam Johnson from Clarinda for being the chosen winner!

State Law Requires Notification of Alternate Energy Production

In 2012, the Iowa Legislature approved a bill that requires notification to electric utilities prior to installing an alternate energy generator. The notification requirement applies to any type of electric generating technology including:

- solar
- wind turbine
- waste management
- resource recovery
- refuse-derived fuel
- agricultural crops or residue
- wood-burning facility that will be connected to an electric transmission or distribution line

Under this legislation, the owner of an alternate energy production facility must provide written notification to their electric utility at least 30 days before construction or installation of the generator.

If you are considering installing an alternate energy system – please contact Southwest Iowa REC at (888) 220-4869. Let us provide information and assistance BEFORE making the decision to purchase any type of alternate energy system that requires interconnection with the electric grid.

Youth Tour...from pg. 1

U.S. government. The tour also encourages leadership and engagement as a U.S. citizen. Students will meet peers from across the nation, visit with their representatives in the House and the Senate and see many sights around Washington, D.C.

To begin the application process and to learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime experience, please visit our website at www.swiarec.coop or contact your local Southwest Iowa REC for a Youth Tour application.



2018 RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES

Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative provides our members with ways to save on your energy budget. We offer rebates on the following products that will offer substantial savings for your home.

Appliances: When replacing appliances always look for ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances. Appliances can account for 13 percent of your energy bill. ENERGY STAR qualified appliances incorporate advanced technologies that use 10-50 percent less energy and water than standard models.

ENERGY STAR Clothes Washer

If both water heater & dryer are electric	\$50/unit
With only electric water heater	\$30/unit

ENERGY STAR Clothes Dryer \$20/unit

Pull the Plug Appliance Recycling: Contact your Cooperative to request collection and recycling of your old, working refrigerator, freezer or window air conditioner and receive an incentive for up to three operable units per address. Curbside pick up and recycling is done by the cooperative's contractor.

Refrigerator	\$35/unit
Freezer	\$25/unit
Window Air Conditioner	\$25/unit

Indoor Air Quality: Equipment must serve the entire conditioned space of the home. Limit of two air quality system per home.

Heat Recovery Ventilator (HRV)	\$250/unit
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Heating and Cooling: As much as half of the energy used in your home goes to heating and cooling. So making smart decisions about your home's heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system can have a big effect on your utility bills – and your comfort.

Geothermal Heat Pump	
Closed loop system	\$400/ton (AHRI listing)
Open loop system	\$300/ton (AHRI listing; no "pump & dump" systems)
G.S.H.P. Replacement	\$250/ton
Air Source Heat Pump	\$200/ton (ASHP units over ¾ ton, including mini-split systems)
Hybrid System	\$300/ton
ENERGY STAR Bonus	\$250/unit (Min. SEER 15.0, EER 12.5, HSPF 8.5)
ENERGY STAR Central AC	\$75/unit (Min. SEER 15.0 & EER 12.5)
ECM Fan Motor Replacement (with qualifying AC replacement)	\$50/unit

Lighting: Lighting is one of the easiest places to start saving energy. Up to 12 percent of your energy usage in a home. Replacing your five most frequently used light fixtures or the bulbs in them with ENERGY STAR qualified lights can save \$70 a year in energy costs.

Interior Lighting	
Residential ENERGY STAR Hardwired and Screw-in Fixtures	50% of price paid for qualified products (up to \$5/fixture)

Lighting, continued...

Qualified products include: ENERGY STAR LED fixtures, ENERGY STAR ceiling fans with light kits

Maximum incentive of \$5 per fixture and \$600 per home. Household limits applied to a 5-year period. (Installs prior to 1/1/2013 are exempt.) Minimum 4 watts per unit.

Outdoor Security Lighting

ENERGY STAR LED or DLC Qualified Fixtures	\$15/fixture (20-34W) \$20/fixture (35-49W) \$40/fixture (50-74W) \$50/fixture (75-124W) \$60/fixture (125W or more)
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New lighting fixtures must be more energy efficient (lower wattage) than original installed fixtures.

Water Heaters: From warm showers to clean dishes, we count on hot water. In fact, the average household spends \$400-\$600 per year on water heating - making it the second largest energy expenditure behind heating and cooling. Depending on the technology you choose, you can cut your water heating costs in half!

ENERGY STAR Heat Pump Water Heater	\$650/unit
Add-on to Electric Storage Tank	\$300/unit (> 2.00 EF)
Solar Water Heater with Electric Auxiliary Tank (must be ENERGY STAR Qualified)	\$350/unit
Electric Resistance Storage Tank Water Heater (50-55 gal. tank-min. EF 0.95)	\$50/unit
Drain Water Heat Recovery Systems (Not to exceed cost of system. Must have electric water heater. Homemade systems are not eligible for the incentive.)	\$450/unit

Weatherization: Weatherizing your home will put money back in your pocket every month. It's that simple. On average, weatherization helps homeowners reduce their energy consumption by 25-30 percent – a savings of \$600 per year, every year. Older homes save even more – around 35 percent or more!

Requirements are you must have electric heat and/or central air conditioning (homes with natural gas heat do not qualify).

- Home must be built prior to 1996.
- Must be upgrade to existing home (new additions do not qualify)
- Project cost must be \$150 or more (labor costs for self-installed projects cannot be included).
- Maximum incentive per home \$2,200 (with electric heat; with or without AC)
\$300 (with central AC only and non-electric heat)

New Home Construction: Building an All-Star home is the maximum goal you can obtain toward energy efficiency and will result in putting the most money back in your pocket.

All-Star Home	\$500/home (new construction, all electric heat, water heating and appliances)
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NOTICE to MEMBERS: Electrical Inspections & Idle Services

1) Any service that has been disconnected for twelve (12) months or longer will not be reconnected or energized until inspected for safety by a State of Iowa electrical inspector. A certification of such inspection must be provided to Southwest Iowa REC.

2) Any service that has been disconnected for twelve (12) months or longer is considered an idle service. Rules and regulations require that Southwest Iowa REC maintain the entire electric distribution system installed within our service territory, not dependent on whether or not that portion of the system is energized.

If you desire the disconnected service to remain in place, an annual idle service fee will be applied.

Please contact our office, (888) 220-4869, for further information.



Christmas Plum Pudding

Submitted by Southwest Iowa REC Board Member Dick Ballantyne, this recipe has been handed down from past generations dating back to England, 1853. This recipe requires a canner.

- 1 lb. ground beef kidney suet
- 2 lb. Muscat raisins or 1 lb. raisins and 1 lb. pitted prunes
- 1 lb. currants
- 1/2 container (about 4 oz.) candied lemon peel
- 4 1/2 c. flour
- 8 whole eggs
- 2 c. granulated sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1 tsp. salt
- 3/4 c. whole milk

In large bowl, mix together suet, fruit and flour. In separate bowl, beat eggs, then add sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt and beat until light and fluffy. Stir in whole milk. Pour batter over fruit and suet mixture and stir until well blended. Cover bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight.

Lightly spray inside of 5 29-oz cans with baking spray. Spoon batter into cans filling to within an inch of the top. Cover cans with aluminum foil crimping the edges for a tight fit. Fill canner with boiling water. Set cans on rack so water comes 3/4 of the way up the side of the cans. Cover and steam at a gentle boil for three hours.

Remove foil and drain out any melted suet at top of can. Place cans upside down on cooling rack and allow to cool completely. Cut around the side of the or cut out bottom to remove baked pudding. Serve plain or with rum sauce.

2018 Charges & Member* Pricing at SWIAREC Served Locations Only

LABOR – Regular Working Hours

\$58/hour (1 hour min.)

Basket/Digger

\$80/hour

Boring Machine

\$60/hour

(\$250 min.)

LABOR – After Regular Working Hours

(Emergencies Only)

\$87/hour (2 hour min. per employee; 2 employees req.)

- Min. 1 hour on all truck charges
- Labor will be charged in addition to the truck and equipment charges

TRUCKS/EQUIPMENT

Trip Charge \$30 per mileage vehicle req. per job per day

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

- Min. \$29 labor charge for repair of member-owned security light or yard light + materials (when in the area).

NOTE: If a special trip is made to repair the light – then the regular hourly rate and minimums for labor and trucks will apply.

*Call for non-member pricing quotes.

Portable Trencher \$.75/foot
Trencher \$2/ft. (\$250 min.)
Backhoe \$60/hr (\$250 min.)

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Looking for an easy way to make your home cozier this winter?

Try using an area rug to increase the insulation levels of your floors. Area rugs are stylish and can

help keep cold air from entering through your floors. Your toes will thank you!

Source: U.S Department of Energy



Corning
1801 Grove Ave., Corning, IA 50841

Mount Ayr
1502 W. South St., Mount Ayr, IA 50854

Stanton
415 Broad Ave., Stanton, IA 51573

Phone Number: (888) 220-4869

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