



Daviess-Martin County

**REMC**

[www.dmremc.com](http://www.dmremc.com)

**CONTACT US**

Toll Free: 800-762-7362

**OFFICE HOURS**

7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday – Friday

**STREET ADDRESS**

12628 E 75 N, Loogootee, IN 47553

**MAILING ADDRESS**

P.O. Box 430, Loogootee, IN 47553

**SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

To report an outage or emergency, call 812-295-4200 or 800-762-7362 day or night.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Travis Summers, *President*

Brandt Schuckman, *Vice President*

Amy Burris, *Secretary*

Josh Dove, *Treasurer*

August Bauer

John Edwards

Terry Chapman

**MONTHLY MEETING**

Tuesday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m.,

Daviess-Martin County REMC office

**BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS**

SmartHub — online bill payment system

Budget billing

Auto bank draft

Drive-through window

Night depository

Credit card payment (VISA, Discover and MasterCard accepted)

Pay-by-phone: 1-888-222-0624

**MISSION STATEMENT**

"Our mission is to provide safe, reliable electricity and quality services for our members at a reasonable cost."

*Savings Tip*

**SEAL AIR LEAKS AND HOLES WHERE PLUMBING PIPES RUN THROUGH WALLS IN YOUR HOME**

You can also check wall-mounted cabinets for plumbing holes or air gaps in the back. Fill any holes or gaps with spray foam. Wear protective gloves and use a damp rag for clean-up.

— U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



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co-op news



# SAVE A LIFE:

## AVOID DISTRACTIONS WHILE DRIVING



Some temptations are hard to resist. For me, it can be especially challenging to resist adding just one more puppy to my household.

While driving, we typically hear that "ding" on our phone, alerting us to a text or call coming through, and we sometimes feel the urgent need to check it. We know we shouldn't, but we reason that we're going to make an exception — just this once.

So, why do we indulge in behavior we know to be wrong, dangerous and in many states, illegal? Call it hubris. According to AAA research, most people feel they are better-than-average drivers. After all, we have busy lives and are accustomed to multitasking. But mounds of research and thousands of deaths every year prove otherwise.

August is Back to School Safety Month. As a new school year begins with young drivers and school buses back on the road, I thought it would be a good time to remind folks, including myself, of the dangers of distracted driving.

The reality is that using a phone while driving creates enormous potential for injuries and fatalities. Distractions take a motorist's attention off driving, which can make a driver miss critical events, objects and cues, potentially leading to a crash.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, one of every 10 fatal crashes in the U.S.

involves distracted driving, resulting in more than 3,000 deaths annually. This statistic is heartbreaking because so many of these accidents could easily be avoided if we'd simply put down our phones while driving.

Distracted driving is considered any activity that diverts our attention, including texting or talking on the phone, and adjusting the navigation or entertainment system. Texting is by far one of the most dangerous distractions. Sending or reading one text takes your eyes off the road for an average of five seconds. At 55 mph, that's like driving the length of an entire football field with your eyes closed.

Not only should you ignore your phone while driving, you can help keep the roads safe by moving over for first responders and other emergency vehicles. Additionally, if you see utility crews conducting work near the roadside, move over when possible and give them extra space to perform their work safely.

At Daviess-Martin County REMC, safety is foremost in everything we do — for our employees and the members of the communities we serve. We routinely remind our crews of the dangers of distracted driving, and we hope you'll have similar conversations with your teens who may be new to the roadways and are especially susceptible to the lure of technology.

Let's work together to keep everyone safe on the roads. Remember: that text can wait. Waiting just might save a life.

**JANE BAHLER-HURT**  
General Manager

# OPERATION ROUND UP

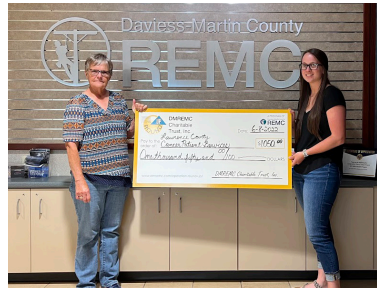
## SECOND QUARTER RECIPIENTS



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 116

Knights of Columbus Council 116 of Bedford received a \$1,140 grant to aid in efforts made by the 45th Annual Tootsie Roll Drive. The focus for the 2022 drive is to raise funds to purchase sensory items for multi-categorical classrooms at Hatfield Elementary and Burris Elementary schools in Mitchell. The items meet various sensory needs of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities including movement, deep pressure, sound reduction, and fine motor skill development, which will enable them to better participate in and benefit from academic instruction.

The grant will fund the purchase of two classroom seating kits. These kits will provide a solid foundation for the learning environment by providing alternative seating solutions that allow sensory-seeking kids to wiggle and move while staying in place — thus keeping body and minds engaged.



Pictured from left: Lawrence County Cancer Patient Services Board Member Brenda McKain and DMREMC Communications Specialist Becca Hollaway.

### LAWRENCE COUNTY CANCER PATIENT SERVICES

Lawrence County Cancer Patient Services received a \$1,050 grant to buy specially designed shirts for cancer patients. The stylish shirts are designed by nurses with strategically placed zipper openings to make it easy for nurses to access the port and sanitize. These shirts also help keep patients comfortable and warm during treatment.

Lawrence County Cancer Patient Services assists any and all cancer patients who reside in Lawrence County with transportation, wigs, nutritional therapy, medical supplies, and equipment.



Pictured from left: Shoals ag teacher Ben Kent, senior ag students Chris Davis and Cade Brett, junior ag student Mason Kerr, and DMREMC Communications Specialist Becca Hollaway in front of the barn built by Shoals ag/shop students.

### SHOALS SHOP

The Shoals Shop received a \$5,000 grant to aid in the completion of building a 40-by-40-foot barn and large animal fencing to provide a loft for hay and supplies along with a large open floor plan for animal pens and a birthing area.

The Shoals construction trades class began constructing the building in 2021. The Shoals shop and agriculture classes provide students hands-on learning opportunities in both construction and agriculture animal breeding, care, and processing.

If you are interested in supporting the Shoals Shop, the shop is accepting monetary and material donations. Contact Ben Kent for more information.



Pictured from left: Campus Minister Cameron Gladish, Backpacks for Blessings Coordinator Brian Self, DMREMC Communications Specialist Becca Hollaway, Office Manager Kristi Ausbrooks, and Children's Minister Amanda Miller.

## REDEMPTION CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Redemption Christian Church of Loogootee received a grant for \$1,500 to be used toward the Backpack Blessings food program.

The program is offered to food-insecure children in grades pre-school through sixth grade in Martin County. Each week during the school year, a small bag of food is delivered to enrolled students so that they might have a little extra food for the weekend when school meals aren't available. The program served 150 students weekly during the 2021-22 school year.



Pictured from left: Susan Spaulding, FCS material manager; Rebecca Moeller, FCS executive director; Becca Hollaway, DMREMC communications specialist; and Denny Smith, FCS director of fundraising.

## FIRST CHOICE SOLUTIONS

First Choice Solutions of Washington received a \$1,500 grant to provide clients with needed items like bottles, high chairs, diapers, baby wipes, and many other items that are essential for parents to care for their babies.

FCS is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing life-affirming choices which meet the spiritual, emotional, and physical of people affected by unplanned pregnancies.



Thanks to Operation Round Up and the Barr-Reeve Band Parent Organization Inc., Barr-Reeve's band members are looking forward to going to Walt Disney World this coming spring.

## BARR-REEVE BAND PARENT ORGANIZATION INC.

Barr-Reeve Band Parent Organization Inc., an organization that helps fund and supplement the Barr-Reeve band program, received a \$500 grant to help fund the spring 2023 Disney band trip. Students will perform at Walt Disney World and would also like to do a performance workshop venue as well. The money will go toward cutting down the cost students pay out of pocket for the trip and beginner band student jackets.

## YOUR CHANCE TO WIN \$50!

In each magazine issue, Daviess-Martin County REMC asks our readers three questions. The answers can be found in the articles of Indiana Connection. Clip the coupon below along the dotted line. Fill it out and return it to our office with your monthly payment before the 20th of the month. (Delinquent members are not eligible.)

Each month, a winner will be drawn from the entries submitted. Make sure you bring or mail in your most recent coupon, as the coupons are dated monthly. Members with automatic payment accounts will be entered in the contest as well. Copies will not be accepted, and coupons are not available at the office! Winners will be notified and their names will be published in the following monthly issue of Indiana Connection.

**MAY WINNER:**  
RODNEY SIPE OF INDIANA SPRINGS

**For bills dated the 5th of the month and paid by the 20th.**

1. Consumers will no longer pay the utility \_\_\_\_\_ tax.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ power lines require those green boxes, called pad mount transformers.
3. One of every \_\_\_\_\_ fatal crashes in the United States involves distracted driving.

**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**ACCOUNT NO.:**

**PHONE NO.:**



## LOOK OUT BELOW

Overhead is not the only place electric power lines cross our yards or bring electric service to the meter on the house. In many suburban neighborhoods, buried power lines have become the norm. While this means there are no poles and wires running overhead to worry about, they still require special consideration:

- Underground power lines require those green boxes, called pad mount transformers. Though it may be tempting to hide them with landscaping, please don't. Your electric cooperative might have to open that equipment during a power outage or for routine maintenance.
- Keep shrubs and structures at least 12 feet from the "door" of the box, and at least three feet from the sides.
- If landscaping is too close, inadequate air circulation can cause equipment to overheat and fail. Plantings might have to be cut and removed.
- Keep the meter on your house visible and accessible, too.
- Never allow children to play on or around the pad-mounted transformers. They contain electrical equipment with high voltage inside.
- Do not plant near underground utility services. Tree roots can grow and interfere with underground pipes, cables and wires. Future repairs to these facilities also could damage the health and beauty of nearby plants and trees.

## CONSUMERS WILL NO LONGER PAY UTILITY RECEIPTS TAX

As of July 1, Hoosiers no longer have to pay the utility receipts tax. This tax elimination will annually put an estimated \$28.5 million back in the pockets of 1.3 million Hoosiers served by the state's 38 electric cooperatives. This was made possible because of the efforts of Indiana's electric cooperatives advocating for their consumer-members and negotiating with the Indiana General Assembly to repeal this tax, ultimately saving money for each and every electric cooperative member across Indiana.

# WELCOMING NEW EMPLOYEES

## LEANN NALIN

Leann Nalin joined us in March as an operations specialist. She is a Daviess County native who graduated from Washington High School in 2005. Nalin has spent the last 12 years working in customer service and office management positions.

She has one daughter and can usually be found at a soccer field, track, or basketball court cheering on her daughter and her teammates.



## KRISTEN PADGETT

Kristen Padgett started in May as a member services representative. Originally, she is from Lafayette. Padgett went to school to be a vet tech and worked in veterinary offices for a while before moving into bank roles. Padgett and her family relocated to Loogootee to escape the ever-growing city life and live the simpler and slower paced Loogootee life.

She enjoys spending her time riding horses, camping, boating, and doing many other outdoor activities.



## TAYLOR WALKER

Taylor Walker joined us in June as a member services representative. She is originally from Plainville and now lives in Loogootee with her husband, Cole; two dogs; and one cat. Walker graduated from Vincennes University with an associate degree in agribusiness and worked at White River Co-op before joining the Daviess-Martin County REMC Team.

In her spare time, she enjoys showing and raising dairy goats, RZR riding, and spending time with her nieces and nephews.

