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**OFFICE HOURS**

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

**STREET ADDRESS**

300 Weber Road  
Albion, IN 46701

**MAILING ADDRESS**

P.O. Box 137, Albion, IN 46701

**EMERGENCY POWER OUTAGES**

To report a power outage, please call 800-933-7362. We are available to serve you 24 hours a day.

**CONTACTS**

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*Energy Advisor*

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*Line Construction and Repairs/  
Customer Service*

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*Manager of Engineering and Construction*

Kenny Kill  
*System Engineer*

Rob Hauck  
*Residential Line Construction Design*

Ray Burns  
*Tree Trimming and Spraying*



# Thank you, lineworkers!



National studies consistently rank power line installers and repairers among the most dangerous jobs in the country, and for good reason. Laboring high in the air wearing bulky

safety gear and working directly with high voltage creates the perfect storm of a dangerous and unforgiving profession. But electric lineworkers are up to the task. These brave men are committed to safety, as well as the challenges of the job.

Noble REMC's lineworkers are responsible for keeping power flowing day and night, regardless of national holidays, vacations, birthdays, weddings or other important family milestones. Beyond the years of specialized training and apprenticeships, it takes internal fortitude and a mission-oriented outlook to be a good lineworker. In fact, this service-oriented mentality is a hallmark characteristic of their work. The job requires them to set aside their personal priorities to better serve their local community.

## FAMILY SUPPORT SYSTEM

To perform their jobs successfully, lineworkers depend on their years of training, experience and each other to get the job done safely.

Equally important is their reliance on a strong support system at home. A

lineworker's family understands and supports its loved one's commitment to the greater community during severe storms and power outages.

This means in times of prolonged outages, the family and its lineworker may have minimal communication and not see each other for several days. Without strong family support and understanding, this challenging job would be all the more difficult.

## COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

In our communities, our lineworkers' mission-focused mentality of helping others often extends beyond their commitment to their work here at the co-op. They are often familiar figures in the community and can be found coaching youth sports teams, volunteering for local charities and serving on local advisory boards.

## THANK YOU

Monday, April 8, is Lineworker Appreciation Day. Given the dedication of Noble REMC's lineworkers, both on and off the job, I encourage you to take a moment and acknowledge the many contributions they make to our local community. And if you see their family members in the grocery store or out and about in town, please offer them a thank you as well.

**RON RAYPOLE**  
President/CEO

## Save the date!

Noble REMC  
Annual Meeting

**Saturday, June 1**

Board of directors election, food, entertainment and more!

Noble REMC  
300 Weber Road  
Albion

Luke, one half of the Berryhill twins, recently took part in a Noble REMC electrical safety demonstration at Country Meadow Elementary School. Luke and his brother, Devin, are one pair of six multiples in the first grade at the school.



# Seeing multiple!

The rate of twin births in the U.S. is approximately 33 per 1,000 people, accounting for 1.5 percent of all pregnancies. The probability of giving birth to triplets is even less.

These numbers prove students are experiencing something extraordinary at Country Meadow Elementary School, a member of Noble REMC in DeKalb County: the first grade class alone includes five sets of twins and one set of triplets.

That may seem like quite the endeavor for teachers Jaimi Chorpenning and Heather Ford, but parents say the school has been accommodating, if not going above and beyond, at handling the unique circumstances.

Dawn Yingling, mother to twins Jack and Max, says the circumstances of having her twins interacting with other multiples has let them be treated as "normal," and teachers have encouraged their growth as individuals rather than a pair.

"I give their teachers and school staff a lot of credit in the way they allow Jack and Max to pursue their own identities," Yingling said. "They have never treated them as a 'package deal.' They never compare them to each other, always encouraging them to grow in their own way."

It was one of the biggest challenges the boys had to overcome in being twins and spending so much time together, Yingling said. They're now learning to understand they are their own people, with different interests and abilities: Max playing Superman and Jack playing Batman.

While the twins have a lot in common and spend a lot of time together, Yingling said being a multiple also brings with it a lot of attention. Being in a classroom with other multiples takes that spotlight away and just lets them be themselves, Yingling explained.

"Twins and triplets always garner attention in public, and after years of being 'that family with the twins,' they can finally be in an environment where they don't feel like they are on display," Yingling said.

Devin and Luke Berryhill's mother, Shannon, agrees.

To her, having so many multiples in the same grade and classrooms allows the idea of multiples to be ordinary. Even though it's extraordinary to outsiders, it's their everyday.

"I don't think that the kids really recognize that their class is special in that way; it is just their normal," Berryhill said. "It is neat to see as a parent."

Though Luke is into sports and Devin is focused on being a farmer, Berryhill says that her boys are just like many twins. They have a special connection that's hard to explain.

"Twins, even fraternal, have a bond that is just magnetic. No matter who is around, they are magnetically drawn to each other," Berryhill said. "It was definitely a lot of work in the earlier years, but is so cool to see them getting to experience life with their best friend."

And the best part for their parents? Yingling knows the answer instantly.

"Double the hugs every day!"



Jack and Max Yingling



Luke and Devin Berryhill

# Commemorating service

Each year, Noble REMC recognizes employees who have hit milestones in their service to the cooperative and its members.

Brad Wentworth, Elena Vargas, Amanda Lock and Nic Engle were recently presented with plaques for the work each has done to improve the lives of our members and the cooperative.

Receiving the 20-year award, Wentworth was commended by CEO Ron Raypole for the role he played in deploying our advanced metering system after transitioning to his position as the cooperative's field technician. His strong work ethic, customer service and commitment to the cooperative were also highlighted.

Elena Vargas received her 10-year service award. She started at the cooperative as a receptionist/cashier and transitioned to the role of administrative assistant and human resources administrator in 2013. Vargas has served as vice president of the Indiana Electric Cooperatives Human Resources Section, completed the two-year Rural Electric Leaders in Training Exchange (RELITE) program and has actively participated in the community as part of the Big Brother Big Sisters Lunch Buddy program.

Both Lock and Engle were recipients of the 5-year service award.

Lock serves as the cooperative's member services representative and is also a graduate of the RELITE program. Raypole

said she continuously goes the extra distance to make sure members' needs are met, while also growing personally and professionally as she works toward her bachelor's degree at Grace College.

A shared services employee with LaGrange County REMC, Engle started as the communications specialist before moving into his role as marketing coordinator. He is continually building the cooperative's online presence and is a graduate of the RELITE program. He is also a board member of Junior Achievement in LaGrange County.

Noble REMC thanks each and every one of them for their tireless efforts to provide the best service to our members! Congratulations.

From left, Nic Engle, Amanda Lock, Brad Wentworth and Elena Vargas celebrated milestones in their cooperative careers at a service awards luncheon in February.



# Celebrate Earth Day: Sign up for EnviroWatts

Earth Day, held on April 22, aims to shine a light on the environment and the steps we can take to protect it. But did you know:

- April 22 was originally chosen to coincide with college students' schedules, between spring break and final exams?
- Earth Day is now celebrated by more than 180 countries and 5,000 environmental agencies?
- It's known internationally as International Mother Earth Day?
- More than 1 billion people participate in Earth Day activities, making it the largest secular civic event in the world?

While we'd all love to be able to do our part on April 22 to help

the environment, sometimes our schedules don't line up. That's why Noble REMC offers a way for our members to help year-round with our EnviroWatts program. For \$5 a month, you can contribute to positively impacting our local environment and community.

Members who participate in the EnviroWatts program pay an additional 1 cent per kilowatt hour (kWh) for their first 500 kWh, guaranteeing the number of kWh to be generated from environmentally friendly alternative energy sources.

That premium is then placed in a fund that is used to provide grants to nonprofit groups' environmentally-friendly projects in Noble, DeKalb and surrounding counties.

Last year, ACRES Land



Trust used Noble REMC's first-ever EnviroWatts grant to protect and care for Noble County properties, managing 960 acres across 13 preserves by marking boundaries, constructing and maintaining trails and removing non-native invasive plants.

Members who contributed to the EnviroWatts program should be proud of the project their dollars made possible. We sure are.

Mark your calendars to sign up for EnviroWatts this Earth Day, April 22, by visiting [nobleremc.com/](http://nobleremc.com/) programs or calling our office at 800-933-7362.

## TORNADO TIPS:

*Do you know what to do if you're in the path of a tornado?*



**INSIDE:** Take shelter in a windowless, interior room; a storm cellar; or the lowest level of the building. Crouch down and use your arms to protect your head and neck from injury.

**IN A CAR OR MOBILE HOME:** Get out and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy nearby building.

**OUTSIDE WITHOUT SHELTER:** Seek low ground or depression and cover your head and neck. (Never seek shelter under an overpass or try to outrun the storm.)

# Operation Round Up 2018 financials

Thank you to our members – more than 80 percent of you – who allow us to round up your bills to the nearest dollar each month to give back to the communities we serve! As you can see from these financials, pennies donated every month add up quickly, and when your donations are combined with others', it makes a huge impact in our communities. In 2018, more than \$56,000 was granted to 501(c)(3) status organizations to help others.

Community Foundation of Noble County  
Statement of Financial Position — Dec. 31, 2018  
Noble REMC Operation Round Up Trust

Community Foundation of Noble County  
Fund Activity — Dec. 31, 2018  
Noble REMC Operation Round Up Trust

**ASSETS**

Grant Checking Account ..... \$7,252.78  
**TOTAL ASSETS..... \$7,252.78**

**EQUITY**

Equity Balance ..... \$7,252.78

**TOTAL LIABILITIES + EQUITY - ASSETS ..... \$0**

**YEAR-TO-DATE**

**Beginning Balance ..... \$15,135.08**  
**RECEIPTS:**

Contributions and Pledges ..... \$49,052.09  
Interest and Dividends Income ..... \$33.05  
**TOTAL RECEIPTS..... \$49,085.14**

**DISTRIBUTIONS:**

CFNC Administrative Fees ..... \$916.44  
Grants Expense ..... \$56,051.00  
**TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS ..... \$56,967.44**

**ENDING BALANCE ..... \$7,252.78**



Your pennies matter to the community! At left, see the wonderful way the second grade class from Rome City Elementary School thanked our members in fall 2018 for their Operation Round Up donation, which helped to purchase a stage for the student body.