

NOVEMBER 2025

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ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LIVING

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Save the Date: Light Up the Night is Nov. 29 ► See Page 12

THANKFUL FOR YOU

BY GARRETT THOMPSON



As Thanksgiving approaches, many of us take time to reflect on the blessings in our lives, such as faith, family, friends and the communities we

call home. At Franklin REC, we want to pause and express our gratitude for another blessing that sometimes goes unspoken: you, our members.

Thanksgiving is more than just a holiday filled with food and family traditions, although that's pretty great too; it's a time to acknowledge the connections that bind us together. For our cooperative, those connections are not only symbolic but foundational. Unlike other businesses, we don't exist to generate profits for shareholders. We exist to serve the people who own us, our members. Every mile of line, every light that comes on, every service we provide is rooted in this cooperative model of neighbors working together for the good of all.

Guided by shared principles

This year, as we reflect on the cooperative spirit, we are reminded of

the values that make this model so meaningful. Cooperation. Fairness. Transparency. Shared responsibility. These aren't just words we put on paper; they are principles that guide every decision we make. You're part of a system built on trust and mutual support, one that has served our communities for generations and will continue to serve long into the future.

We are especially thankful for the ways our members support one another. Whether it's through community events, school partnerships, economic development or simply checking on a neighbor during a storm, the spirit of cooperation is alive and well in our service area. Each member plays a role in keeping our cooperative strong, and together we are better positioned to face the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow.

Proactively serving you

Thanksgiving also reminds us that progress comes from gratitude paired with action. As your cooperative, we are committed to continually improving reliability, investing in new technologies, and keeping your best interests at the heart of our decisions. We know the energy industry is changing rapidly, and while we cannot always control the cost of materials or the wholesale price of electricity, we can control how we respond – with transparency, careful planning and a steadfast focus on you.

So, as we gather with our own families this season, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to you, our cooperative family. Thank you for your trust, your support and your commitment to the cooperative model. Thank you for believing in the power of community and for walking alongside us as we work to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

From all of us at Franklin REC, we wish you and your loved ones a joyful Thanksgiving filled with warmth, gratitude and connection.

May your homes be bright, your tables full and your hearts thankful.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Garrett Thompson is the general manager/CEO at Franklin REC.

ELECTRIC CO-OP GLOSSARY



Member: A person or business that receives electric service from a cooperative. Members are also owners of the co-op. They have a voice in operations, can vote for board directors and share in the benefits of the co-op's success.



Co-op principles: Seven cooperative principles guide co-ops and set them apart from other businesses. They are voluntary and open membership, democratic member control, members' economic participation, autonomy and independence, education and training, cooperation among cooperatives, and concern for community.



Cooperative business model: A model where the organization is owned and controlled by the people it serves. In electric co-ops, members elect the board of directors and decisions are made locally to meet community needs.



Not-for-profit: Electric cooperatives operate on a not-for-profit basis.

Any money left after expenses is returned to members as capital credits or reinvested into system improvements, reliability and service.



Gratitude: Thankfulness is at the heart of cooperative culture. Co-ops show gratitude by recognizing the trust of members, appreciating employees' dedication and giving back to the communities they serve.



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

GET TO KNOW US

In this final edition of our “Get to Know Us” series, we’re excited to feature four members of the Franklin REC team: Cole Marzen, Christy Mason, Chace Klein and Darwin Van Horn.

They’ll answer questions about what they enjoy most about working at the co-op, their accomplishments and the ways they see the cooperative making a difference in the community. You’ll also hear their thoughts on how Franklin REC has evolved over time and their advice for those just starting their careers.

Keep reading to learn more about Cole, Christy, Chace and Darwin and their contributions to Franklin REC!

COLE MARZEN
Lineman



Q: What is your favorite part of working at Franklin REC? The camaraderie we have amongst the line crew and office staff.

Q: How would you describe Franklin REC’s impact on the community? I believe the REC does

a great job with donating time and resources to be involved in the betterment of the community.

Q: What is one thing you wish more members knew about Franklin REC? The work that goes into fixing and repairing outages and the time it takes to fix simple things.

Q: If you had to sum up Franklin REC in three words, what would they be?
Neighborly, professional, constructive.

Q: What is one piece of advice you would give to someone just starting their career?
Keep your head down and put the time in.

CHRISTY MASON
Administrative Assistant



Q: What is your favorite part of working at Franklin REC?

The cooperative fosters a family atmosphere, reflected in the strong relationships among co-workers and the members.

Q: How would you describe Franklin REC’s impact on the community? Franklin REC works hard to meet the needs of the community by taking on meaningful projects that support and benefit REC members and the communities they serve.

Q: What is one thing you wish more members knew about Franklin REC? The cooperative operates as a not-for-profit entity, ensuring every decision is made with the member in mind.

Q: If you had to sum up Franklin REC in three words, what would they be? Committed, caring, resourceful.

Q: What is one piece of advice you would give to someone just starting their career? Stick with it, it may be difficult some days, but the reward will be worth it.

CHACE KLEIN
Lineman



Q: What is your favorite part of working at Franklin REC? Getting to work outdoors.

Q: How would you describe Franklin REC’s impact on the community? The co-op has a positive impact on the community.

Q: What is one thing you wish more members knew about Franklin REC? We give it our all to provide great service.

Q: If you had to sum up Franklin REC in three words, what would they be? Productive, safe, rewarding.

Q: What is one piece of advice you would give to someone just starting their career?
Be willing to learn.

DARWIN VAN HORN
Board Director



Q: What’s your favorite part of being involved with Franklin REC? The organization’s commitment to education of staff and directors. I’ve learned a lot about the electric industry, cooperative principles and effective leadership.

Q: How has Franklin REC changed since you started? We’ve installed a new metering system and made several large equipment updates to improve our efficiency.

Q: What’s one thing you wish more members knew about Franklin REC? Our commitment to the cooperative principle of community. Franklin REC has helped numerous businesses acquire funding and is forward-thinking in development and bringing businesses to our communities.

Q: What’s a project or initiative at Franklin REC that you’re especially proud of? Our safety program. We want our lineman to safely return home to their families every day. We make safety a priority in the boardroom and in the field.

Q: If you had to sum up Franklin REC in three words, what would they be? Reliable, committed, affordable.

FROM YOUR BOARDROOM

During the September meeting, Franklin REC directors approved the following:

- Approved construction and special equipment work orders of \$59,040.59
- Appointed voting delegates for Iowa Association Electric Cooperative (IAEC) annual meeting
- Approved Basin Electric Power Cooperative load forecast
- Approved National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and IAEC insurance rates
- Approved workers compensation insurance rates



LIGHT UP THE NIGHT CELEBRATES 5 YEARS OF MAGIC — NOV. 29

Get ready, Hampton – the holiday magic is shining brighter than ever! Franklin REC invites you to join us for the fifth-annual Light Up the Night celebration on Saturday, Nov. 29 in downtown Hampton. For five years, this tradition has brought joy, lights and community spirit to kick off the holiday season – and this year promises to be the best yet!

Spend the afternoon enjoying festive fun for all ages. You are invited to grab lunch downtown, visit Santa, make holiday crafts and cozy up for a cheerful

movie matinee. Then, bundle up and line the streets, because the highlight of the evening is the Lighted Parade at 5:30 p.m.! With twinkling lights, creative floats and plenty of holiday cheer, it's sure to leave you smiling.

Don't miss this milestone year of magic. Light Up the Night is the perfect way to start the holiday season. Stay up to date on the full schedule of festivities by visiting our website or following along on the Light Up the Night Facebook event page.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS: METER SOCKET REQUIREMENT

The Franklin REC board of directors has approved changes to the cooperative's tariff regarding metering requirements for new or updated services. Effective Oct. 1, 2025, members are responsible for providing the meter socket at all Franklin REC service locations.

Franklin REC will continue to offer 100-AMP and 200-AMP meter sockets for purchase. These will be readily available to members at the cooperative.

For your reference, the updated tariff language is as follows:

10.1 Meter Installation

Cooperative will furnish and install the meter. The meter may

include additional or special equipment which enables certain functions to be performed from a remote location, including the disconnection or reconnection of service. If installed, Cooperative will furnish, install, and maintain such equipment. Cooperative reserves the right to determine under what circumstances such equipment will be installed.

Member-consumer will furnish and install the conductor, conduit, disconnect, and all other required appurtenances. On loads requiring current transformer metering, Cooperative will install the current transformer meter loop and meter.

10.1.3 Self-contained Metering

For loads not exceeding 320 amperes, Member-consumer shall provide the necessary accessories for secondary metering.

10.1.4 Current Transformer Metering

Cooperative will furnish and install current transformer metering on loads exceeding 320 amperes or at its determination of need for secondary service.

If you have any questions about these tariff changes or any other service-related matters, please contact our office at 641-456-2557.

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR ENERGY WITH THE FREE SMARTHUB APP

Managing your electricity has never been easier. With Franklin REC's free SmartHub app, everything you need is right at your fingertips. Whether you want to track your energy usage, pay your bill or sign up for paperless billing, SmartHub makes it simple and convenient – anytime, anywhere.

SmartHub puts you in control. You can easily monitor your daily, weekly or monthly energy usage, helping you make informed decisions and potentially saving on your energy costs. Need to pay your bill on the

go? SmartHub allows you to pay securely from your phone or tablet with just a few taps.



Even better, when you sign up for automatic bill payment and/or paperless billing, you will receive a one-time bill credit to your member account. SmartHub makes it easy to stay on top of your energy data and help you get the most out of your membership.



Getting started is quick and simple. Download the SmartHub

app from your device's app store or access it online through Franklin REC's website. Take control, save time and stay connected with your cooperative – all in one convenient app.

FRANKLIN REC SUPPORTS EXPANSION OF IOWA FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL WALL

Franklin REC is proud to support the expansion of the Iowa Firefighter Memorial Wall, a tribute honoring the dedication and sacrifice of volunteer firefighters across the state. The memorial is located along I-80 near Coralville.

As a rural electric cooperative, Franklin REC serves six counties in northern Iowa. Our mission is rooted in community, and we understand firsthand the vital role volunteer firefighters play in keeping towns and families safe.

"Many of the communities we serve rely on dedicated volunteer crews who answer the call day and night," said Scott Hagenson, line superintendent at Franklin REC. "Their selfless commitment ensures the safety of neighbors, families and local businesses. They are truly the backbone of our rural communities, and we are honored to contribute to a project that celebrates their legacy."

To further support this meaningful initiative, Franklin REC partnered with its power provider, Basin Electric Power Cooperative,



based in Bismarck, North Dakota, to secure matching donation funds. Together, the cooperatives are helping ensure that the Iowa Firefighter Memorial Wall continues to honor the bravery, dedication and sacrifice of the state's volunteer firefighters for generations to come.

The Iowa Firefighter Memorial Wall stands as a permanent reminder of the courage and commitment of Iowa's firefighters. Franklin REC's donation reflects the cooperative's dedication not only to providing reliable electricity, but also to supporting the communities it serves.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

In celebration of the holiday, Franklin REC will be closed Thursday, Nov. 27, and Friday, Nov. 28. We'll reopen with regular business hours on Monday, Dec. 1.

From all of us at Franklin REC, we wish you and your family a safe and happy Thanksgiving!





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cooperatives

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Visit our website at www.franklinrec.coop

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