

CURRENT CONNECTION

December 2020

www.calhounrec.coop

Calhoun County REC

Rockwell City, IA 50579 • (712) 297-7112 • (800) 821-4879

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Board Approves Patronage Retirement

Since our members are our owners and investors, the co-op will periodically return dividends in the form of patronage capital retirements. Be sure to look on the December statement for your portion of the patronage retirement in the form of a bill credit.

In the last 84 years, your Cooperative has returned more than \$2.7 million to its member-owners. At Calhoun County REC, we're proud of our rural heritage and the founding principles of our incorporating members. Eight decades later, those principles continue to guide us as we make long-term decisions to ensure safe, reliable, and affordable energy for our member owners.

If you have questions about our policies or our cooperative structure, please don't hesitate to contact us.

7 COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES:

- Voluntary and open membership without discrimination
- Democratic member control
- Members' economic participation
- Cooperative autonomy and independence
- Member education, training and information to the general public
- Cooperation among cooperatives
- Concern for community

Fire Department Donation

A \$1,000 donation in correlation with CoBank and Corn Belt Power was made to the Lytton Area Emergency Services Agency to help with construction costs of their new fire station that was built on the West edge of town.

Lytton's old fire station served the community for over 70 years. However, the building was no longer adequate. The new facility provides faster response times, a training area, taller doors to accommodate bigger trucks, a secure office space, and a bigger meeting room. It also has a parking area so that firemen can access the facility faster and more efficiently. Congratulations to the Lytton community on their new fire station!



Pictured L to R: Troy Arndt (LFD Chief), Dennis Degner (LAESA), Kayla Wiederin (REC), Ron Haden (LAESA), LaVerne Arndt (LAESA), and Evan Hecht (LAESA).

Five Ways to Stay Cozy this Winter

Baby, it's cold outside! When you're feeling chilly at home, there are several budget-friendly ways you can keep comfortable without turning up the thermostat.

Here are five easy ways to stay cozy this winter.

1. Whether you're experiencing extremely cold winter temps or you simply "run cold," **an electric blanket can deliver quick warmth** like a regular throw or blanket cannot. Electric blankets can include a variety of features, like timers and dual temperature settings (if your cuddle buddy prefers less heat). This winter, consider an electric blanket instead of turning up the heat, and your energy bill will thank you.
2. One of the easiest ways to stay cozy at home is to **keep your feet warm**. Our feet play a critical role in regulating body temperature, so when your feet are warm, your body automatically feels warmer. Try a pair of comfortable wool socks or house slippers to stay toasty.
3. On winter days when the sun is shining, take advantage and **harness natural warmth from sunlight**. Open all curtains, drapes and blinds in your home to let the sunshine in—you'll be able to feel the difference.
4. Another way to make your home cozier is to **use a humidifier**. Cold air doesn't hold water vapor like warm air, so by adding humidity inside your home, you can feel a little warmer. A favorable level of humidity inside your home can also help clear sinuses, soften skin and improve sleep.
5. Beyond adding visual appeal to your home, **area rugs can also provide extra insulation and a warm surface for your feet** on cold winter days. Use large area rugs in rooms where you spend the most time. You'll enjoy the new colors and textures of the rug, and the additional warmth will help keep your home comfortable.

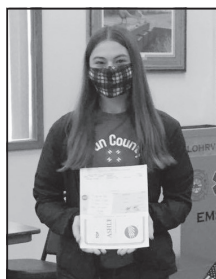
These are just a few ways you can stay cozy this winter without turning up the thermostat. Don't forget the hot chocolate!

REC Honors 4-H Members

Calhoun County REC was privileged to award \$50 to Ashley Westering (Senior), Ella Nieowehner (Intermediate), and Sophia Wuebker (Junior) who were the top 4-H achievers from Calhoun County.

4-H instills values in their members such as citizenship, responsibility, and loyalty. As a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, we feel these types of values are a true asset to our local communities. 14C05CA

We would again like to congratulate and commend the three winners for their hard work and accomplishments.



*Ashley
Westering*



*Ella
Nieowehner*



*Sophia
Wuebker*

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

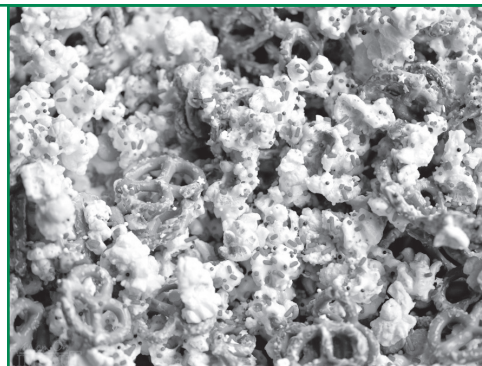
SNOW DAY SNACK MIX

INGREDIENTS

12 cups popped popcorn
16 oz of white candy coating
3 cups of mini pretzels
10 oz M&M's
1/2 cup sprinkles
10 oz mini marshmallows

DIRECTIONS:

Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone mat. Place popped popcorn on top of the parchment paper. Melt candy coating according to package directions and pour over the top of the popcorn. Use tongs to toss to evenly coat popcorn. Add the pretzels and M&M's and toss with tongs to coat again. Add sprinkles and marshmallows and toss again. Let the snack mix set for 30 minutes before breaking apart and serving. Store in an airtight container. 19W30GA



OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

December 24th and December 25th
to celebrate the Christmas Holiday

Please call 712-297-7112 or 800-821-4879
for outages and emergencies.

CALHOUN COUNTY REC WILL BE CLOSED

at NOON on December 31st
and closed ALL DAY on
January 1st
to celebrate New Year's Eve and New Year's
Day.

Please call 712-297-7112 or 800-821-4879
for outages and emergencies.



SPOT YOUR NUMBER

Daryl Hawthorne and Jim and Barbara Willett spotted their number and will receive a **\$10** electric bill credit.

Brad and Jessica Meyer missed their opportunity to receive a **\$10** electric bill credit.

Don't forget to read the newsletter and check for your location number. If your location number is spotted, call the Calhoun County REC by the 15th of the month to receive a **\$10** credit on your electric bill.

** Your location number is listed on your billing statement. **

REC Operates Successful Economic Development Loan Program

Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association has played an active role in the development of rural Iowa since 1936 and provided not only leadership but financial participation in economic and community development. With the creation of a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) in 1998, the Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association seeks to improve the quality of life in rural areas by contributing to the long-term improvement in the economy, including job creation and retention, diversification of the economy, improving the education and skills of the rural workforce, and upgrading the public infrastructure to improve the health, safety, and/or medical care of rural residents. 12C16JA

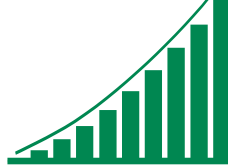
REVOLVING LOAN FUND STATISTICS



**43
Loans
Given**



**\$1.1 million
Total
Loaned**



**\$7 million
Economic
Impact**



**143
Total Jobs
Created**



**\$27,300
Average
Size of Loans**

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Energy bills can increase during winter for a variety of reasons, like houseguests, more time spent at home, and shorter days and longer nights. Small actions, like turning down your thermostat, replacing old bulbs with LEDs and washing clothes in cold water can help you save.



Calhoun County REC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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After 4:30 p.m. call 800-821-4879
or 712-297-7112
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This institution is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

Happy Holidays from Calhoun County REC

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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