

# living with energy

IN IOWA



Chariton Valley  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

OCTOBER 2018

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## Celebrating National Co-op Month

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# New faces join the CVEC team

Chariton Valley Electric is pleased to introduce our newest cooperative employees.

**Heather Anderson**

has been hired as CVEC's marketing and human resources coordinator. Heather will be responsible for promoting products, services and ideas. She will also be responsible for recruiting, screening, interviewing and placing workers.



Heather resides in Albia and is active in the community and her church. She enjoys baking and spending time with her nieces and nephews. Heather graduated from Creighton University with a bachelor's degree in psychology. Prior to accepting this position with CVEC, she served as the marketing/human resources director for Peoples State Bank. Heather brings experience and a proven track record of success in the marketing and human resources fields, which will be invaluable in meeting the goals and objectives of CVEC.

"I am thrilled to have an opportunity to work with this group of individuals and continue the efforts of great member service," Heather says.

**Jacob Maggio**,

formerly of Bellevue, Nebraska, has been hired as an apprentice lineman. Jacob graduated from high school in 2015 and attended Metro Community College where he studied utility line work. Jacob previously worked as a ground hand at Great Plains Power and worked his way to an apprentice lineman. He has also started the necessary steps to become a journeyman lineman.



"I have always wanted to work for a co-op," Jacob says. "I chose CVEC

because I fell in love with the area and how kind the people are here. I can't wait to start this journey with CVEC!"

**Hunter Connelly**,

formerly of Redwing, Minnesota, has been hired as an apprentice lineman. Hunter graduated from Red Wing High School in 2016 and attended Northwest Lineman College in Meridian, Idaho, graduating from its electrical lineworker program.



"I am most excited for the experiences and the memories I will make with my fellow linemen and coworkers," Hunter says.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Heather, Jacob and Hunter as they each begin their journey at Chariton Valley Electric. 🌟

JOB WELL DONE

## Right tools for the right job

**Chariton Valley Electric Management and Team,**

It's been said that to do a job right, you need the right tools. Yesterday, our old utility pole was replaced. According to Thad DeMoss, it was probably put into service back in the 1940s. That would make the original pole between 70 and 80 years old, and during that time other utilities have used the same pole, making the replacement process even more difficult. Now, double the number of utility cables (power, phone, cable TV, etc.) because the same pole serves two homes and it becomes nearly impossible to pull the old pole and place the new one in the same hole or close by. With the number of lightning strikes to the pole over the years and the number of surrounding trees, what would seem to many as a simple small pole replacement becomes a more significant project.

Your Vermeer vacuum excavator was the perfect solution to create and clean the hole necessary to set the new pole and avoid the many wires located below grade. Add to that the use of the boom truck to remove the old pole and set the new one and the bucket truck to allow the linemen access to the business end of the pole, and you have the complete package of tools for the job. Well done!

Give our best to the linemen for getting the job done in a less than the ideal situation with more rain approaching. And, to the management of Chariton Valley Electric for providing the necessary tools to do the job in a professional manner. Money well spent!

Sincerely,  
Rich Bartels



**Office**

2090 Highway 5 South  
P.O. Box 486  
Albia, IA 52531-0486

**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

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# Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative honored with economic development Impact Award

Iowa's rural electric cooperatives' commitment goes far beyond ensuring safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible energy for their member-owners. Cooperatives actively create strategic partnerships and provide technical and financial assistance to support business growth and community vitality. Annually, the Iowa Area Development Group (IADG) presents Impact Awards to utility partners who were involved in significant economic development initiatives the prior year. During our recent annual meeting at Honey Creek Resort, Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative was recognized by IADG for extraordinary economic development accomplishments and a commitment to local communities.

Specifically, Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative was presented

with an IADG Impact Award for project development. The co-op has supported economic development in our service territory for many years. A recent example of project support benefiting the area was Smith Fertilizer and Grain (SFG) Company's newly constructed 807,000-bushel grain bin. This new bin will allow SFG to store its grain in a much safer and controlled environment, allowing a longer period to market the grain. CVEC secured a \$1 million pass-through loan from the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant program to support this project.

"We commend Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative for their steadfast support of business and community development in the counties and communities they serve," said IADG



President Rand Fisher. "The co-op provides important technical and financial assistance that many times is a key component in successfully securing projects that create jobs and support community vitality." 🌿



## EDITOR'S CHOICE CONTEST

### Just in time for Thanksgiving!



Thanksgiving is right around the corner! Just in time for the feast, we're giving away a Masterbuilt Butterball XXL Digital Control Indoor Electric Turkey Fryer! You can fry using oil, or boil and steam with water. The suggested retail price is approximately \$240. For details go to [www.amazon.com/Butterball-Digital-Indoor-Electric-Turkey/dp/B00OU6JZ9M](http://www.amazon.com/Butterball-Digital-Indoor-Electric-Turkey/dp/B00OU6JZ9M).

Enter the contest by visiting the *Living with Energy in Iowa* website at [www.livingwithenergyiowa.com](http://www.livingwithenergyiowa.com) no later than Oct. 31, 2018. 🌿



# Give to RECare

Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., always has extended a helping hand to people in need. That's why we've established **RECare**, a program of members helping members. You can help needy people weatherize their homes and pay their winter heating bills. If you're interested, please complete and return this form to our office. **Any amount you give will be greatly appreciated!**



**RECare CONSUMER AUTHORIZATION FORM**

**Yes, I want to contribute to RECare.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will make a one-time contribution to RECare. My check is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ months to RECare. I understand this amount automatically will be added to my monthly electric bill.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to:**

**RECare**  
Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
P.O. Box 486  
Albia, IA 52531-0486

# Cooperatives see the future

There's no denying it: electric utilities will have to make changes to the way they provide energy to accommodate new trends. Luckily, Chariton Valley Electric is uniquely positioned to meet these changing energy needs because we are a cooperative. October is National Co-op Month, which is the perfect time to highlight the many ways electric cooperatives are unique!



Cooperatives are locally governed, looking out for the long-term needs of our members. We belong to the communities we serve, where heightened community focus allows us to quickly adapt to evolving member expectations. Our closeness to the community ensures a better response to these needs because we are led by the members we serve.

Cooperatives solely exist to meet a need that was previously unmet in

our communities, and we are always striving to anticipate and plan for the future needs of our members. Electric cooperatives often partner with local groups to bring economic opportunity to our local communities. It is this facilitation role that is often the most valuable strength of a co-op.

Our business model is unique. It is pragmatic, mission-oriented and puts members first! We strive to be a trusted voice in our local communities. CVEC has earned that trust because, while not perfect, we always have our members' best interests at heart and are determined to enrich the lives of those living and working in the communities we serve – now and in the future! ⚡

Bryon Stilley is the general manager of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.



## Smart Move.

Portable grain augers, like other farm equipment, require extra caution when they're used or moved near power lines. Any contact with electric lines is potentially lethal.

Always lower the auger before you move it, even if only a few feet. Keep all machinery at least 10 feet away from power lines, and get someone to help you watch for lines whenever you move equipment.



**Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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