

GET CHARGED  
Electric Trucks and  
SUVs are coming

DAIRYLAND POWER  
COOPERATIVE CEO  
Pays a visit to ACEC  
service area

OPTIONAL  
PROTECTION  
FOR PIECE OF MIND

FALL LEGISLATIVE  
VISIT

CAPITAL CREDITS  
RETURNED



Don't let a high school student miss out on a FREE trip to Washington, D.C.!  
**Application deadline is Jan. 31, 2022.** Visit [acrec.com](http://acrec.com) for details.

## ROLINDA ACRES RECOGNIZED WITH VENTURE AWARD







**A MESSAGE  
FROM**  
*Your  
General  
Manager*

**Hollie McCormick**  
EVP/General Manager

## SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM ALLAMAKEE- CLAYTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

"The holidays." I genuinely love this time of year. Just the thought of the holiday season brings a smile to my face and evokes nostalgia. Recalling gatherings and traditions always warms my heart.

It is a time of reflection. I'm grateful for my own family as well as my co-op family. A sense of mission and purpose drives Allamakee-Clayton Electric. Our team feels a strong connection to our community and our members because, as I've mentioned before, we live here too.

While many community-focused programs and activities, such as food drives and local donations to holiday activities, ramp up this time of year, we have several programs and services in place to help our members year-round. I want to remind you about some of these offerings in hopes you'll find them beneficial.

We hope you'll take advantage of SmartHub, an app that empowers you to monitor, manage and pay your energy bill conveniently through your phone. Another service we offer is Budget Billing, which helps make your electric bill predictable. The Cooperative annually provides you with information about the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program available through Northeast Iowa Community Action. We also offer energy efficiency programs to save you money and energy.



You can find information about DIY Energy Audits on our website; we frequently run energy savings tips in this newsletter, bill insert, and social media platforms. Finally, our member services manager is available for any energy efficiency questions you may have.

Our Board of Directors approved the Operation RoundUp program this year. Members can opt to "round up" their energy bills to the next whole dollar amount, and these extra pennies can help others right here in our community. You will receive more information about this program in the coming months, and it will take some time to build up this program, but we look forward to all we can offer our local communities through your generosity!

You may have noticed our electric vehicle (EV) out in our service area. We invested in an EV to promote a greater understanding of electric vehicles and promote their use, especially given the focus on electrification of the transportation sector. Members over 18 can sign up to take it for a test drive!

But the most important investment we make is in our local youth. ACEC has numerous staff who volunteer to youth clubs and programs and serve in a volunteer role to community fire departments and emergency services. In addition, the Cooperative has provided \$18,800 in scholarships to local students since the establishment of the Hauschild Scholarship Fund in 1995. In addition, each year, through our Youth Tour program, we send high school sophomores and juniors to Washington, D.C., for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action. Next year will be an exciting trip for our youth as Youth Tour returns after a two-year interruption due to the pandemic.

At the heart of all of these programs is you—the members we proudly serve. Looking back, I'm grateful for so many incredible community partners and for the positive impact we can continue to make. While the larger environment in which we operate is constantly changing, one thing remains constant. Working together, we'll continue to be a catalyst for good.

This holiday season, I wish you and your loved ones peace, joy, and prosperity. Speaking on behalf of our team at Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, have the happiest of holidays! ■

### BOARD BRIEFS | Nov. 29, 2021

- Approved the re-pricing of two Cooperative Finance Corporation Loans
- Approved temporary line of credit from CFC, specifically for fiber costs
- Heard fiber engineering updates from Adam Ranseth, R&S Fiber Optic Services, LLC
- Approved Phase-2 Fiber Project for The City of Waukon
- Reviewed Human Resources contracted services proposal from HR Solutions, LLC
- Approved a cost-share application from Turkey River Safari
- Approved a \$500 donation to Northeast Iowa Wellness & Recreation Center
- Approved a \$500 donation to REC Archery Shoot fundraiser

# PLUGGED IN Electrical Vehicle Update

Get Charged: Electric Trucks and SUVs are Coming



Photo Credit: Ford

Ford's all-electric F150 Lightning, arriving spring 2022, can provide portable power to a jobsite.



Photo Credit: Rivian

Rivian's R1T all electric pickup is available now.



Photo Credit: Tesla

Tesla is expected to make the Cybertruck available by early 2022.

- The upfront cost of an EV purchase is now more competitive with similar internal combustion models, and most EVs qualify for a federal tax credit of up to \$7,500.
- The cheaper operating fuel cost per mile (for electricity) compared to gasoline or diesel is another attractive feature for drivers.

Ford's electric F150 Lightning is scheduled to arrive in spring 2022, starting under \$40,000 for the commercial trim package (230-mile range model). A 300+ mile battery is an option, and all models are 4X4 with respectable towing and payload capacities. The Lightning is also equipped to provide 9.6kW of home backup power or portable power for a job site.

Tesla has more than a million pre-orders for their new Cybertruck, which will likely arrive in 2022. The 250-mile range 2WD model starts under \$40,000 and steps up to \$50,000 for the 300-mile range 4WD model. Tesla plans to offer a 500+ mile range version for \$70,000 that can tow more than 14,000 pounds.

GMC has announced a late 2021 release of an electric Hummer with 1,000 horsepower and additional features for off-road performance.

Rivian, a startup backed by billions of dollars from Ford and Amazon, is planning to unveil their R1T electric pickup later this year.

Crossover SUVs (CUVs) are one of the most popular types of vehicles, and a number of manufacturers say they'll have electric models available soon. Ford's Mustang Mach-E is actually available now with a range up to 305 miles, starting at \$45,000. Volkswagen's ID4 CUV starts at \$40,000 and is available with AWD options. More electric SUVs are coming, including Rivian's R1S, Nissan's Ariya and Volkswagen's six-passenger ID6.

And it's not just vehicles that are shifting to electric. Electric snow



machines and jet skis are arriving soon. Even large construction equipment like excavators, backhoes and heavy-duty trucks will have electrically fueled models.

The remaining hurdle for increased EV adoption in rural areas is fast, sufficient charging for longer trips. Most EV owners charge at home, but more fast-charge stations on rural highways will be helpful.

If you're interested in an EV, talk to your electric co-op. They may offer special EV rates or rebates. ■

*Pat Keegan and Brad Thiessen of Collaborative Efficiency write on energy efficiency topics for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.*

## ACEC RETURNS NEARLY \$600,000 TO MEMBERS

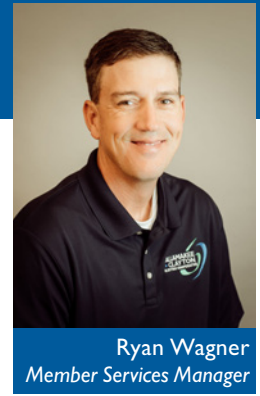
Your board of directors authorized payment of patronage dividends at its October 25 meeting. More than 10,000 members and former members who purchased electricity from the Co-op in 1999, 2000 and 2020 are receiving a check this month.

Also included with the patronage dividends are the Dairyland Power Cooperative portion for 1994 and 1995 and our former DBS division portion for 2004.

	<b>\$592,354</b>
<b>ACEC Members</b>	
<small>Eight hundred eighty thousand one hundred seventy-one &amp; 12/100</small>	
<b>Capital Credits</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>



# OPTIONAL PROTECTION FOR PIECE OF MIND



Ryan Wagner  
Member Services Manager

Allamakee-Electric Cooperative is always looking into new products and offerings that could benefit our members. Many homeowners believe their utility companies or homeowners insurance is responsible for emergency repairs to the water, sewer, plumbing, electrical, and heating and cooling systems. The reality is that in many cases, the homeowner is responsible for these repairs.

ACEC has recently partnered with HomeServe, an independent company of ACEC that offers optional service plans to provide home repair plans to help eligible members be prepared and have the best possible service in the case of an emergency. In addition, HomeServe has contracted with our **LOCAL, licensed, and insured technicians** to perform covered repairs, which guarantee against defects in materials and workmanship for one year.

## A FEW THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Direct all payment and coverage questions to HomeServe.
- If you want HomeServe to list you as a contractor, do not hesitate to contact HomeServe directly or ACEC to submit the required information.

- Allamakee-Clayton intends to offer future plans that include coverage for water heaters, furnaces, air-source heat pumps, electrical surge, interior electric, exterior electric, and air conditioners.
- Any member who wants to have their name removed from HomeServe's mailing list should contact HomeServe directly or Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative.
- Most plans start 30 days after HomeServe processes your order. You can make a service call immediately after your plan starts. During the initial 30-day waiting period, you will receive the Terms and Conditions to help you decide if coverage is right for you. You may cancel within 30 days of your start date for a full refund, less any claims paid, where applicable.

For further information, please visit [PlansACREC.com](http://PlansACREC.com) or [acrec.com](http://acrec.com). Direct additional questions to me at the Cooperative at 888-788-1551.

Our current plans apply to appliances and infrastructure that may require maintenance or replacement.

## COVERAGE PLANS

- Exterior Electrical Line: \$6.99/mo.
- Interior Electrical Line: \$5.99/mo.
- Cooling System: \$13.99/mo.
- Water Heater Repair and Replacement Plan: \$8.49/mo.
- Heating System: \$12.99/mo.
- Heat Pump/Cooling System: \$16.99/mo.
- Electrical Surge: \$4.99/mo.

HomeServe knows the importance of stretching a dollar. So, they are dedicated to providing you with affordable ways to save money when an unexpected home emergency happens.

If you are a contractor and want HomeServe to list your business on their contractor list, contact HomeServe at 833-334-1874 or the Co-op at 888-788-1551.

[PlansACREC.com](http://PlansACREC.com)

## Protection Plans from HomeServe are here

for Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative Members



In partnership with



Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative has partnered with HomeServe to offer optional home repair plans to its eligible members.

HomeServe is an independent provider of home repair service solutions in the US and Canada.

Since 2003, plans from HomeServe have helped more than 4.7 million customers protect against the expense of home emergencies. Our 24/7 repair hotline provides best-in-class customer service, and covered repairs have a one-year guarantee.

The following low-cost coverage plans are available to Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative members:

Exterior Electrical Coverage	\$6.99/mo
Interior Electrical Coverage	\$5.99/mo
Cooling System Coverage	\$13.99/mo
Water Heater Repair and Replacement Plan	\$8.49/mo
Heating System Coverage	\$12.99/mo
Heat Pump/Cooling System Coverage	\$16.99/mo
Electrical Surge Coverage	\$4.99/mo*

\*90-day guarantee on surge plan.



HomeServe USA Repair Management Corp. ("HomeServe"), with corporate offices located at 601 Merritt 7, 6th Floor, Norwalk, CT 06851, is an independent company separate from Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative and offers this optional service plan as an authorized representative of the service contract provider, North American Warranty, Inc., 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604. Your choice of whether to participate in this service plan will not affect the price, availability or terms of service from Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative.

For more information: Visit HomeServe at [www.PlansACREC.com](http://www.PlansACREC.com) or call 1-833-334-1874



## ROLINDA ACRES HONORED WITH IADG VENTURE AWARD

The Iowa Area Development Group (IADG), on behalf of Iowa's rural electric cooperatives, municipal utilities, and independent telecommunications companies, honored eight distinguished Iowa companies and leaders with the Iowa Venture Award this year.



**ROLINDA ACRES**, owned by Tara and Pat Reisinger, is located near the northeast Iowa town of Waterville. The Reisingers have five hog buildings, farm 1,500 acres, milk 785 cows and operate a dog breeding business. In 2001, the Reisingers milked 150 cows. Today, that number has climbed to 785 cows, with plans to nearly double in 2023. To grow their herd and shorten their workdays, they constructed a 96,000-square-foot barn housing eight robotic milkers in 2020. Approximately 550 cows are robotically milked, while they milk 260 in the existing parlor.

Rolinda Acres plans to add another building and eight additional robotic milkers by 2023. *See the Co-op's Dec. 2 Facebook post to watch a video on Rolinda Acres, including an interview with the owners and ACEC's general manager.*

The Iowa Area Economic Development provides business and community project support on behalf of nearly 250 Iowa electric and telecommunications utilities. Confidential services include available site and building identification, financial incentives, technical assistance, and resources necessary to meet the client's specific needs. IADG established the Iowa Venture Award in 1988. Over the past three decades, IADG has recognized 280 organizations for their significant contributions to Iowa's economy through entrepreneurial leadership, innovation, and the creation of job opportunities. ■

1430



"The Iowa Venture Award Luncheon provides a forum to celebrate the courage, contribution, innovation, responsibility, and vision of Iowa entrepreneurs," said IADG President Rand Fisher. "The Reisinger family boldly embarked on a significant expansion of a robotic milking barn in 2020 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, when many were hesitant to grow."

## DPC's CEO VISITS NORTHEAST IOWA

Allamakee-Clayton staff and board president welcomed Dairyland Power Cooperative President & CEO, Brent Ridge this month. He made the trip from La Crosse to meet with employees and provide an update and general overview of Dairyland. Brent, CEO of Dairyland since July 2020, offered background on himself and outlined DPC's performance throughout 2021. In addition, he touched on safety, energy (past, present, and future), Electric Vehicles, sustainability, emerging risks and opportunities, growth and innovation, and answered questions from employees.

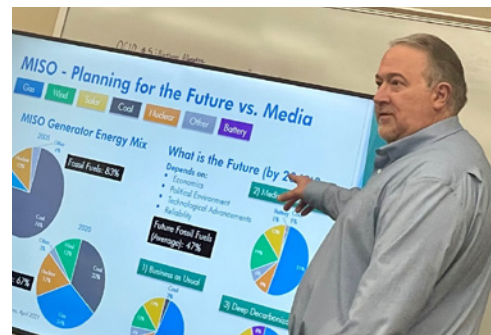


**Brent Ridge**  
President & CEO  
Dairyland Power  
Cooperative

Following this, he joined our general manager and board president on a visit with owners of Country View Dairy, Hawkeye; Rolinda Acres, Waterville, and Trinity Fabricators, New Albin. Brent joined the Co-op in presenting Pat Reisinger, owner of Rolinda Acres, with the Iowa Area Development Group's Venture Award. *(See cover photo, l-r: Hollee McCormick, Brent Ridge, Pat Reisinger, and Jeff Bradley.)* ■



Brent Ridge, DPC president & CEO pictured here with ACEC's management staff and board president on Dec. 9. L-r: Jeni Kolsrud (IT manager), Ryan Wagner (member services manager), Hollee McCormick (general manager), Dave Decker (finance director), Ridge, Jenny McIntyre (communications manager), Brenda Hackman (economic development manager), and Jeff Bradley (board president).



Dairyland Power Cooperative's CEO Brent Ridge shares with ACEC employees a variety of updates and future plans during a visit to ACEC this month.



Dairyland Power Cooperative, headquartered in La Crosse, WI, is a generation and transmission cooperative that provides wholesale energy for 24 electric distribution cooperatives, including ACEC, and 17 municipal utilities in WI, MN, IA, and IL.





## CO-OP CAREER DAY The Sequel

A second group of area high school students joined us last month and learned about electric co-op career opportunities. Our employees enjoyed describing their responsibilities in their role and what led them to a co-op career.

The students attend MFL MarMac, NFV, Turkey Valley, and South Winn high schools. We wish these students the best with their future education and career choices!

Please support and encourage job shadowing if you have the opportunity!

### HOW ELSE WILL YOU KNOW?

Job shadowing allows someone to follow and closely observe a person who works in a field they're interested in. We wish both Brady and Nick the best in their careers!

Dear Rec,  
Thank you for letting me job shadow Jack Regan and his crew. I greatly appreciate it.  
Thanks, Nick



**Brady Stille** (right), a junior at Decorah High School, is interested in a career as a power lineman, and spent a Friday with ACEC linemen, Brent Schutte (left) and Jeff Cox, gaining a better understanding of the work required of a power lineman. That particular day, the crew set poles in a right-of-way in Mallory Township in Clayton County.



We welcomed **Nick Goltz** early this month, a senior at Waukon High school, for a taste of his future responsibilities. Nick (right) joined the crew of Jack Regan (left), Ben Grangaard, and Doug Moose, installing new underground line and retiring overhead lines in Fayette County. Nick will begin power lineman training at Southwest Wisconsin Technical College in Fennimore, WI next fall.



## FALL LEGISLATIVE VISIT

**Front l-r:** Jeff Bradley, ACEC board president; Jennifer Shilling, Dairyland Power Co-op government relations manager; Rep. Anne Osmundson-District 56; Brenda Hackman, ACEC's economic development manager.

**Back l-r:** Hollee McCormick, ACEC general manager; Rochelle Fuller, regional director for Senator Grassley; Rep. Chad Ingels-District 64; Rep. Michael Bergan-District 55; Brittney Zumbach Carroll, outreach director for Senator Ernst, Sen. Mike Klimesh-District 28, and Clare Gill, district representative for Congresswoman Ashley Hinson.

Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative hosted a Fall Legislative Meeting on Tues., Nov. 30. It was terrific to have state and federal legislators represented and in person to learn about important issues to rural electric cooperatives.

Topics of discussion included:

- The Cooperative's mission, guiding principles, business model, and service territory
- Energy policy challenges and opportunities
- ACEC's connection with Dairyland Power and their initiatives
- Fiber projects

- Economic Development in our service territory and northeast Iowa
- Tax equality bill and issues that we are tracking
- Biofuels and EVs | WE SUPPORT BOTH
- Federal and State matters
- Partnering together and providing resources

The Co-op expresses our appreciation and gratitude for our area legislators' interest in energy policies that will maintain affordable, reliable, and safe electricity.

### ACEC's EV FACTS:

- The Co-op purchased the Tesla Model 3 in May 2021 for \$39,200



# MEMBER SOUP RECIPES

## VEGETABLE CHEESE SOUP

- 1 c. celery, finely chopped
- ½ c. carrots, finely chopped
- ¼ c. onion, finely chopped
- 1 qt. chicken broth
- 1 qt. milk
- 1 lb. Velveeta cheese
- ½ c. butter
- ½ c. flour
- ½ tsp. dry mustard

Cook celery, carrots, onion, and chicken broth until vegetables are tender. Scald milk; add Velveeta, stir until melted. In a saucepan, melt butter, flour, and mustard. Mix well; stir in hot vegetables, and broth.

“My favorite thing about this soup is as long as I have plenty of celery, carrots and onion on hand, I can cook another batch of vegetables and broth, cool and freeze. The next time I want to make this soup, just thaw and heat and continue the rest of the recipe – You have soup made quickly with no mess.”

*Patricia Baumler, Wadena*

4801

## CORN CHEESE CHOWDER

- 6 slices bacon, diced OR 1 c. ham, cubed
- 1 sm. onion, chopped
- 3 T. flour
- 2 c. water
- 1 c. raw potato, diced
- ¼ t. dry sage
- 1 lg. bay leaf
- 1 c. boiling water
- 1 ½ c. cheddar cheese, grated
- 2 c. fresh cooked or canned whole kernel corn
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 c. powdered coffee creamer

Combine bacon and onion in a large saucepan. Cook until bacon is browned and onion is tender. Blend in flour (if you use ham, you may have to add a little water to replace bacon fat); cook one minute, mixing the flour in thoroughly. Add water, potatoes, sage, and bay leaf. Cover and cook until potatoes are just tender, about 10 to 15 min. Remove bay leaf; add coffee creamer, BOILING water, grated cheese, corn, and seasonings.

Heat until soup comes to a boil and cheese melts. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and chives if desired. Serves 5 to 6.

*Nancy Strauser, Harpers Ferry*

## MOM'S CHICKEN SOUP

- 1, 3-4 lb. chicken, cut up
- 4 quarts water
- 3 carrots, sliced into chunks
- 3 celery stalks, sliced into chunks
- 3 onions, sliced into chunks
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- Chicken base or bouillon cubes, to taste
- Egg noodles, optional

Rinse chicken under cold water. Put everything but the chicken base or bouillon cubes in a pot. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer 1 – 1 ½ hours until chicken falls off the bone; cool slightly. Remove bone and return chicken to soup. Add chicken base or bouillon cubes, if desired, and stir until dissolved.

*Barb Nebendahl, Waterville*

Send your favorite recipes and/or recipe topics to Jenny McIntyre, ACEC, PO Box 715, Postville, IA 52162 or email [jmcintyre@acrec.coop](mailto:jmcintyre@acrec.coop).

You'll receive a \$5 bill credit if your recipe is printed. Please note – recipes must be received by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month before intended publication.

**January — What recipes start your New Year?**  
**February — CHOCOLATE**  
**March — MUFFINS**



Area legislators learn about the Co-op's Tesla, range, and charging technologies from member services manager Ryan Wagner during a visit to ACEC last month.

- The 2022 Annual Registration is \$394
- The Annual 2022 EV Fee is \$130. *The EV fee replaces gas or road use tax; it is a flat fee for all EVs.*
- Our Tesla model 3 EV travels an average of 265 miles on a full charge

In November 2021, if you filled up in Iowa or charged your EV to drive 400 total miles that month, here's your out of pocket:

**\*Gas-Powered Vehicle**

(30 mpg, mid-grade gas)  
 \$42.75

**\*\*Electric Vehicle**

(Tesla Model 3 residential charger)  
 \$10.19



## FIND YOUR SERVICE NUMBER

ACEC has hidden **three** Service Location numbers in this newsletter. The numbers are from three different regions of our service area – one is worth a **\$10** bill credit, and two are each worth a **\$5** bill credit if found. The Service Location number must be yours to claim the bill credit, and you need to notify us when you find it.



## CONTACT ACEC

### HEADQUARTERS

229 Highway 51 • PO Box 715  
Postville, IA 52162

### PHONE NUMBERS

**LOCAL** 563-864-7611

**TOLL-FREE** 888-788-1551

**PAYMENT LINE 24/7** 833-284-5051

**UNDERGROUND CABLE LOCATING**

811

**SKYWAYS INTERNET SOLUTIONS**

800-864-1611

### WEBSITE

acrec.com

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### OUTAGES

888-788-1551 or 563-864-7611

### IOWA STATE ONE CALL

811

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**BRENDA HACKMAN**, Manager, Economic Development & Community Relations

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**JENNY McINTYRE**, Manager, Marketing & Communications

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**STAY CONNECTED**



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DPC

*Best wishes for a magical holiday season and a blessed New Year!*



## HOLIDAY HOURS

Fri., Dec. 24: Closed

Fri., Dec. 31: Closed



We welcomed the Allamakee County Board of Supervisors in last month to tour our headquarters following their regular meeting. Hollee McCormick was on hand to provide the tour and introduce the supervisors to staff members. The time allowed them to discuss a variety of topics, including our service territory, power generation and mix, electric vehicles, and ongoing fiber projects.



*l-r: McCormick, Larry Schellhammer, Chairperson Board of Supervisors; Mark Reiser; Dan Byrnes, Chairperson Pro-Tem; and Janel Eglseder, 1st Deputy Auditor.*

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