



# ENERGY CO-OP OF VERMONT

*Use less. Save more.*

## News You Can Use from the Energy Co-op

### ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE



Thanks to everyone who joined our first-ever virtual Annual Meeting on October 20th. One of the benefits of this new format is that if you were unable to attend, you can see the video of the meeting on-line.

As a member/owner, we welcome your questions on Brian's year end financial report and encourage your suggestions on how we can serve you better throughout the year.

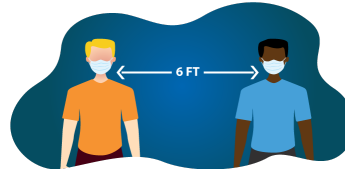
[See Brian Gray's annual meeting video here](#)

### WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER OWISO MAKUKU



Owiso is a newly elected candidate for the Energy Co-op board. She's a positive-minded, people-person who enjoys reading, skiing, skating, wine-tasting, sudoku puzzles and a good joke, among other things. She has 20+ years of experience in planning and community development in cities as diverse as NYC, Cambridge (MA), Detroit (MI), Burlington (VT) and for the State of Michigan. She is interested in how people interact with and within the built environment and the dynamics and elements that make cities and communities successful. She is currently the Interim Community Development Director for the Town of Essex (VT). Owiso attended Middlebury College as an undergraduate

### COVID-19 SERVICES UPDATE



The good news is that after essential service

restrictions were lifted following the initial lock downs for COVID-19, our service technicians and efficiency team quickly resumed both emergency and routine maintenance services. We have adopted all recommended safety protocols to help keep our workers and customers safe.

The tough news is that due to the interruption in services and the increased demand for tune ups, installations and efficiency work, our wait times for appointments are longer than we'd like. Thanks for your patience and continued support as we work to reduce wait times for these important services.

Also, until further notice, we are still keeping our office closed to walk in visitors.

[View our COVID-19 safety protocols](#)

### SAY HELLO TO CARROLL ISHAM

If you've ever had a fuel or pellet delivery

and received graduate degrees in both Architecture and Urban Planning from MIT. She brings to the board her passion for serving and improving communities.

## HEATING OIL PRICE TRENDS

According to the **U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)** responses to COVID-19 and the mitigation efforts to stop its spread have significantly affected energy price and consumption patterns in 2020.



If you are like a typical U.S. energy consumer, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an increase in your residential energy use (such as powering electric appliances and space cooling/heating) but has decreased your use of transportation-related energy.

With more of us working and attending school from home this year, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects there will be an increased demand for space heating at any given temperature relative to past winters.

The good news is that heating oil prices are expected to trend slightly down this winter, which may help offset the costs incurred by any increase in consumption.

[View the EIA winter fuels report](#)

## THE CO-OP OIL BANK - HELP PAYING BILLS



It's good time to remind our members that \$2 of every membership fee goes into a reserve for the

Co-op Oil Bank. This is a fund that is available for our members who may be facing tough times and need help with their heating fuel bill. Contact us

from the Co-op, chances are you already know Carroll. He was one of the first Co-op



employees, joining the Co-op in August 2002 as our customer service and data entry person. In 2004, Carroll began driving an oil delivery truck for us and the rest is history!

*"Fall is a great time of year to remind everyone that keeping a clear path to your fuel spigot throughout the winter makes me really happy!"* says Carroll.

Carroll is an avid outdoorsman and spends as much time as he can hunting and fishing. He lives in Hinesburg with his wife Joleen and twins Hailey and Isayah.

[To meet our other Co-op staff members, click here](#)

## HAVE YOU SEEN US ON TV?



Since last spring, we have been running a series of ads on WCAX local broadcast. Most recently, we have expanded the reach of these commercials to include some of the most popular streaming channels like ESPN, The Weather Channel and HGTV.

We've had a great response from these ads. Stay tuned for a new one that is in the works now!

by phone during regular business hours for more information on the Co-op Oil Bank.

While the statewide utility disconnection moratorium officially ended on October 15th, there are still some remedies for residential households and non-residential account holders who have suffered an economic hardship due to loss of income caused by COVID-19.

[Learn more about Vermont COVID financial aid programs here](#)



Don't wait for our next newsletter to stay informed. [Follow us](#) on Facebook and get real-time updates on Co-op programs and energy saving news.

 **PAY YOUR  
BILL  
ON LINE**

[See all our commercials here](#)

## PETER WELCH UPDATE ON CLIMATE ACTION INITIATIVE



Many thanks to Congressman Peter Welch for taking the time out of a busy election season to join us live at our annual meeting to

bring us up to date on the Climate Crisis Action Plan and other reasons for optimism on federal renewable energy policies and incentives for homeowners. We'll continue to watch progress on these issues and keep you informed as things progress in the months ahead.

[More info on Climate Crisis Action Plan](#)

