

# living with energy

IN IOWA

APRIL 2019



Chariton Valley  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Serve on CVEC's board nominating committee ► See Page 12

## Spring safety tips

Visit our website at [www.cvrec.com](http://www.cvrec.com)

CVEC selects  
Youth Tour  
participants

Celebrating  
our linemen!

Local and  
community-focused



# CVEC ANNUAL MEETING 2019 Save the Date Now!

**Monday, Aug. 5, 2019**

The annual meeting of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held on **MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019**. Be sure to watch future issues of *Living with Energy in Iowa* for all the new and exciting details.

## OFFICE CLOSING

### Happy Easter!

CVEC's office will be closed Friday, April 19, in observance of Good Friday.



#### 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](http://www.cvrec.com)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

We accept



## Cornerstone of community

BY BRYON STILLEY

Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative is as local and community-centered as they come. Founded to bring electricity to communities that were in the dark, we have been a cornerstone of the community and economic development in rural Iowa for decades.

The feeling I get when I stop in local community businesses is the same feeling I have every day when I walk into work. It is a sense of pride. I am so proud to be part of an organization that serves our community.

Living on co-op lines is more than knowing there are people working to bring you safe, reliable and affordable electric service. Living on co-op lines is an investment in our community. We are owned by you, our members. We have a vested interest in assuring our community is prosperous. We accomplish this by investing in economic development and community service projects and programs.

Since 2017, CVEC has facilitated \$12 million in loans through the USDA's Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program, with \$10 million coming in 2018 alone. What is even more impressive, this \$10 million award to CVEC projects came for approximately \$50 million that was awarded across the entire U.S. in the program. Iowa receives more money

through these USDA programs than any other state. The main reason is due to the never-ending support of the Iowa Area Development Group.



CVEC received \$300,000 from the USDA to begin a revolving loan fund in the late 1980s. Over the last 30 years, we have loaned over \$1 million to projects of all sizes that have benefited our service territory.

We will continue to practice one of our core principles, "Concern for Community" as we work to preserve and sustain rural Iowa. When new industries come to town and current businesses expand, they bring additional members to CVEC. This only serves to build a larger electric load and help keep our rates low. We want businesses and nonprofits in our great seven-county service territory to know that CVEC is interested in working with you and investing in community betterment projects.

I encourage you to view CVEC as not only your electric utility provider but as a local business that brings pride and prosperity to our community. If you are interested in learning about how we keep the lights on and more, please give us a call. We love being a part of this community, and we hope you feel the same way too! ⚡

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

## Projects CVEC is proud to partner with:

- Appanoose County Community Railroad
- Camp 365
- Centerville School District
- Hometown Fabricating
- InspireU Bake Shoppe
- Iowa Aluminum
- Monroe County Hospital & Clinic
- Relco Locomotive
- RMA Armament
- Smith Fertilizer & Grain

# National Lineman Appreciation Day



The U.S. Senate declared April 18, 2013, as Lineman Appreciation Day, but this was a one-time resolution. In 2014, Good Friday fell on April 18. Because the 2013 designation was a one-time deal and many co-ops did not want the date to coincide with Good Friday (or fall on a weekend), the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association board designated the second Monday of every April as Lineworker Appreciation Day.

Co-ops celebrate on April 8 to display a unified voice, but some prefer to go with April 18.

At CVEC, we are celebrating our linemen for the entire month of April (and really all year long!). Electric cooperative linemen don't often receive the recognition they deserve. They work all hours of the day, often in hazardous conditions, far from their families, going above and beyond to restore power to their communities. We proudly recognize and thank CVEC's linemen for the services they perform to keep power flowing and protect the public's safety.

If you see a lineman around the area, please take a moment to say thanks. ⚡

## Win a KitchenAid® Stand Mixer!

The Kitchen Aid® Classic Series 10-speed mixer with a tilt-up head is powerful enough for nearly any



task or recipe, whether you're stirring wet and dry ingredients together, kneading bread dough or whipping cream. The 4½-quart bowl holds enough capacity to mix up to 6 dozen cookies, 3 loaves of bread or 6 pounds of mashed potatoes in a single batch! Three handy accessories: flat beater, wire whip, and dough hook come with the mixer.

Visit the *Living with Energy in Iowa* website at [www.livingwithenergyiniowa.com](http://www.livingwithenergyiniowa.com) to enter the contest no later than April 30, 2019. ⚡

## STUDENT LEADERS

# Youth Tour winners!

Chariton Valley Electric is pleased to announce two students have been selected to represent CVEC on the 2019 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

**Sarah Herz**, a senior at Albia Community High School, and the daughter of Kevin and Janet Herz of Lovilia, has been selected as one of the two outstanding students to attend this year's



Youth Tour. Sarah is involved in many school activities, including volleyball, tennis, cross country, student council, National Honor Society and Blue Pride Buddies. She is also involved outside of school with her church youth group and Iowa Honey Producers Association.

When asked if given an opportunity to speak with a member of Congress what topic would she like to discuss, Sarah responded, "I would discuss healthcare and the rising costs of prescription drugs. I would want to know what I should be doing now to help form the groundwork for our legal government system in the future."

**Collette Teno**, a senior at Albia Community High Schools, and the daughter of Danny and Marilyn Teno of Moravia, has also been selected to attend the 2019 Youth Tour.

Collette is actively involved in school activities, including FFA, Dance Team, tennis and volleyball. Outside of school, she is busy performing with Shannon's



School of Dance, 4-H, volunteering for Cystic Fibrosis and St. Mary's Catholic Church activities. Her conversation with a member of Congress would be "Discussing the issues that are important to rural America, like agriculture, healthcare and taxation."

Both will join about 40 other Iowa students – and more than 1,800 high school students from across the U.S. – in Washington, D.C., from June 14-20, 2019. They will get an inside look at the federal government and tour the city, visiting the National Cathedral, war memorials, Smithsonian museums and Capitol Hill.

Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative, with the generosity of its membership, is proud to support the Youth Tour program to enrich our youth's educational experience. ⚡

# Active participation in your co-op is crucial for its success



Marchelle Brown



Randy Gottschalk



Kenny Vandenberg

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 August 5, 2019.

The nominating committee will

meet April 18, 2019, at 6 p.m. at the office of Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative. The committee shall make a good faith effort to nominate two candidates for each director position to be filled at the 2019 annual meeting.

Directors whose terms expire include:

**Marchelle Brown** – District 1

**Randy Gottschalk** – District 2

**Kenny Vandenberg** – District 5

Additional nominations (nominations not made by the committee) may be made by written petition with the signatures of at least 15 members. Bylaws of the Cooperative

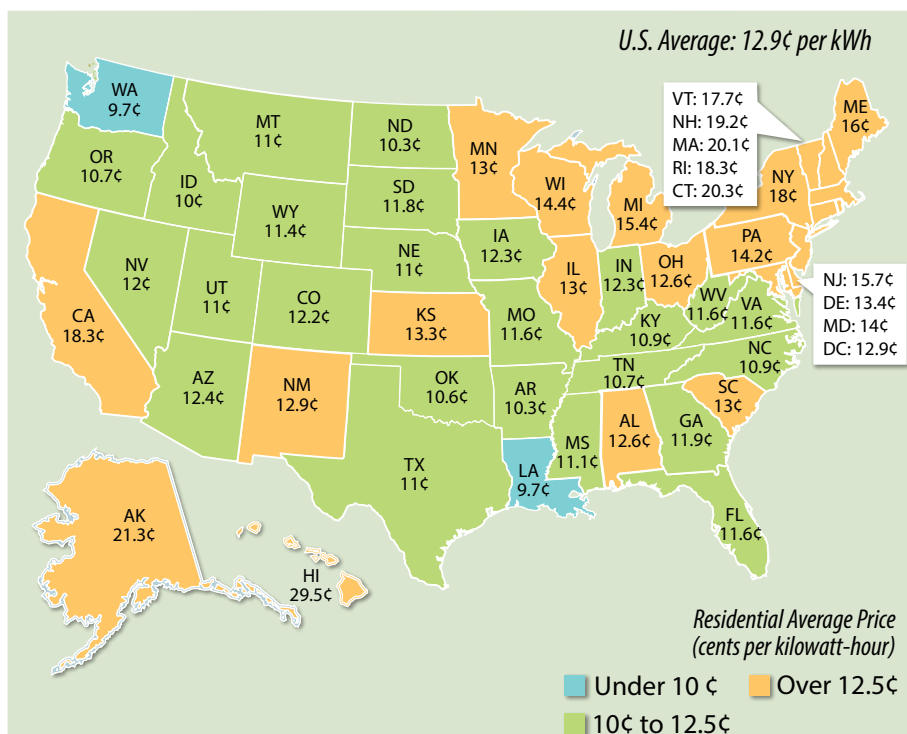
provide that such petitions must be filed by July 8, 2019, not less than 30 days prior to the meeting at which the directors will be elected. Petition forms may be picked up and filed at the cooperative's office.

Every member has the right to vote. To exercise your right to vote in person, please attend the August 5, 2019, annual meeting. If unable to attend, you have the option to vote by mail. Your notice of the annual meeting will be mailed to you the last week of July 2019. A ballot will be enclosed for you to cast your vote and return.

This is your cooperative, so please exercise your rights as a member to volunteer to have your name on the ballot for a director position and/or vote during the director elections. 🌱

## Average Prices for Residential Electricity

2017 figures, in cents per kWh



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration  
Numbers rounded to nearest tenth of a cent

## Iowa's average is

12.3  
cents per kWh

## CVEC's average is

9.8  
cents per kWh



Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

2090 Hwy. 5 South • Albia, IA 52531 • (641) 932-7126 • cvec.com