A PUBLICATION OF YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Powerlines

OCTOBER 2020

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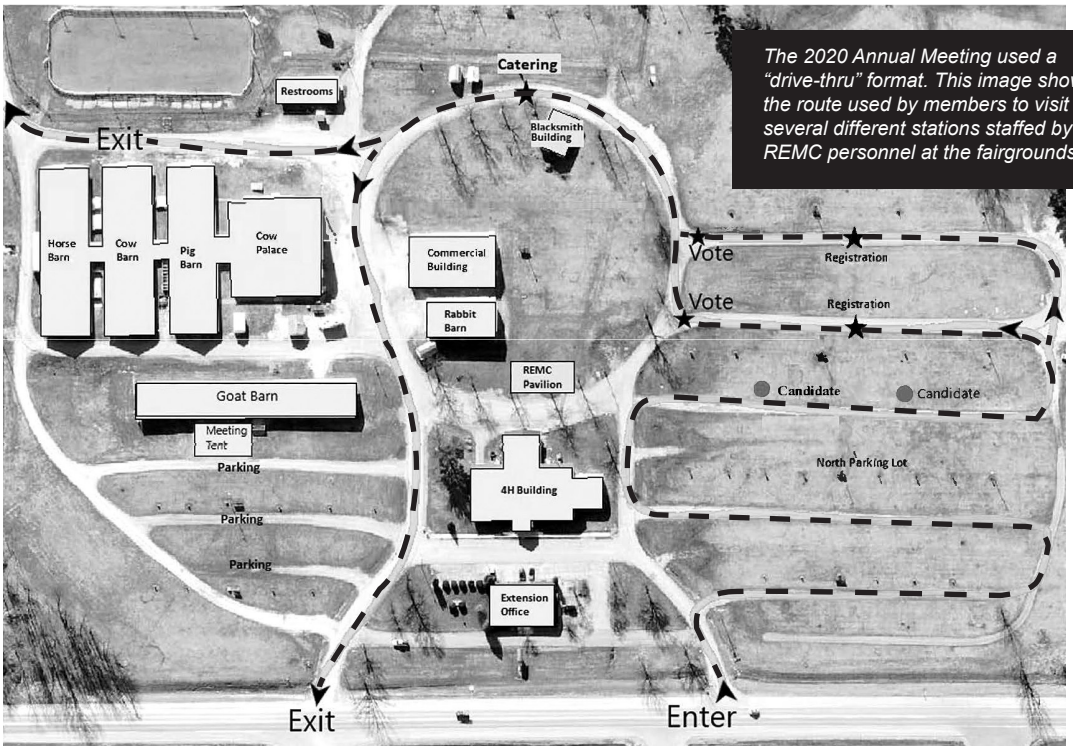
2020 Annual Meeting Review

Parke County REMC held the annual meeting of members at the Parke County Fairgrounds on Sept. 3. More than 1,070 members attended the meeting and over 2,000 meals were served by the Beef House during the event. Each member that attended received a $20 bill credit and was entered into a drawing for a chance to win a $1,200 bill credit.

This year's election featured two unopposed directors and a contested race for District 3. Janean Pyle-DePlanty retained her seat as director for District 3. Incumbents Perry Mager and Mark Evans were re-elected to represent Districts 6 and 7.

The event included an outdoor business meeting conducted by board President, Keith Blaydes. Blaydes addressed the members and discussed the cooperative's completion of the Bridgeton Substation and progress on the meter changing project. DLC Media was on site to broadcast the business meeting on WAXI Radio. Members could park on the south side of the fairgrounds, remain in their cars and listen to the meeting with their vehicle radio. Motions were made by honking horns.

The meeting concluded with the election report and drawing for the grand prize. George Mack was the grand prize winner and received a $1,200 electric bill credit.



The 2020 Annual Meeting used a "drive-thru" format. This image shows the route used by members to visit several different stations staffed by REMC personnel at the fairgrounds.

Parke County REMC
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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2020 ANNUAL MEETING

Parke County REMC members line up their vehicles, as they wait for their turn to go through the various stations of the drive-thru annual meeting.

This aerial image of the Annual Meeting drive-thru route was taken by a drone flying over the Parke County 4-H Fairgrounds.

The business portion of the annual meeting was held outdoors. Pictured above are (left to right): Chadd Jenkins (CEO), Keith Blaydes (speaking), and directors Shane Johnson, Mark Evans, Doug Brown, Perry Mager, Janean Pyle-DePlanty, and Kevin Cox.

REMC's Carolyn Kilby presents the grand prize, a $1,200 bill credit to George Mack.

Jeremy Montgomery, Energy Advisor, uses a drone to capture videos and pictures of the Annual Meeting.

Zack McCain, System Administrator, helps register members.

REMC director Janean Pyle-DePlanty greets members and hands out giveaways.

Welcome to our newest employee

We would like to welcome Amanda McGrannahan as our newest employee at Parke County REMC. Amanda will be working at the front counter as our Member Service Associate. We are proud to have her on our co-op team!

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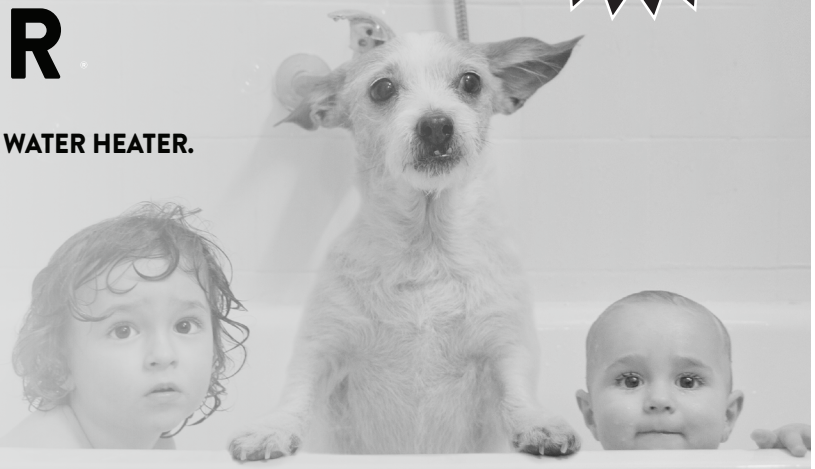

Visit PowerMoves.com/water-heater to learn more.

Parke County REMC
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

ENERGY STAR

HARVEST SAFETY TIPS

Maintain a 10-foot clearance around all utility equipment in all directions.

Use a spotter and deployed flags to maintain safe distances from power lines and other equipment when doing field work.

If your equipment makes contact with an energized or downed power line, contact us immediately by phone and remain inside the vehicle until the power line is de-energized. In case of smoke or fire, exit the cab by making a solid jump out of the cab, without touching it at the same time, and hop away to safety.

Consider equipment and cargo extensions of your vehicle. Lumber, hay, tree limbs, irrigation pipe and even bulk materials can conduct electricity, so keep them out of contact with electrical equipment.

Source: Safe Electricity

The Cost of Changing Weather Conditions

Jeremy Montgomery
Energy Advisor

As the temperatures outside move up and down, so do your energy costs! I get many questions throughout the year from members who don't understand why their energy cost has gone up when they haven't changed their behavior or anything in the house, such as their thermostat. The 2020 summer had several near 90-degree days, including multiple days in a row with average temperatures near 80-degrees. This adds thermal stress to the structure of homes.

What does this mean?

The greater the temperature difference between the inside of your home in relation to the outside ambient air, the harder your system must work to cool/heat your home.

Here is how it works:

Heat is attracted to cold; think of a cold space as being a dry sponge and heat as water. If we submerge the sponge in water, it will absorb rapidly. If we put some of the sponge in the water, it still absorbs— but slowly. High average temperatures are like submerging the sponge and short high temperature days is like partially submerging. So, if we cool our indoor space to 70-degrees with an outside air temperature of 90-degrees, the outside heat is drawn inside through the structure by thermal transfer. Furthermore, when our nighttime temperatures stay above our internal setpoint, that structural heat continues to saturate the structure— just like the submerged sponge.

Adversely, when the nighttime temperature gets below our internal setpoint, the structure temperature gained will release to the cooler nighttime air. This is where our average temperature plays a role. When the nighttime temperature stays above our setpoint, it makes it harder to maintain the temperature in the home. The longer it remains hot outside, the longer your cooling equipment must run— increasing the kilowatt hours used and increasing your electric bill. Of course, this works completely opposite when the temperatures are cold outside, and we are heating our buildings.

What can we do about it?

The insulation levels of a structure have a considerable impact on this transfer of heat. Building material and air leaks play a large role in this as well, but the more insulation you have in your walls and attic space, the slower this transfer occurs. It is very important to air seal a space before you add insulation. This greatly reduces the moisture in the home, as well as the amount of air flowing out of the home that you just paid to heat or cool.

For further discussion about your home's energy consumption, please give me a call at 765-569-3282.