

Fund Awards Community Grants

Lisa Porat knew she couldn't wait for the photographer's photos to be ready. The Mentor and Parent Organization President of Center Grove High School's Red Alert Robotics had a room full of students waiting to see the picture of Porat and senior team member Jacob Galyean holding that check—the one that read \$4,972.59. She smiled as she handed her phone to a bystander for a picture and explained how excited the students were to upgrade their team computers.

The robotics team is one of 17 organizations receiving a total of \$48,758.97 in Operation Round-Up® Community Grants awarded by the JCREMC Community Fund in Fall 2019.

Operation Round-Up® is a voluntary program at utility cooperatives nationwide. Participating JCREMC consumers allow their monthly electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest whole dollar, which averages about \$6 per consumer annually. The rounded-up amount goes into the JCREMC Community Fund, which is overseen by a volunteer advisory board and administered by the Johnson County Community Foundation. Grants are awarded to local non-profit organizations.

In addition to Red Alert Robotics, funded organizations are:

- Needham Elementary PTO: Climbing Wall Project - \$4,485
- Partnership for a Healthier Johnson County: Pedals of Joy Program - \$1,000
- Johnson County Public Library Foundation: Explore Summer Program - \$3,000



Red Alert Robotics students work on an upgraded laptop funded with a Fall 2019 Operation Round-Up® Community Grant.

- Purdue Extension Johnson County; Johnson County 4H: Nature of Teaching Program - \$479.97
- Trafalgar Community Garden: Garden Expansion Project - \$700
- St. Rose of Lima Catholic School: Library Update Project - \$1,200
- Johnson County Senior Services: Transportation Addition Project - \$5,000
- Resources of Hope, Inc.: Birthday Blessings Program - \$1,000
- Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County: Soup Bowl Program - \$5,000
- Trafalgar Volunteer Fire Department: Fire Nozzle Replacement Project - \$5,000
- Indiana FFA Foundation: Recreational Area LED Lighting Upgrade Project - \$4,000
- Johnson County Autism Support Group, Inc.: Camp Can Do Program - \$1,000
- Indian Creek Intermediate School: STEAM Museum Family Night - \$5,000

CONTINUED on p. 4

The Cooperat

The 2020 JCREMC Annual Meeting, themed “The Cooperative Strength” is April 4 at Franklin Community High School. This meeting of the membership is a time to conduct official business, including board of directors elections, and for us to say thank you. The event includes a complimentary breakfast 8-10 a.m., followed by the business meeting at 10. Entertainment will be provided by country music’s Cody Ikerd and the Sidewinders and there will be drawings for prizes, including a \$2,000 grand prize, two iPads, and three \$100 bills.

The meeting’s theme is a nod to our JCREMC members, who are the foundation of our strength. It also represents the strength of the rural electric cooperative network in Indiana and throughout the country.

THE COOPERATIVE COMMITMENT

Here at JCREMC, we are committed to bettering the lives of those we serve because we believe in the strength of a thriving community. The JCREMC team not only works for our members but many are members themselves and all are part of the local community.

JCREMC was founded in 1935 by local farmers and neighbors who came together to provide much-needed electricity to rural areas not served by investor-owned utilities. While the landscape of our service territory has evolved since then, our mission remains: To safely and



The JCREMC Annual Meeting gives members the opportunity to elect board directors.

efficiently provide reliable electric services for our community.

The people who govern your cooperative are also local. The directors on the JCREMC board live in the districts they represent and are elected by you. Their member and community focus influences every decision they make as a governing body and they continuously look for ways to improve quality and efficiency of operations to be good stewards of the cooperative’s resources. As a non-profit electric utility, stockholders don’t drive our decisions—the good of the membership and our community does.

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Part of the cooperative strength also lies in the way JCREMC is committed to giving back. Each year, we award two-\$2,000 scholarships to local high school seniors headed to Indiana colleges or universities in the fall. We also sponsor two area high school juniors as they participate in the Indiana Electric

itive Strength

Cooperatives Youth Tour in Washington D.C.

JCREMC supports a variety of local events and initiatives, including the Johnson County 4-H and Agricultural Fair Queen Contest and 4-H Livestock Auction. Through Operation Round-Up®, we were able to award over \$48,000 in grants to local charitable and non-profit organizations.

SERVING OUR MEMBERS

In 2020, our members will see updates to the way we communicate. A complete redesign of the JCREMC website is underway to improve user experience and the new *myJCREMC* app will launch in the Spring. We have continued our residential rebates program, energy advising, and rates options in 2020 to help members save money on electric bills.

Join us on April 4 to celebrate the success of 2019 and learn more about the exciting things coming down the pike in 2020.

JCREMC Annual Meeting

April 4, 2020

Franklin Community High School

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 8 a.m. | Registration Opens |
| 8-10 a.m. | Complimentary Breakfast
Director Candidates
Available for Discussion |
| 9 a.m. | Entertainment |
| 10 a.m. | Business Meeting |



Cody Ikerd & THE SIDEWINDERS

Cody Ikerd and the Sidewinders is a country/honkytonk band from Indiana. The group has performed throughout the Midwest over the past few years, opening for several national artists, including Kid Rock, Hank Williams Jr., the Kentucky Headhunters, Drake White, Mo Pitney, and Casey Donahew. They play popular songs from artists such as Hank Williams Jr., Alan Jackson, Dwight Yoakam, Tyler Childers, and Chris Stapleton, as well as their own originals. The band released their second album, *You Can Find Me in a Honkytonk*, in 2019, with the self-titled single and music video available at facebook.com/CodyIkerdMusic and on YouTube under "Cody Ikerd."

CEO to Host Town Halls

JCREMC CEO John Sturm will host two CEO Town Hall meetings in 2020, the first on April 21 and the second on October 20. Both start at 6 p.m. and will be held in the JCREMC Conference Room at 750 International Dr., Franklin.



The CEO Town Hall meetings are for members to learn more about JCREMC and get answers to questions they may have. Sturm will give a brief overview of cooperative business, then open the floor for questions. Members can submit questions ahead of time to custservice@jcremc.com with the subject "CEO Town Hall."



Go paperless *and win*

At the end of the first quarter of 2020, JCREMC will begin quarterly drawings for bill credits for those consumers enrolled in Paperless Billing. We will draw three consumers at random from those to be rewarded a \$50 bill credit or one of two \$25 credits. Enroll in paperless billing or check your status by logging into SmartHub and selecting the "My Profile" dropdown and "Update My Paperless Settings."

Contact us with questions at 317-736-6174 or custservice@jcremc.com.

2020 Residential Rebates

JCREMC's Residential Rebates Program continues in 2020. Consumers can receive rebates when they purchase qualifying energy-efficient HVAC equipment and water heaters for new construction or existing homes.

The cooperative also offers instant savings on energy-efficient lighting products, such as LED bulbs, tubes, and flood lights. Learn more about efficiency incentives at jcremc.com/residential/rebates.

GRANTS | continued from p. 1

- Turning Point Domestic Violence Services-Johnson County: Outreach Equipment - \$2,421.41
 - Girls Inc. of Franklin/Johnson County: Summer Camp Program - \$3,000
 - Johnson County 4H Paw Pounders Dog Club: Mats and Fencing - \$1,500
- Operation Round-Up® Community Grants applications are available in April and October and recipients are notified in May and November. Learn more at jcremc.com/operation-round-up.

750 International Dr. | P.O. Box 309 | Franklin, IN 46131 • 317-736-6174 • custservice@jcremc.com

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

JCREMC publishes *News & Views* as a service to our members. Past issues are available at jcremc.com.

Jennifer Stewart-Burton | Marketing & Communications | stewartj@jcremc.com