

Pumpkin Pie, Jack-o-Lanterns & a 1,662 Pound Giant?

By: Meagan Moellers

As you admire the fall foliage that autumn brings, do you also notice the pumpkins that decorate and adorn the doorsteps of many Americans? Pumpkins have become a trademark of the season, but have you ever considered their history as you enjoy a scrumptious piece of pumpkin pie or set out your jack-o-lanterns?

Pumpkins are believed to have originated in Central America dating back over 7,000 years ago. Native American Indians relied on pumpkins in their diets centuries before the pilgrims arrived. Colonists began to slice off the top of the pumpkin, remove the seeds, fill the insides with milk, spices and honey then bake in hot ashes, creating the “pumpkin pie”, which to this day still reigns as the perfect ending to our Thanksgiving dinners. The origin of Halloween dates back at least 3,000 years to the Celtic celebration of Samhain or “summer’s end”. On this magical night, glowing jack-o-lanterns, carved from turnips or gourds, were set on porches and in windows. When European settlers arrived in America they found the native pumpkin to be larger and easier to carve, perfect for jack-o-lanterns, even though Halloween didn’t really catch on big in this country until the late 1800’s.

Giant Pumpkins

Growing pumpkins was always a favorite pastime of Chris Schultz until three years ago when producing giant pumpkins became his new obsession. Chris and his wife Robin now enjoy the competition of harvesting

these special pumpkins, even competing against each other to see who can raise the largest. They entered two of their pumpkins in Anamosa’s annual Pumpkinfest this year. They didn’t win the title of largest pumpkin, but one of their home-grown giants weighed in at 719 pounds, capturing 14th place in the competition. This year’s winner, Don Young, harvested a pumpkin weighing 1,662 pounds, only 27 pounds short of the world record.

“It takes time and dedication to raise these pumpkins. They must be fertilized and watered regularly. We had to buy a trailer to haul the pumpkins to the contest this year” says Robin. Raising giant pumpkins is fun, exciting and becoming more popular. How about giving it a try next year?

Chris and Robin live in Decorah and have two children. Brett (21) graduated from the Powerline program in Sheldon and is employed with Highline Construction (working on rebuilding Hawkeye’s lines damaged from the ice storm). Their daughter BreAnn (18) is a freshman at Iowa State University.



Robin Schultz of Decorah proudly showcases one of their giant pumpkins.



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"Our vision is to provide access to safe, dependable and affordable electric services."



Tom Miller
General Manager

Monthly Update

Outage Reporting

Your cooperative has technology in place to handle high call volumes on our dedicated outage number. Caller ID is used to recognize you as a member of Hawkeye REC and to list your service location(s) as a potential outage. This happens if you speak to a dispatcher or not. Please do not use our 547-3801 or 800-658-2243 to report outages, as this will only frustrate you and delay restoring your outage.

Use our toll free outage number to report all outages @ 1-800-927-5265.



"Caller ID is used to recognize you as a member of Hawkeye REC and to list your service location(s) as a potential outage."

Ice Storm Update

We continue making progress on line replacement, although the rains are making it difficult to move about. Our overhead line contractor, Highline Construction, has rebuilt the majority of our three-phase feeder lines (28 miles). We still have several miles of three-phase left to do, but those projects are of lesser importance. Highline has moved into the Saratoga area to begin rebuilding single-phase lines.

Our underground contractor, Tunnel Rats, has been working on the Homeland Energy Solutions ethanol plant. Hawkeye crews have been connecting the new underground line at the ethanol plant and northwest of New Hampton.

Hawkeye crews have also been building single-phase line around the Schley area.

Staking in Progress	23.38 miles
Staked and ready to Build	43.89 miles
Construction in Progress	10.77 miles
Construction Completed	63.05 miles

Cash Flow Update

- ▲ Feb-March: \$1.3 million in ice storm restoration
- ▲ \$1.83 million year-to-date, for new line construction
- ▲ Pending invoices for lines recently constructed by our contractors
- ▲ Nearly \$1 million in material inventory added to keep construction rolling
- ▲ Cost of work in progress
- ▲ \$5 million in expenditures
- ▲ \$4.5 million borrowed on our line of credit

To date, we have received approximately \$275,000 from FEMA and another \$945,000 "is in the mail." This is the federal share (75%) of the smaller line projects (less than \$59,600) and reimbursement for the initial ice storm restoration. The State of Iowa has not funded their 10% yet. That leaves Hawkeye REC to bear the final 15%. Soon, we will be able repay a portion of the line of credit and borrow the other part long-term at a lower interest rate.

Low Hanging Power Lines

There are many clearance issues due to ice storm damage. We have bonded and tacked damaged neutral lines (bottom power line on the pole) to the power poles. If you have to do field work around storm damaged lines, please contact us with any concerns about low hanging power lines. We are glad to ensure your safety and respond to potential problems.



"If you have to do field work around storm damaged lines, please contact us with any concerns about low hanging power lines."



"Do we have your cell phone number on file?"

Pumpkins...

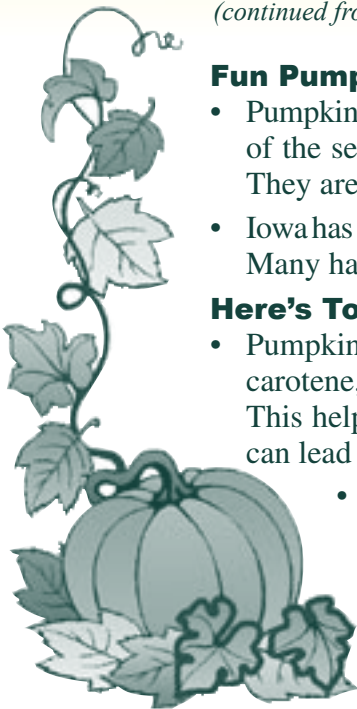
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Fun Pumpkin Facts

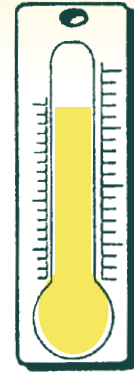
- Pumpkins are grown all over the world on six of the seven continents, except Antarctica. They are even grown in Alaska.
- Iowa has over eighty (80) pumpkin producers. Many have 'pick your own' patches.

Here's To Your Health

- Pumpkins are rich in Vitamin A & C, beta-carotene, potassium and are high in fiber. This helps prevent arteriosclerosis, which can lead to strokes and heart attacks.
- Pumpkin seeds and the oil are good sources of zinc and unsaturated fatty acids which are effective help for prostate ailments.



**AMR Meters
Goal - 6,546
meters!**



**4,704
so far...**

**24-Hour Outage Number
(800) 927-5265**

Helpful hints to keep number handy:

- Program into your cell phone
- Hang by telephone

Map of Outages

OAKDALE 1 	CHESTER 2 	FOREST CITY 3 	ALBION 4 	FRESHMONT 29 	BURR OAK 30 	HESPER 31 	HIGHLAND 32
JAMESTOWN 8 Faulty OCR 	SARATOGA 7 	HOWARD CENTER 6 Power Supplier	VERNON SPRINGS 5 Cresco Substation- Power Supplier	ORLEANS 36 	BLUFFTON 35 	CANOE 34 	PLEASANT 33 Open Fuse- Unknown Weather-Wind
AFTON NORTH 9 Weather-Wind	HOWARD NORTH 11 Power Supplier	PARIS NORTH 13 Schley Substation- Power Supplier	NEW OREGON NORTH 15 	LINCOLN 37 	MADISON 38 	DECORAH 39 	GLENWOOD 40
AFTON SOUTH 10 	HOWARD SOUTH 12 	PARIS SOUTH 14 	NEW OREGON S 16 	SUMNER 44 	CALMAR 43 	SPRINGFIELD 42 	FRANKVILLE 41 OCR
DEERFIELD N 23 	WASHINGTON N 21 	JACKSONVILLE N 19 	UTICA NORTH 17 	JACKSON 45 Little Turkey Substation- Power Supplier	WASHINGTON 46 Weather-Wind	MILITARY 47 	BLOOMFIELD 48
DEERFIELD S 24 	WASHINGTON S 22 	JACKSONVILLE S 20 Lawler Substation- Power Supplier	UTICA SOUTH 18 	JACKSON 45 	WASHINGTON 46 Weather-Wind	MILITARY 47 	BLOOMFIELD 48
CHICKASAW 25 	DAYTON 26 	NEW HAMPTON 27 	STAPLETON 28 	= Pole Change outs = Single Outage = Planned Outages			

September - 2007

Have you experienced an outage lately?

Commitment to Community

The Howard County Fair is always a fun time for area residents. For Hawkeye REC, the first day of the fair is usually their scheduled day to work at the MooMobile. The proceeds earned that day for working at the Moo-Mobile are designated to area charitable organizations. This year, the proceeds went to Juvenile Diabetes and HoCA (Howard County Cancer Association).

HoCA gives grants of \$350 to people who are being treated for cancer. They give up to three grants, six months apart, if they are still being treated. If you, or anyone you know live in or near Howard County and are being treated for cancer, please do not hesitate to let the organization know.

Sherie Dietzenbach, Hawkeye REC Customer Service Representative, survived her battle with cancer with the help of HoCA in 2003. Vicki Sovereign, President of HoCA, accepts a check from Hawkeye's MooMobile proceeds for \$257.60. Hawkeye REC is committed to our local communities.



Remember Harvest Safety This Fall

As harvest season continues, it's important to keep your safety as a top priority. It's a good idea to locate all overhead power lines on your farmstead. Combines, grain augers or elevators can easily become an electrical hazard and should be operated with extreme care near power lines. Please be sure to call the REC office if you plan to move or build a grain bin.

What should you do if your farm equipment touches a power line:

- ▶ Try to back away from the line
- ▶ If you can, stay put and call Hawkeye REC immediately
- ▶ If you must leave your tractor, jump clear (putting both feet forward) so you won't make contact with the ground and the vehicle at the same time.



Wayne Kirkeby Retires

Congratulations Wayne!

Wayne Kirkeby started at Hawkeye on March 16, 1987. He worked at Montgomery-Ward in Decorah before coming to the REC. Wayne retired on September 28, working 20 years as an employee in the member services department.

Wayne hopes to find more time in his retirement to fish, golf, work on home improvement projects and spend time with his family. He has 3 children and 4 grandchildren; Daniel lives in Decorah and has 2 girls and 1 boy; Kara lives in Sycamore, IL and has 1 girl; and the youngest son David lives in Phoenix, AZ. Best wishes Wayne!



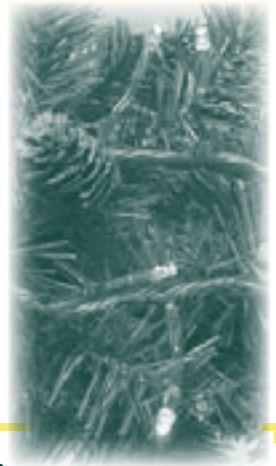
LED Holiday Lighting Rebates

Change to LED lights this holiday season and get money back. LED lights have a higher initial cost, but will save you money in energy costs. You can also receive a \$2 rebate per string of LED holiday lights. Send the receipt along with the completed form below to Hawkeye. The rebate will be applied to your electric account. Rebates must be submitted by Dec. 31, 2007.

Why change to LED holiday lights?

- **More energy efficient** – Use up to 95% less energy than conventional incandescent lights. Holiday lighting adds approximately 60 MW of additional load to your cooperative's power supplier annually.
- **Longer lasting** – Up to 10 times longer (100,000 hours or 11 years)

- **Safer** – Bulbs don't heat up so they're cool to the touch and won't dry out a natural tree.
- **Sturdier bulbs** – LED bulbs are made of plastic so there's no glass bulb to break. Some are sealed from moisture to prevent bulb damage.
- **Easy-to-use** – Up to 20 strings can be connected end-to-end without overloading a typical household's electrical circuit. If a bulb burns out, the other bulbs stay lit.



Holiday Lighting Rebate Form

(Form can also be downloaded at www.hawkeyerec.coop)

\$2 per string (applied to your electric account).

Return to Hawkeye with copy of receipt by December 31, 2007

Name: _____

Account Number: _____

Phone Number: _____



Pledge to replace at least one light in your home with one that has earned the ENERGY STAR.

ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge

The ENERGY STAR Change a Light Campaign is a national challenge to encourage every American to help change the world, one light — one energy-saving step — at a time. You can show your commitment by pledging to replace at least one light in your home with one that has earned the ENERGY STAR.

Last year, more than 880,000 individuals pledged to change at least one light in their home to one that is ENERGY STAR qualified. This year, 2 million people are encouraged to make this commitment.

Take the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge at www.energystar.gov/changealight and choose Hawkeye REC as the organization that referred you. Let's see how many pledges Hawkeye members can make!

Compact Fluorescent Lightbulb (CFL) Sale

Bulbs are available to purchase at Hawkeye while supplies last. Limit 10 per member.

14-Watt Dura Bright Mini-SpringLamp (60 watt eq.)
\$1.50 + Tax

23-Watt Dura Bright SpringLamp (100 watt eq.)
\$2.50 + Tax

What should you do with a CFL when it burns out?

www.hawkeyerec.coop
www.earth911.com
www.lamprecycle.org
www.energystar.gov
Call (877)EARTH-911



Snowbirds- Are you leaving for the winter?

If you are planning to leave your home for an extended period of time this winter, remember to call Hawkeye to make meter reading and billing arrangements while you are away. Hawkeye has the following options to offer.

- ▲ Automatic checking or credit card payments
- ▲ Online payments & readings



Notice to all members with heating units on load control

Load Management Fall Testing

As cooler temperatures and fewer daylight hours arrive with autumn, the energy professionals at Hawkeye REC are preparing for another Midwest winter. This includes a test of Hawkeye's load management system. This test is conducted each fall to assist the cooperatives in determining if problems exist with their interruptible heating loads and remind members that loads will be controlled during the peak of the heating season.

If you currently participate in a residential dual fuel or heating load management program, the system will be tested on Wednesday, November 14, beginning with an alert at 4:50 p.m. This means that controlled electric heating tests will begin at 5 p.m. and continue throughout the evening. During the control period, customers will rely on their backup heating system. All electric heating systems will be restored by 11:15 p.m.

Please contact Hawkeye REC with any questions or concerns about the load management test.

Wednesday, November 14 • Tests begin at 5 p.m.

2007-2008 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ATTENTION: RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

The 2007-2008 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season.

The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

If you are not sure where to apply, please write to:

LIHEAP
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

or, call your local community action agency.

Household Size	INCOME MAXIMUMS	
	Three Month Gross Income	Annual Gross Income
1	\$ 3,828.75	\$ 15,315.00
2	\$ 5,133.75	\$ 20,535.00
3	\$ 6,438.75	\$ 25,755.00
4	\$ 7,743.75	\$ 30,975.00
5	\$ 9,048.75	\$ 36,195.00
6	\$ 10,353.75	\$ 41,415.00

For households with more than six members, add \$1,305 per three months, or \$5,220 annually for each additional member.

WHEN TO APPLY:

- **Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled:**
October 1, 2007 to April 15, 2008
- **All other households:**
November 1, 2007 to April 15, 2008

WHAT TO TAKE:

- **Proof of income**
Most recent 3 months' check stubs, award letter from Social Security or 2006 tax return
- **Social Security numbers of household members**
- **Recent heat bill**
- **Recent electric bill**
- **Recent telephone bill**

If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified.

WAGE EARNERS:

Please bring copies of your check stubs for the three-month period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME:

This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Family Investment Program, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your most recent 3 months' check stubs.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIP AND SSI RECIPIENTS:

Your Medicaid number is on your Medicaid card. The numbers needed are immediately following your name and number in the aid type box.

Recipes...

Celebrate Pork Month in October with these pork chop recipes



Send or e-mail your favorite recipe.

If we print your recipe in our newsletter

you'll receive \$5 off your next electric bill.

E-mail to: mmoellers@hawkeyerec.com

Nov. - Cranberry Recipes

Dec. - Favorite cookies to leave for Santa

All recipes can be found on our website.



Roasted Garlic Pesto Pork Chops

- 1 bulb garlic
- 1 T. olive oil
- 2 t. chopped rosemary
- 1 T. grated Parmesan cheese
- 4 fresh pork chops

1. Preheat grill to medium. Cut top from garlic bulb to expose cloves. Drizzle with oil and sprinkle with rosemary. Place on sheet of heavy-duty tin foil and seal foil. Grill directly for 30 minutes or until garlic is very soft. Squeeze your garlic from the cloves into a small dish. Add the rosemary and oil from foil. Stir in the Parmesan.

2. While your garlic is grilling, season pork chops with salt and pepper (optional) and place on the grill. Grill till medium-well done, turning once. Spread chops with roasted garlic pesto before serving.

Diana Ness - Waukon

Stuffed Pork Chops

- 6 pork chops
- 1 bag seasoned croutons
- 2 t. chopped onion
- ¼ c. melted butter
- 1 egg
- ¼ c. water
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- ½ c. milk



Brown chops and put in greased 9X13 pan. Combine rest of ingredients and pour over chops. Cover for part of the time so dressing doesn't get too crispy. Bake at least 1 hour at 350°. If using Iowa chops, bake for 2 hours at 350°. Leave covered for ¾ of the time.

Geraldine Otto - Lime Springs

Orange Ginger Pork Chops

- 1 t. ground ginger or 4 t. minced fresh root
- 1 garlic clove minced
- 1 T. canola oil
- ½ c. Sherry or chicken broth
- ¼ c. honey
- ¼ c. reduced sodium soy sauce
- 1 T. sesame seeds
- 1 T. grated orange peel
- ¾ t. hot pepper sauce
- 4 bone-in pork loin chops (about 6 oz. each)
- 1 t. cornstarch
- 2 T. water

In pan, cook ginger, garlic and oil for 1 minute. Stir in Sherry or broth, honey, soy sauce, sesame seeds, peel and hot sauce and mix well. Pour ½ c. in small bowl and set aside. Pour remaining in large re-sealable plastic bag; add chops, seal bag and turn to coat, refrigerate for 1 hour. Meanwhile, in a pan combine corn starch and water until smooth. Add reserved marinade and bring to a boil, cook and stir for 1 minute until thickened.

Drain and discard marinade from pork. Coat grill rack with cooking spray before starting the grill. Grill chops covered on medium heat for 4 minutes. Turn and baste with sauce, grill for 15-20 minutes longer or until juice runs clear. Baste occasionally. Serve with remaining sauce.

Yields 4 servings.

Janice Dougherty - Waukon

Pork Month

We salute our area pork producers this month!



DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

- Oct. 25** Member reads meter and records on payment voucher. Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1st of November.
- Oct. 29** Automated payments from checking accounts and credit cards are processed.
- Nov. 1** Bills become delinquent.
- Nov. 12** Hawkeye REC prints bills based on October meter reading.
- Nov. 13** Bills are mailed to members from NISC in St. Louis.

OTHER EVENTS

- Oct. 26** Hawkeye REC Board Meeting



The Power Is Yours

Box 90 - Cresco, Iowa 52136
1-800-658-2243 or 547-3801
www.hawkeyerec.coop

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday - 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Closed Sat., Sun., & Holidays)

OUTAGES

1-800-927-5265

IOWA STATE ONE CALL
1-800-292-8989

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John Hockspeier - Alta Vista
Janelle Mahr - Lime Springs
Roger Nibaur - Elma
Charles Frana - Calmar
Dennis Young - Decorah

PERSONNEL

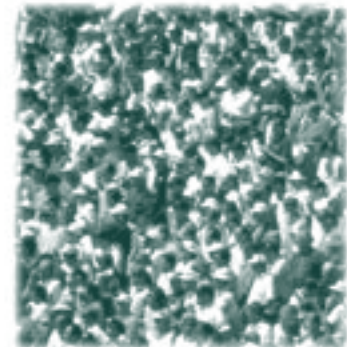
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EDITOR
Meagan Moellers

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One ticket to a football game...

General admission for one ticket to a crowded pro football game - \$80



2,698 football games...

Electricity to run your TV for 8,096 hours at 3 hours/game in the comfort & privacy of your own home



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The value is
Electric



Hawkeye REC
Box 90
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