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OUTAGES

Report your outage day or night by phone or through SmartHub® at jasperremc.com or the SmartHub app.

Jasper County REMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

What's inside

Look for these stories!

- Operation Round Up funds issued, Discounts at local businesses: page 6
- Issuing more scholarships, The co-op loses a gentle giant, Supporting Wreaths Across America: page 7
- Briefs, What's on my bill?: page 8

Don't forget to search for a hidden account number within pages 5-8! If you find it, and it's your account number, call our office before the last working day of the month to claim your \$25 bill credit.



Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

We are planning to have our annual meeting on Tuesday, September 14, in some way, shape or form.



This month I'd like to get back to talking about our SmartGrid Ring and high-speed internet project. Both of these projects

will benefit our membership greatly.

As you read this issue of Indiana Connection, our SmartGrid Ring contractor — **ElectriCom Inc.** — will begin constructing the Ring.

After an arduous process to determine which contractor we would use for the project, we decided that an Indiana company supporting Indiana employees was the best choice. **ElectriCom** has been in business since 1960 and is headquartered in Paoli, Indiana. Hidden #: 23712001

You will see **ElectriCom** vehicles throughout our service territory as its employees work to connect all 11 of our substations and the Kankakee Valley School Corporation solar array with fiber optic infrastructure. This process will continue throughout the year. We hope to have the Ring completed by November but we are preparing for any unforeseen circumstances that could delay our project.

The SmartGrid Ring is essential to our goal of providing high-speed internet to our members. That being said, after the Ring is installed we do have to build more infrastructure to reach

your homes and businesses. We are essentially building a broadband infrastructure from scratch as if we were a new electricity provider building a distribution system to get energy to your home. We have to "build" to you and it will take five to eight years to cover our whole footprint.

We wish this could all be done with a click of our heels or the wave of a wand, but it can't. We have to engineer, plan, get materials, work with the contractor and actually build the system to deliver the services.

The materials to build the Ring started arriving in January and our engineering team assures us that the contractor will have everything needed to start the build this month. These are exciting times for our members, the co-op and our communities who could be helped by our high-speed internet project.

Remember that we are doing everything we can to keep costs down as we expand our system and build out this new broadband infrastructure. Keep reading our magazine and billing flyers for updates or visit our new "High-Speed Internet" tab on our website, www.jasperremc.com. During the whole build-out process, know that we'll be here keeping the lights on for you.

BRYAN WASHBURN

CEO