Published for members of Northeastern Rural Electric Membership Corporation

September/October 2022 <u>nremc.com</u>

Join us at Kuehnert Dairy Farm for Member Appreciation Night

Mark your calendar for Thursday, October 20, for some family fun!





Warm up around the bonfire, enjoy an ooey-gooey Mousetrap grilled cheese with some delicious Prairie Farms milk and make lots of memories with your family enjoying all of the attractions at Kuehnert Dairy Farm. **Northeastern REMC members will have the entire fall festival to themselves** on this special members-only event on Thursday, October 20, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Members' immediate family will get free admission where they can enjoy all 30+ attractions on the farm. This includes many different children's activities including a corn maze, obstacle courses, climbing walls, the corn pit, a giant haystack and more! Be sure to go on a hayride for a tour of the farm and to learn more about the dairy cows that call Kuehnert Dairy Farm home.









Thursday, October 20 • 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION • FREE FOOD VOUCHERS • FREE ACTIVITIES

Find full details and register your family at nremc.com/farm.





Keep safety on your mind as we prepare to spend more time indoors this fall.

With cooler weather moving in, many people will start spending more time at home and using more indoor appliances. We've put together some reminders for indoor electrical safety.

Before you use appliances or tools that haven't been used in a while, inspect cords, plugs, and outlets to ensure everything is in good working condition. Frayed or damaged cables can become a fire or electrocution hazard.

To help prevent home fires, clean appliances you may have neglected that might have a buildup of things like food debris, oil, and dust.

Take the time to move extension cords out of high-traffic areas of the home to avoid a tripping hazard, and decide whether they are still needed.

Last but certainly not least, test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Check that you have these detectors installed outside of all rooms in your home, ensuring the safety of everyone in the house.

Avoid overloading your outlets

- Never plug more than two appliances into an outlet at any time; don't "piggyback" extra appliances or devices on extension cords or wall outlets. Instead, use only outlets designed to handle multiple plugs.
- Know the amount of power you're placing on an outlet or circuit to avoid overloading your outlets.
- Major appliances (refrigerators, washers, stoves, air conditioners, etc.) should be plugged directly into their own wall outlet since they are heavy power
- If you find you are overloading an outlet or circuit in your home, you may need to contact a professional to help resolve the problem. An electrician can add outlets and inspect your home's wiring system.

Follow NREMC on Facebook for more safety information, power outage info, and a behind-the-scenes look at the people behind your power.





HOW IT WORKS



You can choose to round up your monthly NREMC bill to the nearest dollar every month.



Donations from you and other members are collected and placed in a trust. Then, a group of members, like you, that make up the Operation Round Up board decide which organizations receive funding quarterly.



Because of these generous donations, organizations

throughout northern Indiana can operate programs to benefit our communities.

Local nonprofits organizations apply at nremc.com/roundup.



Learn more at <u>nremc.com/roundup</u>.



or scan me

More than \$4,200 given to local organizations from members

Each month, more than 1,400 Northeastern members like you choose to round up their electric bills to the next whole dollar to help nonprofit organizations in our communities as part of Operation Round Up. Recently, funding was awarded to the following organizations:

Lexi's Voice

Funds will help children recovering from abuse participate in farm therapy. The program takes place at Common Grounds Farm, home to a wide variety of rescued and re-homed animals. Like the participants, these



animals are often overcoming traumatic pasts. Therefore, the participants must help the animals overcome fears and anxieties that mirror their own in many ways.

Camp Whitley

Camp Whitley will be using funds to help replace an old fence that ensures safety for campers.

NE Indiana American Red Cross

Whitley County's Red Cross Disaster Action Team will use the funding to help provide financial assistance to help with emergency lodging, food and clothing when tragedy strikes in our area.

Difference Makers, Inc.

This Columbia City food pantry will use funds to provide more food items to the local community.

Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry

Funding will help pay for processing donated livestock to provide meals to local hunger-relief agencies in our area.

The Lighthouse

The funds donated will be used in their food bank to serve those in need of food support.



Local student artists selected for 25th anniversary art calendar

Twenty-six student artists were selected as first-place and honorable-mention winners in the annual art contest sponsored by Indiana's electric cooperatives, including Northeastern REMC. Their artwork will illustrate the inside pages of the 2023 edition of the Cooperative Calendar of Student Art. The calendar will be printed this fall and will be distributed to local schools.

This contest began in 1998 to encourage student artists. Whitko Jr./Sr. High School has had winners almost every year. You'll find this year's local winner and honorable mention to the right.

To enter this year's art contest, go to nremc.com/artcontest.

10th Grade Winner Alivia Tucker South Whitley





1st Grade Honorable Mention Samuel Smith Churubusco



Do you know a middle schooler making a difference in our community?

We want to hear from them! NREMC and Indiana's electric cooperatives are accepting applications for The Youth Power and Hope Awards. This program honors fifth through eighth graders who are community leaders to recognize young Hoosiers' vital roles in shaping their communities.

Up to five qualified candidates will be selected to receive \$500 and be featured in a future publication, among other highlights.

Learn more at nremc.com/youthpower.

Operation Round Up (Continued from page 2)

Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana

Funding is being used for the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, a program that helps girls discover and embrace becoming strong, confident women and leaders.

Life and Hope Foundation, Inc.

This Columbia City nonprofit organization will use funds for fuel to continue picking up and distributing donations from local stores to families who need it most.



Enroll in Operation Round Up today at <u>nremc.com/roundup</u> to help us make an even more significant impact right here in our community. The average monthly donation is only 50¢ per member. Your small change can change lives!

Three longtime employees reach the finish line and begin their retirement journeys

In the past few months, we've celebrated the careers and retirements of three NREMC employees as they begin their well-deserved retirement journeys.







Brad Deutsch 38 years

23 years

Steve Sturgeon has been with NREMC since 1978 when he started as a trainee during high school. For 44 years, he was part of the operations team, working his way from apprentice to journeyman lineman. In the later years of his career, he worked as an engineering technician. Steve has also spent 44 years with the Columbia City Fire Department, with 18 years as deputy chief. His industry knowledge and ability to communicate with members under any circumstances will be missed by all.

Brad Deutsch has held multiple positions in our operations team dating back to his first day at NREMC in 1984, when he started as an apprentice lineman. Over the years, he worked in our meter department setting up new services and then moved into the engineering department later in his career. Before retirement, he spent many years leading a team as the field engineering supervisor. His experience, knowledge, and humor will be missed. His retirement plans include fishing, golfing, and traveling.

Nancy McNabney was often one of the first people our members would see in our lobby or the familiar voice on the phone for 23 years. She began her career at NREMC in 1999. Since then, she's held a variety of member services-related positions. She never hesitated to provide insight and background information as we evolved our dedication to our members. Her priority was serving our members, and she will be missed.



NREMC members get a \$5 concessions voucher and a chance to win prizes!



Thank you for voting!

Thank you to everyone who voted in our Board of Directors election, which wrapped up on September 10.

To view the current Board of Directors, go to nremc.com/leadership.

Could we reach you if we need to?

Have you updated your contact information lately? Next time you log in to your online account, please review your contact information to ensure we can reach you about your account if we need to.

Community Improvement

We'll be in the community to participate in The United Way of Whitley County's Day of Caring, Co-Op Community Day, and a partnership with Habitat for Humanity this fall. Please say hello if you see us, and watch for photos on Facebook.

Contact Us

memberservices@nremc.com

888-413-6111 nremc.com

Call 811 before you dig!





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LIGHTPOST

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A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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