



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



LIVE LINES

Woodbury County Rural Electric Cooperative

May 2026

Scholarship Winners for 2026

Woodbury County REC, Merville and Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bismarck, North Dakota, are pleased to announce the winners of the educational scholarships for 2026.

The winner of the \$1500 Basin Electric scholarship is Ms. Gabrielle Hamann daughter of Jason and Julie Hamann, Correctionville. Ms. Hamann will be a freshman at University of Nebraska - Lincoln with plans to earn a Bachelor's Degree in animal science with a minor in agronomy.

The winner of the \$1000 Basin Electric scholarship is Brynn Jacobson daughter of Ryan and Candace Jacobson, Anthon. Ms. Jacobson will be a freshman at Wayne State College pursuing an degree in marketing with a minor in communications.

Three other outstanding applicants will each receive a \$500 scholarship from Woodbury County REC. Those three winners are: Carsyn Heger, daughter of Jason and Stephanie, Sioux City; Karlee Shever, daughter of Kenny and Kelly, Pierson; Rachel Putze, daughter of Matthew and Angela, Merville.

Ms. Heger is attending Drake University currently enrolled in the Doctor of Pharmacy program. Ms. Shever's future plans is to major in Biology-Health Professions at Northwestern College. Ms. Putze is planning on attending Iowa State University pursuing an career in Business and Accounting.



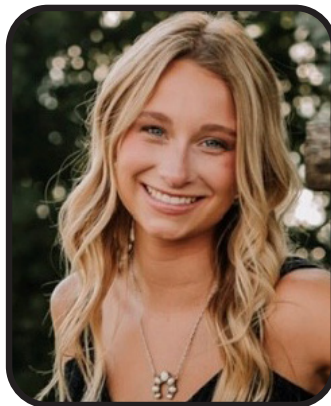
Gabrielle Hamann



Brynn Jacobson



Carsyn Heger



Karlee Shever



Rachel Putze

Woodbury County REC Annual Meeting will be held August 19, 2026

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

If you receive a call from someone stating you have overpaid your energy bill and you should provide your banking information or a credit card number to receive a refund, hang up because it's likely a scam. If you overpay your bill, your utility will apply the overpayment credit to your account balance or mail a check. They will not call and request your banking information to issue the refund.

Source: Utilities United Against Scams



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The Recipe Corner

Apple Dumplings

2 apples (peeled)
2 cans crescent rolls
1 c. butter (2 sticks)
1 c. sugar (or 1 ½ c.)
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. vanilla (optional)
1 (12 oz. can) Mt. Dew

Cut peeled apples into 16 nice-sized wedges. Separate crescent rolls. Place one slice of apple on each section of crescent roll and roll as you would a crescent roll. Put in greased 9 x13" pan. In saucepan, stir together butter, sugar, cinnamon, and vanilla until melted. (You can also choose to save the cinnamon to sprinkle over the rolls). Pour mixture over rolls, then pour the Mt. Dew around rolls. Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 minutes.

Preventing Costly Copper Theft

Did You Know?

Copper's properties make it a major industrial metal. It ranks third in consumption after iron and aluminum.

- High flexibility
- Conformity
- Thermal and electrical conductivity
- Resistance to corrosion

Source: National Mining Association



Help us shine the light on community volunteers in June

It's time to shine the light on our community volunteers! Guided by our cooperative commitment to community, Woodbury County REC encourages our members to participate in the statewide Shine the Light contest this summer by nominating local volunteers. Sponsored by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa, the contest will accept nominations during the month of June and select three winners who will each receive a \$3,000 donation to their local charity or nonprofit.

"We've been truly inspired by the people who have been nominated over the years," remarked Erin Campbell, director of communications for the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives. "We're excited to make three charity donations of \$3,000 each this year to recognize local volunteer efforts across the state."

Member-consumers and employees of Iowa's electric cooperatives are eligible to nominate local volunteers from June 1 to June 30. If you receive electricity from Woodbury County REC, you're a co-op member-consumer and we invite you to nominate a friend, neighbor or relative who is making a positive impact in the community. The volunteer being nominated does not need to be a co-op member-consumer. Minors may be nominated with consent from their parents or legal guardians. Nonwinning nominees from previous years can be nominated again for another chance to win.

Our 2026 winners will be announced in September and featured in Iowa Electric Cooperative Living magazine and on social media.

Go to www.IowaShineTheLight.com to review the contest rules and submission guidelines. Contest entries will be accepted at this website starting on June 1. Help us shine the light on community volunteers this summer and consider honoring a local volunteer by making a nomination!



May is Electrical Safety Month

Electricity lights homes and businesses, provides warmth and keeps appliances and equipment running smoothly. Listed below are some electrical safety tips to avoid hazards both inside and outdoors.

Staying safe on the road

Downed power lines can happen because of wind, storms, animals or an auto accident/collision.

1. If you see a downed power line, call 9-1-1 to report it and stay in your car. You cannot tell by looking or listening if the power line is deenergized. Wait in your vehicle until an electric utility crew member says it is safe to get out.
2. Do not drive over a downed power line. Doing so could cause a domino effect and bring down other lines, poles and equipment.
3. The only time you should exit is if your vehicle or cab is on fire. If this is the case, make a solid jump from the car or cab without touching it, landing with both feet together. Then, hop away with your feet together as far as you can.



Staying safe outside

When working outside, be aware of overhead and underground power lines.

1. Keep at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines. Keep any items you are carrying or using, such as long poles or other extended equipment, 10 feet away from power lines at all times. Carry an extension ladder or other far-reaching tools or equipment horizontally.
2. Make sure that all outside outlets are ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected.
3. Before digging, call 8-1-1 or your state's underground locating service. Buried lines such as electric, gas, water, sewer and other lines bring services indoors. Besides the dangers of coming in contact with a gas or electric line, fines due to damage are the responsibility of the homeowner or landowner. Privately owned lines and systems will not be marked by the free service.
4. When you see lightning, take shelter inside the house, shop or a hard-topped vehicle for protection. Stay away from high places, and do not take shelter under an isolated tree. Stay away from items that conduct electricity, such as metal fences. If you are swimming or in a hot tub, get out. Water is an electrical conductor that is dangerous during a storm.

Staying safe inside

With so many people working from home, the workplace and where you live can be one and the same. This means more devices are plugged into outlets or circuits that may not be able to handle the load.

1. Have a qualified electrician/licensed contractor check for hazards if you notice the following: dimming lights, a sizzling or buzzing sound, the smell of warm plastic, a switch plate that feels warm or looks scorched, sparks when plugging in or unplugging items or circuits that trip often.
2. When working with electrical equipment inside the house or shop, be aware that electrical equipment can spark when flammable vapors, gases or dust are present.
3. Do not overstretch a cord or use frayed or damaged cords.
4. During storms, lightning can enter homes through corded phones, televisions, radios or computers. Lightning can also travel through plumbing, so do not take a bath, shower or wash dishes when you see lightning strikes. If possible, unplug appliances and electronics before the storm, including cell phones that are charging via electricity. Surges caused by lightning can damage electronics and appliances.

RECare Consumer Contribution

Your Rural Electric Cooperative has always extended a helping hand to those in need. In response to actions by the Iowa General Assembly, your REC has established RECare, a program of members helping members. RECare will provide funds to be distributed by local community action agencies to help pay winter heating bills and to assist in weatherization of homes of low-income consumers of this Cooperative. You may make a one time contribution or you may make a monthly pledge that will be automatically added onto your monthly electric bill. Even one dollar a month pledge will help.

Consumer Authorization Form

Yes, I want to be a part of members helping members and contribute to **RECare**.

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

I will contribute \$_____ per month to **RECare**. I understand that this amount will be automatically added to my monthly electric bill.

My gift is a matching fund gift. The matching fund is _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Please Mail To: **RECare**

Woodbury County Rural Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 566

Moville, Iowa 51039

Meeting Your Expectation for Reliability

Woodbury County REC has been busy preparing for a big year of construction. The Cooperative's Board approved a Capital Improvement Plan that includes replacing four (4) miles of older underground lines with new underground in Concord township.

The underground lines will be relocated south of Sgt. Bluff in preparation for the new I-29 interchange. Replacing poles and underground boxes that were damaged in the Bronson Fire will also be a priority. We also have targeted other overhead lines to be converted to underground throughout our service area.

There are a number of smaller projects planned throughout the county. These projects involve replacing some old underground cable where we have seen increased failures and line moves due to Department of Transportation and Woodbury County Secondary Road projects.

Woodbury County REC knows the importance our members place on having reliable electric service. These conversion projects will assist the Cooperative in meeting your expectations for system reliability.



Plant Trees Safely

Before you dig, call 811 to locate buried utility lines.

LOW TREE ZONE

Avoid planting within 20 ft. of power lines. If planting is unavoidable, only plant shrubs and small trees that reach a mature height of 15 ft. or less.

MEDIUM TREE ZONE

Plant medium trees (under 40 ft. when mature) at least 25 ft. away from power lines.

LARGE TREE ZONE

Plant large trees (over 40 ft. when mature) at least 50 ft. away from power lines.

Over 40 ft.

