

#### 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 Thursday, Dec. 21, 7 p.m.,

Daviess-Martin County REMC office

BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS SmartHub — online bill payment system

> Budget billing Auto bank draft Drive-thru 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."

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#### **DEADLINE APPROACHING**

The deadline to submit 2023 rebate applications is **Dec. 15**. Head to **dmremc.com** to view our available rebates and submit your application before it's too late!

# **Reliable power for today** *— and tomorrow*

Ringing in a new year sparks a sense of renewed hope and optimism about the future. As the Chief Executive Officer of Daviess-Martin County REMC, for me, it's a time to reflect on where we are and where we're going. At the heart of this reflection, I think about ways we can better serve you, the members of the cooperative.

Our team at Daviess-Martin County REMC is always looking ahead, exploring ways to innovate and utilize new technologies to improve our services. As our nation increasingly relies on electricity to power the economy, keeping the lights on has never been more important. We're committed to powering — and empowering — our community at a cost local families and businesses can afford.

So how are we working to ensure reliable and affordable power while adapting to a changing energy landscape and our community's evolving needs?

One critical component of reliable power is the mix of energy resources used to generate the electricity that keeps the lights on across our service territory. You may not realize it, but Daviess-Martin County REMC doesn't generate electricity. Instead, we purchase it from our energy provider, Hoosier Energy, and from there, we distribute it to homes and businesses throughout our community.

We're increasingly using more electricity generated from renewable energy sources, but we still depend on a diverse energy mix to ensure reliable power that's available to our members whenever they need it.

In addition to managing a reliable energy mix, Daviess-Martin County REMC is using technology to enhance our local grid, limit service disruptions and improve outage response times.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure, also known as AMI, enables two-way communication between the co-op and consumers. AMI provides automated meter readings, assists in restoral efforts during power outages and can even analyze damaged or tampered meters. AMI helps Daviess-Martin County REMC save money with real-time data, and ultimately improves power reliability for our entire community.

Proactive tree trimming is another way we limit service disruptions.

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Scheduled trimming keeps power lines clear from overgrown limbs that are likely to fall. Drone inspections of lines and vegetation have allowed us to reduce labor and equipment costs while bolstering reliability. Through the use of small drones, we can accurately monitor the health and growth of trees and identify potential problems. As technology advancements become more accessible, we anticipate using advanced mapping software to better maintain the environment while providing more reliable service.

One of the best methods for improving our services to you is monitoring trends and leading practices from other electric co-ops in Indiana and across the country. Learning from other co-ops is one of the many benefits of the cooperative business model because for us, it's about cooperation, not competition.

As we turn our focus to 2024, Daviess-Martin County REMC will continue working to provide the reliable, affordable electricity you expect and deserve — for today and tomorrow.

**RYAN DANT** Chief Executive Officer



Approximately 300 DMREMC members gathered at the Oct. 25 Member Appreciation Day.

# Thank you, DMREMC MEMBERS!

The annual Member Appreciation Day was held on Oct. 25 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Daviess-Martin County REMC office.

Approximately 300 members joined us for a free lunch consisting of BBQ pulled pork, hot dogs, chips and cookies. Each member also received a DMREMC T-shirt and lightbulb.

Attending members had the chance to register for \$50 bill

credit giveaways. We drew four winners at the end of the day. The winners were Pat Kidwell, Lydia Swartzentruber, John Milligan and Gloria Harding.

Those who signed up for the Operation Round Up program had another opportunity to win \$50 bill credits. The winners for this drawing were Curtis Settle and Michael Zinkan.

DMREMC linemen (in T-shirts) serve members a lunch of BBQ pulled pork, hot dogs, chips and cookies.

> DMREMC employees Kristen Padgett and Jacob Pyne help members register for bill credit drawings.



## The Daviess-Martin County REMC office will be closed

Dec. 25 and 26 for the Christmas holiday, and Dec. 29 and Jan. 1 for the New Year's holiday.

Farmers' Almanacs, pocket calendars and student art calendars are available at the Daviess-Martin County REMC office.

Pick yours up inside or through the drive-thru!



# EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

The following employees are celebrating anniversaries at DMREMC this month. We thank them for their continued commitment to providing you with the best service possible.



TERI BOUCHIE DEC. 19 1 YEAR



JACOB PYNE DEC. 21 3 YEARS

## YOUR CHANCE TO WIN \$50!

In each issue of the magazine, 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 <u>be entered in</u> 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 a subsequent issue of Indiana Connection.

AUGUST WINNER: Viola Knepp of Montgomery

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

- 1. Petitions of nomination for the 2024 director election are due Feb. \_\_\_\_, 2024.
- 2. The deadline to submit 2023 rebate applications is Dec. \_\_\_\_.
- During the month of December, members can bring in \_\_\_\_\_\_ to automatically be entered in the drawing for a \$50 bill credit.

| NAME:        |  |  |
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| ADDRESS:     |  |  |
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|              |  |  |
| ACCOUNT NO.: |  |  |

# 2024 DIRECTOR ELECTION TIMELINE

The 2024 Daviess-Martin County REMC director election will be handled by Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS). Members will have the option to vote by either a mail-in ballot or an online ballot. Election results will be announced at the annual membership meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2024.

#### **DIRECTOR DISTRICTS UP FOR ELECTION IN 2024:**

- District 2: Daviess County (Van Buren and Barr townships)
- District 5: Martin County
  (Perry and Center townships)
- District 7: Lawrence County (Marion and Spice Valley townships)

#### INCUMBENT DIRECTORS WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE INCLUDE:

- District 2: Amy Burris
- District 5: Travis Summers
- District 7: John Edwards

Named incumbents' intention to seek a seat on the board of directors will be announced in the February issue of Indiana Connection.

If you are interested in pursuing a seat on the board and live in one of these three districts, please contact the REMC office for information on the petition process.

Petitions of nomination, along with a photo and brief biography, are due no later than **Monday**, **Feb. 12**, **2024**, **at 4 p.m.** Petition forms can be obtained from the REMC office.

Director candidates will be listed on the official notice of the annual meeting mailed to the membership.



This holiday season, we want to assist our area food banks — and we need your help. If you bring five nonperishable food items to the REMC this month, you'll be entered into a \$50 bill credit drawing.

At the beginning of January, we will draw four lucky winners.

Limit two entries per member. One winning credit per member.



Doing our part

On Oct. 13, electric cooperatives all over the state celebrated Indiana Electric Cooperatives Community Day. It's our way to give back to the communities we serve.

To do our part, some of the Daviess-Martin County REMC employees spent their morning at the New Beginnings Church in Loogootee. They made over 370 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and lunch bags to be delivered to kids in need as a part of the Saturday lunch program.





Wearing navy blue T-shirts, DMREMC employees Sue Graber, Spencer Tomlinson, Theresa Showalter and Becca Hollaway with New Beginnings Church members.



## UPCOMING YOUTH PROGRAMS for 2024

Visit **dmremc.com** and click on our "Community and Youth" tab to register for our youth programs.

## **Cooperative Calendar** of Student Art Contest

Indiana Electric Cooperatives' Cooperative Calendar of Student Art Contest is open to all K-12 students who want to create an illustration for the student art calendar. A first-place artist will be selected for each grade, and the winners will each receive a \$200 prize. In addition, the artwork from each division winner will illustrate the cover and all 12 months of the calendar.

Submit your art by March 29, 2024.

## **Camp Kilowatt**

#### PROGRAM DATES: June 5-8, 2024

Camp Kilowatt is a fun and unique experience for sixth grade students going into seventh grade. Camp includes electricity generation and transmission education, horseback riding, bucket truck rides, ziplining and so much more! Daviess-Martin County REMC will sponsor five students to attend!

#### Apply by March 1, 2024.

Page Day

Page Dav

#### PROGRAM DATES: Jan. 24 and Feb. 20, 2024

Page Day with the Indiana Senate gives students an opportunity to learn about their state government and how bills become law. Highlights include a Statehouse tour, mock bill activity, speakers and other educational activities. This program is open to high school students.

Camp Kilowatt

Youth

Tour

Apply by January 5, 2024.

## Indiana Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

#### PROGRAM DATES: June 16-23, 2024

The Indiana Youth Tour is a seven-day trip to our nation's capital for juniors going into their senior year. Highlights of the trip includes visits to historic monuments and museums, meetings on Capitol Hill with Indiana's congressional delegates, the opportunity to make lifelong friends and so much more! Daviess-Martin County REMC will sponsor two students to attend!

Apply by March 1, 2024.