

WATTS *Current*

July 2021


For Our Members

In-Person Annual Meeting Returns In August!

We look forward to seeing our members again, in-person, at our Annual Meeting on August 19th at the Berndes Center in Monticello. We will follow state and CDC guidelines in place at the time.

The August issue of Watts Current will include the Annual Report, director candidate biographies, and election information for voting via mail or in-person at the Annual Meeting.

The combination of an in-person meeting, with the option to vote by mail for directors, allows for greater member participation in the cooperative. All details will be addressed in the official Annual Meeting packet to be mailed to members in early August.



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS
 MVEC will observe summer hours
 thru October 1st, 2021
 Monday-Thursday: 7:00 AM - 4:30 PM
 Friday: 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM



MEMBER MEET UP
 AT THE JACKSON CO. FAIR
JULY 27
 WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU IN-PERSON
 DETAILS ON PG. 4 & 5



SAVE THE DATE
 In-person Annual Meeting
 Thursday, August 19, 2021
 Monticello Berndes Center



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Spotlighting Member-Owned Businesses



Do you or someone you know have a unique business served by MVEC that you would like to see spotlighted in one of our upcoming Watts Current newsletters?

A "business spotlight" is an article that focuses entirely on a local business. MVEC's goal with these spotlight articles is to tell other members about unique, member-owned businesses and encourage their support. If you have a business in mind, reach out to Elyse, efletcher@mvec.coop, or 800-927-6068.



Congresswoman Hinson Visits MVEC

MVEC recently hosted Congresswoman Ashley Hinson and her staff at our Anamosa headquarters. Hinson was interested in learning how our smart grid deployment led to the MVlink broadband initiative and understanding any roadblocks we may have encountered. Fiber Plant Manager Jeff Geistkemper, CEO Jeremy Richert and CFO Kelly Gibbs walked Hinson through the steps MVEC has taken to connect almost 5,000 members in five short years with future-proof, high speed fiber. Cooperative staff addressed

issues with the FCC fiber availability maps and their impact on federal funding programs, referenced a need to audit fund applications to ensure the greatest benefits for Iowans and discussed broadband loan restrictions. While Hinson is well aware of the need for rural broadband connectivity, she appreciated learning ways she may be able to help move the needle for the best use of federal dollars.



Fiber Plant Manager Jeff Geistkemper, Director of Public Relations Patty Manuel, Congresswoman Ashley Hinson, CEO Jeremy Richert and CFO Kelly Gibbs





Outstanding Patronage Dividend Checks

Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative, 109 North Huber Street, Anamosa, Iowa 52205, has abandoned property that results from patronage dividend checks issued in 2018 for the cooperative members listed here. If this property is not claimed within three years from the original check date, it will be forfeited to Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative according to Iowa law. For a complete listing of all members with abandoned property, visit: www.mvec.coop/about-us/member-owner.

Nicholas Steffens	LHTBM	Reliance Trailers
Clarence Hermsen	Golda Gilmore	Rodger Morton
Rocking Windmill LTD	David Hostert	Thomas Serbousek
Mathew Gaul	Wok Golden	Danny Mcdonell
Jean Hermann	Peggy Rozek	Joseph Smith Estate
Mary Ann Robinson	Mike Lubben	Walter Rogan
James Wiewel	Dean Chapman	Robert Rauk
Lloyd Thola	Dwayne Prull	Harold Wittenburg
Sandra Dew	Steve Knipper	Mary Connolly
John Kruse	Mike Gilbert	Curt Clark
Adelaide West	Barbara Ludwig	Donna Tjaden
Lombardis	Duane Miller	Dub Sports Enterprises
Travis Heyer	Laverne Ploessl	Robert White
Howard Zirkelbach	Terry Thompson	William L Funke

EMERGENCY BROADBAND BENEFIT PROGRAM

A Federal Communications Commission program that provides a temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for qualifying households.

IF YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS ELIGIBLE, YOU CAN RECEIVE:

- **Monthly Benefit:** Up to a \$50/month discount on your broadband service and associated equipment rentals
- **Enhanced Tribal Benefit:** Up to a \$75/month discount if your household is on qualifying Tribal lands
- **One-time Device Discount:** Up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50) where available



Only one monthly service discount and one device discount is allowed per household. The program rules recognize there may be more than one eligible household at the same address.

To learn about eligibility and application options, visit GetEmergencyBroadband.org.



Universal Service Administrative Co.



EMERGENCY BROADBAND SUPPORT CENTER
 (833) 511-0311 | 9 am-9 pm ET
 7 DAYS PER WEEK | EBBHelp@usac.org



MEMBER MEET UP

AT THE JACKSON CO. FAIR

JULY 27

5-9 pm



1

FIND

We'll be in Pearson Hall - you can't miss us!

2

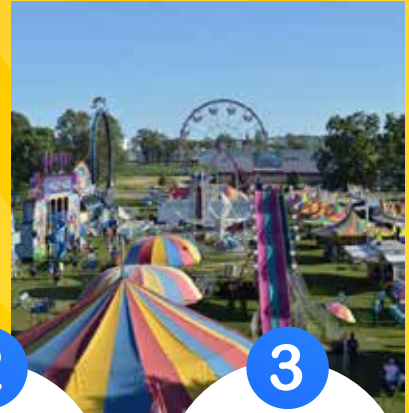
LEARN

...about your cooperative and our services, including MVlink!

3

WIN

Try your luck at our prize wheel!



Watch for our truck and see the EV Rider in the **KICK-OFF PARADE**. Starting at 6PM, it will wind its way through the streets of Maquoketa onto the fairgrounds and past the Grandstand!

Opening
FREE
ADMIS



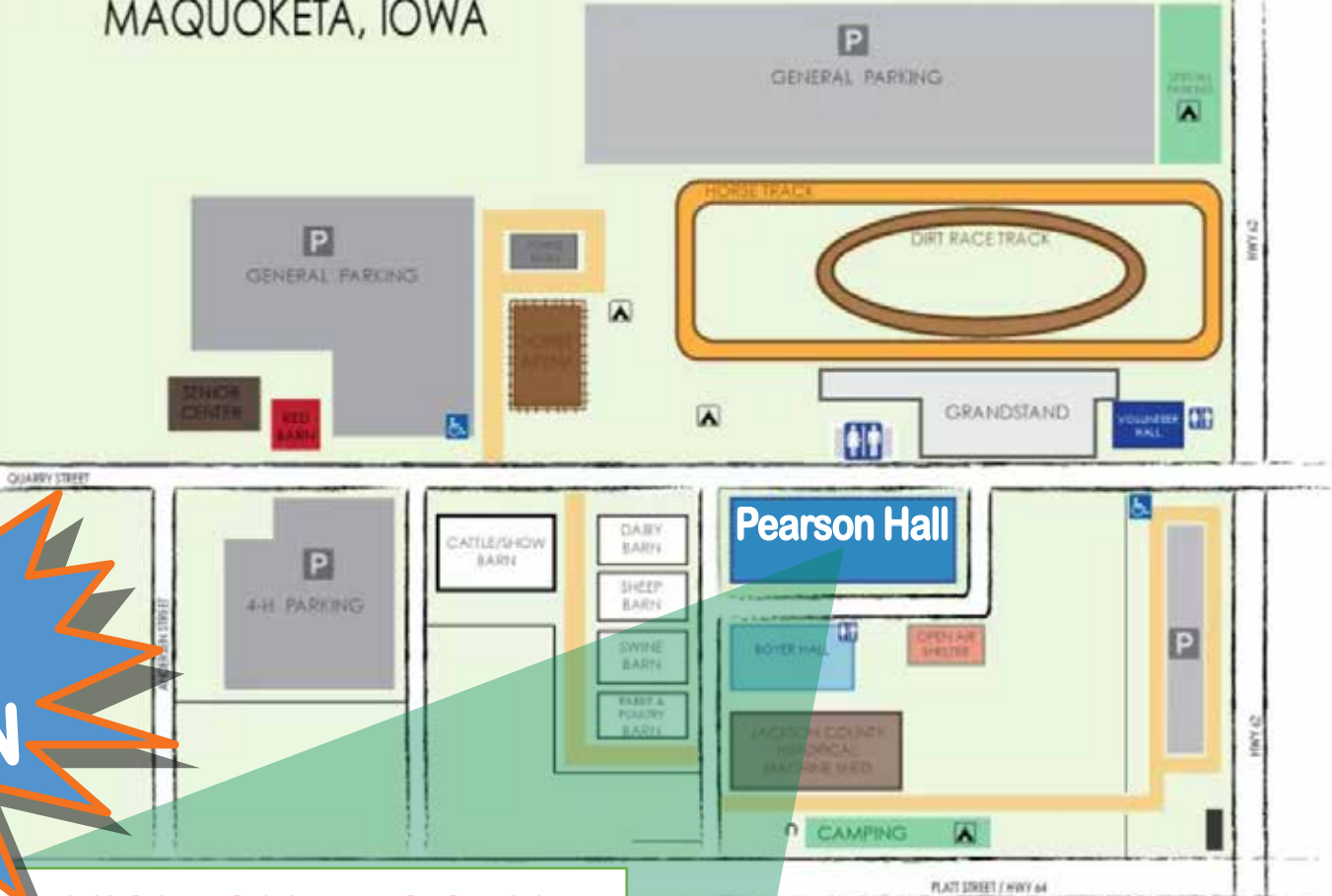
Enjoy opening night fair activities

- Fair Queen
- The Ninja Experience
- ISU Insect Zoo
- Family Feud
- White Tiger Discovery
- Chris Short Puppet Show
- Miller's Petting Zoo
- Mobile Glass Studio
- Hug-A-Hog Contest
- Kid's Celebration





JACKSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS MAQUOKETA, IOWA



g Day
EE
SION

VISIT OUR BOOTH

We will be in front of the stage in the Pearson Hall building. Visit us anytime before, during or after the parade.

- Pick-up 4-H food stand coupon
- Take a spin on our prize wheel
- Learn about MVlink
- Ask us questions

We've Missed You
stop by and say hi

Have fun and take a selfie in our booth and tag @MVEC on Facebook



- Here are other local county fairs you should check-out
- Buchanan County Fair 7/6-7/10
 - Delaware County Fair 7/12-7/18
 - Cedar County Fair 7/14-7/18
 - Jones County Fair 7/21-7/25
 - Clinton County Fair 7/21-7/25
 - Dubuque County Fair 7/27-8/1
 - Clayton County Fair 8/5-8/9

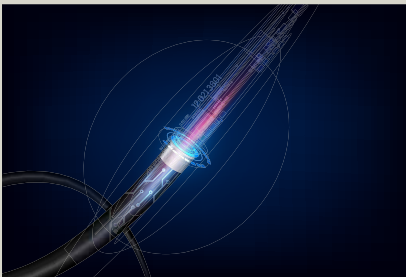




TECH LINK

What Do Internet Speed Tests Provide?

With the push of a button, speed test sites such as **speedtest.net** will quickly display your download and upload speeds, and will often tell you about your latency or ping as well. It is best to have a direct connection with an ethernet cable and a quiet day to know the most accurate results. Download and upload speeds are measured in megabits per second (Mbps). Latency, commonly referred to as ping, is the amount of time it takes for your device to receive the data that it requests. A fast ping means a more responsive connection, which is especially important in applications such as video games.



Example of results from speed tests?

1-5 Mbps for checking email and browsing the web

15-25 Mbps for streaming HD video

40-100 Mbps for streaming 4K video and online gaming

200+ Mbps for streaming 4K video, playing online games, and downloading large files

So how is Internet speed measured? Let's start with the concept of speed, or bandwidth, as it's sometimes called. Measured in Megabits per second (Mbps) or Gigabits per second (Gbps), your Internet speed is the amount of data that can be transferred every second over your Internet connection. Your speed determines the type of activities that you can do online and how quickly you can do them. A connection speed of 1 Mbps, for example, allows you to browse web pages easily, but it's not fast enough for you to stream HD videos. If you tried to stream HD video at 1 Mbps, your video would be poor quality and would likely stutter or pause. On the other hand, a speed of 1 Gbps—one thousand times faster than 1 Mbps—is blazing fast, allowing you to do almost anything, including letting multiple family members stream 4K video simultaneously.

Download VS Upload Speeds

When you are choosing an Internet package, there are two speeds you need to consider: the download and upload speeds.

The download speed is the speed at which data travels from a remote location on the Internet to your Internet-connected device.

The upload speed, on the other hand, is the speed at which data travels from your connected device to a remote location on the Internet.

References to speed often refer to 'asymmetrical' where the download and upload speeds aren't equal. MVlink offers 'symmetrical' download and upload speeds. When deciding what is best for your needs, think about your online activities; web surfing, video streaming, online gaming, and working from home. The faster you can download data, the better. The upload speed is also important if you work from home or like sharing photos.

NO CONTRACTS • NO DATA CAPS • NO INSTALLATION FEES

Standard:
85 Mbps/85 Mbps.....**\$59.95/mo**

Premium:
250 Mbps/250 Mbps.....**\$69.95/mo**

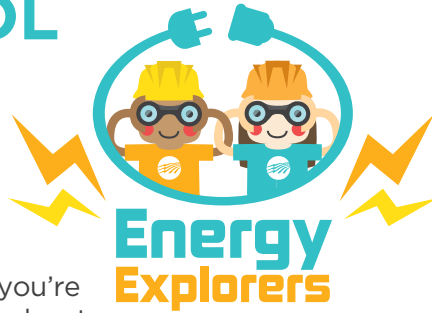
Platinum:
500 Mbps/500 Mbps.....**\$79.95/mo**

Ultra:
1 GB (1,000 Mbps)/1 GB.....**\$89.95/mo**





SWIMMING POOL ELECTRICAL SAFETY CROSSWORD



Water and electricity never mix! When you're cooling off in the swimming pool, remember to practice electrical safety. Complete the pool safety crossword puzzle below.

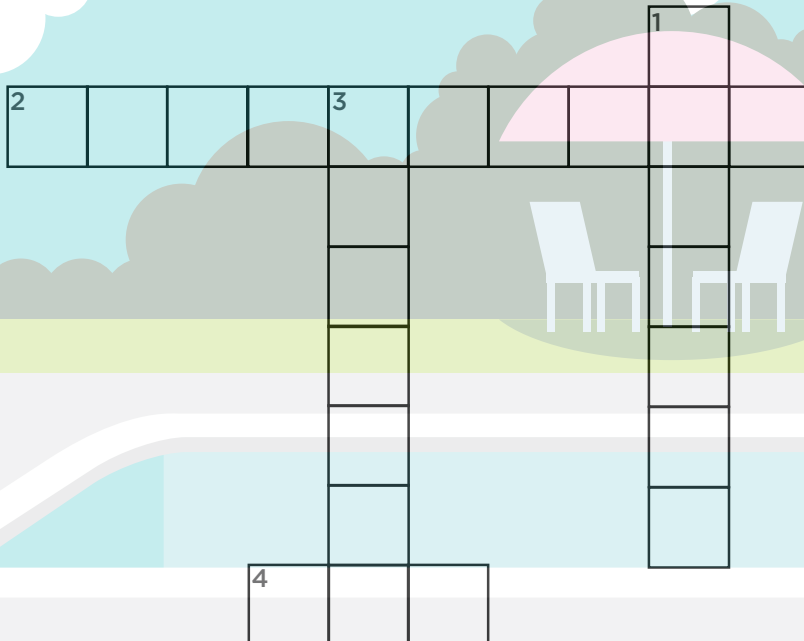
Hint: Check your answers in the key below.

1 Down: When possible, use _____ operated devices when outside near a swimming pool.

2 Across: Never bring _____ devices near a swimming pool. If they come in contact with water, electric shock could occur. Devices should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources.

3 Down: If you hear _____, immediately exit the swimming pool. Storms may be near.

4 Across: All outdoor electrical outlets should be covered to keep them _____.



Watts The Answer?

1. The combination of an in-person meeting, with the option to vote by mail for directors, allows for greater member _____ in the cooperative.
2. A “business spotlight” is an article that focuses entirely on a _____ business.
3. MVlink offers _____, _____ download and upload speeds.

Mail your answers in with your energy bill, or email them to efletcher@mvec.coop

Two winners will each receive a \$10.00 credit on their energy bills.

Please complete the following:

Name _____

Address _____

May winners:

Mike Perry, Dundee

Peter Hasler, Monticello

Answer Key — 1 Down: battery 2 Across: thunder 3 Down: electrical 4 Across: Dry



Maquoketa Valley
Electric Cooperative
109 North Huber Street
Anamosa, Iowa 52205

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Cedar Rapids, IA
Permit 174



Understanding Your Electric Bill

ON-PEAK hours are 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.
OFF-PEAK hours are
Midnight - 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. - Midnight
These times are in effect every day.

Watts Current

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Mailing Address:

109 North Huber Street • Anamosa, IA 52205
319-462-3542 or 800-927-6068

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday • 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

After Hours Call Center: 800-582-8998

www.mvec.coop

Email direct to the following departments:

Electric Billing: billing@mvec.coop
Electric Service: maintenance@mvec.coop
Internet/Phone Service: fiber@mvec.coop

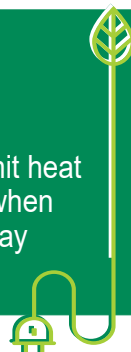
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat (like clothes dryers and dishwashers) after 9:00 pm when it's cooler. This will minimize indoor heat during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest.

Source: www.energy.gov



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