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COOPERATIVE, INC.**

DSO
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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Payment Locations

**CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK IN
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521 E. Chestnut St., Junction City, KS 66441

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447 Harrison, Lindsborg, KS 67456

Outage Information

**IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE, CALL
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Barten Retires After 26 Years of Service

BY MARLA MARSHALL, CFO

Lets go back to 1995; a time when DVDs were invented, Bill Clinton was President, the Major League Baseball strike ended, OJ was set free, the Dow Jones closed at 5,117, a postage stamp was \$0.32, a gallon of gas was \$1.09, and the current Kansas City Chiefs quarterback, Patrick Mahomes, was born. It was also the year that **JUDY BARTEN** came to work for DSO Electric Cooperative.

Judy saw it all while at DSO. She weathered ice storms, floods, tornadoes, windstorms, six computer conversions/upgrades, and worked for four general managers. Judy started as the executive assistant for General Manager Jerry Rumbaugh and held titles of office manager, assistant manager, human resources manager, and chief financial officer during her 26-year tenure. In every situation and position, she acted with compassion, and displayed enthusiasm, integrity, professionalism, humility and humor. Judy claimed her strategy for success



Judy Barten, CFO, retired after 26 years of service at DSO Electric.

was to just “go ‘til you know” and “it’s all fixable.” She realized that you didn’t have to know it all to get started and that mistakes were going to happen, so you dealt with them and moved on.

Her respect and appreciation for her fellow workers was evident in the many pictures of Judy at the forefront in honoring her co-workers

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No Game Worth Getting Struck by Lightning

Perhaps you've been a parent, coach or player at an outdoor sporting event in a similar predicament: the clouds roll in and the sky gets dark, but you HAVE to finish the game. After all, it will only take a few more minutes. Or, not wanting to appear overly cautious or paranoid, you wait for others to give the signal.

This is one situation when finishing the game, match or inning is not worth the risk. Each year, thunderstorms produce an estimated 20 to 25 million cloud-to-ground lightning flashes in the United States, each of which is a potential killer, according to the National Weather Service (NWS). Some flashes strike directly under the storm where it is raining. Other times, the flashes reach away from the storm in places where people perceive the lightning threat to be low or nonexistent and catch people off guard.

About 30 people are killed by lightning each year and hundreds more are injured, some suffering devastating and permanent neurological injuries. About two-thirds of the deaths are associated with outdoor recreational activities.

The NWS recommends that outdoor recreation organizers have an established lightning safety plan and follow it every time inclement weather conditions are present.

As part of the plan, coaches or organizers should establish who will listen to the latest accurate weather forecasts prior to a sporting event. It should also be clear who will make the decision to postpone or cancel if necessary.

The lightning safety guidelines should also address the following, according to the NWS:

▶ **ONCE IN PLAY, WHEN SHOULD THE ACTIVITIES BE STOPPED?**

When you see lightning, hear thunder or the skies look threatening.

▶ **WHERE SHOULD PARTICIPANTS, OFFICIALS AND SPECTATORS GO FOR SAFETY?**

No place outside is safe. Substantial buildings



Each year, about 30 people are killed by lightning and about two-thirds of the deaths are associated with outdoor recreational activities.

with wiring and plumbing are ideal. Small outdoor buildings, including dugouts, rain shelters, sheds and pavilions are NOT safe places to seek shelter.

▶ **WHEN SHOULD ACTIVITIES BE RESUMED?**

A minimum of 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder. Electrical charges can linger in clouds after a storm has seemingly passed.

▶ **WHO SHOULD MONITOR THE WEATHER AND MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT PLAY?**

A level-headed and objective person should be the designated weather and lightning monitor. This should NOT be the coach, umpire or referee. The lightning monitor should know the weather safety guidelines and be empowered by teams, parents, coaches and spectators to make decisions.

▶ **WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IF SOMEONE IS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING?**

Call 911 for immediate medical attention. Victims do not carry an electrical charge. CPR or an automated external defibrillator may be needed if the individual's breathing or heart has stopped.

The NWS webpage on lightning safety and outdoor sports activities answers these questions in more detail.

Don't make decisions on when to call the game or match based on personal experience or pressure from others.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

A dirty filter causes your air conditioner to work harder than necessary. Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust buildup, which can lead to even bigger problems. **SOURCE: NRECA**





Barton Retires after 26 Years of Service Continued from page 16A



DSO coworkers help Judy celebrate her retirement. Above from left: Derrick Rutherford, Tracy Turner, Judy Barten, Gary Franklin and Mike Olberding. Below from left: Donna Johnson, Joyce Graves, Marla Marshall, Suzan Zahn, Judy Barten and Tallie Baetz.



at their retirements or at employee appreciation events. She was a tireless cheerleader for the organization.

I have known Judy for many years, as we have both worked in the same industry, but it was this past year that I have gotten to know her well. These past months of working side-by-side with her have been a pure joy! She is smart, funny, a great listener, and a true friend. She will be a tough act to follow!

Judy's last day was May 3. In retirement, Judy plans to travel with her husband, Randy, golf with friends, and make home renovations. You will find her watching the Chiefs, Royals, and her beloved K-State Wildcats! Judy is so much the Wildcat fan that, during an interview, she might ask, "are you a K-State fan or the other?" She says it wouldn't have kept her from hiring someone, but it might have been a tiebreaker!

Judy, all of us at DSO wish you a long and happy retirement. Job well done!

MARLA MARSHALL, CFO



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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.

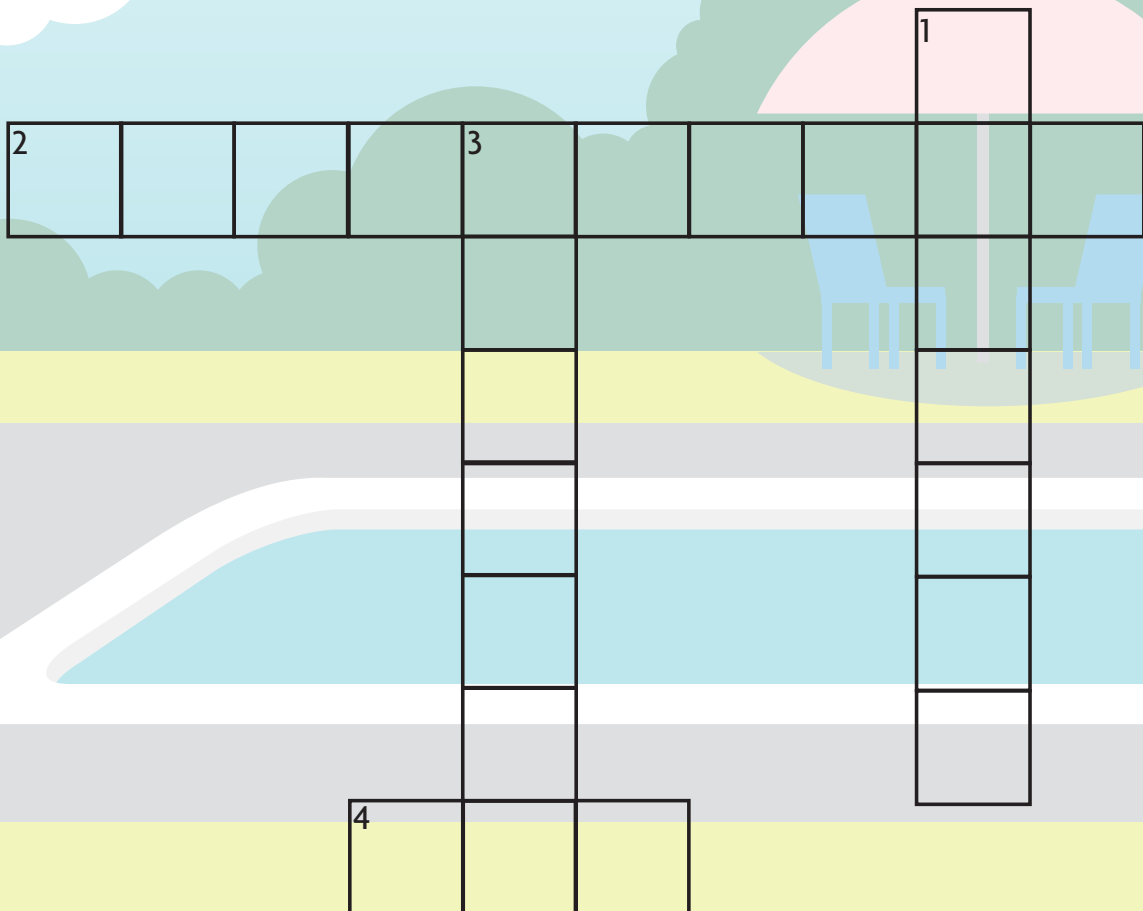
Hint: Check your answers in the key below.

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 _____.



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