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Energy INSIDER

HUDDLING UP: Skartvedt helps students tackle life, **PAGE 8**



A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION OF MIDLAND POWER COOPERATIVE • MIDLANDPOWER.COOP • JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

Ihle Fabrications wins prestigious Iowa Venture Award



From left to right: David Speed, Midland Power; Rick Thompson, Midland Power Board; Mike Naig, Iowa Sec. of Agriculture; Bruce Nuzum, President/CEO, IADG, Tracy Ihle, Ihle Fabrications; Mike Ihle, President, Ihle Fabrications; Sarah Hoodjer, Ihle Fabrications; Doug Bass, CEO, Ihle Fabrications; Bill McKim, CEO, Midland Power Cooperative; and Mike Coleman, Board President, Midland Power

The Iowa Area Development Group (IADG), in collaboration with its rural electric cooperative partners, proudly honored six growing Iowa companies with the Iowa Venture Award at a luncheon held in conjunction with the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives' annual meeting in December.

One of the honorees of this legacy award was Ihle Fabrications, LLC, nominated by Midland Power Cooperative.

Ihle Fabrications was started on a family farm in Central Iowa in 2002 by brothers Mike and Brian Ihle.

The brothers began fabricating liners as a solution to issues they faced with their combines. They recognized the growing demand for their products and, in July 2021, relocated to an existing facility of 45,000 square feet with additional ground between Slater and Polk City. An expansion project of 82,000 square feet began in August of this year.

The expansion will accommodate an increase in demand for the existing line of parts, along with an expanding line of wearable steel parts

Continued on page 2 ▶

Rapid transition to renewables weakens system reliability

Cooperatives urge smart adoption, balanced approach



BILL MCKIM
CEO,
Midland Power Cooperative

As Iowans, we've had a front-row seat to the rapid transition taking place in the utility industry. Once a rarity, renewable energy and home-grown fuel sources are now common sights across the state.

From the 300-foot wind turbines that dot the landscape, to the 44 ethanol plants that produce 4.5 billion gallons of biofuel annually - three of which Midland is proud to serve - Iowa has become a bastion of clean energy production.

Unfortunately, this dramatic transformation isn't without a downside. As a greater percentage of our energy has been produced by wind and solar resources, pressure has mounted to retire baseload generation resources,

such as coal and nuclear power plants. The result is an electric system that has grown increasingly unreliable.

While intermittent renewable resources can offer environmental benefits, they lack the reliability of fossil fuel generation. Across the region, natural gas power plants are being increasingly relied on to ensure grid stability.

Even here in Iowa, there are groups actively lobbying for the rapid and premature closure of the state's remaining coal plants. Their justification? That fossil-fuel generation resources create unseen financial burdens and negative health outcomes due to their pollution and carbon emissions. While they attempt to quantify those impacts, they fail to account for, or even recognize, the dramatic physical and financial costs of further weakening the electric grid.

As we saw during Winter Storm Uri in Texas in 2021, when more than 4.5 million people lost power and endured days of rolling blackouts, reliable power generation is critical. According to the Texas comptroller's office, the storm and subsequent blackouts cost the state between \$80 - \$130 billion. It also tragically took the lives of more than 200 residents.

Here in Iowa, Midland Power and the state's rural electric cooperatives have been working to incorporate renewable energy smartly while also advocating for an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy. It's an approach that balances the need for sustainability with affordability and reliability. It's also the only strategy that will help reduce the growing threat of power outages.

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), which ensures the reliability of the country's electric grid, has been warn-

ing in recent years about the growing danger of blackouts as demand stretches generation supply to its breaking point.

Recently, NERC released their "2023 Long-Term Reliability Assessment" warning that more than half of the United States is at risk of electricity shortages this winter due in part to regional generation shortfalls.

They found that both Southwest Power Pool (SPP) and Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) - the regional transmission organizations that each oversee a portion of our service area - are at an "elevated risk" and "high risk" respectively of energy emergency events.

Sadly, the situation is only set to get worse. Nationally, more than 110 gigawatts of fossil-fueled and nuclear generation resources are planned for retirement through 2033.

Continued on page 3 ▶

WE MAKE BUDGETING *Simple*

Midland's budget billing plan is a free program that reduces the fluctuations in your monthly bill. The program is available to all residential members.

Sign up on the SmartHub app or go to MidlandPower.coop/BudgetBilling to fill out the budget billing request form. We'll send you an application with what your monthly payment would be.

You are under no obligation to enroll in this plan by requesting the information.

For more information call (800) 833-8876.



▶ VENTURE AWARDS
from page 1

for machinery used in agriculture. Ihle's products are sold in 38 states and internationally in Canada, Mexico, and Australia. As of June 2022, Ihle Fabrications became a Certified CNH Reman Sup-

plier for one part. This relationship significantly expanded in mid-2023 to include an additional 140 parts. Ihle Fabrications is committed to continued work alongside farmers and end users to help solve problems of the future.

In addition to providing power to Ihle Fabrications, Midland Power Cooperative and Central Iowa

Power Cooperative assisted with a pass-through loan from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program to augment the purchase of equipment to support its expanding operation.

"Ihle Fabrications embodies the pioneering spirit of Iowa's business community, originating on a family

farm and evolving into a dynamic company providing agricultural solutions serving the local community and its growing global footprint," said IADG President/CEO Bruce Nuzum. "The ongoing expansion project is a testament to Ihle Fabrications' commitment to meeting the growing demand for their products."

RETIREMENT AWARD AND YEARS OF SERVICE

Lineman Duane Delp - 33 years of service



Midland Power CEO Bill McKim (left) presents a certificate of retirement to Delp.



Delp's retirement was celebrated with farewell cakes at a recent safety meeting.

HANGING UP HIS HOOKS!

Jefferson Lineman Duane Delp began working for Greene County REC as an apprentice lineman on May 24, 1990. He retired on Friday, December 29, 2023 after 33 years of service with the cooperative.

Thank you, Duane, for more than three decades of service to our members and communities.

CONGRATULATIONS, DUANE! WE WISH YOU THE VERY BEST IN RETIREMENT!

Lineman Cody Buscher



10 years of service

Staking Technician Chad Reinholdt



10 years of service

Manager of Energy Services Roger Hammen



15 years of service

Vice President of Administration Jill Gannon



5 years of service

Midland Power CEO Bill McKim recently thanked four cooperative employees, presenting them with years of service awards.

▶ MCKIM
from page 1

Twice last year our wholesale power providers were on the brink of ordering us to curtail load. These forced outages would have come at the very times when our members needed the power most: during extreme weather events.

The reality is simple. Renewable resources on their own can't ensure a reliable power supply. Renewables like solar and wind are considered intermittent power, since the sun does not always shine and the wind does not always blow. The unreliable nature of these resources cannot and will not sustain the increasing energy demands of our growing economy.

While future technological innovations, such as utility-scale battery systems and modular nuclear reactors, hold tremendous promise it could take a decade or more before they become cost effective at utility scale. In the meantime, we must take steps today to protect our remaining baseload power plants while systematically incorporating alternative energy sources.

Thankfully, Midland's wholesale power providers are doing just that,

actively working to balance sustainability with reliability by bringing additional wind and solar generation into their mix without sacrificing reliability.

In recent years, Corn Belt Power Cooperative, one of our wholesale power providers, has significantly adjusted its fuel mix. Nearly 26 percent of the energy they deliver now comes from renewable energy resources

nearly 25 percent drop in their reliance on coal.

Midland and the state's other electric cooperatives have also been working to educate our elected officials about the importance of protecting our vital baseload power resources.

Last year we met with our local state legislators, both at our office in Boone and at the Capitol. We've also

on the health and well-being of rural Iowans.

For example, what will more frequent outages mean for our elderly in care centers and hospitals who rely on medical equipment powered by electricity 24 hours a day, seven days a week? What would it mean for the farmer working around the clock to keep their livestock healthy and safe in temperature-controlled buildings?

As your member-owned electric cooperative, we have a commitment to you, our member-owners. It's our duty to look out for the well-being of the communities we serve. Often, this means telling the hard truths about transformative energy issues.

Without reliable baseload generation, predominately made up of fossil fuels, we would often be left in the dark during times of peak electric demand. That's the reality of our current situation.

We will continue to keep you informed about critical industry issues and encourage you to engage with your elected officials on these topics.

We remain committed to fulfilling our mission of providing our members with safe, affordable, reliable, and sustainable forms of energy in a way that moves us responsibly toward a cleaner energy future.

“The reality is simple. Renewable resources on their own can't ensure a reliable power supply.”

such as wind and hydropower. That's up from 17 percent in 2015.

Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), our other wholesale power supplier, has invested significant resources into diversifying its generation portfolio over the last decade. In 2022 wind, solar, hydro, and landfill gas represented more than 49 percent of their generation mix, a dramatic increase from 2012's 17.2 percent. This transition has led to a

hosted presidential candidates at our facilities and connected with our national legislators, all in an effort to keep your rates affordable and your service reliable.

Policymakers must consider the financial and health impacts of prematurely closing the state's remaining fossil fuel-generating resources. Most importantly, they have to factor in the possible impacts that potential subsequent outages could have

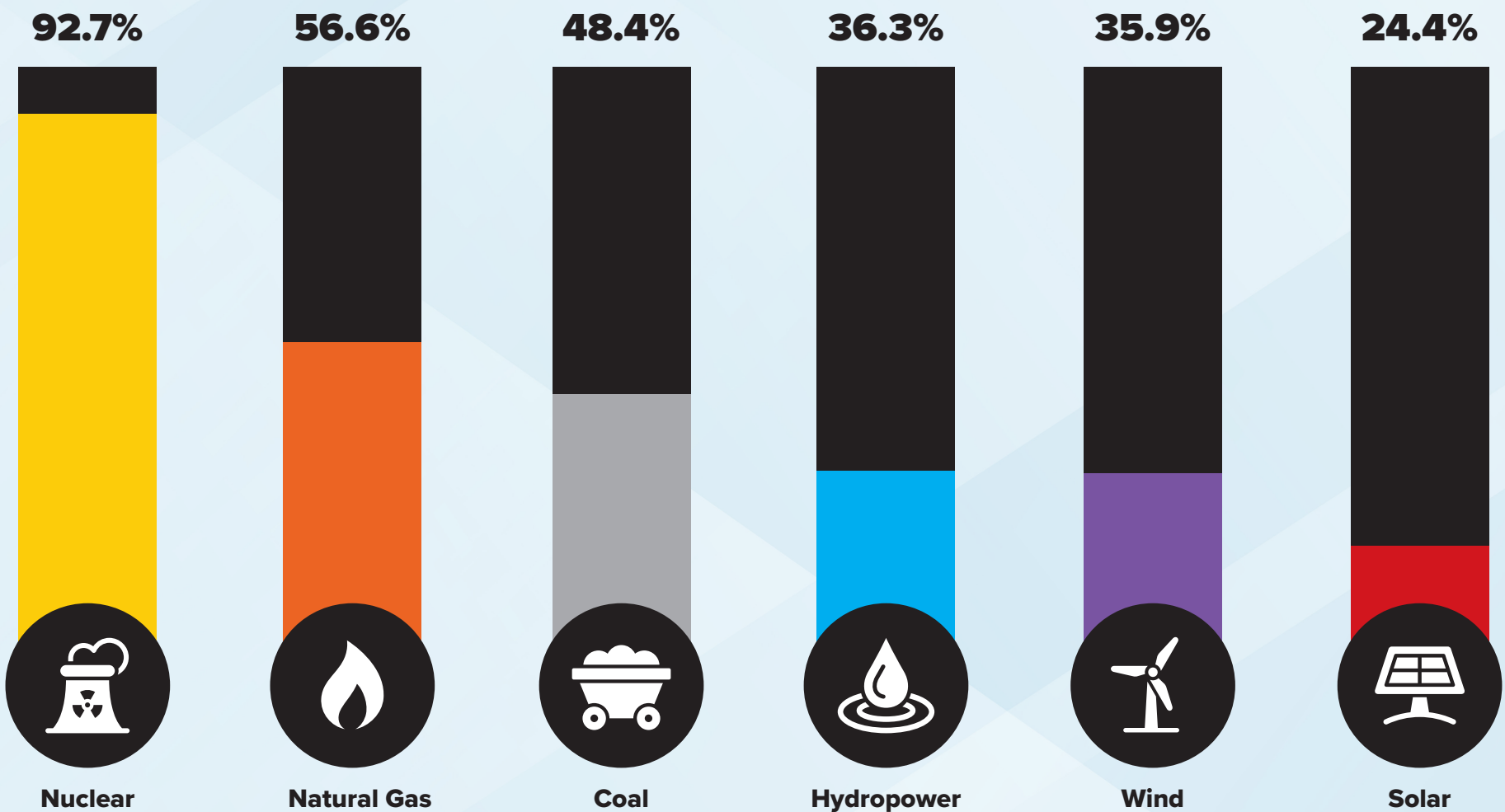
National Capacity Factors for Utility Scale Generators

It's essential to understand how dependable each type of electric generation resource is. One way is to examine a generation source's "nameplate capacity" and its "capacity factor."

"Nameplate capacity" is the maximum power output a generator can produce when run at full power. "Capacity factor," on the other hand, measures the actual power produced compared to the "nameplate capacity."

This ratio is key. It tells us how much generation can reliably be expected from each resource type.

As the chart below shows, there are significant disparities by resource type. Output may vary based on maintenance issues, weather conditions such as wind and sun availability, fuel costs, or instructions from the electric power grid operator.



Source: US Energy Information Association, 2022 year-end data

CIPCO awarded battery storage grant for rural communities



Photo courtesy of Invinity Energy Systems

Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), in partnership with the National Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO), and four additional rural electric cooperatives from across the country, were awarded a long-duration energy storage grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The funds will help enhance grid stability and reliability by bringing cutting-edge technology to the selected communities.

CIPCO, NRCO, and the project partners will use the funding to bring five vanadium flow batteries (VFBs) capable of discharging 700 kW to 3.6MW of electricity for up to 20 hours to these geographically diverse rural communities. The grant is part of \$325 million available from DOE's Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations.

"Long-duration energy storage is critical for the clean energy transition and improved grid reliability. We are excited to partner with NRCO and DOE to demonstrate the capabilities of VFBs in rural communities. Electric cooperatives are innovators, and the five sites selected will help demonstrate the many beneficial uses for long-duration energy storage," said Andrew

St. John, executive vice president and CEO of CIPCO.

Long-duration energy storage (LDES) allows utilities to charge up batteries when renewable energy is plentiful and then discharge them for an extended period in evenings and overnight hours. LDES also provides reliability during extended outages, allowing crews to assess and address issues while minimizing impact to member-owners.

Aligning to the cooperative principle of concern for community, CIPCO, NRCO, and the participating electric cooperatives will leverage deep-rooted connections within the communities they serve to engage relevant stakeholders and uphold local values and priorities.

"Electric cooperatives are an integral part of the communities they serve, and as not-for-profit organizations, their actions are rooted in doing what's best for people and the community," said NRCO CEO Mike Keyser.

"This chapter of the story is about co-ops bringing innovation to rural America that provides new economic opportunities while also enhancing grid resilience and charting a path to a cleaner energy future."

Scholarships available

Midland takes pride in helping develop leaders in our region.

We offer scholarships to recognize academic and community achievements made by young people in the communities we serve.

Midland Power is accepting applications for three \$1,000 scholarships to be awarded to 2024 college-bound students.

Applicants only need to apply once to be considered eligible to win any of

these three scholarships.

Recipients are selected on the basis of academic record, potential to succeed, leadership and participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience, education and career goals, and an essay.

Find out more information and apply at MidlandPower.coop/Scholarships.

Applications are due by January 31, 2024.

Gatewood joins the Midland team



Midland Power Cooperative recently welcomed a new employee to the team.

Kiersten Gatewood joined Midland Power in December as a member care specialist in the Humboldt office.

An area native, Gatewood had most recently worked for Iowa State Extension and Outreach in Humboldt.

A graduate of Iowa State University, Gatewood enjoys watching ISU sports and spending time with her family, including her husband, Marcus; their eight-month-old son, Castiel; and the family dog, Padme.

Welcome to the team, Kiersten!

MIDLAND POWER 2024 RESIDENTIAL REBATES

GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP

New Unit: \$400/ton • New Hybrid Unit: \$450/ton*
Replacement Unit: \$200/ton

*Must sign future load control agreement for hybrid units

AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP

15+ SEER, 14.3+ SEER2 Unit: \$350/ton
Less than 15 SEER, 14.3 SEER2 unit: \$200/ton
Hybrid Unit: \$350/ton*

Cold Climate NEEP Cert. Unit: \$350/ton**

*Must sign future load control agreement for hybrid units

**NEEP Certified units can be found at ASHP.NEEP.org

AIR QUALITY

Heat Recovery Ventilators: \$125/unit

APPLIANCES

ENERGY STAR® Heat Pump Electric Clothes Dryer: \$100/unit
Induction Cooktop: \$50/unit

MARATHON® MEMBER PRICING*

50-gallon: \$450 (standard), \$500 (short)
85-gallon: \$650 • 105-gallon: \$850

*Member pricing assumes all incentives/agreements and is not eligible for an additional rebate

NON-MARATHON ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS

Heat Pump Integrated Unit: \$300
Electric Resistance 45-79gal.: \$400

Must have Energy Factor (EF) of 0.94+

Electric Resistance 80+ gal.: \$600

Must have Energy Factor (EF) of 0.92+

Rebate not to exceed 50% of purchase price

LEVEL II ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGER

50% of the cost of charger up to \$500
\$200 rebate on charger if included with vehicle purchase

ENERGY STAR® LED SECURITY LIGHTING

10-39 watts: \$10 • 40+ watts: \$30

Must be dusk to dawn fixture

For lights not serviced by Midland Power Cooperative

WEATHERIZATION AND INSULATION

HOME WITH ELECTRIC HEAT:

Attic/Ceiling: 40% of cost up to \$600

Wall: 40% of cost up to \$600

Foundation: 40% of cost up to \$600

Infiltration: 40% of cost up to \$200

Duct: 40% of cost up to \$200

HOME WITHOUT ELECTRIC HEAT:

Attic/Ceiling: 20% of cost up to \$300

Wall: 20% of cost up to \$300

Maximum weatherization rebate per home per year: \$1000

Applies to upgrades on residential homes built before 2000 (no new additions)

Have any questions or interested in these rebates?

Contact your Energy Services Team today

by calling (800) 833-8876 or

by visiting MidlandPower.coop/Rebates



SIGN UP TODAY!

Manage your account, view and pay your bill, monitor usage, report power outages, and get co-op news and alerts!

Download the app by scanning the QR code or by going to www.smarthubapp.com



Youth Tour Memories

Since 1958, Iowa's electric cooperatives have been sending high school students to Washington, D.C.! The week-long tour teaches students about electric cooperatives, American history, and United States government, allowing them to walk away with a greater understanding of their role as American citizens.

When Midland Power member Joann Uthe of Boone was a high schooler, she was chosen to represent the co-op - then Green County REC - during the 1971 trip. She was kind enough to share the following letter in hopes of encouraging area high school sophomores and juniors to apply for the program.

Students can learn more and apply at MidlandPower.coop/YouthTour/

To high school 10th and 11th graders,

After 52 years, I'm still grateful to Midland Power Cooperative for the most memorable trip to Washington, D.C. Like high school people today, we had many things and responsibilities to see to.

Writing a paper to win a trip sounded wonderful, but seemed like a dreaded essay assignment for English class. My mother insisted I should try. (After getting the happy phone call, I thought that no one else's mother must have insisted!)

It was very exciting to see so many of the grand places where history was and still is being made.

Funny things also come to mind. To get a snapshot of a group of us at the Lincoln Memorial, Diane from Mount Vernon (Iowa) kept stepping further and further backward. After hearing our shouted warnings, she stopped just inches from falling into the reflection pool!

We rode the underground subway between the congressional buildings. It was like a fast but straight roller coaster with no hills. I sat a little sideways to give the person next to me a bit more room. When automatic side doors started to close, I quickly straightened my position so as not to leave an unexpected "Iowa knee cap souvenir" in Washington, D.C.!

One day the trip winners from every state converged on the White House lawn. Thrilling was the moment when President Nixon came out to greet us! (This was before Watergate.)

My favorite photo of the trip was taken through our tour bus window. Two young girls of different skin color were walking down the sidewalk, with an arm across one another's shoulders. To me, that represented what Washington, D.C. was all about; giving recognition and dignity to everyone.

I'm not your mother, and I'm not insisting that you try for this awesome trip of a lifetime. But, I certainly do encourage you to give it some thought!

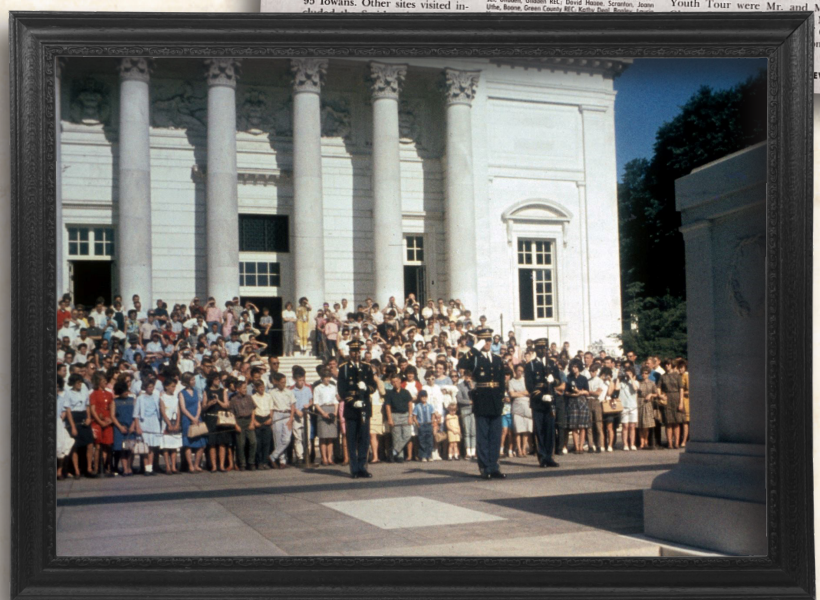
- Joann Uthe, a 1971 lucky trip recipient



Left and below: News clippings from Iowa REC News, July 1971.

... a look at government, past and present

Below: Students visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.



Nominating Committee seeks interested board candidates

Interested in making a real difference in your community and co-op? Run for a seat on the Midland Power board of directors.

This year's nominating committee is actively seeking candidates interested in serving on the board. The committee plans to meet in early February to begin developing

their slate of candidates.

If you know of any member-candidates, including yourself, to nominate to serve on the Midland Power board, or next year's nominating committee, please contact one of the nominating committee members in your district or call Beth Wirtz at (515) 709-3901.

2024 Nominating Committee Members

District 1

- Erin McCloud, 515-313-7633
- James Moore, 515-576-8535
- Heather Poutre, 515-669-4496

District 2

- William Higgins, 515-351-8660
- Dave Jamison, 515-290-5058
- Mark Speck, 515-441-2183

District 3

- Nick Bowden, 515-368-2505
- Dean Kruger, 515-890-8106
- Lisa Rotert, 515-890-2630

District 4

- Mike Broer, 641-373-3679
- Charlie Gilbert, 515-689-0269
- Duane Kruckenberg, 641-751-1450

Extend a helping hand with RECare

Would you like to help those in need weatherize their homes or pay winter heating bills? Your one-time or ongoing donations will directly benefit area residents struggling to afford home heating costs. Simply complete and return this form to

Midland Power.

Funds from this program are distributed to those in need through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in Iowa.

Any amount you give will be greatly appreciated!

RECare CONSUMER AUTHORIZATION FORM

Yes, I want to contribute to RECare.

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail to: RECare, Midland Power, PO Box 420, Jefferson, IA 50129

STUDENTS:
Apply now
for a trip to
Washington,
D.C., from
June 15-21!

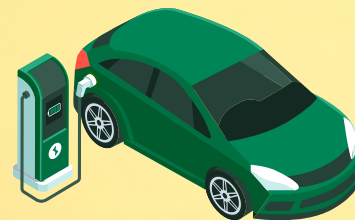


Area high school students interested in government and public service are encouraged to apply.

Learn more at
MidlandPower.coop/YouthTour

Midland Power's website features two new calculators to help you charge up your energy knowledge!

Find our Residential Solar Calculator at MidlandPower.coop/SolarCalculator



Find our EV Calculator at MidlandPower.coop/EV

 **Interested in Rebates?**

Visit our website at MidlandPower.coop/Rebates and see **Page 4** for more information!

PUTTING THE POWER IN YOUR HANDS

Finally, an easy way to enjoy the benefits of solar energy without the hassle of installing your own array.



Visit MidlandPower.coop/CommunitySolar for more information and to get signed up today!

GILMORE CITY TAPS COOPERATIVE LOANS TO FUND NEW FIRE ENGINE



When the city of Gilmore City recently needed to finance the purchase of a new fire engine, they turned to their local electric cooperatives' revolving loan funds.

"A pumper truck is usually good for about 25 years," said Bob Allen, co-captain and former fire chief of Gilmore City Fire and Rescue. "The truck we replaced is a 1984 and was getting pretty worn out."

"This new truck will basically do pretty much everything. We've got more storage on this one so we can carry our jaws and our air packs. It's got a front bumper on it so if we have a car fire or an incident like that, we don't have to get real close. It has a better lighting system, LED lights, so it lights up a lot better at night."

With a volunteer fire department of 14 members, the Gilmore City Fire Department covers 63 square miles in and around Gilmore City in both Humboldt and Pocahontas counties.

In the past two years, the department has responded to more than 60 calls for everything from tractor and brush fires, to traffic accidents.

After receiving several quotes on new trucks, the city was offered an appealing alternative – purchase a

manufacturer's demo truck at a substantially reduced cost. Better yet, instead of having to wait the customary two or more years to take delivery, the city could take possession in mere months. The downside? The city had to secure funding at a breakneck speed. That's when they turned to Corn Belt Power Cooperative and Midland Power Cooperative's revolving loan funds. Each cop provided a \$100,000 low-interest loan.

"When they found a good deal and a good opportunity, they needed to act quickly to secure that truck," said Midland Power Cooperative Manager of Business Development and Community Relations David Speed.

"We were able to come in and provide a loan with really attractive terms, including the ability to pay early on the loan. Using the revolving loan funds gave them the opportunity to close and to have the fire truck here by the end of the year."

Midland Power Cooperative's revolving loan fund was initially funded by several United States Department of Agriculture grants. Since the fund's inception in 1997, the cop has issued loans to more than 60

businesses and nonprofit organizations across the service area, all to improve our communities.

While the department has been actively fundraising, at a cost of more than \$360,000, funding for the truck was a tall order.

"We've been trying to save so

much every year. It was going to be a challenge with such an expensive vehicle," Allen said.

"Without the co-ops acting so quickly, we'd have been looking at waiting at least two years to get a more costly truck. We literally could not have done this without you guys."



Gilmore City Fire and Rescue Assistant Chief Scott Thompson (right), gives Midland Power Cooperative Board President Mike Coleman a tour of their new fire engine.



Pictured above (l-r): Midland Power Cooperative Board President Mike Coleman, Gilmore City Fire and Rescue Assistant Fire Chief Scott Thompson, Midland Power Cooperative Manager of Business Development and Community Relations David Speed, Gilmore City Fire and Rescue Fireman Nick Benz, Gilmore City Fire and Rescue Co-Captain Bob Allen, City of Gilmore City Clerk Melissa Ubben, and Corn Belt Power Cooperative Development Finance Director Stacy Cirks.



Pictured above: Gilmore City Fire and Rescue Fireman Nick Benz.

Corn Belt's Kuyper retires, Olberding promoted to GM

The Corn Belt Power Cooperative board of directors has selected current Vice President of Power Supply Jacob Olberding, to succeed current Executive Vice President and General Manager Kenneth Kuyper when he re-



Kenneth Kuyper

tires later this year.

Olberding has been employed at Corn Belt Power since 2009. First as project engineer, then assistant plant manager, before being promoted to his current position in 2018.

Olberding's familiarity with power supply issues, its agreements with strategic business partners, and

the operations of the Southwest Power Pool was cited by Corn Belt Power's board of directors as being key in his selection.

Olberding graduated from Iowa State University with an engineering degree and completed the



Jacob Olberding

Robert I Kabat Management Internship Program.

Olberding and his wife, Ashley, reside in Humboldt with their three children.

Corn Belt Power, headquartered in Humboldt, is one of two generation and transmission electric cooperatives that provide power to Midland Power Cooperative.



TEACHING GRIT ON THE GRIDIRON

As a walk-on at Iowa State University in 1993, Midland Power Director Paul Skartvedt knew he was in for an uphill battle. Four years later, Skartvedt graduated as the first walk-on to receive a scholarship.

Now, as the head football coach at South Hamilton High School in Jewell, Iowa, Paul is helping inspire the next generation of players.

This season, Paul led the Hawks varsity football team to an impressive 7-1 regular season record, earning the class 1A, district 7 title along the way.

We recently sat down with Paul to learn how the Radcliffe native is using football to turn today's players into tomorrow's community leaders.

WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING FOOTBALL?

Growing up, I had two other brothers. We played all sports, but football was a passion. I took a year and played at Iowa Lakes Community College, and then after that I walked on at Iowa State.

I went into Iowa State playing tight end and then they moved me to guard and center. I played two years under Coach Jim Walden and then I got the opportunity to play two years under Coach Dan McCarney.



WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN COACHING AT SOUTH HAMILTON?

This past season was my second year of being the head coach. I'd been a volunteer here for 10 years previously and I'm excited to have this opportunity to teach and work with kids.

One thing I'm passionate about is the leadership aspect of sports. In fact, some of the accomplishments I'm most proud of for this year is the growth in our kids and not just on the football side. It's what we've done on the leadership side. Our goal isn't to just have leaders out here on the football field because we already have that. It's to have that group of 36 kids be leaders within the school, be leaders within the community.

SPEAKING OF LEADERSHIP, WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR THE MIDLAND BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

I've been a member of Midland Power for 23 years now. The reason I wanted to run for the board was to keep building on the legacy of the board members who have come before me. They've

done a great job. It's important that we try to keep the electrical costs to a minimum, but also building opportunities for newer companies coming in and helping grow our electric grid and the ability to keep prices low.

I see Midland being a very strong role model in the community as far as leadership goes. A lot of our board members are leaders within their own communities, within their churches, and within their families.

ALL GREAT COACHES HAVE THEIR OWN PHILOSOPHY AND STYLE. WHAT SETS YOUR PROGRAM APART?

One of the legacies we have here at South Hamilton, for us as South Hamilton Hawk football players and coaches, is that we want to be known as the toughest team, the most physical team that somebody plays. And if we do that, we'll be better tomorrow than what we are today.

HOW DO YOU THINK THE SPORT OF FOOTBALL PREPARES YOUR STUDENTS FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

Football is a metaphor for life. I mean, there are a lot of ups and downs, a lot of trials that you have to get through, and a lot of opportunities that you need to build off of. With the team atmosphere, the family atmosphere that we have here, you know you can lean on your brothers. You know when things aren't going well that you'll be able to help each other get through those tough times and also celebrate the great times together.



Midland Power Cooperative Offices

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

- 2005 S. Story Street, Boone, Iowa
- 1210 13th Street North, Humboldt, Iowa
- 1001 E. Lincoln Way, Jefferson, Iowa

Give Us a Call 24/7!

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Leadership: Bill McKim, CEO

Board of Directors: James Byriel, Randy Christensen, Michael Coleman, Bill Harleen, Paul Heineman, Tom Ingebritson, Kim Rinker, Doug Robey, Paul Skartvedt, Joel Skow, Rick Thompson and Jim Vierkandt

Energy Insider Editor: Benjamin Ure

Midland Power Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Proudly serving you from Boone, Humboldt, Iowa Falls and Jefferson.