

## 4-H Achievements Honored by CCECA

Calhoun County Electric Cooperative is very interested in our youth who strive to achieve high standards in integrity, accountability, innovation, and show a commitment to their community.

This year, CCECA was privileged to award three \$50 awards to our Top Junior, Intermediate, and Senior 4-H'ers. This year's recipients were: Top Junior – Avery Solko, Top Intermediate -Bailey Solko, and Top Senior –



Oliver Saxton. Avery and Bailey are both the daughters of Jared and Vanessa Solko of Rockwell City, and Oliver is the son of Tara and Lee Saxton of Rockwell City. Congratulations to this year's winners!

*Pictured is Top Senior, Oliver Saxton (Left) and Administrative Assistant/Communications Specialist Abbey Conrad, (Right). Unable to attend the Roun-da-vu event were Top Junior, Avery Solko, and Top Intermediate, Bailey Solko.*

## If You've Got It, Haunt It!



Calhoun County Electric Cooperative had fun participating in the Trunk or Treat event hosted by Champion of Rockwell City. The event took place on Saturday, October 28 at the dealership from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. In total, 20 local businesses/civic organizations participated in the night of fun.

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## YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

### Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Offers Basin Scholarships

Dependents of members of Calhoun County Electric Cooperative are eligible to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship to be provided by Basin Electric Power Cooperative and Corn Belt Power Cooperative, power suppliers of Calhoun County Electric Cooperative. The scholarship program is designed to encourage and recognize the achievements of a student living on electric cooperative lines. The scholarship must be used for educational costs and the student must enter college in the fall of the school year for which the scholarship is given. The applicant must be a student who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time graduate or undergraduate course of study at an accredited, two year or four-year college, university, or vocational/technical school. This scholarship is awarded without regard to other awards, loans, or financial assistance the applicant may have obtained. Award of the scholarship is based on the following criteria: SAT/ACT scores, grade-point average, work experience, participation in school and community activities, a statement by the student explaining his/her educational and career goals, essay and an appraisal completed by a third party. Applicants for the scholarship will first be screened by their cooperative. Each member cooperative may forward one finalist to Corn Belt Power Cooperative to be considered for the scholarship.

**Deadline to apply is on or before February 2nd at the Calhoun County Electric Cooperative office. To obtain an application contact our office at 712-297-7112 or go to [www.calhounrec.coop](http://www.calhounrec.coop) to find the application.**

## Holiday Open House

Calhoun County Electric Cooperative invites you to our annual holiday open house on Wednesday, December 13. Light refreshments will be served from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the cooperative office located at 1015 Tonawanda St. in Rockwell City. Come and help us celebrate the holiday spirit with a cup of hot cider and a sweet treat!





# 2024 Momentum is Building Conference

*Iowa-based electric cooperatives announce details for 2024 Momentum is Building Conference for contractors and builders*

Iowa-based builders and contractors are invited to learn about energy efficiency technologies at the 2024 Momentum is Building Conference, scheduled for Feb. 8 and 9, 2024, at The Meadows Events and Conference Center in Altoona, IA.

A major draw for electricians, plumbers and HVAC professionals is the opportunity to earn CEU credits at the conference. Momentum is Building attendees can also network with industry professionals, hear from recognized energy efficiency and building trades experts, and gain insight on energy-efficiency regulations and incentives.

Sponsored and organized by the Iowa Cooperatives for Energy Efficiency (ICEE), the annual Momentum is Building Conference also connects Iowa's construction industry with electric cooperatives' local services and resources, which serve nearly 650,000 Iowans across 99 counties.

"Electric cooperatives have long supported energy efficiency efforts, and one of our goals is to help member-consumers use energy wisely," states Angela Catton, manager of member relations and development at Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative. "We invest in this conference to build relationships between cooperatives and the contractors who provide services to the members we mutually serve."

"Informing contractors about cutting-edge energy efficiency and ensuring our building trades partners are

up on the latest codes is important to Iowa-based electric cooperatives," said Ryan Cornelius, vice president of corporate relations at Corn Belt Power Cooperative. "For over thirty years, the Momentum is Building Conference has provided both electric cooperatives and contractors an opportunity to come together to provide rural Iowans with safe, efficient and cost-effective home comfort solutions."

Jay Gubrud, a catalyst for performance improvement who has provided insight on working together as a team, will kick off the conference by illustrating his powerful approach to improving personal and professional productivity while connecting with colleagues and clientele alike.

The conference will close with an inspirational speaker, Dr. Charlie Cartwright. Drawing on his deep understanding of what motivates and drives people, Dr. Charlie has uncovered the essential elements that pave the way for unlocking human

potential.

The Momentum is Building 2024 Conference will be held at The Meadows Events and Conference Center from 8:30 AM on Thursday, Feb. 8, running through Noon on Friday, Feb. 9, 2024. Registration is available online at [www.MomentumIsBuilding.com](http://www.MomentumIsBuilding.com). Early Bird registration is open until Jan. 17, 2024.

For more information about the conference, visit [www.momentumisbuilding.com](http://www.momentumisbuilding.com) or contact us at 712-297-7112.



## It's a Girl!

1st Class Lineman Ben Wiederin and his wife, Kristina, welcomed a baby girl into their family on October 18th. Little sister, Lainey, is met with two older sisters, Madison and Josie, and the new family of five is doing great.

***Congratulations to the family!***





**2024 Youth Tour**  
**June 15-21, 2024**

**SAVE THE  
DATE**

*Applications will be accepted from  
January 1, 2024 – March 1, 2024.*



There's nothing like putting up lights and decorations to get you in the holiday spirit. It's something that many do each and every year without incident, yet the holidays are also one of the most hazardous times of the year when it comes to electrical fires and accidents.

Safe Electricity offer several tips as you deck the halls this season:

- When decorating outside, look up and around for power lines. Never throw light or other decorations into trees near power lines.
- Keep ladders, equipment, and yourself at least ten feet from power lines.
- Match plugs with outlets. Do not force a three-pronged plug into a two-pronged outlet or extension cord.
- Outside, use only lights, cords, animated displays, and decorations rated for outdoor use. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use them. Ensure outdoor outlets or extension cords are equipped with Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI's).
- Never string more strands of lights together than recommended by the manufacturer.
- Do not staple or nail through light strings or electrical cords. Use plastic or insulated hooks to hang lights.
- Do not attached cords to utility poles.

The outside of your home is not the only place where you need to be cautious of electrical dangers. Also be careful when placing a decorating tree inside your home. The outside of your home is not the only place to use caution. Take care when placing and decorating trees inside your home. Place fresh-cut

and artificial trees away from heat sources such as registers, fireplaces, and radiators; water fresh-cut trees frequently. Turn lights off before you go to sleep. Use a timer to help.

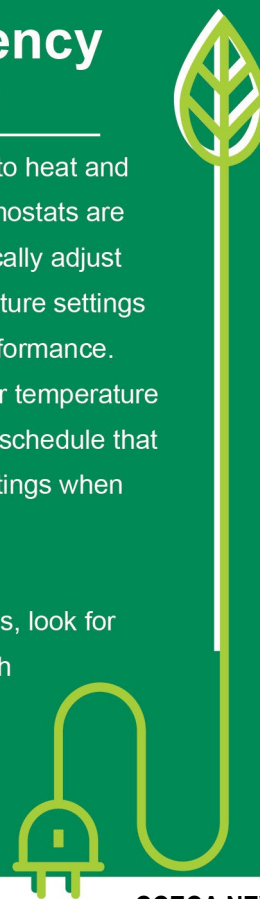
Safe Electricity wishes you and your family a safe and happy holiday season. For more information on holiday safety tips visit, [SafeElectricity.org](https://SafeElectricity.org).

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Get smart with a better way to heat and cool your home! Smart thermostats are Wi-Fi enabled and automatically adjust heating and cooling temperature settings in your home for optimal performance. Smart thermostats learn your temperature preferences and establish a schedule that adjusts to energy-saving settings when you're asleep or away.

For maximum energy savings, look for smart thermostat models with the ENERGY STAR® label.

*Source: Dept. of Energy*





**Name: Reid Galloway**

**Title: Line Foreman**

**Years of Service: 17**

**Tell us about your family -**

I have a twin brother, Ryan, who works for Raccoon Valley REC. He is also a lineman like myself.

**Most Memorable Coop Memory -**

Getting Power back on to all of our members during the 2010 Ice Storm.

**Where did you grow up?**

Rockwell, Iowa

**What Food could you eat Every Day?**

BLT's



# Employee Spotlight

**Thank you for your Service & Commitment to the Cooperative!**



## Happy Holidays!

*Spark joy and light this holiday season. From our co-op family to yours, we wish you a safe and warm season with friends and loved ones.*

Calhoun County Electric Cooperative will be Closed December 22nd and 25th in observance of the Christmas Holiday.



## New Year Holiday

Closing at Noon on Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> and Closed on Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>



## December Member Challenge

1. Name one top 4-H'er. \_\_\_\_\_
2. When is CCECA's Holiday Open House? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What Credit(s) can be earned during the Momentum is Building Conference?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Find the answers within the stories, features, and content of this newsletter and you could win a prize. **Send your answer to member challenge@calhounrec.coop, clip and mail to: Calhoun County Electric Cooperative, PO Box 312, Rockwell City, IA 50579 or submit on our website: www.calhounrec.coop.** You may mail your entry along with your electric bill payment, but remember there is a deadline!

Entries for this issue **must be received by January 1st**. Three names will be drawn from all correct entries. Members will receive a **\$10 credit** on their account. Members who answer the questions correctly and participate at least three times throughout the year will be eligible for a \$100 bill credit, through a random drawing, at the end of the year.

*Congratulations October winners: Althea Betten, Darrell Gutz, & Scott Pitstick*

## Reach Us

**OFFICE HOURS:**

8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
(Mon-Fri)

Contact 24/7 with the following numbers:

**General Phone:**

(712) 297-7112

**Toll Free:**

(800) 821-4879

**Fax:**

(712) 297-7211

**Visit us online:**

[www.calhounrec.coop](http://www.calhounrec.coop)

**Email:**

[info@calhounrec.coop](mailto:info@calhounrec.coop)

**DIRECTORS:**

Jim Miller, President – Fonda  
Steve Boedecker,  
Vice President – Rockwell City  
Jason McKenney,  
Secretary – Somers  
Ron Hanson,  
Treasurer – Pomeroy  
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Call before you dig.**

**IOWA ONE-CALL  
AT 811 OR  
(800) 292-8989  
BEFORE YOU DIG**

**EASY WAYS TO PAY BILL:**

**Online:** Access through [www.calhounrec.coop](http://www.calhounrec.coop) and pay online 24/7.

**Mobile App:** Download our app

**Auto Bill Pay (ACH):** Deduct from your bank account. Find the form on our website or stop by the office.

**Phone:** Call the office and make a payment over the phone with a card or checking account.

**Outside Drop Box/  
Front Corner:**

Rockwell City, IA

**U.S. Postal Mail**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.