ROCK ENERGY COOPERATIVE
Empowering Members Since 1936

A MESSAGE FROM:
**Shane L. Larson,**
**Chief Executive Officer**

# July Storms Cause Damage In Member Areas, Rock Energy Crews Respond

A line of severe thunderstorms moved through northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin Friday, July 3, causing thousands to lose power and significant tree damage (see pictures to the left). As of 9 p.m. Friday, Rock Energy Cooperative had reported that numerous members in the Rockton, Roscoe and South Beloit service areas were without power. The storm brought heavy rain with some hail and winds with gusts as high as 60 mph.

Pictured above, a Rock Energy crew replaces a power pole at a resident's property on Middle Road in South Beloit, IL. Directly below is a downed tree at another member's property on Middle Road.

Damage on Winfield Drive, in South Beloit, IL.

## Quick Response

Due to the storms and subsequent outages, Rock Energy crews were quick to respond. Many members reported the outages through SmartHub, which is a method that I recommend, as it's immediate, effective, and easy to do. To report an outage using SmartHub, just click on the "Report Power Outage" link on the left side of the SmartHub home page.

I would like to thank all of our members for your patience during difficult times like this. And thank you to the members who left kind comments for us. Here is one the comments that we received following the storm.

***" I have to shout out — Rock Energy Coop did an excellent job following the storm. With massive power outages in the area, the prediction was power down at least 24 hours. Lines down, poles toppled over, trees on power lines, I started seeing lights go on around town within hours after the storm. I think I was without power maybe 5 hours. Went and bought lanterns etc., and the lights came on before I could get the batteries in them. People complain a lot about the power company, but give kudos when it is due. Great Job!!!!"***

As always, I want to thank you for allowing us to be your energy provider. If we can do anything to improve our service, please let us know.

*Shane Larson*

# 2020 Rock Energy Scholarship Winner Succeeds In D-III Athletics Communications

Rock Energy recently caught up with one of our 2020 scholarship winners, Abbie Campion, for a quick interview. Abbie went to high school in Milton, WI, and she graduated from UW-Stevens Point in 2024. Abbie has found quick success following her undergraduate studies as a Sports Information Director at Saint Mary's - Univ. of Minnesota in Winona, MN.

**Abbie Campion**
- 2020 Rock Energy Scholarship Winner
- 2024 UW-Stevens Point Graduate

**Q What is your job now and where do you work?**

**A** I am working in the profession I always imagined. I always wanted to work in athletics, and now I am the Sports Information Director at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota located in Winona, MN, where I oversee 17 NCAA D-III Athletic Programs as the head media contact for each team.

**Q What do you feel is the most valuable thing you learned while in college?**

**A** The most valuable thing I learned in my four years is to do things that scare you, as you need to learn somehow! I put myself out there, joined clubs, and made difficult decisions that all set me up for success.

**Q Are there any higher-level positions within your current profession that you would eventually like to reach?**

**A** I feel at ease with being a Sports Information Director and like where I am at right now, but the next step in my profession would be to move into becoming an Athletic Director.

**Above, Abbie Campion (far left) has a little fun with co-workers to celebrate at the Division III Softball Championships.**

**Q Do you feel that college has prepared you to enter your chosen profession?**

**A** My college experience is one I would never trade for the world. I was also able to play collegiate basketball where I met lifelong friends, and it allowed me to get my first step in the door in the athletic department there. College absolutely prepared me for the next chapter in my life, as every experience led to me landing a dream job right after I graduated. It helped me build connections within the profession that I relied on.

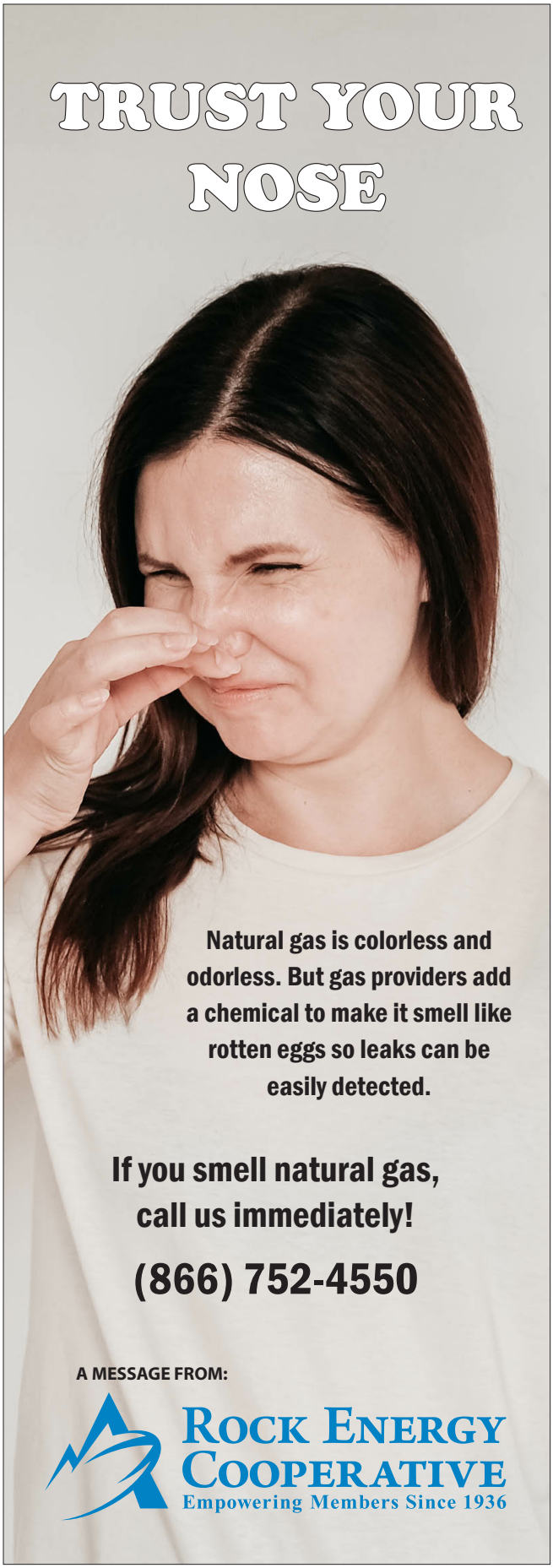
**Q** **If you were talking with a high school senior who was preparing to go to college, what advice would you give them?**

**A** I would tell them that they may feel like everyone else is ahead of them, but the truth is that everyone is on their own path. I would tell them that they will get as much as they want or don't want out of the experience, it's up to them. Everything always works out, even if your path is different than others.

**Q** **One of the attributes of our co-op is "Community Support." Do you feel that with your chosen profession that you are, in some way(s), helping the community?**

**A** Part of my job is to try to get the community to sporting events on campus. Working at a small division three school in a relatively small community allows me to get out in the community to represent the school and athletic teams. My athletes and I get to speak at schools, talk at camps, and host events that not only draw support for our programs, but connect with the people of Winona. We get to meet so many incredible people and learn from each other every day.

Pictured above, Abbie Campion (far right) celebrates a MIAC regular season championship.



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Mark Your Calendar
OCT. 10th

# MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

**Saturday, Oct. 10 • 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Rock County Fairgrounds (Craig Center)**
**1301 Craig Ave. / Janesville, WI**

(Rock Energy Members Only)

## REC OFFICES CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

Rock Energy offices will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor Day. We will reopen at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 8. Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices throughout the holiday weekend. Even though our offices are closed, crews are always available 24 hours a day. If you need to report a power outage or natural gas leak, call 866-752-4550.

**Shane Larson, CEO**
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**Jonas Berberich, Editor**

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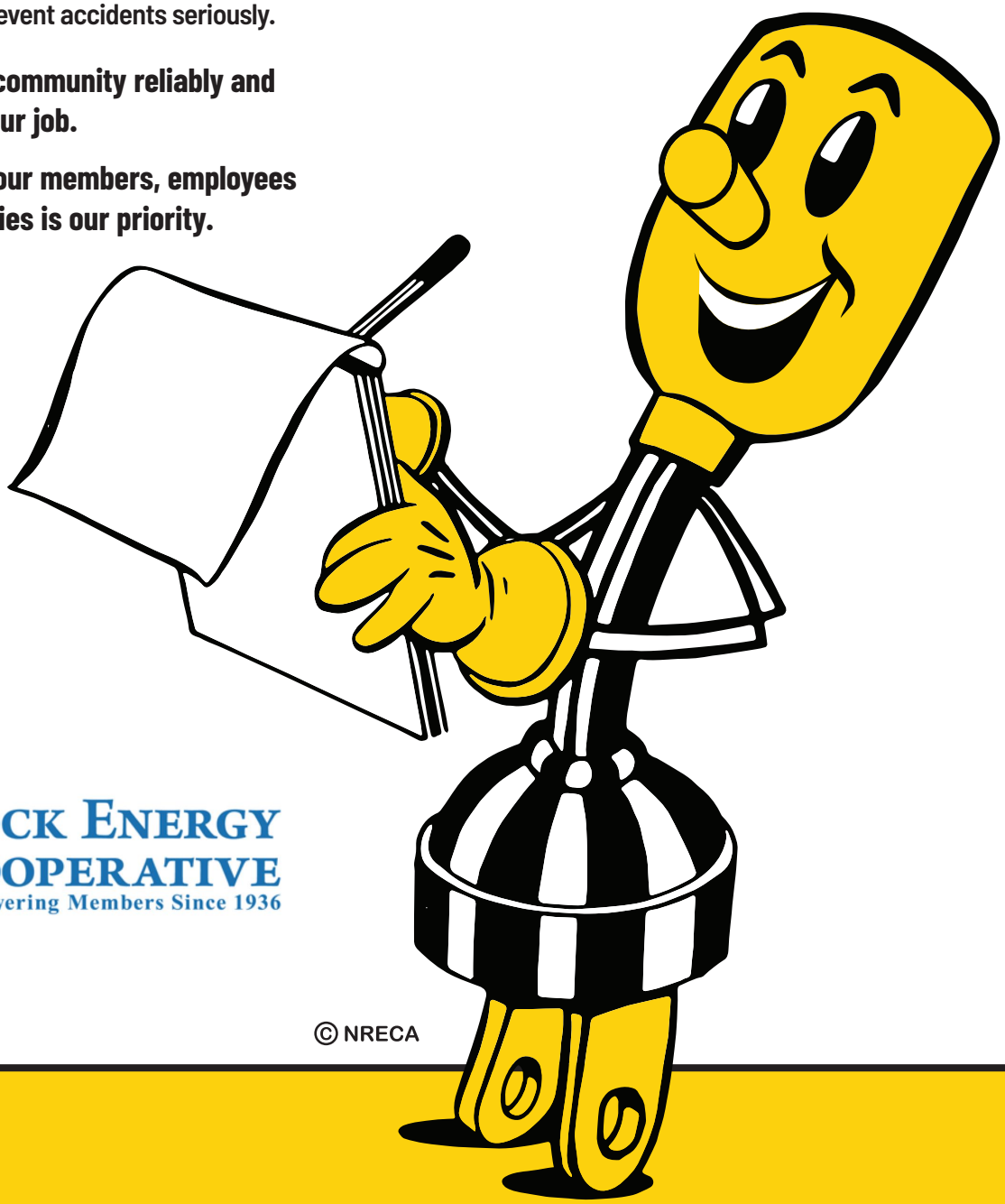
# SAFETY FIRST

## EDUCATE. PROTECT. PREVENT.

Whether through school programs, safety demonstrations, tips and checklists, awareness campaigns or other educational opportunities, we take our role in educating members, protecting employees, and helping communities prevent accidents seriously.

**Powering our community reliably and affordably is our job.**

**The safety of our members, employees and communities is our priority.**



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