

living with energy IN IOWA



Guthrie County REC
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

DECEMBER 2017

Attend the Guthrie County REC Annual Meeting on Jan. 6, 2018 ▶ See Pages 4-5 for details

Best Wishes

for a happy,
safe and
energy-smart
holiday!

Visit our website at www.guthrie-rec.coop

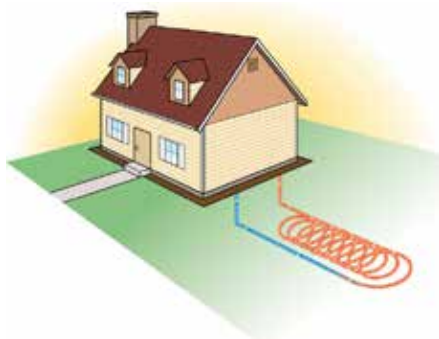
Find out how **power**
is restored after
a major storm

How long will your
water heater last?

Energy Resource
Conservation Loans
are available

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Energy Resource Conservation Loans are available



Thinking of making some energy efficiency upgrades at home? Guthrie County REC can help. Our Energy Resource Conservation Loans are available only to our members and offer up to \$5,000 with 5 percent interest and payback over 5 years.

These loans can be used to finance the materials and installation costs for energy-saving equipment and systems such as electric heat pumps, dual fuel systems and geothermal systems. For convenience, the loan payment is added to your monthly electric bill.

Visit www.guthrie-rec.coop/content/erc-loans for more information, or call our office at 888-747-2206. ⚡

**Office**

1406 State Street - P.O. Box 7
Guthrie Center, IA 50115-0007

Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Telephone Number

641-747-2206 or 888-747-2206
Calls answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Website

www.guthrie-rec.coop

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

HOW YOUR CO-OP WORKS

Vote for GCREC Board members

Members of Guthrie County REC are encouraged to vote in this year's board election. Members can vote by returning the mailed ballot by 4 p.m., on Jan. 5, 2018, or by turning in their ballots in person at the annual meeting. Only members living in the districts with seats up for election – Districts 7, 8 and 9 – will receive a ballot and be eligible to vote.

District 7

Represents Cameron, Viola, Leroy, Melville, north one-half of Greeley Townships in Audubon County; Orange, Union, Seeley, west one-third of Highland, and sections 2-11 of Bear Grove Townships in Guthrie County

NAME: Marcel Fett (incumbent)
ADDRESS: 2275 165th St., Audubon
FAMILY: Wife, Connie; two daughters, one son; and eight grandchildren



EDUCATION: Born and raised in Guthrie County. Graduated from Audubon High School; B.S. degree in accounting from the University of Montana

OCCUPATION: Retired grain and livestock farmer in Audubon and Guthrie County, farming in partnership with son, Jason

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Audubon County Farm Bureau, Corn/Soybean Association, Pheasants Forever, Pork Producers and Audubon Sports Boosters

PAST LEADERSHIP ROLES: Served as president, vice president and secretary/treasurer of Guthrie County REC board of directors; currently represent Guthrie County REC as a director on CIPCO board of directors; on several committees on CIPCO's board; past president of Audubon County Pheasants Forever and Pork Producers boards

Why would you like to serve on the Guthrie County REC Board of Directors?

I am seeking reelection to continue being a strong voice for safe, reliable and affordable power on behalf of our members.

District 8

Represents Victory (excluding West Lake Panorama), south seven tiers of Cass (excluding East Lake Panorama except the 5200s on Panorama Point and Panorama Terrace), all 5300s and 5400s, north six tiers of Valley, north four tiers of Jackson, and north one tier of Beaver townships in Guthrie County

NAME: Joni Rees (incumbent)
ADDRESS: 2440 Pecan Ave., Guthrie Center
FAMILY: Husband, Mike; two children –



Andrew and Shannon (Brian); four granddaughters

EDUCATION: Guthrie Center Community Schools, DMACC
OCCUPATION: Business manager & board secretary/treasurer at Guthrie Center Community Schools for 36 years

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Guthrie County Cattlemen, Farm Bureau and AC/GC Booster Club

PAST LEADERSHIP ROLES: Secretary/treasurer for Guthrie County Pheasants Forever; Valley Township Clerk; 7 years secretary/treasurer for REC; currently secretary/treasurer for Guthrie County REC; Credentialed Cooperative Director in 2005; currently secretary/treasurer on the Hawkeye Insurance Board for Guthrie County REC

Why would you like to serve on the Guthrie County REC Board of Directors?

I am seeking reelection on the

Guthrie County REC Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

The Annual Meeting of the Members of Guthrie County Rural Electric Cooperative will be Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018, beginning at 12:30 p.m. at the Lake Panorama Conference Center in Panora. Registration opens at 11 a.m., with a free meal at 11:30 a.m. and the business meeting beginning at 12:30 p.m.

The meeting will include:

1. The reports of officers, directors and committees.
2. Election of three directors for a term of three (3) years each. The following individuals are nominated:

- District 7: Marcel Fett*
- District 8: Joni Rees*
- District 9: Andrew Van Aernam*

*Denotes incumbent

Members have the right to vote for one of the candidates to be elected from their own voting district.

3. All other matters as may regularly come before said meeting, or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

Members are encouraged to attend the meeting, hear the reports of the officers, vote for directors and transact such other business as may come before the meeting. ⚡

Dated this 1st day of December, 2017
Joni Rees, Secretary

Guthrie County REC board. I have enjoyed learning the electric co-op business. I have invested time in attending meetings and schooling to learn about the rural electric co-op world. It is ever-changing with new technology and dealing with legislative and governmental issues. I enjoy the challenge and engaging with fellow REC directors from around the state and nationally. I take seriously the responsibility the co-op members give me in this position to do what is best for our REC.

District 9*

Represents Summit Township in Adair County; Exira; Audubon; south one-half of Hamlin, south one-half of Greeley townships in Audubon County; Benton and Grant townships in Cass County

NAME: Andrew Van Aernam (incumbent)

ADDRESS: 2892 280th St., Exira

FAMILY: Wife, Ashley; Clayton (8) and Elizabeth (2)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Animal Science from Iowa State, M.A.T. Education from Kaplan University

OCCUPATION: Farmer

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Current president of the Audubon County Cattleman's Association; current member of Ebenezer Lutheran Church council; and current member of Audubon County 4-H Clover Commission



Why would you like to serve on the Guthrie County REC Board of Directors?

Longtime director Paul Hess approached me about the board before he passed. I have currently been serving as an interim director for his seat. As a member that represents a younger generation of our large farming demographic, I feel that I can bring a different perspective to the board. ⚡

**Guthrie County REC wants to note that the Nominating Committee selected a second candidate for District 9 during its Oct. 16 meeting. The candidate withdrew from consideration prior to the printing of this notice.*

Annual Meeting Agenda

Saturday, Jan. 6, 2017
 Lake Panorama Conference Center, Panora

11:00 a.m.	Registration opens
11:30 a.m.	Free meal
12:30 p.m.	Call to Order Invocation Introduction Business Session Board President's Remarks Chief Executive Officer's Remarks Drawing for Door Prizes Adjourn

EDITOR'S CHOICE CONTEST

Win a powerful cordless vacuum that cleans from floor to ceiling!

Black+Decker's new Powerseries Pro line of cordless vacuums can be used as uprights or detachable canisters with integrated extension wands for accessing hard-to-reach areas. With powerful suction and up to 60 minutes of runtime, the lineup includes a standard version, a second model designed to handle pet hair and a third version for allergy sufferers. Prices start at about \$150; visit www.blackanddecker.com for details.

To enter this month's contest for the standard version of this vacuum, go to the *Living with Energy in Iowa* website at www.livingwithenergyiniowa.com and complete the entry form no later than Dec. 31, 2017.



Simmons leaves lighted legacy for community

Every small-town community has its traditions at Christmas time. For Guthrie Center, it's the annual light display at Mitchell Park that invites visitors to "ooh" and "ahh" at the holiday spectacle.

The creative man behind the display is Gerald Simmons. For the last 20 years, Gerald worked with his wife, Betty, as a team to create the display that has come to mean so much to the community.

"Many nights you could find my parents sitting in the basement by the warmth of the fire or watching TV and working on the Christmas

decorations for the display," said daughter Teresa Kipp. "Usually right after Christmas, plans were already being made for the next year."

This year, although the tradition will continue, it will be absent one thing – Gerald himself. Gerald passed away in March 2017, after a brief but courageous battle with cancer. Betty and the rest of the family are now left to carry on the legacy and continue the work in honor of her husband of almost 60 years.

"The Christmas displays and decorations were definitely a team effort by both my parents," said Kipp. "Dad cut out the figures in wood and mom painted them with his



Gerald and Betty Simmons

help. People, animals and elves were made from wood, wire and even Freon tanks. Every year, they would try to think of a new theme together."

Some pieces were also mechanical, like a working Ferris wheel, a workshop for Santa with elves moving in and out, and a skating rink with moving skaters. Gerald and Betty funded most of the material expenses themselves, with some help from family and other donations. A few years ago, Gerald received a new band saw thanks to his family and other donors.

"He was a very particular person, but passionate about his work," added Kipp. "He was always thinking of others instead of himself, and people loved to see what the display was going to be from year to year. Mom and Dad received many compliments on their hard work and how great it looked."

The Mitchell Park lighted holiday display is now open to the public for viewing through early January. 🌟



OFFICE CLOSING

We wish all our members a safe and happy holiday season!

The Guthrie County REC office will be closed Friday, Dec. 22, and Monday, Dec. 25, for the Christmas holiday and Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's.

May Your Days
Be Merry & Bright

Happy Holidays
from



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