

living with energy IN IOWA



Chariton Valley
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative



APRIL 2018

Vegetation management program will start soon in Albia and Lake Rathbun areas ▶ See Page 5

Sprout young gardeners at home

You are there:
a (careful) day in the
life of a lineworker

Focus on quality
when managing a
renovation contractor

Active participation
in your co-op is
critical for its success

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SAVE THE DATE!

CVEC ANNUAL MEETING 2018

Annual Meeting of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Monday, Aug. 6, 2018

Honey Creek Resort



Mark your calendar now, and be sure to watch future issues of *Living with Energy in Iowa* magazine for all the exciting details!

Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



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Office Hours
Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

Telephone Numbers
Days, nights or holidays:
641-932-7126 (local)
or 800-475-1702

Website
www.cvrec.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

We accept



CO-OP VIP

Take a look back with CVEC's longest-tenured employee

On March 29, 2018, CVEC said good-bye to longtime employee Charles VanDePol.

Charles began his career at Albia Light and Railway in 1972, as an assistant to the accountant. Albia Light and Railway was purchased by Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., in 1984, and since then Charles' role with the cooperative has evolved into his current position as assistant general manager/safety and compliance coordinator.

From completing energy audits for CVEC members to serving any and all needs of CVEC's staff, Charles has seen and done it all. There have been a tremendous number of automation

and technology advancements since he started in 1972, but Charles has kept up with the changing times!

When asked how he would like to be remembered, Charles said, "as someone who tried to do their very best every day!" He showed up to work and did just that for the past 46 years.

Charles' accomplishments were celebrated with a luncheon and cake with co-op employees and directors. CVEC commends and thanks Charles for his dedicated years of service and we wish him well in retirement. Although we'll miss him, we know Charles will enjoy life in his retirement. ⚡



IN THE NEWS

Three longtime employees retire with a combined total of 94 years of service

At the end of March, CVEC watched a trio of our valued, veteran employees hang up their gear for the last time.

Craig Miller started at CVEC in 1985 as a lineman. Over the years, his role at the cooperative evolved into his last position – foreman. Miller has been a part of Chariton Valley Electric for 33 years and states he will truly miss being a part of it on a daily basis. He plans to travel, ride horses and work on the farm in his retirement.

Brad Sinclair started at Albia Light and Railway in 1979 as an apprentice lineman. With the merger of Albia Light and Chariton Valley, he was one of many employees to make the switch. Brad's position also evolved into a foreman position

during his 39 years of service. He plans to spend his time in retirement with his family and grandchildren.

Gordon Keeton started at CVEC in 1996 as a groundman. He's served CVEC for the past 22 years operating equipment, reading meters and assisting on outages. Gordon has a small farm, where he rides horses and hunts.

Changing out poles, restoring outages, completing line inspections and talking with our members out in the field are just a few of the numerous tasks these men completed every day. They've worked high up on poles and down in the ditches, in snow, rain, scorching heat and freezing temperatures – all to ensure our members had power. We commend Craig, Brad and Gordon on their dedicated years of service and wish them well in their retirements. ⚡



Active participation in your co-op is critical for its success

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., the Board of Directors must appoint a nominating committee to select the names of director candidates to be placed on the ballot and voted on at the annual meeting Aug. 6, 2018. The nominating committee will meet

April 19, 2018, at 6 p.m. at the office of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative. The committee shall make a good faith effort to nominate two (2) candidates for each director position to be filled at the 2018 annual meeting.

Additional nominations (nominations not made by the committee) may be made by written

petition with the signatures of any 15 or more members. Bylaws of the Cooperative provide that such petitions must be filed by July 9, 2018, not less than 30 days prior to the meeting at which the directors will be elected. Petition forms may be picked up and filed at the cooperative's office.

Every member has the right to vote. To vote in person, attend the annual meeting Aug. 6, 2018. To vote by mail, use the ballot you'll receive with your notice of the annual meeting of members approximately the last week of July 2018.

This is your cooperative, so please exercise your rights as a member to volunteer for the nominating committee and vote during the director elections. ⚡

Here are the directors whose terms are expiring



Marchelle Brown
District 1



Virgil William Moore
District 1



Wesley Green
District 3



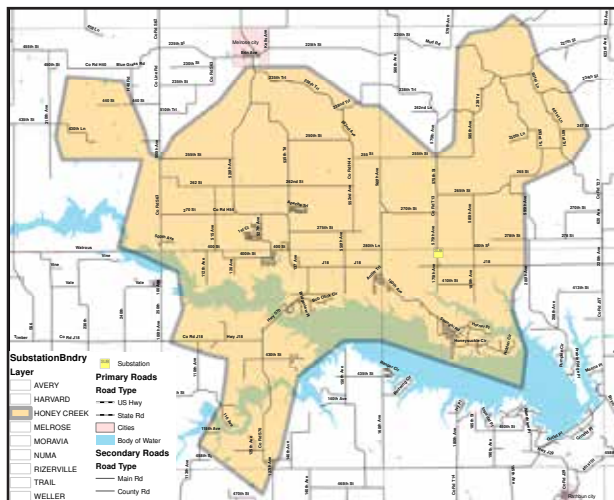
Norm Major
District 5

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Vegetation management program will start soon

Chariton Valley Electric's goal is to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to all our members. Vegetation management is one way to achieve this goal, and the cooperative is now in its 9th year of a rotation among all nine substations throughout the entire service area.

In 2018, the cooperative plans to finish clearing vegetation throughout the city of Albia, as well as the Honey Creek Substation area located southwest of Albia – more specifically, the area including lines in and around the Lake Rathbun area. Chariton Valley Electric will chemically treat the areas in and around our Moravia, Rizerville and Weller Substations. Tom's Tree Service,



based in Albia, has been awarded the contract to clear-cut and chemically treat these areas.

Please feel free to contact the cooperative at 800-475-1702 if you have any questions or concerns regarding tree clearance or chemical treatment within the utility right of way. ⚡

EDITOR'S CHOICE CONTEST

Light the night for free if you win!



These Patriot Lighting Solar Path Lights from Menards have a ribbed lens to ensure optimal light diffusion of the bright white LED inside, and the rechargeable battery promises a run time of 8 hours. The lights have a natural gray stone finish and sit less than 8 inches from the ground, so you won't have to worry about the wind or pets knocking them over.

We're also including two solar LED "rock" lights with wireless speakers; use a Bluetooth device to send music to them outdoors.

For your chance at winning this \$100 package of 12 solar lights and two speakers, check the rules on the *Living with Energy in Iowa* website (www.livingwithenergyinowa.com) and complete the entry form no later than April 30, 2018. ⚡

CVEC's Youth Tour winners have been selected

Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., is pleased to announce two students have been selected to represent CVEC on the 2018 Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. We're proud to support the program to enrich our youth's educational experience.

Jenah McCarty

is a senior at Albia Community High School and the daughter of Mark and Karen McCarty. Jenah is involved in many activities in school, including cross-country, basketball, track, student council, National Honor Society, FCCLA and Blue Pride Club. She's also very involved outside of school, volunteering and being a member at St. Mary's Church and taking dance classes at Shannon's School of Dance.



When asked if she were given the opportunity to speak with a member of Congress what topic she'd like to discuss, Jenah responded, "I would discuss two major topics that I feel are prominent in our country. I believe that women are seen as inferior to men in the workplace, as well as in society, and I also believe there is a severe lack of awareness toward mental health."

Kaitlyn Faber

is a junior at Albia Community High School and the daughter of Joe and Sarah Faber. Kaitlyn is also very actively involved in school groups, including dance team, golf, student council, National Honor Society, drama productions, Blue Pride Club, book club and yearbook club. She stays busy outside of school by performing with Shannon's School of Dance.



"I would discuss the matters of the rights being taken away from public workers, safety in schools, gun laws, affordable college, taxes and changes in our school system," said Kaitlyn about what she'd ask if given the opportunity to speak with a congressional representative. ⚡

April 18 is National Lineworker Appreciation Day at CVEC!

National Lineworker Appreciation Day is a time to express our utmost appreciation to the great men and women who work so hard for us every day. It's our honor to celebrate the hard work, innovation and dedication of our electrical lineworkers.

Electric cooperative linemen don't often receive the recognition they deserve. They work all hours of the day, often in hazardous conditions and far from their families, going above and beyond to restore power to their communities.

If you see a lineworker in your electric co-op's office or around your



area, please take a moment to say thanks. You can also leave a comment on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CharitonValleyREC>. ⚡



**Did you know electricity can arc from a power line to a nearby conductor, such as farm machinery?
You can protect yourself from serious or fatal injuries by observing the 10-foot rule.**

Always keep yourself and any machinery, ladders and tools at least 10 feet away from power lines. Space is the best insulator, so use it to help make working with farm machinery or any other equipment as safe as it can be.



Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative

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