

June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**



It's not too soon to start thinking about it. AEC's 76th Annual Membership Meeting will take place this year on Saturday, September 24 — and we want to see you there! You'll see lots more information on this special event in the months ahead. Mark your calendar and make plans now to join your friends and neighbors.



- It's an incredibly complex process to come up with our annual budget, and it's something we take very seriously.
- As a not-for-profit organization, we manage Cooperative resources with a conservative approach designed to come as close as we possibly can to balancing revenue to expenses.
- When an AEC rate increase happens, you can be certain that we have undertaken every measure to keep it to an absolute minimum in order to maintain a high degree of reliability for our electric system.

## Size and scope of budgets may vary, but the principle remains the same

**Y**ou may work on yours at the kitchen table. Here at the Co-op, we usually tackle ours around a conference table. But either way, budgets reflect realistic boundaries within which we must live and operate. They help us make smart decisions about our finances so that our finances don't end up making decisions for us.

Because it's such an important responsibility of ours to manage our members' money wisely, I'd like to share with you some of what goes into developing AEC's annual budget. There are certain aspects of our budget process that make it quite a bit more challenging than what typically takes place at a kitchen table!

### Just what (and who) is involved

The Co-op's budget is prepared by management and our Accounting Department staff. Beginning in April of each year, the Finance Committee of our Board of Directors conducts an extensive review of our estimated revenue for the upcoming fiscal year — which begins in July. Another meeting takes place (usually in May) when the estimated expenses are reviewed. Final approval happens at the Board's June meeting, when our directors pass the new budget, which includes capital improvements such as our Construction Work Plan, special projects to improve operations or replace outdated equipment/systems and other items that are typically financed by debt. But the process doesn't end there. At every single Board meeting all throughout the year, our directors review the budget document and compare our projected figures with actual revenues and costs.

### On the plus side

Several factors make estimating revenue rather difficult. First, AEC's revenue comes from the sale of electricity to more than 45,000 residential and commercial members of the Cooperative. But simple math won't do when it comes to projecting kilowatt-hour sales. Prevailing economic conditions play a big role in how many new accounts are established each year. During tough times (including during the recent recession), we only grew by around 50 new members each year. Lately, we're seeing an encouraging upward trend; we added more than 400 new meters to our system last year. We must factor into our revenue projections an estimated growth in membership.

Have you ever had to take *the weather* into account when you plan your family's budget? Believe it or not, that's exactly what we have to do here at the Co-op! Trying to predict temperature patterns a year in advance is an imperfect art, to say the least. About the best we can do is to take historical records into account and base our kWh sales estimates on what would result in a "normal" year. If we have a really hot (or a really mild) summer — or a bitterly cold (or a really mild) winter — we may end up missing our projections by a long shot.

Finally, our revenue estimates are increasingly influenced by energy-efficiency measures undertaken by our members — and that's a good thing! We're here to support those we serve by encouraging them to manage their energy use wisely through efficiency. New building standards and codes also play a role in reducing energy consumption, and we must take that into account, as well, when we budget.



Greg Williams  
AEC General Manager

## Counting costs

Maybe you've come up with a spreadsheet to help track your household expenses. The Co-op has one of those, too — only ours features 478 different expense-related accounts! This massive document contains everything necessary in order to monitor all the various costs of operating and maintaining our electric system.

Our costs associated with providing power to our members are directly linked to kWh sales. So if we under- or over-estimate, we will miss our power cost projections as well. About 30 percent of our total power cost is what we refer to as "demand cost." Here's how it works: TVA bills us for the highest one-hour peak demand each month. Generally, this occurs on either the hottest or the coldest day and hour of the month. No matter how mild the temperatures are for the entire rest of the month, our TVA power bill is dictated by that single point in time when either our heat pumps or air conditioners are working the hardest.

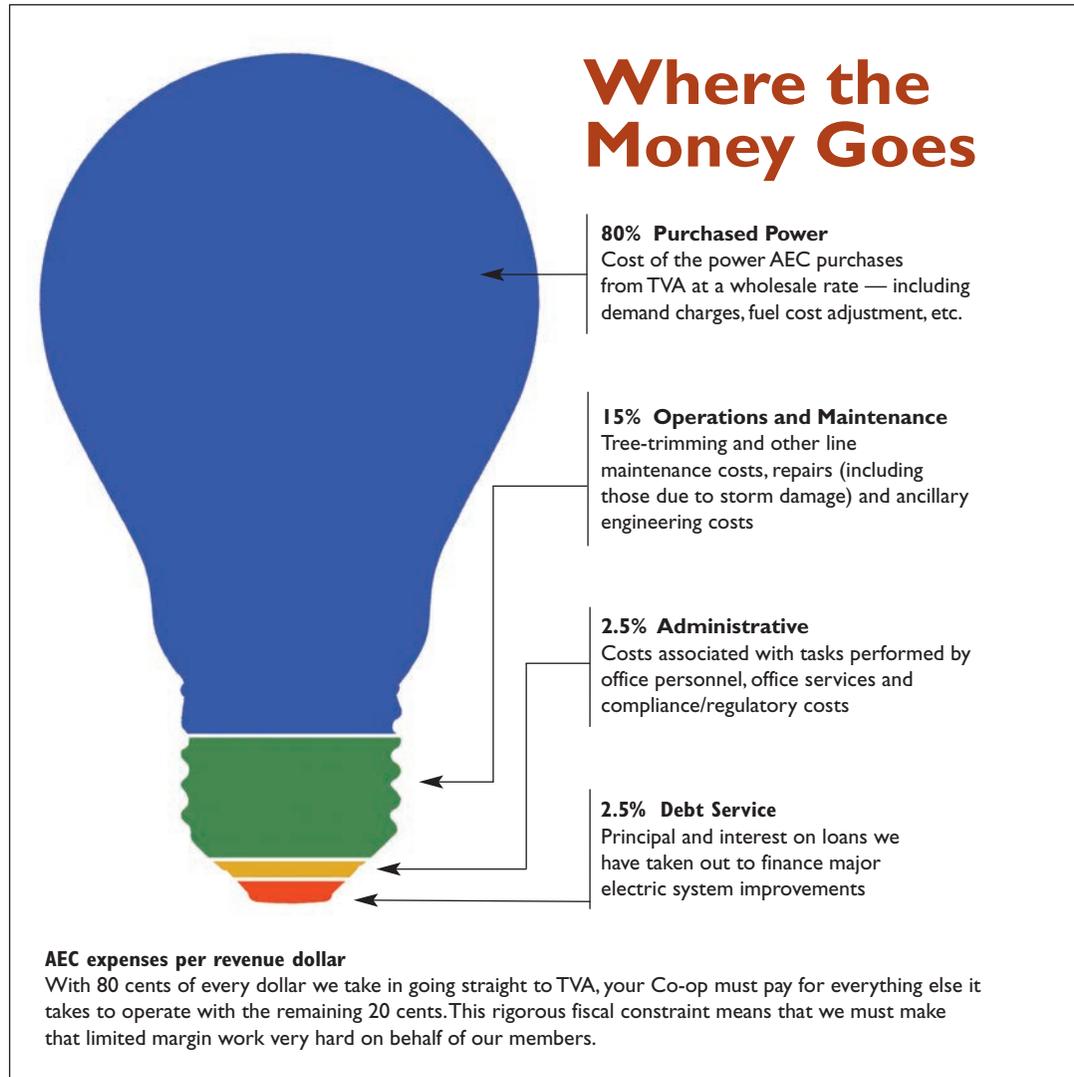
## Doing what it takes to find the right balance

Each year's budget is unique. I think most of our members would be amazed at just how much careful thought and planning go into this critically important document. Everyone on the Co-op's management team and our Board is fully engaged in the process. When all's said and done, AEC's budget is no different than your family's: it's all about making ends meet with a finite amount of income and ongoing (as well as sometimes unexpected) expenses.

Any excess revenue is used to retire debt or support improvements to our electric system per the reliability requirements outlined in our power contract with TVA. By the same token, if we fall short, we must find a way to make up the difference. For the past three and a half years, we have managed our expenses to revenue without requiring an AEC rate increase for our members — a fact of which I'm very proud. Though we continue to take steps to reduce costs in order to lessen impacts to our members, the Co-op's next fiscal year's budget may include a small

rate increase. This would be in addition to what will very likely be a rate increase passed down from TVA. Please know that one of the most important responsibilities I have as your general manager is to do my very best to represent your interests in my dealings with TVA to help keep our wholesale power costs competitive and reasonable. My goal as well as that of our Board is to constantly seek an appropriate balance between affordable rates and a safe and reliable electric system. We simply won't be satisfied with anything less.

Somebody once said, "A budget is just a method of worrying before you spend money as well as afterward." Here at AEC, our focus is on putting in the thought and effort to make sure we have a really sound budget based on carefully crafted estimates — and then sticking to it as closely as possible. When you head to the kitchen table with your checkbook, calculator, bills and bank statements this month, I hope you'll take a moment to remember that we're doing essentially the same kind of thing right here at your Cooperative. And, as always, with our members' best interests in mind.



# McBee appointed to AEC Board as Yates retires

**R**ichard Yates, a longtime Grainger County dairy farmer who has represented District 4 on Appalachian Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors, has stepped down after 36 years of service to Co-op members. "We are indebted to Richard for his commitment to those we serve," says AEC General Manager Greg Williams. "He has been an active member of the Board's Transportation Committee and has seen many changes over the course of his time as director. We'll miss him at our meetings, and we wish him all the very best in his retirement."

Pursuant to the Cooperative's bylaws, the Board of Directors appointed Grainger County resident Sue Cabbage McBee to serve out Yates' unexpired term, in effect through AEC's annual membership meeting on September 24, 2016. A registered nurse for 41 years, McBee is currently an associate professor of nursing at Carson-Newman University. With a Master of Science degree in nursing from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, she has had a wide range of clinical experiences and has taught in the Carson-Newman



*Sue Cabbage McBee*

undergraduate nursing program since 1994. She has volunteered at a number of medical clinics abroad, led students on medical mission trips and served on disaster relief teams.

"Sue McBee has a heart for service," says Williams, "and that makes her a perfect fit for our Board. I have no doubt that she will be nothing less than a strong

advocate for those Cooperative members who are most vulnerable. I look forward to working with her and our other directors to make sure AEC continues to provide financing options and energy-efficiency programs that help those of our members who may be struggling with energy costs. Sue will be a great addition to our Board as we work together to add value to the lives of those we serve."

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# Redding succeeds Sharp on AEC Board

**F**ollowing procedures outlined in the Cooperative's bylaws, AEC's Board of Directors appointed Grainger County banker Dan Redding to fill the unexpired term of retired Director Doris Sharp at the Board's March 29 meeting. Redding will represent members in AEC's District 1, which covers most of the Jefferson City area as well as the southern part of Grainger County and the southwestern portion of Hamblen County.



*Dan Redding*

"Dan is an outstanding addition to our Board," says AEC General Manager Greg Williams. "Every director brings something valuable to the position, and he's no

different in that regard. His years of experience in banking will be advantageous in our ongoing effort to maintain the highest possible standards of financial stewardship. He also brings to us the perspective of the next generation of Co-op members, a point of view that will be useful in our deliberations on behalf of those we serve. I look forward to working with Dan on issues of importance and welcome him to our Board."

An assistant vice president and branch manager for Citizens Bank & Trust Co. of Grainger County, Redding has worked in the community banking sector for 15 years, primarily in the Lakeway area. A graduate of Jefferson County High School, he obtained his undergraduate degree from Carson-Newman University and completed the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University. He has served on the boards of ALPS (Adult Day Care Services) in Morristown and Habitat for Humanity and is a graduate of both the Jefferson County and the Hamblen County Leadership programs.

# Arbor Day and Tree Line USA

*Lots of great reasons to celebrate all the benefits trees bring to our lives*

**A**rboriculture. It's just a fancy word for growing trees and taking good care of them. Which is something we believe in here at AEC. As evidence of this, the Co-op has once again received the Tree Line USA award from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

"I couldn't be more proud that we are now in our second decade of being recognized with this honor," says AEC Vice President of Engineering and Operations Joe McCarter. "The Co-op spends a lot of effort managing rights of way throughout our service area. In fact, costs associated with vegetation management/tree-trimming are the single largest line item in AEC's Operations and Maintenance budget every year. But the rewards of that work are great. We take a lot of pride in following best practices when it comes to tree-trimming and other aspects of our program. The best part is knowing that the work we do means that the reliability of our electric system is enhanced and the health of trees in our community is protected."

And the benefits of those trees are significant. Offering habitat for wildlife. Providing aesthetic beauty. Absorbing excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Conserving energy in residential neighborhoods. Filtering pollutants. Raising property values. The list goes on.

The Tree Line USA program includes five core standards: quality tree care, annual worker training, tree-planting and public education, tree-based energy conservation and an annual Arbor Day celebration. AEC places emphasis on each area, raising public awareness and making sure employees and contract crews are doing what it takes to meet the requirements necessary for the designation.



The Co-op's celebration of Arbor Day 2016 began with a formal ceremony around a flagpole and

**Sometimes, "hands-on" involves a little DIRT** — With assistance from John Cox Landscaping, local students helped plant four flowering dogwood trees that will provide a wide range of benefits to our community. They also learned the proper way to plant and care for a tree.

**Another Tree Line USA Award for AEC** — 2016 marks the 11th year in a row that the Co-op has received this special recognition from the National Arbor Day Foundation. AEC is represented in this photo by Vice President of Engineering &

Operations Joe McCarter, left, Right-of-Way Supervisor James Morgan, second from left, and Member Services Director Mitch Cain, right. Tom Simpson, Regional Urban Forester with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, is also pictured.

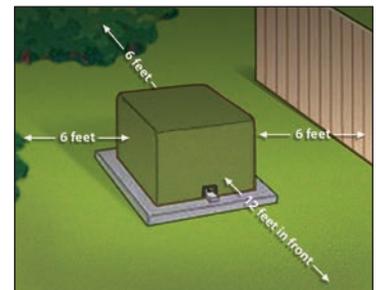


wrapped up with food and a whole lot of fun! Public officials gathered at the City Center complex in Jefferson City to commemorate the occasion by raising the Arbor Day Foundation flag. State and county foresters were in attendance, along with AEC folks and elected officials. Remarks focused on the importance of trees and the steps being taken by Jefferson City to obtain the Arbor Day Foundation's "Tree City USA" designation.

Community engagement and education continued with tree-planting along the banks of Mossy Creek. Fifth-grade students from Jefferson Elementary School joined the Co-op in helping to "Reclaim the Creek," beautifying a formerly overgrown and underused area through an effort spearheaded by Carson-Newman University. AEC donated the trees, and Walmart provided hot dog lunches to those in attendance. It was a gorgeous spring day to be out of the classroom, learning about trees and all the things they bring to our lives.

**Required clearance: what you need to know about landscaping around pad-mounted transformers** — Most folks think of right-of-way management in terms of preventing tree/vegetation growth that might interfere with overhead power lines. But

it's just as important to make sure that you keep the area around pad-mounted transformers clear. AEC service personnel must be able to access this equipment; that includes being able to open the transformer and maintaining an adequate space around it in which to work. The Co-op requires property owners to keep vegetation at least 6 feet away from the back and sides of the transformer, with a 12-foot clearance in front.



# David Skeen

## Telling stories through historic images set to music

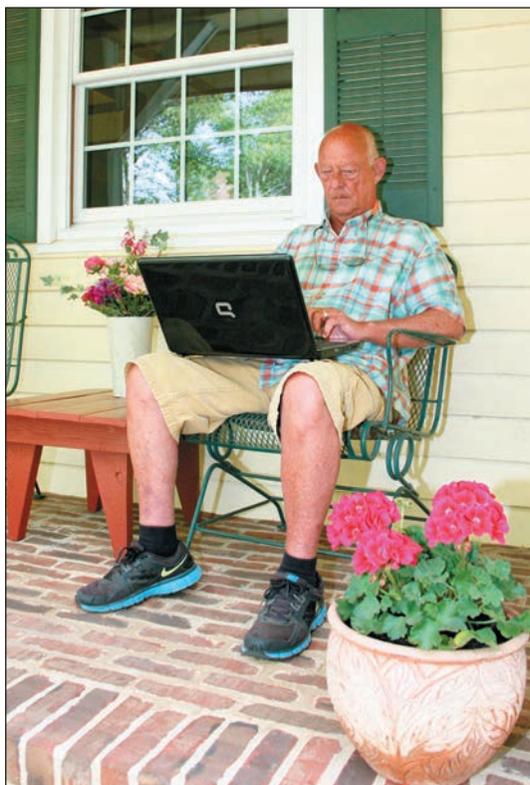
*Let's get one thing straight right off the bat. They're way more than just "old pictures." The historic photographs that longtime Jefferson City resident David Skeen uses in his videos are important visual reminders of a time gone by. In combination with carefully selected songs that serve to help interpret the theme of a given group of images, they make an evocative statement about Jefferson City people and places that few can now remember.*

It's an unconventional hobby, to say the least. And he certainly didn't set out to become the Ken Burns of Jefferson City. But while he may not share the acclaim of the award-winning documentary filmmaker, local realtor and property manager David Skeen finds great reward in helping preserve local history through the videos he produces and uploads to YouTube.

"I've always loved this town," Skeen says. "Jefferson City is just *special*, somehow. I think back to the time when everybody here knew everybody else. You went downtown on Friday or Saturday night to see all your friends. There was a closeness and an innocence back then that's hard to imagine in today's world. I think many of us miss the time when life was slower and more simple."

About eight years ago, Skeen began seeking out photographic evidence of those bygone days. "People knew that I was fond of old photographs," he explains, "and they'd show me their snapshots, old yearbooks or newspaper clippings. I'd take digital photographs of their pictures, and I guess the word just sort of spread among folks around here."

And, of course, a lot of people knew Skeen's family. His father, Carl Skeen, was a residential builder/developer and furniture store owner, and David is the eldest of 10 children. A graduate of the old Jefferson High School, he



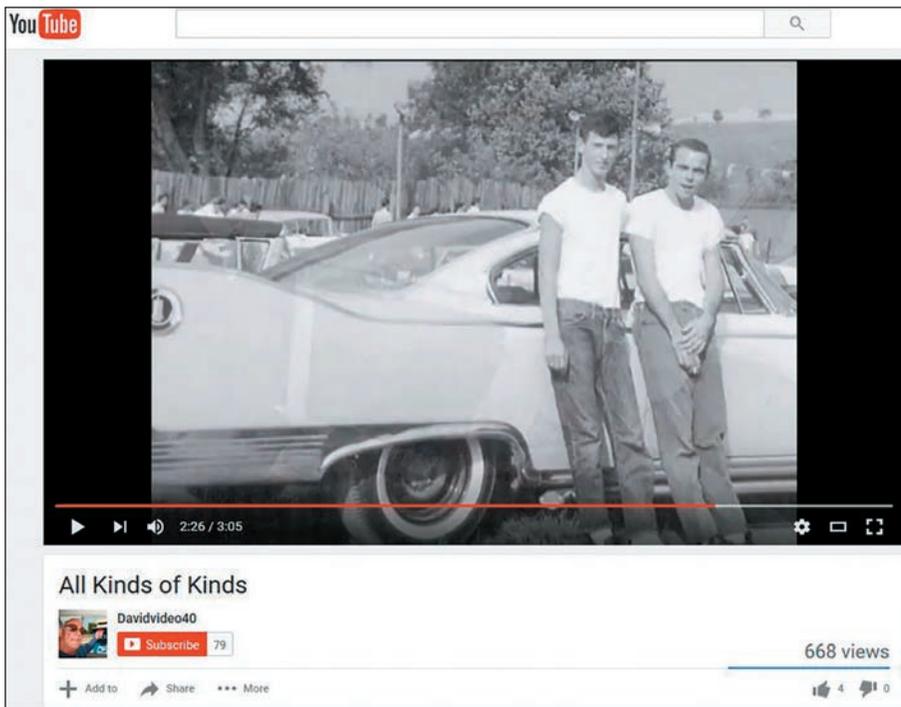
*David Skeen uses his front porch "office" to edit video on his laptop. He taught himself how to use the Windows-based "Movie Maker" software program and also how to upload the finished videos to YouTube.*

is married to the former Mala Hudson. The couple lives on Paul Drive in the Twin Oaks subdivision. They have two daughters and five grandchildren.

When looking for a way to organize and share the historic photographs that others had loaned to him, Skeen hit upon the idea of video — specifically, working with still photographs in an understated yet effective storytelling approach that eschews voiceover narration in favor of slow pans and a backing track chosen specifically to underscore the mood and topic of a given selection of images.

For example, Bruce Springsteen's "Your Hometown" plays to a montage of iconic street scenes from Jefferson City in the 1940s and '50s, while Colt Ford's "Drivin' Around Song" is a perfect accompaniment to a series of photos depicting bobby-soxers waving from convertibles and high-schoolers leaned up against their sweet rides. Skeen is quick to note that the marriage of audio and video is one of the most-enjoyed aspects of his work: "I love music — all kinds of music. The songs I've featured in my videos have inspired me, and people tell me the music really adds to their experience of the historic photographs. When possible, I even go so far as to match up a particular image with a corresponding lyric at just the right part of a song. It's not that easy to do, but it sure is fun when it works."

While he prefers to let the music and the photos speak for themselves, Skeen worked to identify locations and (in many cases) individuals who appear in the photographs, which are discreetly labeled with on-screen graphics featuring the names of people and places. It's taken quite a bit of detective work to track down some of these folks,



An image from a recent YouTube search for “Davidvideo40” features a listing of approximately 60 of Skeen’s videos. Each one averages about four minutes in running length, and several have more than 4,000 views — and not just from folks here in Co-op Country, but from many different states and even some foreign countries.

faces and places. Many of them say they watch the videos with tears in their eyes — just because of the sweet old memories associated with how things used to be and seeing people they recall from their younger days. It’s all about bringing back a special time in a very special place, and I find a lot of satisfaction in that.”

*If you’d like to share some historic photos of Jefferson City or the area around it, including those showing the lives of local people, you can contact David Skeen at 865-368-0933 or email him at david@skeenrentals.com.*

and the task is incomplete. “You’ll see some places where I’ve inserted a question mark. If anyone out there happens to know who that person was — or is — I’d sure be glad to have that information.”

For folks without access to the Web, there’s another way to view Skeen’s videos. As in years past, he plans to

**D**o you have a tip on something worth doing, a person worth knowing or a sight worth seeing here in Co-op Country? Pass along your ideas to: Becky Burks, Communications Coordinator, Appalachian Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 400, New Market, TN 37620; email bburks@aecoop.org; or call 865-475-2032, ext. 1173.

have a booth at “Old Time Saturday,” Jefferson City’s street fair held each year on the first Saturday in October. He sells reasonably priced DVDs of several of his videos and will

be happy to autograph them for customers. And if you’re not in a buying mood, well, chances are he’ll be glad to just reminisce with you about how Jefferson City used to be once upon a time.

“That’s been the best part of this whole deal,” he says. “People tell me they are touched by seeing old familiar

*Always on the hunt for historic images of Jefferson City people and places, Skeen maintains a file of resources for future projects. He has a “wish list” of photos he’d like to be able to access — mostly of some iconic or colorful characters who added a distinctive flavor to the life of the town back in the day. “I’d be thrilled if anyone out there happened to have some photos of Ray Rogers, Mac Epps, Slick Bateman, Dr. Frank Milligan, Stooze Hicks or Bill Tate,” he says. “I’d make digital copies of your photos and give your originals right back to you.”*



# AEC Essay Contest winners headed to D.C.

More than 1,000 juniors at Grainger High School, Jefferson County High School and Morristown West High School recently competed in the Washington Youth Tour (WYT) Essay Contest sponsored by AEC. Four students — two male and two female — were recognized as first- and second-place winners from each school.

Two students from each school were offered the opportunity to join AEC on a weeklong, expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., in mid-June, while second-place winners each received \$100. From the six first-place winners, an overall winner will be selected to receive a \$2,500 scholarship to continue his or her postsecondary education. The winning essay is submitted

for consideration in a statewide competition, with three Tennessee winners awarded an extra \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000 in scholarship money.

By participating in activities designed to help them stay engaged with their Co-op and in the life of their community, all six first-place students from AEC's service area have qualified for the Cooperative Youth Ambassador Program, which means their names will be placed in a drawing for an additional \$10,000 scholarship.

WYT is a joint effort of AEC, the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Watch for details and photos in the September issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*.



Dhilan  
Ramaprasad

Morristown West High School



Shannon  
Clarke



Ashlin  
Thomas

Jefferson County High School



Min-Jae  
Park



Sam  
Horton

Grainger High School



Karli  
Combs

## Area high school students represent AEC in Nashville

Jefferson County High School student Jonathan Royster and Grainger High School student Madison Hodges would be the first to tell you that their time in the State Capitol was an experience they'll remember for a long time.

Chosen and sponsored by AEC, Hodges and Royster attended the Tennessee Electric Cooperative's annual Youth Leadership Summit held in Nashville on March 21-23. Along with other high school juniors from across the state, they joined legislators for a town hall meeting in the House chamber, where they were welcomed by Speaker Beth Harwell. The theme of this year's event was "Small Towns, Big Ideas." Attendees were encouraged to use their leadership talents to improve rural Tennessee.

"These young people will be the next generation of community leaders — and electric cooperative member-owners," said Mitch Cain, AEC member services director. "As a longtime supporter of local schools and education, it's an honor for the Co-op to help prepare these young leaders for the opportunities and challenges that are ahead."



As part of their time at the Youth Leadership Summit, Madison Hodges and Jonathan Royster met with a number of Tennessee state legislators, including Rep. Jerry Sexton.

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## Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation

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#### Mission Statement

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is committed to providing dependable, affordable electric service through the expertise and dedication of competent leadership and a well-trained and responsive workforce.

## AS I SEE IT *Manager's Viewpoint*

# We are prepared for summer storms

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people.

These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.



*Jim Coode,  
General Manager,  
Cumberland  
Electric Membership  
Corporation*

CEMC's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify CEMC so crews can inspect these lines.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to check our website, [www.cemc.org](http://www.cemc.org), on your smartphone for the latest updates during a power outage.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



*Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.*

*Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)*

# CEMC mourns former board member Cook

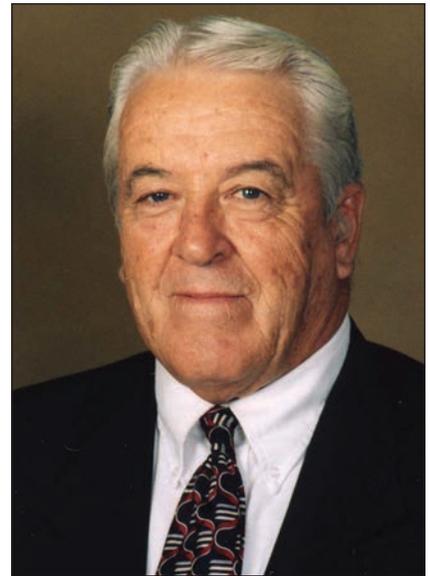
**G**ene E. Cook, former member of the Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation board of directors, passed away April 11 at the age of 87. Mr. Cook represented South Robertson County on CEMC's board from 1998 until 2012.

Mr. Cook, son of the late James E. and Mary Corinne Bracy Cook, was born Aug. 21, 1928, in Robertson County.

He was a master electrician and worked for Hollingsworth Oil Company for 24 years. Mr. Cook served as a Robertson County commissioner from 1990 until 2010. A member of Crossroads Baptist Church, he had a great love for gospel music, singing in several

quartets throughout his life. Mr. Cook was a loving husband, father, stepfather, grandfather and great-grandfather.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, June C. Cook; son, James Andrew Cook; brother, Loy O. Cook; and sister, Dot Cook Grubbs. Survivors include his wife, Louise Williams Cook; daughters, Angela Reynolds and her husband, Kenneth, and Liz Amick and her husband, Kevin; step-daughters, Hope Williams Rhoades and her husband, Chris, Sandra Williams Colvin and her husband, Steve, and Andrea Williams Machen and her husband, Shawn; and seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



Gene E. Cook  
1928-2016

## Stay safe during and after storms

**N**o one knows electrical safety better than the experts who practice it every single day. Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation encourages you to practice safety with these reminders for during and after a summer storm:

**Avoid wires and water** — When lightning strikes a home during a storm, the electrical charge can surge through pipes and utility wires. That means you can get zapped if you're touching water or any device that's plugged in, whether it's a landline phone or toaster.

**Skip the makeshift shelter** — During a storm, it's tempting to take cover under a picnic gazebo or golf cart, but in open-sided structures with no conductors to channel strikes, a bolt's path of least resistance to the ground could be you. On top of that, these structures raise your risk of a lightning strike because of their height. Keep moving toward suitable shelter.

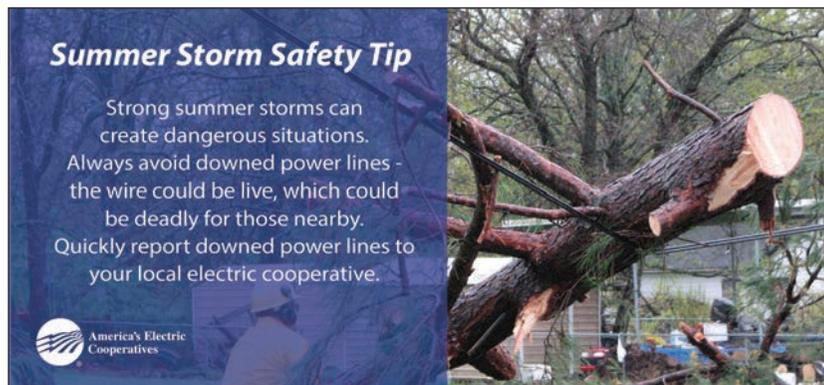
**Take special care with portable generators** — Though these generators provide a good source of power, if

improperly installed or operated they can become deadly. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can back-feed along power lines

and electrocute anyone coming in contact with them, including co-op line workers making repairs. It's best to hire a qualified, licensed electrician to install your generator and ensure that it meets local electrical codes.

**Beware of flooded areas** — Stay away from downed power lines, and avoid walking through flooded areas. Power lines could be submerged and still live with electricity. Report any downed lines you see to CEMC by calling 800-987-2362 immediately.

**Never use electrical equipment that is wet** — This holds especially true for outdoor electrical equipment, which could be a potential danger after a summer storm. Water can damage electrical equipment and parts, posing a shock or fire hazard.



# 2016 Washington Youth Tour winners named

**T**welve deserving high school students are prepared to embark on what others before them have referred to as “the trip of a lifetime” – a weeklong, expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is sponsoring these remarkable students to attend the 2016 Washington Youth Tour as a reward for writing winning short stories titled “Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life.” They will join hundreds of other students from across the country on what has become a tradition for co-op students since the late 1950s.

In addition to earning a spot on this educational trip, students will also be competing for \$6,000 in college scholarships.

The trip begins June 12 with multiple buses crossing the state en route to an overnight stop in Staunton, Virginia. The days that follow will include visits to the numerous tourist destinations of D.C., including monuments, memorials and museums as well as the U.S. Capitol and the opportunity to meet with elected officials.

Representing CEMC on this year’s Youth Tour are:

**Shelby Adcock of Ashland City.** Shelby attends Cheatham County Central High School.

**Caroline Collins of Clarksville.** Caroline attends Montgomery Central High School.

**Jaz Crook of Portland.** Jaz attends Portland High School.

**Dalton Cunningham of Ashland City.** Dalton attends Cheatham County Central High School.

**Erica Juriasignani of Indian Mound.** Erica attends Stewart County High School.

**Grace Kuchenbecker of Cunningham.** Grace attends Montgomery Central High School.

**MaKayleigh Lackey of Cumberland City.** MaKayleigh attends Stewart County High School.

**Thomas Littleton of Indian Mound.** Thomas attends Stewart County High School.

**Lucinda Shea of Greenbrier.** Lucinda attends Greenbrier High School.

**Kayde Stroud of Cedar Hill.** Kayde attends Jo Byrns High School.

**Estelle Turner of White House.** Estelle attends White House Heritage High School.

**Carder Veneble of Portland.** Carder attends Portland High School.

Kathryn Van Mater, Cheatham County Central High School teacher, will also attend as CEMC’s faculty representative, and CEMC employees Stephanie Lobdell, community relations coordinator, and Susie Yonkers, member services assistant, will serve as chaperones.



Shelby Adcock



Caroline Collins



Jaz Crook



Dalton Cunningham



Erica Juriasignani



Grace Kuchenbecker



MaKayleigh Lackey



Thomas Littleton



Lucinda Shea



Kayde Stroud



Estelle Turner



Carder Veneble

# 2016 CEMC Senior Scholarship recipients



*Matt  
Cobasky*



*Jason  
Cummings*



*Tristen  
Denney*



*Hailey  
Klapwyk*



*Emily  
Masencup*



*Kayla  
Massey*



*Morgan  
Oates*



*Angela  
Peterson*



*Natalie  
Prichard*



*Alexis  
Rayburn*



*Maecy  
Traugher*



*Kellie  
Warren*

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is pleased to assist in making the dream of obtaining a college degree a reality for 12 local high school seniors. Each of the students pictured above has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to help with costs associated with continuing his or her formal education beyond high school.

To qualify for the award, each student was required to complete an application that included two letters of recommendation as well as a 300-word essay describing what he or she looks forward to most about attending college and how a scholarship, in terms of financial assistance, will aid in completing that education. The papers were judged by a panel of retired teachers who chose the top 12 applicants from among many entries.

**Matt Cobasky of Woodlawn.** Matt is a graduate of Northwest High School and will attend Austin Peay State University.

**Jason Cummings of Portland.** Jason is a graduate of Portland High School and will attend Western Kentucky University.

**Tristen Denney of Pleasant View.** Tristen is a graduate of Sycamore High School and will attend Western Kentucky University.

**Hailey Klapwyk of Hendersonville.** Hailey is a graduate of Station Camp High School and will attend Lipscomb University.

**Emily Masencup of Greenbrier.** Emily is a graduate of Greenbrier High School and will attend The University of Tennessee at Martin.

**Kayla Massey of Indian Mound.** Kayla is a graduate of Stewart County High School and will attend the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

**Morgan Oates of Pleasant View.** Morgan is a graduate of Sycamore High School and will attend the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

**Angela Peterson of Cedar Hill.** Angela is a graduate of Jo Byrns High School and will attend Austin Peay State University.

**Natalie Prichard of Portland.** Natalie is a graduate of Portland High School and will attend Tennessee Technological University.

**Alexis Rayburn of Clarksville.** Alexis is a graduate of Montgomery Central High School and will attend Austin Peay State University.

**Maecy Traugher of Cedar Hill.** Maecy is a graduate of Jo Byrns High School and will attend Austin Peay State University.

**Kellie Warren of Dover.** Kellie is a graduate of Stewart County High School and will attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

# We appreciate our members!

**T**hroughout the month of April, Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation welcomed members to enjoy lunch with the co-op at its annual Member Appreciation Day events.

These free springtime events have become favorites for the members who join us each year and for the employees who have the privilege of serving them.

Each of CEMC's business offices hosted a picnic lunch of hotdogs, chips, cookies and drinks to serve as a small token of appreciation for our members. Attendees also received free CEMC window thermometers, and one lucky member at each office won an electric grill!

We're already looking forward to next year's Member Appreciation Days. Be sure to keep an eye out for the 2017 schedule in an upcoming issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*. We hope to see you there!

**They'll be grilling!  
Congratulations to each  
of these members who won  
an electric grill during CEMC's  
2016 Member Appreciation  
Days:**

**Ashland City - Krystyn Knight  
Clarksville - Linda Matherly  
Dover - Kathy Earhart  
Gallatin - Elsie Cislo  
Springfield - Lydia Gezley  
Portland - Amy Pettitt  
White House - Larry Leftwich**



*The Member Appreciation Day event in Dover draws a record number of attendees!*



*Members enjoy a beautiful day at the event in White House.*



*Members in Springfield register for a chance to win an electric grill.*



*District Operations Supervisor Travis Akins, left, catches up with members in Gallatin.*

# What's in it for 'we?'

By Adam Schwartz

One of the most attractive features of cooperatives is that we answer the popular question, "What's in it for me?" with "What's in it for we!" Cooperatives are formed when the market fails to offer a good or service with decent quality at an affordable price. Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation was formed in 1938 because when investor-owned utilities realized there was not enough profit to be made in our community, they refused to offer electricity.

The founding members of CEMC went door to door to collect \$5 in order to raise a portion of the original investment the co-op needed. Each of those "go-getters" realized that the only way to get electricity for "me" was to get it for "we," the whole community.

Cooperative ownership is in the hands of the people who use the co-op's goods and the services (not investors), so not only do co-ops start out answering the question of "What's in it for we?" they continue to answer that question for as long as they exist.

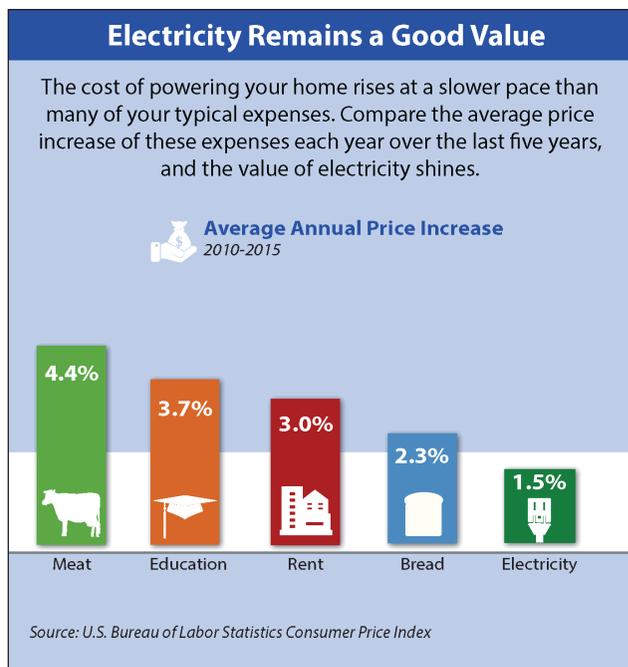
These days, we often hear about companies that abandon their local communities and move overseas in search of cheaper labor. This negatively impacts the community through job loss, decline in housing values and school closures. Because local residents own a majority of cooperatives, they are less likely to leave their community. In fact, it would be impossible for CEMC to leave our communities. The co-op is a critical part of what makes the community a community.

The way co-ops continue to answer the question, "What's in it for we?" is critical to their survival. It is imperative that we keep you — our members — as the primary focus. Keeping rates as low as possible is one

major part of that focus, but ensuring that we provide real value as your trusted energy adviser is also extremely important.

By maintaining that focus with your help and support, we will continue to be able to serve the "me" and the "we" in our community long into the future.

*Adam Schwartz is the founder of The Cooperative Way, a consulting firm that helps co-ops succeed. He is an author, speaker and member-owner of the CDS Consulting Co-op.*



## Buying an older home? Make a few energy updates

Some homeowners swear by their older houses because of their sturdy construction and attention to detail. But most older homes are energy hogs. If you live in one — or are planning to — invest in a few energy-saving upgrades:

- Replace the windows. Single-pane windows allow cool, air-conditioned air to escape from the home and invite the summer heat indoors. Double-pane windows are more energy-efficient and can considerably trim your air-conditioning expenses.
- Install a programmable thermostat. The older your home is, the less likely it is to feature a thermostat that automatically resets itself after your family's morning rush hour. Keeping the house comfortably

cool while nobody's in it during the day is a waste of energy.

- Plug leaks and cracks. They're inevitable as a home ages. Caulk around electrical and cable outlets, windows, window air conditioners and the dryer vent and in cracks in bricks, siding or stucco.
- Add attic insulation. Chances are, your home wasn't built with enough. And what it has is likely to have diminished over the years or become detached from the floors and walls it's designed to insulate.
- Replace appliances that are more than 10 years old. Newer models of water heaters, clothes dryers and dishwashers are so much more efficient that they use up to 50 percent less energy than outdated devices.

# Don't drive blindfolded down the highway

By Anne Prince

**W**ould you drive on a highway blindfolded? Of course not. However, if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cell phone also carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them — traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians — when talking on a cell phone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving — talking, texting, sending emails — is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and, most likely, we, ourselves, have used a phone while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel to focus on activities other than driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each day in the U.S., more than nine people are killed and more than 1,153 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Administration notes that 3,154 people were

killed and an estimated 424,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2013.

Texting and cell phone use behind the wheel take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel and

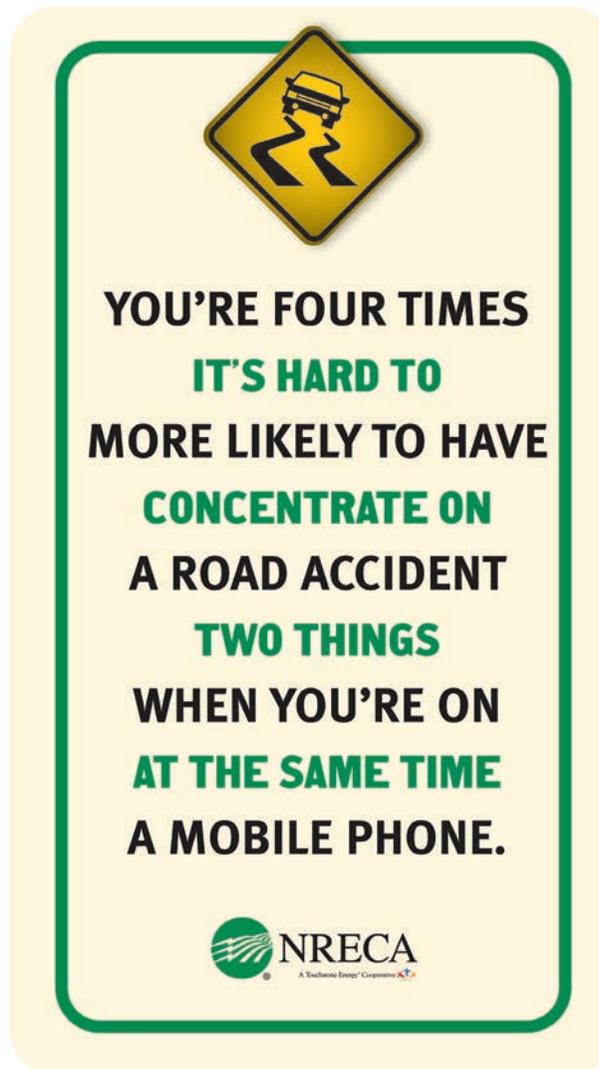
your focus off driving — putting the driver and others in danger, including passengers, pedestrians, other drivers and bystanders. On the tragic end of the spectrum, victims' families, friends, co-workers and community are impacted.

At this time of year in particular, when more people are on the roads and kids are out of school, our goal at your electric cooperative is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cell phone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the potential danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage

everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends and neighbors safer by putting their phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving.

*Anne Prince writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Virginia-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*





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June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## Caney Fork Electric Cooperative

Serving our members since 1940.

### Management and staff

**William S. Rogers,**  
General Manager

**Donald L. McBee,**  
Director, Financial Services

**John Chisam,**  
Director, Member Services

**Danny Sutton,**  
Director, Operations

**Leanne B. Fisher,**  
Administrative Assistant

**Jason Cloyd,**  
District Manager

**Office hours**  
Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Website**  
[www.caneyforkec.com](http://www.caneyforkec.com)

**McMinnville office/headquarters**  
Phone: 931-473-3116  
888-505-3030

**Sparta office**  
Phone: 931-836-3129

**Smithville office**  
Phone: 615-597-5626

**Spencer office**  
Phone: 931-946-7575

## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

# We are prepared for summer storms

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Caney Fork Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, though, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people. These problems must

be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.



**Bill Rogers**  
General Manager,  
Caney Fork  
Electric Cooperative

Caney Fork Electric's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify CFEC so crews can inspect these lines.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to follow us on Facebook for the latest updates during a power outage.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

# 2016 director election procedures

The annual membership meeting of Caney Fork Electric Cooperative Inc. will be held Saturday, Oct. 15, at the McMinnville Civic Center, as provided in the bylaws.

Registration and voting will be from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., when the business session begins.

Selection of directors to serve the cooperative's membership is an important part of the annual meeting, and each member of the board has determined that it is both helpful and advisable that co-op members be reminded of these bylaw provisions pertaining to the selection of directors of the cooperative:

- The cooperative's board of directors is composed of 10 directors. Each director must be a member of the cooperative and cannot be a close relative of a co-op employee or another director.
- Directors serve three-year terms but can continue to serve until their successors are elected. The terms of the directors are staggered so that only a portion of the directorship areas or directors stands for election in any one year. At this year's annual meeting, directors shall be elected to represent the areas shown in the box on this page.
- Nomination for the office of director can be made in these manners:
  - (a) Nominations are made by a committee appointed by the board of directors. This committee, called the

Committee on Nominations, is appointed each year no more than 150 days nor fewer than 90 days before the annual meeting. A list of nominees selected by the committee must be posted at the cooperative's principal office in McMinnville at least 70 days before the annual meeting. The date and place set by the board of directors for the Committee on Nominations to meet will be July 7 at 5 p.m. at the main office of the cooperative in McMinnville.

Directorate areas	
VII	Warren
VIII	White
IX	Warren
X	White

- (b) Additional nominations can be made by any 15 or more members of the cooperative acting together, listing their nominee(s) in writing over their signature not fewer than 60 days prior to the meeting, and the secretary shall post such nomination(s) at the same place where the list of nominations made by the Committee on Nominations is posted.
- A member must be present at the annual meeting to vote for directors. A member is entitled to cast one vote for each directorship to be elected at the meeting.
  - A membership jointly held by a husband and wife is entitled to one vote. Either, but not both, the husband or wife may cast the ballot.
- Every member of the cooperative shall have a copy of the bylaws. If your copy has been lost or you wish to have an additional copy, the cooperative will gladly furnish another at your request.

**The official notice  
of the 2016 Caney Fork Electric Cooperative  
Annual Meeting will be published in the October issue  
of *The Tennessee Magazine*.**

# CFEC names 2016 Washington Youth Tour winners



*Noah Thornton  
Van Buren County  
High School*



*Jayrah Trapp  
DeKalb County  
High School*



*Megan Cravens  
White County  
High School*



*Hannah Wright  
Warren County  
High School*

**C**aney Fork Electric Cooperative congratulates the winners of the 2016 Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest. High school juniors in CFEC's service area of DeKalb, Warren, White and Van Buren counties were eligible to enter the contest to try to win expense-paid trips to our nation's capital as part of the Washington Youth Tour.

The eligible participants of the Washington Youth Tour contest were asked to write short stories describing how local electric co-ops "power everyday life," strengthening their rural communities, improving lives across their service areas and providing safe, reliable, affordable energy.

Four students emerged as winners by writing the top-judged short stories titled "Electric Cooperatives:

Powering Everyday Life."

CFEC's 2016 winners are Noah Thornton of Spencer, Jayrah Trapp of Smithville, Megan Cravens of Sparta and Hannah Wright of McMinnville.

Trapp's short story was named CFEC's overall winner and is now competing on the state level for scholarships. Her winning

entry appears on page 23.

The Washington Youth Tour is sponsored by Caney Fork Electric Cooperative, Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. The winning students travel to Washington June 10-16.



# Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life

By Jayrah Trapp, DeKalb County High School, CFEC area winner

It has been months since we were played with. Here we have sat on this board, gathering dust ever since the kids left us midgame last March. Every holiday, it seems like the family that bought us those many years ago acquires yet another device to take their attention away from us. From what I have overheard, the family's local electric cooperative allows them to charge all of those devices every day at an affordable price, so I cannot really blame them for it.

I close my eyes and remember how it feels to be in the middle of a game with its colorful money flying across the board, the little green houses and red hotels popping up on the properties and the feuding family members rolling the dice in the hopes of landing on Park Place or Boardwalk. There I was, Mr. Monopoly, with a center seat to the game and all of its glory.

Eight squeaky voices pull me from my reverie. I open my eyes and see nothing. The house is completely dark. Squinting, I see the metal game pieces scurrying toward me.

"Mr. M-m-monopoly, it seems as if the power has gone out!" says Thimble, worriedly.

"Yeah! What's the problem?" bellows Ship.

Before I can answer, Top Hat steps forward and says in his small voice, "You see, I have been sitting on the Electric Company property all this time. I can tell you some things about electric cooperatives that might help."

We all nod, eager to have the lights back on.

"OK, well, it all started in the 1930s. Rural Tennessee did not have power in homes at that time. Big companies were not interested in powering rural communities, so farm organization leaders created the wondrous nonprofit in order to power rural citizens' everyday lives! This meant people could work longer than just from dusk until dawn, and they didn't have to rely on those pesky candles," Top Hat continues, excitedly.

He is about to go on when Dog cuts in: "Excuse me, but we don't really care about the history of it. We just want the power back on!"

All the other pieces nod in agreement, so Top Hat says, "Oh, all right. Electric cooperatives do all kinds

of cool things. They help their members find new, efficient ways of powering their homes such as solar power or wind power. Electric cooperatives will also recommend the best layout for lighting and —"

Top Hat is cut off by an exaggerated sigh coming from Wheelbarrow.

"I'm sorry. What was that you said?" asks Top Hat.

"Top Hat, it's just that, well, how do I put this? YOU ARE NOT TELLING US HOW TO GET THE POWER BACK ON!" yells Wheelbarrow.

The other pieces exchange worried looks as the tension rises. Some look to me with the hopes that I will intervene.

"I-I'm sorry guys," says Top Hat, trying to lighten the mood. "This electric cooperative stuff is just so interesting. Did you know that our local electric cooperative can analyze power bills in order to help its members know where they can cut down on energy?"

"Excuse me, Top Hat," I say cautiously, "but do you know how electric cooperatives deal with a power outage?"

Top Hat's lips quiver, and he begins to cry. Between sobs he says, "I'm sorry I don't know everything. All I know is how great electric cooperatives are at doing things like providing heat pump loans to their members and supplying power to more than 32,000 homes!"

Suddenly, the front door opens. We all look over to see that it is the family coming home from the grocery store.

"Honey, would you turn on the lights?" the mother asks.

The father looks at the light switch only to see that it is already flipped up toward the word "On."

"Actually, it seems as if the power has gone out. I knew I heard thunder while we were at the store, but it must have hit a bit harder here," the father replies.



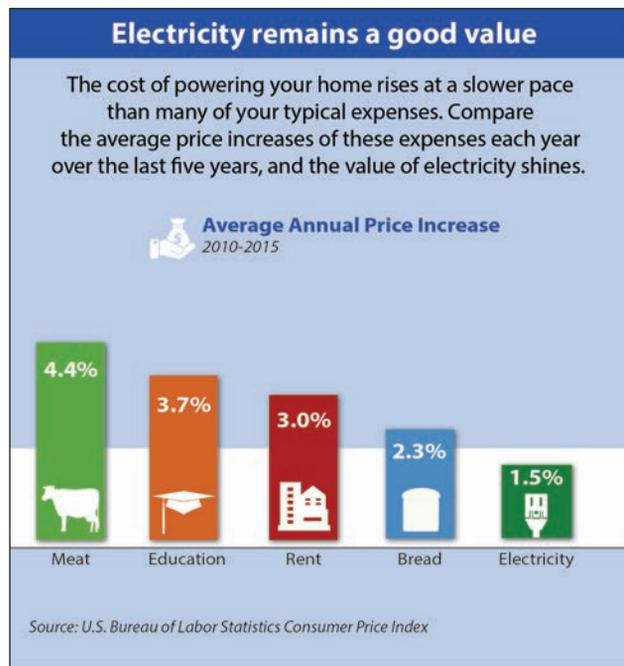
Jayrah Trapp

*Continued on page 24*

# Six ways to enjoy summertime energy savings

Here are six ways to use energy more efficiently this summer — and save some money on electricity:

1. Change the air conditioning system's filter every month during cooling season — more often if your neighborhood is especially dusty. Dirty filters stop air from flowing through, which causes your air conditioner work harder — and use more energy — as it keeps your home cool.
2. If your air conditioner is controlled by a programmable thermostat, instruct it to run only part of the day. There's no need to keep your house comfortable while nobody's in it during the day. Running the air conditioner at night could be less expensive than cranking it up during the day when it's hot and demand for electricity is at its peak.
3. Run your ceiling fans. If you don't have any, consider them a good investment. Install them in bedrooms, the kitchen and the living room. Fans move the air around and make the people in the room feel cooler. And they're much less expensive to operate than an air conditioner.
4. Close the drapes. A sunny day is pretty to look at through the window, but hot rays can heat the air in your home and force the air conditioner to work overtime. Keep curtains and blinds drawn on bright, hot days, especially on south- and west-facing windows.



5. Wait until after dark to run your pool pump. Operating it during off-peak hours when fewer people are using a lot of appliances at once can save money on your energy bill.
6. Switch your central air conditioning system's fan to "auto." The "on" setting allows it run constantly — even when your house is already cool.

## Powering Everyday Life

*Continued from page 23*

The kids give a whine, but the mom says, "I'm sure the power will be back soon. Our local electric cooperative will work hard to get the power back on, and if they cannot do it on their own, they will get the help of other electric cooperatives."

The kids seem content with this answer, but the little boy seems to realize something and says, "Wait a minute! Our tablets are dead!"

I see the boy's sister glance around the room before she exclaims, "Hey, we can play Monopoly!"

"That is a great idea. We can pick up right where we left off all that time ago," says the mother as the

father walks toward the window to open the blinds and let some daylight in.

A collective gasp goes around the board as we all realize what this means.

"We will finally be played with again!" cheers Dog.

"No time for cheering; we have to get back to where we were! We cannot have the family seeing us all gathered here in the middle like this," says Iron.

I put on my biggest smile as all eight pieces scramble back to their positions and the family comes over to play with us for the first time in months. I secretly pray that the electric cooperative has trouble getting the power back on.

# Buying an older home? Make a few energy updates

**S**ome homeowners swear by their older houses because of their sturdy construction and attention to detail. But most older homes are energy hogs. If you live in one — or are planning to — invest in a few energy-saving upgrades:

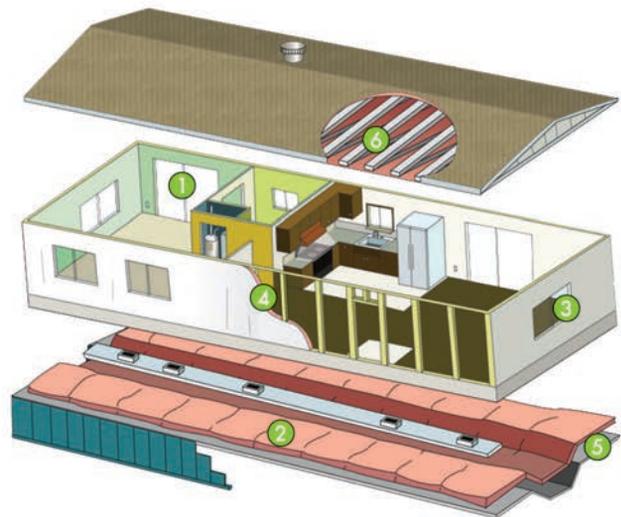
- Replace the windows. Single-pane windows allow cool, air-conditioned air to escape from the home and invite the summer heat indoors. Double-pane windows are more energy-efficient and can considerably trim your air-conditioning expenses.
- Install a programmable thermostat. The older your home is, the less likely it is to feature a thermostat that automatically resets itself after your family's morning rush hour. Keeping the house comfortably

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- Plug leaks and cracks. They're inevitable as a home ages. Caulk around electrical and cable outlets, windows, window air conditioners and the dryer vent and in cracks in bricks, siding or stucco.
- Add attic insulation. Chances are, your home wasn't built with enough. And what it has is likely to have diminished over the years or become detached from the floors and walls it's designed to insulate.
- Replace appliances that are more than 10 years old. Newer models of water heaters, clothes dryers and dishwashers are so much more efficient, using up to 50 percent less energy than outdated devices.

## Retrofitting your manufactured home for energy efficiency

- 1 Install energy-efficient windows and doors.
- 2 Replace insulation in the belly.
- 3 Make general repairs (seal bottom board; caulk windows, doors, ducts, etc.).
- 4 Add insulation to your walls.
- 5 Install or seal belly wrap.
- 6 Add insulation to your roof, or install a roof cap.



*Original artwork provided by Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives*



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and Gifts  
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Lawson Mill  
Photography  
931-808-2728

Elizabeth Smith  
Photography  
931-952-8151

#### **Sparta area**

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Jack's Sheer Delights BBQ  
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## Co-op Connections Program

**A**t this time of year, folks just really want to take it easy. It's hot. We need a break!

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In addition to helping reduce your travel costs on your next vacation, be sure to check out our online-exclusive offers. Partners such as Pro Flowers, Sprint, 1-800-PetMeds and 100 other companies have posted discounts on the Co-op Connections website,

[www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop). Check back regularly for seasonal promotions and limited-time offers.

If you are visiting neighboring towns, remember that our card is good wherever Co-op Connections discounts have been established. There is a network of more than 23,500 discounts throughout the country. Just look for a corresponding window sticker, show your card and save on a bite to eat or supplies for the road. Our national discounts will work for you wherever you may be headed. It's just another member benefit brought to you by Caney Fork Electric Cooperative.



*Pick up your Co-op Connections card at any CFEC office or simply call 931-473-3116 for more information. Find all the ways to save at [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop).*

June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



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## AS I SEE IT *Michael's Viewpoint*

# Super Pull has become gathering of electric co-ops

The colorful Touchstone Energy Cooperatives hot-air balloon rose in the evening sky, a large United States flag hanging below the pilot's basket. The banner proudly rippled in the breeze. Below, thousands of tractor pull fans bowed their heads for the invocation and joined in singing the national anthem. Minutes later, the air throbbed with the sounds of mighty engines as monster tractors and trucks pulled weighted sleds down the dirt track. The Chapel Hill Lions Club's Super Pull of the South was officially underway!

Touchstone Energy, the national brand of electric cooperatives, has been a major sponsor of the Super Pull of the South since 2013.

This relationship has yielded increased awareness, media coverage and national exposure for the electric cooperative program.

Last year's Super Pull was the most successful on record both in terms of attendance and money raised for community and charitable causes. With the help of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association (TECA) and the state's Touchstone-affiliated electric co-ops, the event became one of the premiere service projects undertaken by a group of member-owned, not-for-profit utilities.

TECA and Tennessee's Touchstone Energy co-ops provided direct funding, strategic planning, marketing and volunteer manpower for the 2015 Super Pull — and we are doing it again this year.

Tractors and electric co-ops might seem an odd mix, but they're not, really. Based on statistical information derived from hundreds of tractor pull spectators who visited the Tennessee Touchstone Energy tent in 2015, co-op members compose a large slice of the Super Pull's total attendance.

Of the 490 Tennessee residents who registered, 404 were members from many

of the state's electric co-ops: Middle Tennessee, Gibson, Forked Deer, Plateau, Tennessee Valley, Upper Cumberland, Southwest, Volunteer, Tri-County, Sequachee Valley, Fayetteville, Cumberland, Caney Fork, Meriwether Lewis and, of course, Duck River. They represented 16 of the state's 22 electric cooperatives and affiliated utilities.

Out-of-state registrants included members from six Kentucky electric cooperatives, two Georgia co-ops and six Alabama co-ops. We also met electric co-op members from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina, Missouri, Oklahoma, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Texas.

Obviously, electric co-op folks are fond of tractors, trucks and pulling contests. I don't say this disparagingly because I like them, too. But this underscores why Tennessee's electric cooperatives and Touchstone Energy support the Super Pull.

This event gives us the opportunity to connect with those we serve, promote the Cooperative Difference and Cooperative Principles and be part of something that has positive local, regional, state and national impact. Just as important to me, electric cooperative involvement demonstrates our commitment to community and the principle of "co-ops helping co-ops."

Employees from distant electric co-ops who drive across the state to lend a helping hand are shining examples of what makes us unique in the utility business. I hope the readers of this column will mark the tractor pull dates on their calendars. **The 2016 Chapel Hill Lions Club Super Pull of the South will be Friday and Saturday, July 22 and 23. Visit [www.lionssuperpull.com](http://www.lionssuperpull.com) for information.**

I have a feeling that the 40th Annual Super Pull will be bigger and better than ever.



*Michael Watson  
Duck River EMC  
President/CEO*

# Washington Youth Tour winners named

Ten area high school juniors will tour Washington, D.C., June 10-16 as winners of Duck River Electric Membership Corporation's Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest. Students wrote short stories on "Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life."

The DREMC winners will join students representing other Tennessee cooperatives on the trip. Rhonda Winton of Coffee County High School will assume the coveted faculty spot on this year's tour, an

assignment that is rotated annually among area high schools.

In Washington, the Tennessee delegation will become part of a larger group of students from other states and foreign countries who also participate in the event coordinated by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. DREMC congratulates these students on winning and thanks all juniors who participated in the competition and entered short stories.



Bailey Sudduth  
*Bedford County*



Justin Richardson  
*Bedford County*



Justin West  
*Bedford County*



Nathan Colwell  
*Coffee County*



Frances Uwechia  
*Coffee County*



Candace Hargrave  
*Franklin County*



Kailey Sanders  
*Franklin County*



Elizabeth Pimentel  
*Marshall County*



Taylor Patin  
*Marshall County*



Samantha Prosser  
*Marshall County*



Rhonda Winton, faculty  
*Coffee County*



Connie Potts  
*DREMC Coordinator*

## Duck River cleanup June 25

Plans are underway for the 19th annual Bedford County River Cleanup to be held on Saturday, June 25. Volunteers will gather at a tent near the river access point behind Shelbyville Power System at 7 a.m. to enjoy breakfast and receive work area assignments. Some volunteers will clean up along the banks while others will man boats to work in the water.

Lunch will be provided following the morning of trash and debris pickup.

June is cleanup month for other counties in the Duck River watershed. Please watch local newspapers for locations of river cleanups in surrounding counties.

For more information about the cleanup efforts, contact the Shelbyville-Bedford County Chamber of Commerce at 931-684-3482.



## Summer rates to begin in June

June, July, August and September are included in the Tennessee Valley Authority's summer rate structure. During these months, per-kilowatt-hour charges are higher than during the fall and spring months. TVA's cost to produce electricity rises as demand during the hot summer months increases typical use and requires peak production of power. DREMC passes these wholesale rate fluctuations, both up and down, on to its members.

DREMC offers energy-efficiency initiatives to assist members. Visit [www.dremc.com](http://www.dremc.com) for energy-saving tips and to learn about our eScore program through which members make energy-efficiency upgrades, receive rebates and possibly qualify for low-interest loans. Call 931-680-5883 for more information on these programs or visit [www.dremc.com](http://www.dremc.com) to sign up for Beat the Peak™.

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Membership Corporation*

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June 3*

*Shelbyville  
June 24*



# Mayna's Memories

By DREMC Member Relations Specialist Claire Sellers

Chapel Hill DREMC member recalls the early days of electricity

**M**ayna Allen Moses, 91, remembers when the lights came on in Caney Spring, located in northern Marshall County. Growing up on the family farm,

Mayna was no stranger to hard work, and she witnessed many changes over the years. But the most memorable technological advances occurred after Duck River Electric Membership Corporation ran a central-station power line to the farm.

"I remember having one light bulb in the middle of the ceiling," says Mayna. "I think we might have had one outlet in each room of the home where I grew up."

Electricity ushered in labor-saving appliances and machinery in addition to lighting. Rural electrification changed the face of America, and for those who experienced "when the lights came on," it was unforgettable.

"I remember my father going to Nashville to pick up our first radio," says Mayna. "We'd gather around the radio to listen to comedy stories and the news. I also remember my mother getting an electric stove and washing machine. Our aunt, who lived up the road, would bring her family's laundry once a week to our house."

Not everyone rejoiced when the power lines were erected. There was some trepidation about electricity. "Not everyone had electricity at the beginning," says Mayna. "People had a choice to obtain power, but some folks were scared of it."

Mayna grew up in Caney Spring, just minutes away from the home in which she now resides. Her family farmed, growing row crops and raising livestock. Her grandfather had the first Jersey cow in Marshall County to sell for \$1,000. The home she grew up in is no longer there, but she harbors many memories of her youth.

After receiving her associate degree from Martin Methodist College and later graduating as a registered nurse from St. Thomas School of Nursing in Nashville, Mayna moved to Florida for three years before returning home to Marshall County.

After marrying her late husband, Kennie, the couple built a home together in 1950 where Mayna resides to this day. Kennie and Mayna had two sons, John and Sam Moses.



*Mayna Moses (top center) is pictured with family members, from left, John Moses, Sam Moses, great-grandson Easton Blount and granddaughter Rebecca Blount. Bottom: Mayna Moses remembers when electricity came to her childhood home in Caney Spring. The home is no longer standing.*

"I remember the ice storm of 1951," says Mayna. "I remember watching the poles fall down from the front window of our home. We had a wood stove in the basement, and that's how we stayed warm."

Allen Moses, who served on DREMC's board of directors from 1965 to 1980, was Mayna's brother-in-law. Edwin Allen served as a co-op director from 1980 to 1998. He was Mayna's first cousin.

John Moses, Mayna's son, replaced Edwin on the DREMC board in 1998. In August, John will have served 18 years as a director. John's brother, Sam Moses, is a former member of DREMC's Nominating Committee.

"Mother has seen DREMC evolve over the years," points out John Moses. "She remembers the early days of electricity and has truly been affected by its advantages. She and DREMC have a rich history."

Mayna has always been involved with agriculture. She remembers getting lights in the barn as well as electric pumps to water the

cattle. She also recalls when an electric milk cooler was acquired for cooling the daily production from the dairy cows.

As DREMC celebrates 80 years of light in 2016, we want to hear from members who recall the early days of electrification. If you remember "when the lights came on," contact Member Relations Specialist Claire Sellers at [csellers@dremc.com](mailto:csellers@dremc.com) or 931-685-6125.

# DREMC art contest winners

Duck River Electric Membership Corporation held an art contest for fourth-graders in the service area in honor of National Lineman Appreciation Day on April 11.

The contest invited students to submit artwork recognizing electric linemen who restore power in harsh weather conditions and work in dangerous conditions around high voltage. The artwork was presented to DREMC linemen.

“We appreciate all the students who participated in the art contest to help honor these heroes on the lines,” said DREMC President and CEO Michael Watson.



Culleoka Unit School fourth-graders Maci McKennon, left, and Erica Sullivan are pictured with DREMC Columbia District Manager Michael Trew and their winning artwork.

Two students from Hillsboro Elementary School were named winners in DREMC's National Lineman Appreciation Day art contest. From left are DREMC District Manager Michael Millraney, winners Emma Jones and Haley Sparkman and Hillsboro Elementary School Assistant Principal Linda Willis.



East Coffee Elementary School student Skylar Morris is pictured with DREMC Manchester District Manager Michael Millraney after being named a winner in the DREMC National Lineman Appreciation Day art contest.



# 'Wood-

*Pioneering DREMC lineman hooked*

No history of Duck River EMC would be complete without mention of an amazing lineworker known as the “man who turned the lights on” in Franklin, Marshall and Moore counties.

Hired Sept. 1, 1937, Joe Moorehead became DREMC's second full-time employee. His career spanned the pioneering era of rural electrification to 1974, when he retired as the district manager at Decherd. He was still climbing poles “just for the heck of it” on his birthdays up to age 95.

Moorehead was a one-man operation in the beginning. He was aided by his wife, Jane, who answered the phone at home to take messages from co-op members and drove the truck while he was troubleshooting lines.

His dining room served as an office, his garage was the warehouse and a large tree stump was his field office where he used a parasol to keep blueprints dry in the rain.

He lived and breathed DREMC. The job meant toiling from before dawn until well after dark, even reading meters by flashlight. He hooked up new members, calculated and collected bills, extended lines, repaired damage, restored power and earned the nickname “Wood-Walking Joe” for his proficiency in climbing utility poles.

He was among the generation of electric co-op linemen who helped birth today's network of member-owned rural utilities that stretches across the nation and serves more than 40 million consumers. But it all started one pole and line span at a time.

During the early days, the Rural Electrification Administration sent employees to watch Moorehead work. Many of his methods were adopted and written into a handbook for rural electric linemen. But like many co-op veterans of the 1930s and '40s, he bore the scars of high-voltage contact. He survived two serious accidents that sent 7,200 volts coursing through his body.

Moorehead and fellow employees sensed they were helping change the face of rural America, but they could not have imagined the impact central-station power would have on farms, families and communities over the next 80 years.

In a 1993 newspaper article about his life and career, Moorehead recalled, “The best part of my job was turning on the electricity. You could hear the children laughing and adults so happy, they were shouting and crying.”

In a post-retirement interview, he described working with Phil Woodruff to hook up new co-op members around the Alto community. People were following them “like we were a circus” and hollering, “Try to get my house — try to get my house!”

Others had to be persuaded to hook up. They were afraid of electricity. “I actually had to beg some people to try it,” Moorehead said.

# Walking Joe'

l up thousands of homes and farms

By DREMC Director of Member Services Steve Oden

Paying electric bills was a little different 80 years ago. When Moorehead set out to collect a meter route (remember, local offices had not been built in all the districts at that time), he often returned with a truckload of eggs, garden produce and meat. He purchased this farm bounty so members would have money to pay their bills.



Pioneer lineman Joe Moorehead looks at one of the scrapbooks that chronicled his career at DREMC.

“I never had to carry my lunch,” he told an interviewer in 1999.

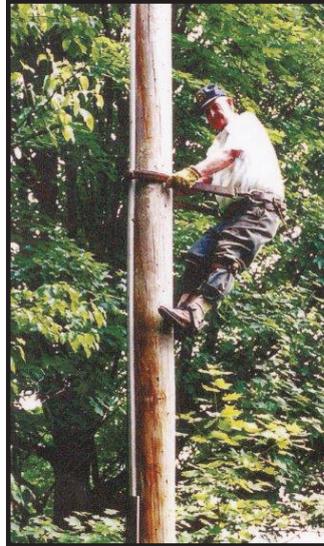
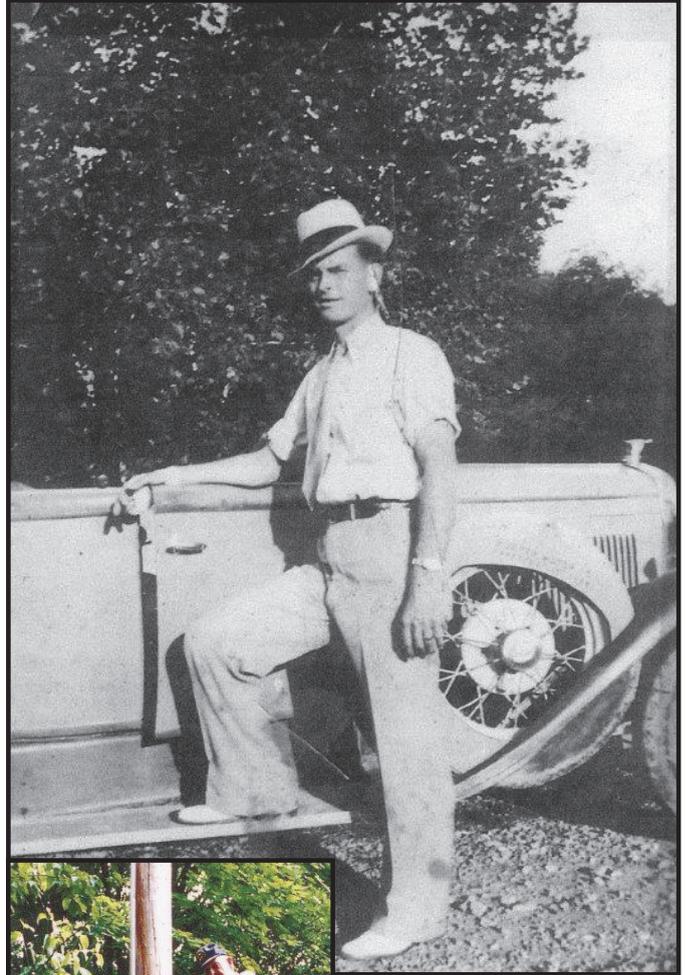
Moorehead enjoyed a long, active retirement. A scrapbook kept by his daughter and son-in-law, Jo and Jim Ward of Tullahoma, features newspaper clippings and vintage photos of the “Dean of Duck River Electric Linemen” at work and after he had hung up his pole-climbing gear. In later years, he was known for his large garden, smoked hams, biscuit breakfasts, fish fries, woodworking and generosity.

“He was truly a wonderful person,” said Ann Throneberry, a more recent DREMC retiree who wrote about Moorehead’s 37-year career in *The Tennessee Magazine*. “Joe was one of those rare individuals whose love for his work and people shined through in whatever he was doing.”

A eulogy in *The Tennessee Magazine* after his death at age 96 praised the local legend: “Duck River Electric will long remember Joe Moorehead as the tall, humble man who led the way (in) electrifying homes for families in our service area.”

Wood-Walking Joe might have said it another way. He did it for co-op members so electricity would make their lives better:

“I gave my whole life to them, and a lot of nights I still work for them after I go to bed.”



Top: Young Joe Moorehead is shown with his first new car, acquired in the 1930s about the time he started working for DREMC. Left: On his 95th birthday, Moorehead donned his climbing gear again and scaled a utility pole.

*Editor’s Note – We are indebted to Jo Ward for sharing memories and mementos of her father’s life and career.*

# Down on the farm ... *but not in the dark*

## Remembering the advent of labor-saving electricity

**G**ot milk? Stickers with this dairy marketing phrase are scattered across Bruce Woods' refrigerator. The 94-four-year-old Duck River Electric Membership Corporation member has been milking cows nearly his entire life.

Growing up in Giles County, Mr. Woods' life centered on agriculture. He saw many changes in farming and animal husbandry over the years. He also witnessed electricity's impact on the countryside.

"My daddy and I had two Percheron horses, and he helped Duck River establish some of the first lines for electricity in Giles County," says Mr. Woods. "I remember Daddy riding on one of the horses, and the other horse was pulling the wire. I was in school when electricity came. I also remember the two men from Lewisburg who first wired homes in this area."

Milking more than 80 head of Jersey cows, the Woods family has been in the dairy business since 1945. They have sold milk across Tennessee and Alabama. Now, his sons, Maury and Danny, continue to run the farm.

"Electricity was a big help," recalls Mr. Woods. "One of the first things we did was get an electric cooler and a milking machine. After the barn was wired for electricity, we could stay out later at night, stacking square hay bales because we could see after the sun went down."

Bruce and his late wife, Pauline, were married for nearly 59 years. She passed away four years ago.

"I remember Mom being so thankful for electric heat," says Mr. Woods' son, Danny. "She appreciated a good, warm house because she knew what it was like before electric heat was even a possibility."

Pauline made many quilts and blankets as well as crocheted and cross-stitched pieces.

"She was extremely talented," says Mr. Woods. "Not many people could quilt like she did."

DREMC Lewisburg District Manager Timmy Terry's father hauled milk for the Woods family. Timmy also went to school with Maury and Danny. He knows the family well and is not surprised about "Mr. Bruce's" recollection of rural electrification.

"I knew he would have some memories of the early days," Terry says.

Life in rural Tennessee changed dramatically with the availability of central-station power. Farming was made easier with grain belts, lights in barns, milk coolers and electric milking machines. Water heaters were a big plus for dairy barns as well.

The Woods family milked twice a day, the first round taking place at 4 or 5 a.m. and lasting two or three hours. The second milking started at 4 or 5 p.m.

"I remember Daddy talking about having to hang meat in the barn loft and waiting until it got a certain temperature so they could can it," says son Maury. "Freezers made keeping meat products much easier."

Mr. Woods lives in the home that he and Pauline built in 1964. The farm where he grew up was divided when Interstate 65 was built in the 1950s. The Woodses then

moved to the community of Cornersville in Marshall County where they live today.

"Working on a dairy farm hasn't been easy," he admits. "It's been hard and long days. Electricity did make life on the farm easier for us."

June is National Dairy Month in addition to being part of DREMC's celebration of "80 Years of Light."

If you have an agricultural story related to the early days of electricity, contact Claire Sellers at 931-685-6125 or [csellers@dremc.com](mailto:csellers@dremc.com).



*Dairy farmer Bruce Woods, center, has been milking cows his entire life. Sons Danny, left, and Maury Woods operate the dairy, milking more than 80 Jersey cows.*

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*Dairy farmer Bruce Wood, center, has been milking cows his entire life. Sons Danny, left, and Maury Wood operate the dairy, milking more than 80 Jersey cows.*

## Duck River Electric Membership Corporation

DREMC is celebrating 80 years of light in 2016. Visit [www.dremc.com](http://www.dremc.com) for information regarding our anniversary parties. We will have a celebration at each office. Join us for hot dogs, popcorn and high voltage safety demonstrations. The Lewisburg party is Friday, June 3, and the Shelbyville party is Friday, June 24. We can't wait to see you between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.



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All calls with InfinityDISH are monitored and recorded for quality assurance and training purposes. **Qualification:** Advertised price requires credit qualification and eAutoPay. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 8/03/16. **2-Year Commitment:** Early Termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. **Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$49.99 advertised price:** America's Top 120 Plus programming package, Local channels and Regional Sports Networks (where available), and monthly 1st receiver and HD service fees. **Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost:** Programming package upgrades (\$64.99 for AT200, \$74.99 for AT250), monthly fees for additional receivers (\$7 per additional TV, higher fees may apply for advanced receivers), and monthly DVR service fees (\$10). **NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or \$49.99 advertised price (and subject to change):** Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), Protection Plan, and transactional fees. **Premium Channels:** Subject to credit qualification. After 3 mos., you will be billed \$60/mo. for HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call to cancel. **Other:** All packages, programming, features, and functionality are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., you will be billed \$8/mo. for Protection Plan unless you call to cancel. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only. All rights reserved. HBO®, Cinemax® and related channels and service marks are the property of Home Box Office, Inc. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS Company. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. Visa® gift card must be requested through your DISH Representative at time of purchase. **\$50 Visa® gift card** requires activation and \$2.95 shipping and handling fee. You will receive a claim voucher within 3-4 weeks and the voucher must be returned within 30 days. Your Visa® gift card will arrive in approximately 6-8 weeks. InfinityDISH charges a one-time \$49.99 non-refundable processing fee which is subject to change at any time without notice. Indiana C.P.D. Reg. No. T.S. R1903.

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# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**



# A Clean (and affordable) Power Plan

408 College St. W.  
P.O. Box 120  
Fayetteville, TN 37334

931-433-1522  
Toll-free: 1-800-379-2534  
Website: www.fpu-tn.com

### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Dispatch Hours:

Seven days a week  
24-hour emergency response

### To make doing business with FPU more convenient, we offer the following services:

- energy right® Programs
- eScore Program
- Bank Draft
- SmartHub
- Budget Billing
- Project Help
- Delayed Payment
- Medic Alert
- Security Lights
- Electric and Natural Gas Grills
- Natural Gas Space Heaters, Logs and Mantels
- Cable TV
- High-Speed Internet
- Phone Service

Call the FPU Customer Service Department for details at 931-433-1522.

Follow us on Twitter  
www.twitter.com/FPUTN

You've perhaps heard or read in the news about the Clean Air Act and the Environmental Protection Agency's concern over greenhouse gas emissions from electric power generation facilities. Along with this information, you've also perhaps heard both sides of the story: theirs and ours. Both sides have valid points, but where government is mainly concerned on a national level, we are also concerned on a local level and have worked hard to voice our concerns relating to future energy costs.

In 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) determined that greenhouse gas pollution threatens Americans' health and welfare by leading to long-lasting changes in our climate. EPA further claimed that these climate changes can have a range of negative effects on human health and the environment.

According to studies by the EPA, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is the primary greenhouse gas pollutant, accounting for nearly three-quarters of global greenhouse gas emissions and 84 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The statistics show that the electric power sector accounted for 32 percent of U.S. total greenhouse gas emissions in 2012. EPA goes on to say that greenhouse gas emissions from electricity have increased by about 11 percent since 1990 as electricity demand has grown and fossil fuels have remained the dominant source for electric generation.

According to EPA, fossil fuel-fired power plants are the largest source of U.S. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. At these fossil fuel-fired power plants, resources such as natural gas, petroleum, coal or any form

of solid, liquid or gaseous fuel derived from such materials are used to generate electricity.

The Tennessee Valley Authority is already working to meet future demands for power in new and innovative ways as it considers costs, environmental factors, reliability, regulations and energy efficiency.



Britt Dye  
CEO/General Manager

Coal-fired plants have formed the backbone of TVA's power generation since the 1950s. In keeping with commitments to generate safe, clean energy, TVA is now beginning to retire older, less-efficient coal-fired plants and replacing them with low- or zero-emission electricity sources, which include nuclear and renewable resources, while also offering

enhanced energy-efficiency programs to help customers save energy and money.

TVA's plans also address peaks in winter and summer months. In the past, TVA used additional coal generation to bridge the gap in energy supply and demand across the Valley. Today the agency is adding more clean-burning natural gas units to meet peak demands.

To generate more bulk power, TVA is also adding the 21st century's first new nuclear unit. As for renewables, TVA continues to offer programs that allow Valley-based businesses and consumers to partner with local power distributors to generate solar, wind and biogas energy.

Like with most power generation facilities, TVA's emphasis is on moving away from traditional coal-based production and toward cleaner forms of power generation to set higher standards for clean — and affordable — energy supplies to care for the environment and to meet federal regulations.

*continued on page 25*

# FPU replaces 12,000 kva transformer at Blanche

**F**ayetteville Public Utilities recently installed a new 12,000 kilovolt-ampere three-phase transformer at the Blanche Substation as part of FPU's work plan to upgrade the station. The new transformer replaces three 2,500 kva (or single-phase) transformers.

With the aid of a 100-foot, 200-ton crane, the transformer was placed on the concrete pad on March 4. On April 4, FPU crews energized the new transformer.

According to FPU's records, the equipment at the Blanche Substation is powered by some of the utility's oldest transformers — some of which are more than 60 years old. The average lifespan of a substation transformer is about 50 years. The age of the transformers and the loads FPU records during peak times prompted FPU to replace the transformer earlier this year.

The new 12,000 kva transformer has a dual voltage secondary, so when FPU electric crews are ready to convert the Taft circuit to 25 kilovolt, they only need to de-energize the transformer and move the tap changer to the needed position.

Other upgrades planned for the Blanche Substation include reworking or replacing the existing steel, 15 kv insulators, bus, metering, regulators and breakers with equipment rated for 25 kv. These upgrades are part of FPU's long-range work plan for system reliability.



*At top, FPU's Mike Endsley, Patrick Bradford and Ron Thomas assist as the new transformer is hoisted from the trailer bed. Above, the crane moves the transformer into place at Blanche Substation.*

## WHAT DOES A TRANSFORMER DO?

**Transformers are used to increase or decrease the voltages of alternating current in electric power applications. Transformers used at FPU substations are rated for 161 kv and used to convert the electricity that TVA delivers to our four delivery-point substations down to lower voltages before distributing along FPU lines. FPU has several smaller substations that are fed by 46 kv through FPU's subtransmission system and used to lower voltages for distribution as well. Electric power travels to customer homes and businesses across either three-phase or single-phase power lines and then is converted again through smaller transformers to create voltages as low as 120/240 volts for residential use.**

## FPU telecommunications

# Balancing quality service, tech upgrades

In a world run by technology, we understand that services like Internet and cable TV are essential tools that enable our customers and community to operate safely and productively. Dependable telecommunication services are the lifeline for businesses, school systems, medical facilities, law enforcement and many others.

Because telecom services are vital to how we operate and communicate, there's a constant demand for better, faster service. Like with any form of technology, Fayetteville Public Utilities' cable TV and high-speed Internet services remain in a constant state of upgrade to keep pace with today's ever-changing advances in computer and high-tech services. Just when we think we have a handle on one new system or tech upgrade, the industry is ready to roll out the latest and greatest version.

"Since FPU began offering telecom services in 2001, we have remained committed as a not-for-profit operation to providing reliable service and to offering local tech support and outage assistance 24 hours a day," says FPU CEO and General Manager Britt Dye. "Those are assets that are important to our local customers, and they are what sets FPU apart from the multimillion-dollar for-profit cable and Internet companies."

In recent months, FPU's Telecom Department has launched the watchTVeverywhere service and increased the variety of local programming aired on FPU's Channel 6. These improvements have helped broaden when, where and what subscribers are able to view on FPU's cable TV service.

Currently, FPU is working on a digital upgrade that will transfer all basic analog cable channels to a digital format for better picture and sound quality. The digital upgrade affects FPU's channels 2 through 96. By switching to digital transmission, we gain more capacity to provide additional channels and improve services. Analog channel transmission is an older technology that uses 10 times as much of our system capacity as the digital format. For



every analog channel, FPU could carry 10 digital channels or two high-definition channels.

"FPU will make the digital switch as seamless as possible for our customers," says Dye. "Details will be sent to our customers explaining the process to make this transition easy."

At FPU, we believe that it is imperative for you, our customer, to stay at the forefront of technology — but only if the cost justifies the means. Keeping up with technology is important, but keeping up just for the sake of keeping up is pointless when dependable and helpful service is what customers desire most.

As stated earlier, computer and tech services are ever-changing. But FPU's dependable, 24-hours-a-day service and local customer assistance are unbeatable. That's what makes FPU's telecom services different, and that's why our customers choose FPU over the competition.

# Youth attend annual leadership summit



**K**ate Parkes of Fayetteville High School and Leonardo Ruiz-Sanchez of Lincoln County High School attended the 2016 Youth Leadership Summit sponsored by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association (TECA), Fayetteville Public Utilities and other Tennessee electric cooperatives. The Summit was held March 21-23 in Nashville at the Maxwell House Millennium Hotel.



Each year, two junior class students (a boy and a girl) are chosen from each participating electric system's service area to participate in the Youth Leadership Summit. Parkes and Ruiz-Sanchez were selected based on their accomplishments and leadership roles, which also include mentoring or tutoring other students and participating in school organizations, church activities and elsewhere in the community.



The two-and-a-half-day summit educates

young leaders about our state government and hometown electric cooperatives and rural electric systems, enhances leadership abilities and gives them an opportunity to meet our state legislators on Capitol Hill. Other highlights include a tour of the State Capitol and an opportunity to listen to House and Senate committee meetings at Legislative Plaza. The group also spent a day at the Nashville YMCA learning teamwork and problem-solving while enhancing their leadership skills.

*From top, from left, FPU's Gina Warren, Kate Parkes and Leonardo Ruiz-Sanchez meet Sen. Jim Tracy outside the State Capitol. TECA's Mike Knotts, director of government affairs, explains how rural electric systems and state leaders work together for the benefit of our communities. Speaker of the House Beth Harwell addresses this year's Youth Leadership Summit participants inside the House of Representatives. A safety instructor with Tennessee's Job Training and Safety teaches the students about electric safety by demonstrating what happens when contact is made with high-voltage lines.*

While at the summit, Parkes and Ruiz-Sanchez learned from electric system employees the importance of having a

hometown, locally owned and operated electric utility in their community.

Kate Parkes is the daughter of Bobby and Cindy Parkes of Fayetteville. Leonardo Ruiz-Sanchez is the son of Leonardo and Endina Ruiz-Sanchez of Taft.

Celebrating 50 years of summertime's grill of choice

# BROILMASTER

Warmer weather means grilling. And these days, most folks want something more than just hot dogs and hamburgers from their grills. With the versatility of the Broilmaster gas grill, you have lots of options to make your next backyard barbecue a masterpiece!

Broilmaster has been manufacturing premium gas grills since 1966. Featuring the now-legendary bowtie burner fitted into a heavy-duty cast head with the trademark rib pattern on the lid, Broilmaster has been dubbed the “most durable grill known to man.”

Today, Broilmaster offers models with multilevel cooking grids, separate burner controls, stainless steel griddles and the company's exclusive Smoker Shutter — which doubles the grill's versatility by allowing backyard chefs to slow-roast and smoke game, poultry and other large cuts.

One of Fayetteville Public Utilities' favorite choices for the Broilmaster is pork tenderloin. It's lean, meaty and perfect for a healthy grilled main course that can morph into easy meals for the rest of the week. Tenderloin — the filet mignon of pork — is mild in taste and really benefits from a tangy spice rub like the one in the recipe below for Caribbean-Style Grilled Pork Tenderloin.

In celebrating Broilmaster's 50th year, FPU invites you to visit our office and see the many varieties of Broilmaster grill heads, cooking grids, stands, carts and accessories available to help you customize the grill of *your* choice. Experience for yourself a Broilmaster gas grill!



## Caribbean-Style Grilled Pork Tenderloin

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 ½ tablespoons ground allspice
- 2 dried bay leaves, crushed
- 3 tablespoons fresh thyme leaves, chopped
- 1 ½ teaspoons sweet paprika
- ⅛ teaspoon ground cloves
- ⅛ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 1 habanero chile (cored, seeded and ribs removed), finely minced
- 2 small cloves garlic, minced
- 2 pork tenderloins (about 1 pound each)

### DIRECTIONS

Heat the Broilmaster gas grill to medium-high. Combine allspice, crushed bay leaves, thyme, paprika, cloves, nutmeg, salt, habanero and garlic; crush or grind all together until well combined. Pat the spice rub into the tenderloin until well coated. Place the tenderloin on the grill grid and cook with the lid closed. Turn the meat a few times to allow the rub crust to evenly cook on all sides. The tenderloin is done when it becomes springy when squeezed, usually about 18 to 20 minutes, or until an instant-read thermometer reads 150 degrees. Transfer the tenderloin to a platter and tent with foil. Let the meat rest for about 10 minutes before slicing and serving.



**Fayetteville Public Utilities will be closed on Monday, July 4, for Independence Day. If you need to report a leak or outage, please call FPU at 931-433-1522. Dispatchers and service crews will be available during the holiday to assist you.**

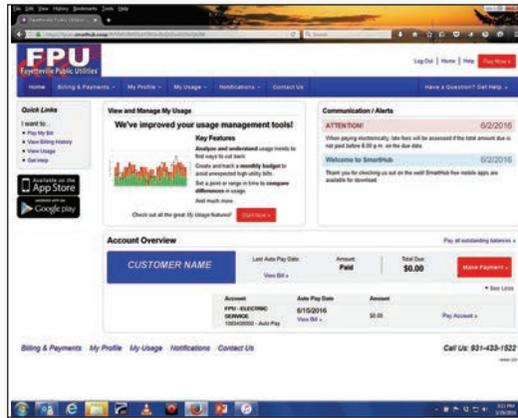
# Taking utility payments to the next level

smart hub

SmartHub offers Fayetteville Public Utilities customers another level of convenience for paying utility bills and accessing account information anytime, anywhere.

With SmartHub, you can manage many aspects of your FPU account via computer, smartphone or tablet. SmartHub makes utility payments simple and gives you access to historical utility use information to help you make decisions about how to use your utilities during peak seasons.

Sign up to use SmartHub on the web using your laptop or home computer. Just visit [www.fpu-tn.com](http://www.fpu-tn.com) and click the SmartHub icon on the right side of our homepage. Step-by-step directions are linked on the page to help you create a new account. After creating your account, you can access your



utility use, pay bills and more using SmartHub.

Next, download SmartHub's free app to your mobile device from the App Store or Google Play.

Because SmartHub gives you easy electronic access to your FPU billing, payment and account information, if you wish to completely go "paperless" with your FPU utility account, simply sign FPU's Electronic Notice Form. With paperless billing, FPU will only send billing information to your computer and mobile device; you will no longer receive a printed billing statement or late notice in the mail.

Sign up today and see how convenient paying your utility bill can be using FPU's SmartHub!

## Clean Power Plan

*Continued from page 20*

Earlier this year, the U.S. Supreme Court stayed the implementation of the federal government's Clean Power Plan (CPP) pending judicial review. At this time, the final outcome of the CPP is yet to be determined while the lower court works out the lawsuit challenging the carbon culling regulation. For those states that choose to continue working to cut carbon pollution from power plants and seek the agency's guidance and assistance, EPA will continue to provide tools and support.

Tennessee electric company leaders work closely with state legislators to do what is right for electric ratepayers in our hometowns and across our state, and together, we have a voice on the federal level relating to emissions reduction

legislation. As a whole, the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association, which includes rural power distributors like FPU, was pleased with the Supreme Court's decision to halt implementation of the CPP.

We continue to believe that low rates and reliable power must be a part of our clean energy future. This decision opens the door to find real solutions that effectively balance environmental and economic concerns — both of which are important to our energy future. If this stay granted by the Supreme Court had not been granted, rural power companies across the nation would have been forced to take costly and irreversible steps to comply with these new federal regulations.

We all want what is best for our customers, and FPU will continue to work with government and industry leaders to develop the best solution possible for our energy future.

## Summer TVA rates effective June 1-Sept. 30

The Tennessee Valley Authority implemented a seasonal rate structure in April 2011 that directly reflects the higher costs of producing electricity during those months when there is a greater demand for energy from customers. The seasonal rate structure allows TVA to bill higher costs of power production to customers as the energy is used. Summer seasonal rates begin on June 1 and remain in place through Sept. 30. TVA's total monthly fuel cost will continue to change monthly.

Visit FPU's website at [www.fpu-tn.com](http://www.fpu-tn.com) for complete details on electric rates as they reflect the seasonal and total monthly fuel cost changes.

## Tree trimming vital to electric service reliability

**N**o one likes being without electricity ... and no one wants to see that 50-year-old oak tree trimmed or cut, either. It's a continuous concern for Fayetteville Public Utilities and our customers alike. The fact is that maintaining the electric right of way (15 feet on both sides of the power lines) is our responsibility as your service provider to ensure safe and reliable electric service 24 hours a day.

We don't enjoy having to remove those beautiful, lush, green trees along the roadside or in your yard, but as your electric service provider, it's our duty to keep you safe and keep your lights on.

The FPU right-of-way maintenance employees are willing to work with every customer to reach the best solution on trimming and removing trees that interfere with your service and pose a

threat to our system. We generally avoid removal of the tree when side pruning or crown reduction will satisfy both of us, but in extreme conditions, tree removal may be the only feasible answer.



*Interference from tree limbs like this can become hazardous during a storm. For this reason, FPU's tree trimming program is important to system reliability and customer safety.*

FPU has an aggressive tree trimming program, and in recent years, we have reduced our outage rate and duration considerably as a result of our efforts. We all benefit from this type of system maintenance.

In addition to our trimming the rights of way, please help us by remembering to plant new trees and shrubs in the proper place this spring and fall. Plant large, fast-growing trees at least 50 feet or farther away from overhead power lines. If you

have questions about where to properly plant your trees, please check with your favorite garden center or visit [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

## 8 ways to enjoy summertime energy savings

**As temperatures heat up this summer, remember these eight simple ways to help you be more energy-efficient and save money:**

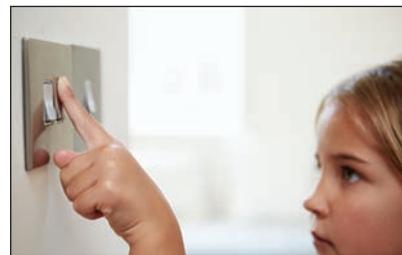
**1** Change the air-conditioning system's filter every three months during cooling season — more often if your neighborhood is especially dusty. Dirty filters stop air from flowing through, which causes your air conditioner to work harder — and use more energy — as it keeps your home cool.

**2** If your air conditioner is controlled by a programmable thermostat, instruct it to run only part of the day. There's no need to keep your house comfortable while nobody's home during the day. Running the air conditioner at night could be less expensive than cranking it up during the day when it's hot and demand for electricity is at its peak.

**3** Set your home's thermostat as high as possible while still maintaining a comfortable environment for your family during the summer months. Bumping the thermostat up at least 2 degrees can make a noticeable difference in your power bill.

**4** Run your ceiling fans. If you don't have ceiling fans, consider them a good investment. Install them in bedrooms, the kitchen and the living room. Fans move the air around and make the people in the room feel cooler. And they're less expensive to operate than an air conditioner.

**5** Close the drapes and blinds. A sunny day is pretty to look at through the window, but hot sun rays can heat the air in your home and force the air conditioner to work overtime. Keep curtains and blinds drawn on bright, hot days, especially on south- and west-facing windows.



**6** Seal cracks and openings to prevent the warm, outside air from leaking into your home. Particularly look for cracks around doors and windows. Openings tend to appear when installing a window/room air conditioner.

**7** Switch your central air-conditioning system's fan to "auto." The "on" setting allows it to run constantly — even when your house is already cool.

**8** Take advantage of the natural daytime lighting. Turn off overhead lights and lamps during the day to save a few pennies.

## *Move Over — It's the law*

Our linemen risk their lives every day working with high-voltage electricity. But there's another risk that can kill them just as quickly, and it may be you.

When you see on the side of the road any emergency or utility vehicles with lights flashing, please pay attention, slow down and move over.

They don't draw much attention from passersby as they stand quietly along the roadside. Electric poles and power lines safely tower above us some 30 plus feet in the air carrying a minimum of 7,200 volts of electricity across our service area.

Safety becomes a concern when the poles and lines are threatened by storms and fallen trees that sometimes bring electric poles and energized lines within our reach.

In addition, summertime outdoor activities like flying a kite to home maintenance or construction work – can all bring people into close proximity to live power lines.

- Never touch a downed power line. Always assume all downed lines are energized and contact Fayetteville Public Utilities immediately.
- Remember, if a power line is touching someone, stay away. If you attempt rescue, you could easily become a victim yourself. Call 9-1-1 for emergency help. If you have a way to disconnect the power source, do so.
- Always keep at least 50 feet away from any downed line. The ground around a power line may be energized as well, making it very dangerous.
- Never touch trees or limbs that are touching power lines.
- Never drive over a fallen power line, or under a line that is sagging over the roadway.
- Don't touch cars, debris or fallen branches that are near downed lines. Anything touching a power line is just as dangerous as the power line itself.



(931) 433-1522 408 West College St.

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## Forked Deer Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 67  
Halls, TN 38040

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Monday-Thursday  
7 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Staff

**Jeff Newman**, General Manager  
**Mary Blake**, Office Manager  
**Trenisa Anderson**, Cashier  
**Jay Burress**, Operating Line Superintendent  
**E.W. Baggett**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Johnny Biggs**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Morgan Bowser**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Jimmy Buckner**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Kathy Cherry**, Head Cashier  
**Kevin Fair**, Work Order Clerk  
**Cameron Green**, Groundman  
**Rosalind Green**, Member Services Representative  
**Kenneth Hankins Jr.**, Groundman  
**Bubba Humphreys**, Crew Chief/ Working Foreman  
**Cody Hutchison**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Madison Laster**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Kelly Mayo**, Accounting Clerk  
**Ross Norrid**, Equipment Operator  
**Chad Paris**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Nelda Kay Ray**, General Accounting Clerk  
**Keven Reece**, Groundman  
**Holly Saliba**, Cashier/Receptionist  
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**Brad Stafford**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Andrea Tims**, Billing Clerk  
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## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

# We are prepared for summer storms

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Forked Deer Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first — like damage to

transmission lines that serve tens of thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

FDEC's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver

power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify FDEC so crews can inspect these lines.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans.



Jeff Newman  
General Manager,  
Forked Deer  
Electric Cooperative

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

# What's in it for 'we?'

By Adam Schwartz

One of the most attractive features of cooperatives is that we answer the popular question, “What’s in it for me?” with “What’s in it for we!” Cooperatives are formed when the market fails to offer goods or services with decent quality at an affordable price. Forked Deer Electric Cooperative was formed in 1940 because when investor-owned utilities realized there was not enough profit to be made in our community, they refused to offer electricity.

The founding members of FDEC went door-to-door to collect \$5 in order to raise a portion of the original investment the co-op needed. Each of those “go-getters” realized that the only way to get electricity for “me” was to get it for “we,” the whole community.

Cooperative ownership is in the hands of the people who use the co-op’s goods and the services (instead of investors). So, not only do co-ops start out answering the question of “What’s in it for we?” They continue to answer that question for as long as they exist.

These days, we often hear about companies that abandon their local communities and move overseas in

search of cheaper labor. This negatively impacts the community through job loss, decline in housing values and school closures. Because local residents own a majority of cooperatives, they are less likely to leave their community. In fact, it would be impossible for FDEC to leave our communities. The co-op is a critical part of what makes the community a community.

The way co-ops continue to answer the question, “What’s in it for we?” is critical to their survival. It is imperative that we keep you — our members — as the primary focus. Keeping rates as low as possible is one major part of that focus, but ensuring that we provide real value as your trusted energy adviser is also extremely important.

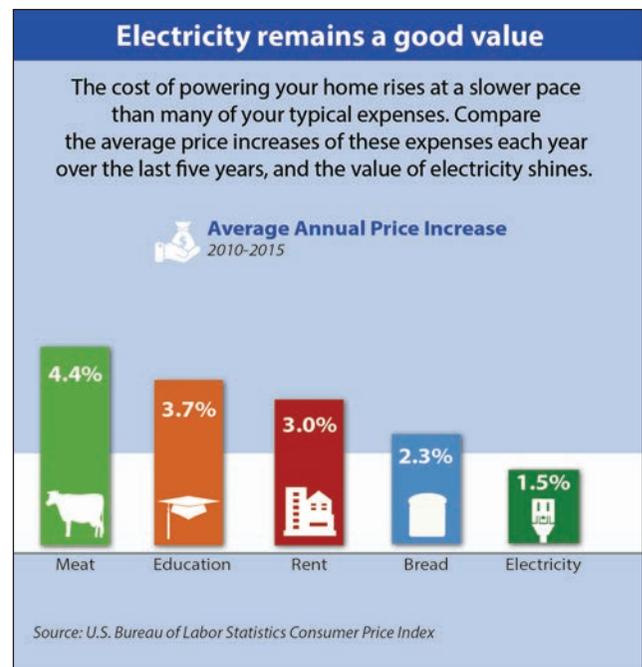
By maintaining that focus with your help and support, we will continue to be able to serve the “me” and the “we” in our community long into the future.

*Adam Schwartz is the founder of The Cooperative Way, a consulting firm that helps co-ops succeed. He is an author, speaker and member-owner of the CDS Consulting Co-op.*

## Stay safe around lightning

When spring storms shoot lightning down from the sky, know how to keep your family safe. Here is some advice from the National Weather Service:

- Don’t touch your plugged-in computer or TV indoors when there’s a lightning storm outdoors. Stay safe by using remote controls to operate them.
- Stay off of corded phones. It’s OK to make calls on cell or cordless phones during a lightning storm.
- To preserve expensive electronic devices, unplug them before the storm hits. Once lightning starts, it’s not safe to touch those plugs or cords.
- Keep your distance from anything that can conduct electricity like power lines, barbed-wire fences and, of course, metal ladders.
- Don’t go outdoors during a lightning storm, and stay away from windows and doors. Even a small leak can let lightning into your home.



# Staying ahead of the sun

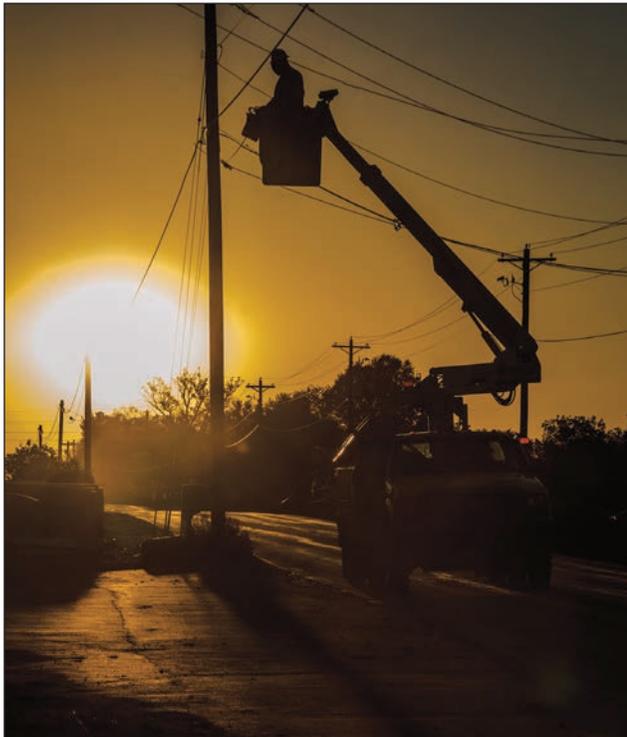
## Co-op leadership in community solar energy helps craft new industry

By Paul Wesslund

**T**he involvement of electric co-ops in the rapidly growing use of solar energy is preparing the way for new and efficient methods of making and using electricity.

Co-ops are leading the way in community solar energy initiatives. Community solar programs allow co-op members to share in a photovoltaic installation that generates electricity from the sun.

“Co-ops are way ahead of the industry in community solar energy,” says Andrew Cotter, program and product manager for renewable and distributed generation with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).



*Solar energy has been creating special excitement recently with electricity generation from photovoltaic cells growing at 30 percent annually for the past two years. At that rate, it will still take a long time for solar to play a major role in energy production. By the end of 2015, solar energy was producing less than 1 percent of the nation's electricity. Electric cooperatives are leading the way in solar energy projects that will provide valuable information in how to best use solar energy as its use becomes more widespread.*

Electric co-op involvement with different types of solar energy projects has grown from enough photovoltaic projects to produce 3 megawatts of electricity in 2009 to 176 MW in 36 different states by the end of 2015, says NRECA Strategic Analyst Michael Leitman. He adds that by 2018, co-op involvement in solar will triple with another 375 MW in the planning stages. U.S. energy experts say we will not be able to meet national energy goals unless we increase our solar energy capacity.

“Cooperative involvement in solar energy has risen very quickly over the last few years,” Leitman says. “And 70 percent of the community solar programs in the country are run by electric co-ops.”

One megawatt is enough to power between 500 and 1,000 homes. So while today's co-op involvement in solar energy would cover fewer than 200,000 homes, those small projects across the country are serving as examples of how to make the best use of the developing solar technology.

Among the new approaches called for by solar energy are ways to assure safety in the way solar panels are connected to power lines and that electric rates are designed in ways that benefit all members of the co-op.

Electric co-ops are even examining ways to overcome one of solar energy's biggest hurdles — producing electricity at night and in weather and parts of the country with limited sunshine. Battery storage technology is improving, and one NRECA idea — community storage — recognizes that energy is stored in the hot water of home electric water heaters. Specially designed electric rates and power line technology could link all those water heaters into one giant community battery. In addition, NRECA participates on a number of codes and standards committees, tackling the most urgent safety and operational issues to keep co-op members and staff safe — and ensure a reliable grid.

NRECA's Cotter says that's just one of the ways that co-op leadership in solar technology “could maximize the usefulness of photovoltaics.”

*Paul Wesslund writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*

# Don't drive blindfolded down the highway

By Anne Prince

**W**ould you drive on a highway blindfolded? Of course not. However, if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cell phone also carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them — traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians — when talking on a cell phone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving — talking, texting, sending emails — is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and, most likely, we, ourselves, have used a phone while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel to focus on activities other than driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each day in the U.S., more than nine people are killed and more than 1,153 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Administration notes that 3,154 people were killed and an estimated 424,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2013.

Texting and cell phone use behind the wheel take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel and your focus off driving — putting the driver and others in danger, including passengers, pedestrians, other

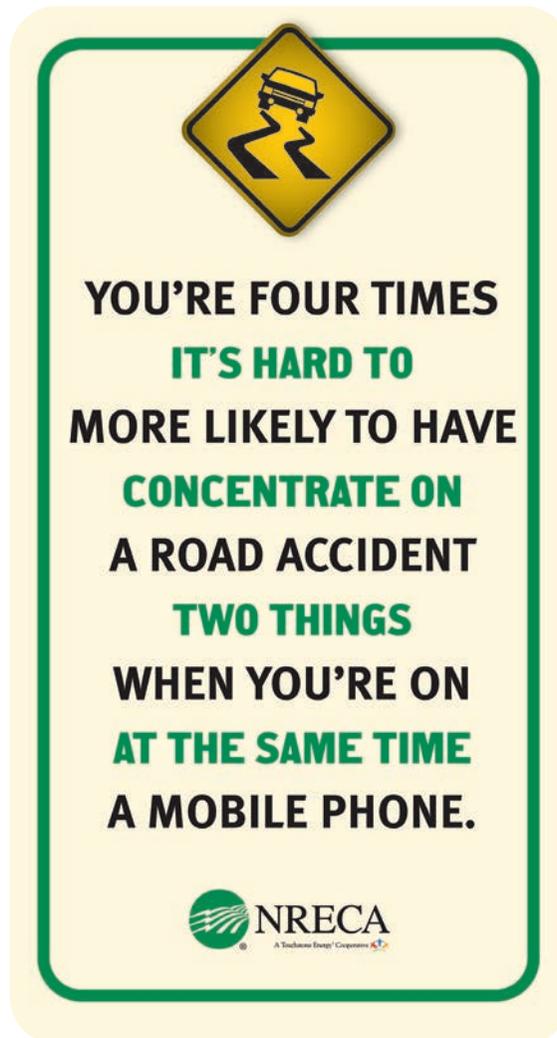
drivers and bystanders. On the tragic end of the spectrum, victims' families, friends, co-workers and community are impacted.

At Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, safety is a core value. At this time of year in particular, when more people are on the roads and kids are out of school, our goal at your electric cooperative is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cell phone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the potential danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends and neighbors safer by putting their

phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving.

*Anne Prince writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Virginia-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*



# Buying an older home?

## Make a few energy updates

**S**ome homeowners swear by their older houses because of their sturdy construction and attention to detail. But most older homes are energy hogs. If you live in one — or are planning to — invest in a few energy-saving upgrades:

- Replace the windows. Single-pane windows allow cool, air-conditioned air to escape from the home and invite the summer heat indoors. Double-pane windows are more energy-efficient and can considerably trim your air-conditioning expenses.
- Install a programmable thermostat. The older your home is, the less likely it is to feature a thermostat that automatically resets itself after your family's morning rush hour. Keeping the house comfortably

cool while nobody's in it during the day is a waste of energy.

- Plug leaks and cracks. They're inevitable as a home ages. Caulk around electrical and cable outlets, windows, window air conditioners and the dryer vent and in cracks in bricks, siding or stucco.
- Add attic insulation. Chances are, your home wasn't built with enough. And what it has is likely to have diminished over the years or become detached from the floors and walls it's designed to insulate.
- Replace appliances that are more than 10 years old. Newer models of water heaters, clothes dryers and dishwashers are so much more efficient that they use up to 50 percent less energy than outdated devices.

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## Put your computer to sleep

**J**ust like apps and graphics eating up the battery power on your cell phone, extra features on computers can unnecessarily use energy. And that could be costing you extra on your electric bill. If your home has multiple computers, don't let them waste energy. Here's how to start:

- Unplug seldom-used computers. Even if they are shut down, they continue to draw small amounts of electricity as long as they are plugged into the wall.
- Move the computer and printer in each room near the TV and phone charger, and plug them all into a power strip. That will make it easy to switch them all off when you leave the house for the day or turn in at night. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that devices that are always on use up to 23 percent of a home's electricity — even though the appliances are rarely in use.



- Set each computer to “sleep mode.” That will slow it down when it's not in use so it uses less electricity.
- Program the “hibernate” function on your computers to turn them off when they're not in use for more than 30 minutes. “Hibernate” shuts the device down but makes it easy

to recover everything you were working on when you switch it back on.

- Get rid of screen savers: They turn your computer monitor into an energy hog. Better to set the monitor to shut down after 15 minutes of inactivity.
- Switch to a laptop. Portable devices like iPads and Kindle tablets use up to a third less energy than a big desktop computer and monitor.
- Buy an Energy Star-rated computer next time you need a new one. The label guarantees that the machine is energy-efficient.

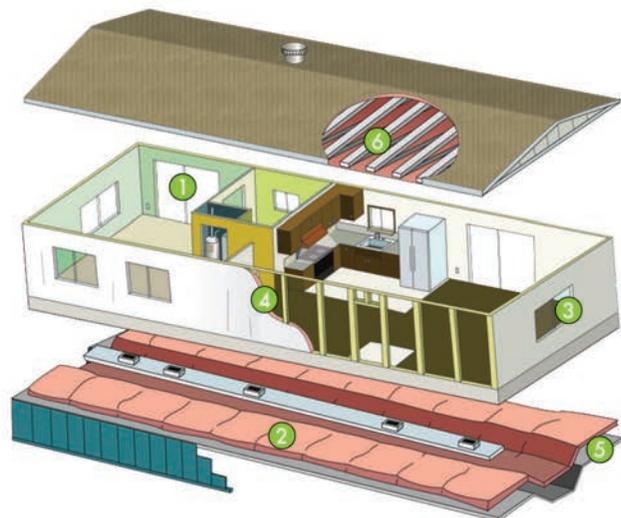
# Six ways to enjoy summertime energy savings

Here are six ways to use energy more efficiently this summer — and save some money on electricity:

1. Change the air-conditioning system's filter every month during cooling season — more often if your neighborhood is especially dusty. Dirty filters stop air from flowing through, which causes your air conditioner to work harder — and use more energy — as it keeps your home cool.
2. If your air conditioner is controlled by a programmable thermostat, instruct it to run only part of the day. There's no need to keep your house comfortable while nobody's in it during the day. Running the air conditioner at night could be less expensive than cranking it up during the day when it's hot and demand for electricity is at its peak.
3. Run your ceiling fans. If you don't have any, consider them a good investment. Install them in bedrooms, the kitchen and the living room. Fans move the air around and make the people in the room feel cooler. And they're much less expensive to operate than an air conditioner.
4. Close the drapes. A sunny day is pretty to look at through the window, but hot rays can heat the air in your home and force the air conditioner to work overtime. Keep curtains and blinds drawn on bright, hot days, especially on south- and west-facing windows.
5. Wait until after dark to run your pool pump. Operating it during off-peak hours when fewer people are using a lot of appliances at once can save money on your energy bill.
6. Switch your central air-conditioning system's fan to "auto." The "on" setting allows it to run constantly — even when your house is already cool.

## Retrofitting your manufactured home for energy efficiency

- 1 Install energy-efficient windows and doors.
- 2 Replace insulation in the belly.
- 3 Make general repairs (seal bottom board; caulk windows, doors, ducts, etc.).
- 4 Add insulation to your walls.
- 5 Install or seal belly wrap.
- 6 Add insulation to your roof, or install a roof cap.



Original artwork provided by Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives



# SUMMER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

There are many ways you can practice energy efficiency in your home. Use the word bank below to complete the crossword puzzle. Be sure to tell Mom and Dad about these energy-efficiency tips so you can practice at home!

## DOWN

1. Use ceiling \_\_\_\_\_ to circulate cool air.
2. Taking \_\_\_\_\_ are more energy efficient than taking baths.
3. Always turn the \_\_\_\_\_ off when you leave a room.

## ACROSS

4. Plant shade \_\_\_\_\_ around your home.
5. Open \_\_\_\_\_ on cool evenings and turn off the air conditioner.
6. Close shades, drapes and blinds during the \_\_\_\_\_ to help keep warm air out of your home.



**Word Bank:**

- Trees
- Showers
- Daytime
- Windows
- Lights
- Fans

June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## A message from your co-op's President and CEO

### Summer brings higher temps and TVA rates

There are so many great things about summer. I really enjoy the longer days because they give me more time with family. I'm a golfer and enjoy the outdoors, too, so I especially like the sunshine and warmer temperatures. What I don't like, and I'm sure you can relate, are the higher energy bills that summer can bring.

Hot temperatures, coupled with the Tennessee Valley Authority's higher summer (June, July, August and September) wholesale rates, can increase our bills. The cost per kilowatt-hour is higher during these months because TVA has to pay more for power it purchases on the open market. These higher rates don't generate additional revenue for Gibson EMC; we will pass it on to TVA.

Like you, I want to do all I can to control these increased energy costs. At my house, we're on Gibson

EMC's Pay-As-You-Go (PAY-Go) program. Because we can easily track our electricity use each day and see what it is costing us, PAY-Go helps us to manage our consumption. It shows us that moving the thermostat up a degree or two and flipping the lights off when we leave a room really do save money. PAY-Go also lets us know how much we're spending on electricity each day rather than having to wait until the end of the month. I don't like surprises.

I also use Gibson EMC's Use Management Tool (pictured at left) and encourage you to check it out, too. It allows me to graph and track our daily and monthly electricity use. With it, I can see when our electricity use is running higher so I can immediately take steps to reduce it. I can view weather data overlays for average, high and low temperatures and cooling or heating degree days and see how the weather is impacting our consumption. It's available through the [www.gibsonemc.com](http://www.gibsonemc.com) website or through our free "Gibson EMC" app.

I'm personally interested in using electricity efficiently to save my family energy dollars, but as President and CEO of Gibson EMC, I also want to help you save money. Why? Gibson EMC is not-for-profit, member-owned and member-controlled. We're not here to make money for stockholders; we're here to serve you, our members.



Dan Rodamaker  
President and CEO  
Gibson EMC



### Is PAY-Go the right choice for you?

Gibson Electric Membership Corporation's Pay-As-You-Go (PAY-Go) option offers you the opportunity to pay for electricity when you want in the amount you want. This approach gives you more flexibility and control ... and typically saves money as well. Don't know if PAY-Go is right for you? If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, PAY-Go could be your best option:

- Does making smaller, weekly or biweekly payments seem more manageable than making one larger payment on a predetermined due date?

- Would you enjoy the peace of mind that comes from knowing you will never pay a late fee even if you have no funds in your Gibson EMC account?
- Would you like to avoid paying a security deposit or use your current deposit to pay toward your electric bill?
- Are you interested in lowering your electricity consumption to save on electricity costs?

If you think Gibson EMC's PAY-Go option is the right choice for you, call or visit your local member service center.

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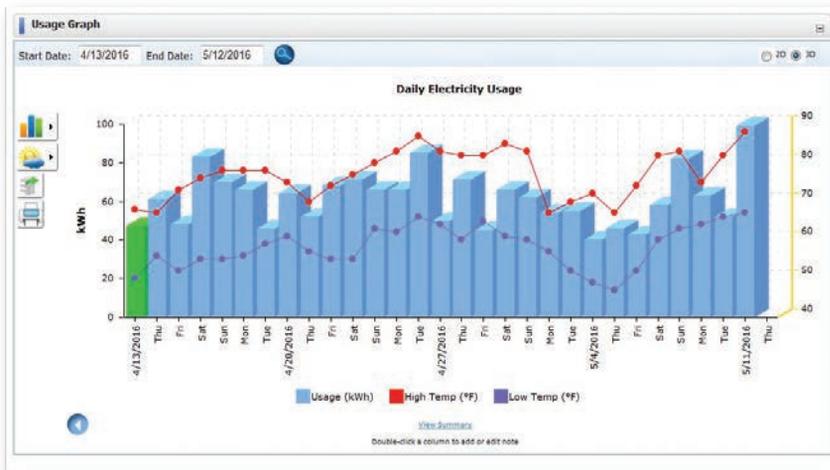
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# hAPPY to help

**A**re you aware that Gibson Electric Membership Corporation offers its members a FREE mobile app that is available in both the App Store and Google Play?

If you haven't yet taken advantage of this service, help is on the way! Gibson EMC energy services personnel will be hitting the road, visiting member service centers during the month of June to help you download the app and demonstrate its features. The app provides fast, mobile and secure account access that will allow you to easily manage your account details, view your bill, make payments, schedule alerts and reminders, receive push notifications and more.

Our app also will give you quick access to our contact information, office addresses, hours and outage map. It's the easiest way to report an outage, too. If interested in adding the "Gibson EMC" app to your smartphone or tablet, visit your local member service center on the specified date. We'll have employees there waiting who are hAPPY to help!

<b>June 8</b>	Trenton Alamo	8 a.m.-noon 1-4 p.m.
<b>June 15</b>	Troy Tiptonville	8 a.m.-noon 1-4 p.m.
<b>June 22</b>	Hickman	8 a.m.-noon



## Gibson EMC welcomes Spencer

**G**ibson Electric Membership Corporation is pleased to announce that Landon Spencer has joined its Trenton Member Service Center as an Apprentice Lineworker.

Spencer, a Bradford native and graduate of Gibson County High School, completed the North American Lineman Training Center Pre-Apprentice Lineworker Program in December 2014 and has worked for

Memphis Light, Gas and Water since April 2015.

"I am glad to have been offered a position close to home doing a job that I enjoy," Spencer says.

"Landon's previous lineworker training will help him to begin contributing on Day One," Vice President of Operations and System Planning Barry Smith said. "We are happy to have him on board and know that he will be a great addition to our team."



*Apprentice Lineworker  
Landon Spencer*

## 2016 Rural Electric Youth Tour winners

**H**igh school juniors in Gibson Electric Membership Corporation's service area had the opportunity recently to compete in our 2016 Short Story Contest.

Matthew Watson, a South Gibson County High School student, was the top winner. Matthew won an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., on the Rural Electric Youth Tour in June. His short story is also competing with the top en-

tries from throughout Tennessee for \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 college scholarships sponsored by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association.

Six other students have been awarded spots on the Rural Electric Youth Tour and are pictured at right: Ashton McCage, Bailey Burden, Tucker Pounds, Jennan Dial, Anna Gorman and Halley Stewart.

## Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life

By Matthew Watson

**O**n the first day of the new school year, I heard the bell sound, and then Principal Lewis announced, "Welcome back, students; I hope that you had a wonderful vacation and that you are ready to get back to learning and start this school year off with a blast."

I am now in my junior year of high school, but it feels like I just started. I have made a whole new group of friends since I started high school. I play baseball and pingpong and I am in the Beta Club. As I step into my first block class, I see the same people I have grown up with over the years. When I reach my seat, I see an unfamiliar face. I ask some of my neighbors who this kid is, but they do not know who he is either. I am about to get up and ask him when my teacher, Mrs. Hollis, walks in and asks us to take a seat. She

starts to go over the morning announcements with us and takes roll. When she gets to his name, I cannot help but giggle a little bit because his name is so extraordinary.

Mrs. Hollis confidently exclaims, "Gamba Zaid."

tells me that his name means "wealthy soldier." It means a lot to him because that is what his father was before he was murdered. His father was a military leader whose army had been defeated, and he had been overthrown.

His family lost all of their money, and they were relocated to a concentration camp. A few months passed since his father's death and his mother, who was already pregnant before his death, gave birth to Gamba. Gamba never got the privilege of having electricity because the camp that he was sent to did not have electricity for the captives. I wondered why he was so amazed by the lights all around the school because he was looking at them with

so much confusion. The government was finally re-established, and his village was set free when Gamba was



South Gibson County High School English Teacher Kelli Dear and Gibson EMC's overall short story winner Matthew Watson.

She tells us that he doesn't speak much English, but he can understand it. At lunch I sit with Gamba, and I get the chance to really learn about him and where he comes from. He

*Continued on page 24 ...*



*Crockett County High School trip winner Ashton McCage, left, and English Teacher Natasha Smith.*



*Lake County High School English Teacher Sharlene Angleton, left, and trip winner Bailey Burden.*



*Obion County Central High School winner Tucker Pound, left, and English Teacher Ron Ramage.*



*Obion County Central High School trip winner Jennan Dial, left, and English Teacher Sherri Bing.*



*Dyer County High School English Teacher Michael Shirley, left, and trip winner Anna Gorman.*



*Fulton County High School trip winner Halley Stewart, left, and Principal Ellen Murphy.*

## Powering Everyday Life

... Continued from page 22

15. That is when he got the chance to travel to the United States and learn.

I ask Gamba if he had ever seen electric lights before, and he replied, "From a distance but never this close." It is sad to think that some people in the world have never had the chance to live with electricity.

I think about it hard all night when I get home. I start to think of ways that I can make Gamba's experience in the United States the best that I can. I think of the ways I can show him how electricity works and the benefits of having electricity.

I take him to my local electric co-op and get some co-op workers to talk to him about all the ways electricity works and what an electric co-op does. They tell him they provide electricity to rural areas that otherwise would not have electricity that they could afford. I ask the lady in charge of the co-op to see if she can arrange to locate a co-op where Gamba lives. She said she could get in touch with people and see what she could do.

Well, months pass, and the semester is almost over. It is almost time for Gamba to go back home. We have become so close in the past six months that it will be hard to see him leave. We have become best friends and do everything

together. We play baseball and go to the movies, and I help him with his homework for English. He has taught me how to fish with just a stick and some string and how to do some of his native traditional dances. He tells me all the war stories that his dad told his mom. I do not know how he feels because I have always had the privilege of having both a mom and dad in my family. I feel awful that he has had to go through that, and I realize I have taken my parents for granted.

Well, the day I have been dreading has finally come: the day that Gamba is supposed to go home. The students all gather in the gym for a special farewell to Gamba that the faculty and staff have put together. We have pizza, a cookie cake and a whole bunch of drinks. We also have a lot of farewell gifts, and the school donates \$1,000 to Gamba and his village. The teachers also have one more surprise up their sleeves: The lady in charge of the co-op has gotten in touch with her board members to see what they can do for Gamba. We learn that the co-op has begun building an electric cooperative in his village, and it should be done in less than a month. The look on his face is priceless. He is so thankful, and I am thankful for making a lifelong friend. Now he can enjoy electricity, too!

## Short story scholarship winners

Six high school students won \$500 scholarships at Gibson Electric Membership Corporation's annual meeting in March. Their names were drawn from a pool of students who wrote short stories meeting eligibility requirements in Gibson EMC's Washington Youth Tour Short Story Contest last year.

Winning scholarships are Kara DeSpain, Dyer County High School; Cody Little, Obion County Central High School; Terry Newsome, Gibson County High School; Casey Rickett, Crockett County High School; Kylira Williams, Fulton County High School; and Ishamel Young, Lake County High School.



Kara DeSpain



Cody Little



Terry Newsome



Casey Rickett



Kylira Williams



Ishamel Young



Gibson EMC Vice President of Human Resources and Communications Rita Alexander announces door prize winners at the cooperative's 80th annual members' meeting at Gibson County High School in Dyer, Tennessee.

## Make the most of ceiling fans

*By turning on the fan, you can turn up the savings!*

If you are like most Americans, you have at least one ceiling fan in your home. Ceiling fans help our indoor life feel more comfortable. They are decorative additions to our homes and, if used properly, can help lower energy costs.

Here are some tips for making the most of your ceiling fans:

**1. Flip the switch** — Most ceiling fans have a switch near the blades. In warm months, flip the switch so that the blades operate in a counterclockwise direction, effectively producing a “wind chill” effect. Fans make the air near them feel cooler than it actually is. In winter, move the switch so the fan blades rotate clockwise, creating a gentle updraft. This pushes warm air down from the ceiling into occupied areas of the room. Regardless of the season, try operating the fan on its lowest setting.



*In warm months, flip the switch so that the blades operate in a counterclockwise direction. Icon made by Freepik from [www.flaticon.com](http://www.flaticon.com)*

**2. Adjust your thermostat** — In the summer, when using a fan in conjunction with an air conditioner or instead of it, you can turn your thermostat up 3 to 5 degrees without any reduction in comfort. This saves money since a fan is less costly to run than an air conditioner. In the winter, lower your thermostat's set point by the same amount. Ceiling fans push the warm air from the ceiling back down toward the living space, which means you won't have to use your furnace as frequently.

**3. Choose the right size** — Make sure your ceiling fan is the right size for the room. A fan that is 36-44 inches in diameter will cool rooms up to 225 square feet. A fan that is 52 inches or more should be used to cool a larger space.

**4. Turn it off** — When the room is unoccupied, turn the fan off. Fans are intended to cool people — not rooms.

# A NIGHT WITH THE GENERALS RETURNS

Saturday, July 9, at 6:05 p.m.

**G**ibson Electric Membership Corporation believes family fun should be a national pastime. Since 2014, Gibson EMC has been proud to offer an opportunity for our members to enjoy a FREE Jackson Generals baseball game. We are thrilled that our partnership with the Generals will allow us to continue this program for the third season.

Look in your July issue of *The Tennessee Magazine* for your special voucher. As in years past, simply present your voucher at the ticket window to receive two FREE general-admission tickets.

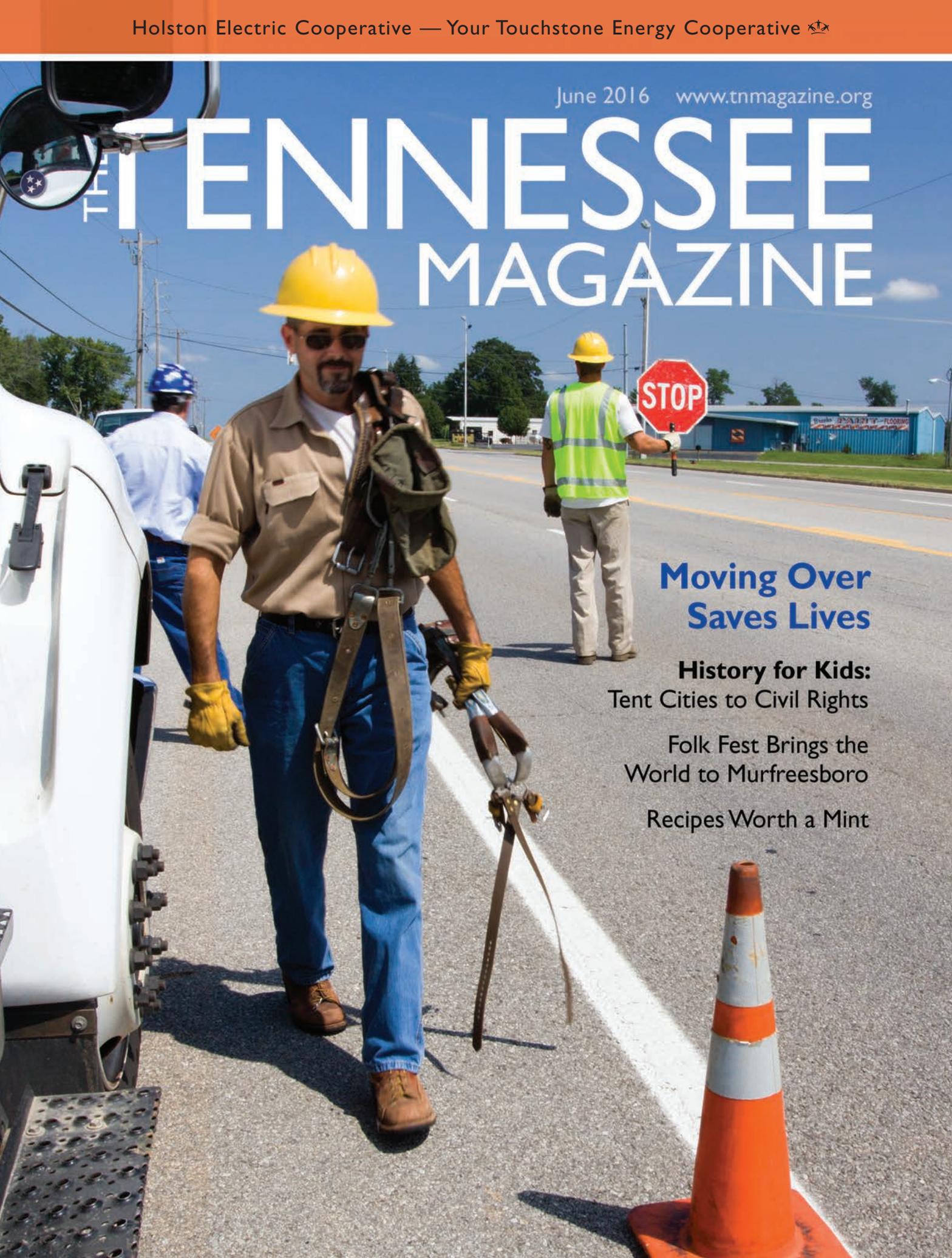
"We are proud to partner again with the Generals to provide an opportunity for really great family entertainment," says Gibson EMC Vice President of Member Care Kerry Watson.

At last year's event, from left, President and CEO Dan Rodamaker, Audri Forrester (granddaughter of Board Member Keith Forester) and Keith Forrester.



June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## Holston Electric Cooperative

Serving more than 30,000 customers in Hawkins and Hamblen counties.

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P.O. Box 190  
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423-272-8821  
423-272-6811

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### Church Hill office

Highway 11-W and  
South Central Avenue  
Church Hill, TN 37642  
423-357-6441

### Russellville office

Highway 11-E  
Russellville, TN 37860

### General Manager

James B. Sandlin

### Board of Directors

#### President:

Gordell Ely

#### Vice President:

Jeff Ringley

#### Secretary-Treasurer:

Melvin Greene

Phil Barrett  
Brent Price  
David Marshall  
Lynn Parker

To report an outage or electrical emergency, call 423-272-8821 or 423-235-6811 day or night.

## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

# We are prepared for summer storms

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Holston Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, though, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first — damage to lines, which serve thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we

can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

Holston Electric Cooperative's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify Holston Electric Cooperative so crews can inspect these lines.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to check the outage map at [www.holstonelectric.com](http://www.holstonelectric.com) and the mobile app for the latest updates during a power outage.



James B. Sandlin  
General Manager,  
Holston Electric  
Cooperative

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

# HEC announces writing contest winners

The Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest for high school juniors that began in October has concluded, and the winners from Morristown-Hamblen East, Cherokee and Volunteer high schools have been determined.

Gia Hodges won first place at Morristown-Hamblen East High School and was named overall winner among all three high schools that participate in Holston Electric Cooperative's contest. Her story has been entered in the statewide competition for one of three college scholarships. At Morristown-Hamblen East, D.J. Amos won second place, and Alexis Everhart placed third.

Cherokee High School winners are Olivia Snodgrass, first place; Kierra Bullion, second; and Allison Evans, third.

Winners from Volunteer High School are Devon Gill, first; Brevin Morris, second; and Saianne Bryant, third.

The Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest is conducted each year as part of a statewide program to help educate young people about basic cooperative values and the history of rural electrification. The Youth Tour is sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association, Holston Electric Cooperative and 22 other electric cooperatives across Tennessee. The theme for this year's competition was "Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life," and students were asked to write short stories describing how local electric cooperatives ensure future success in their service areas by taking active roles in improving everyday lives across their communities.

Six of these contest winners will join hundreds of other students from across the country as participants on the Youth Tour June 10-16 in Washington, D.C.

*At top, from left are Morristown-Hamblen East High School winners Alexis Everhart, D.J. Amos and Gia Hodges. Center, from left are Olivia Snodgrass, Allison Evans and Kierra Bullion of Cherokee High School. Bottom, winners from Volunteer High School are Devon Gill and Brevin Morris. Not pictured is Saianne Bryant.*



# Lake cleanup efforts clear tons of trash

Trading a beautiful spring Saturday of fishing for a morning of picking up trash around Cherokee Lake doesn't seem like a very smart decision, but that's exactly what 86 people did, gathering at Quarryville Boat Ramp on April 16 for the Cherokee Lake POWER Cleanup.

More than 1.5 tons of trash was removed from eight different sites during the annual cleanup. With a total of 315 manpower hours provided, volunteers gathered 151 bags of trash, including diapers, plastic bags, styrofoam and glass. Additionally, seven tires were collected.

The three-hour effort involved residents from the area and participants from these businesses, clubs and organizations: Holston Electric Cooperative, US Bank, Cub Scout Pack 100, Rogersville Heritage Lites, Food City, Super Dollar, Legacy Bay Homeowners Association and the Rogersville-Hawkins County Chamber of Commerce.

Holston EC, the Tennessee Valley Authority and Rogersville-Hawkins County Chamber of Commerce joined forces to sponsor this year's tremendous effort.



*Representatives from US Bank*



*Cub Scout Pack 100*



*Heritage Lites*



*Food City and Super Dollar employees*

# Don't drive blindfolded down the highway

By Anne Prince

**W**ould you drive on a highway blindfolded? Of course not. However, if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cell phone also carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them — traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians — when talking on a cell phone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving — talking, texting, sending emails — is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and, most likely, we, ourselves, have used a phone while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel to focus on activities other than driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each day in the U.S., more than nine people are killed and more than 1,153 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Administration notes that 3,154 people were killed and an estimated 424,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2013.

Texting and cell phone use behind the wheel take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel and your focus off driving — putting the driver and others in danger, including passengers, pedestrians, other

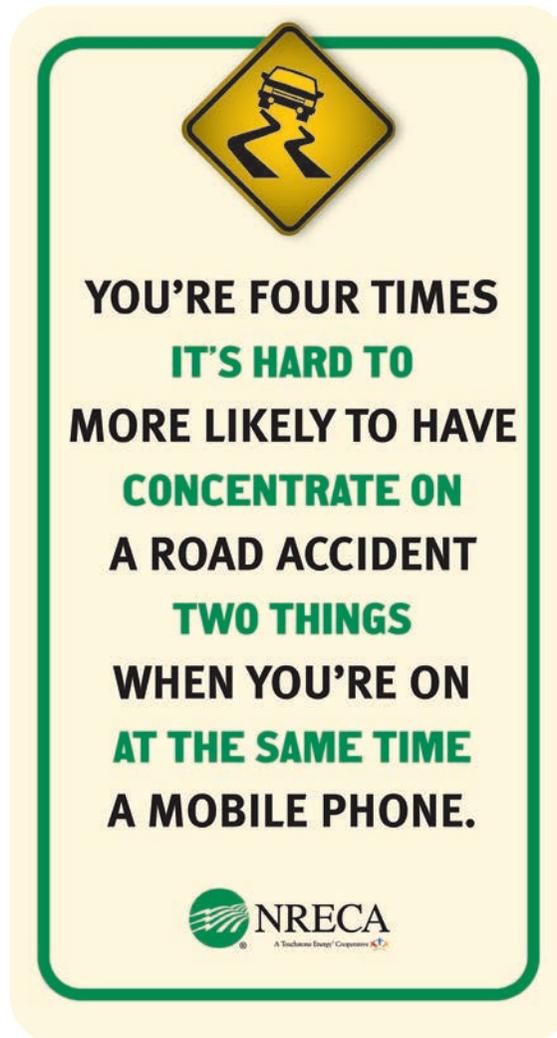
drivers and bystanders. On the tragic end of the spectrum, victims' families, friends, co-workers and community are impacted.

At Holston Electric Cooperative, safety is a core value. At this time of year in particular, when more people are on the roads and kids are out of school, our goal at your electric cooperative is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cell phone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the potential danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends and neighbors safer by putting their

phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving.

*Anne Prince writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Virginia-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*



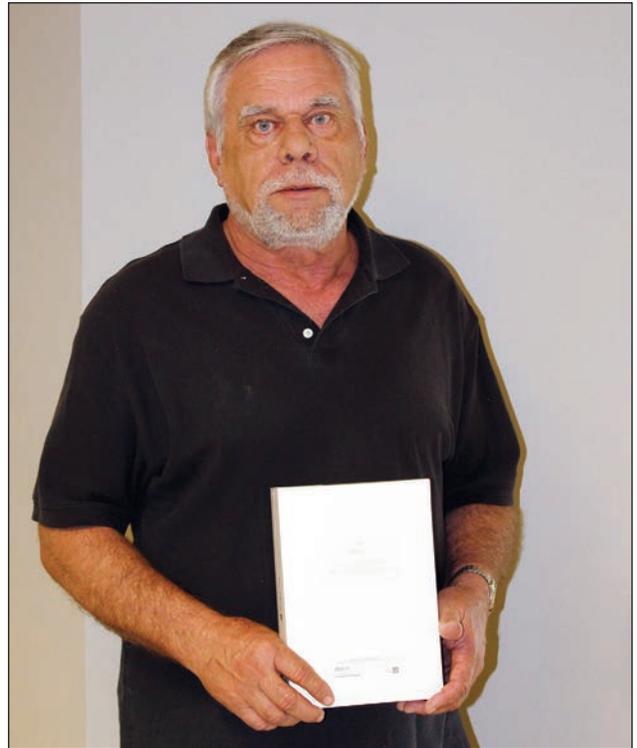
# Williams wins an iPad. You can, too!

**T**ax day is often dreaded by many and perhaps even considered a day of misfortune. Holston Electric Cooperative member Charles Williams of Rogersville never realized April 15 would, in fact, be his lucky day. By simply completing and returning the survey in his March edition of *The Tennessee Magazine*, Williams won a new iPad Air 2.

Williams stopped by the Holston Electric Cooperative office on March 25 to claim his prize. “The wife and I are going on vacation soon, and we will be able to use this while we are out there,” an excited Williams said.

Grateful for his new iPad, Williams encourages others to complete the survey on the following page and return it as soon as possible. Once an additional 2,000 responses are received, Holston Electric Cooperative will hold a drawing for another iPad.

*Charles Williams of Rogersville is the lucky winner of an iPad Air 2.*



## SAVE THE DATE

The Annual Meeting  
of Holston Electric Cooperative  
will be held Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016,  
at the Rogersville office.  
Business meeting begins at 7 p.m.

A drawing will be held at the conclusion of the business meeting  
for a retired Holston Electric Cooperative  
2008 Ford F-150 four-wheel-drive truck.

The drawing is only open to Holston Electric Cooperative members who register for the annual meeting. Employees, directors, retirees, corporations, subcontractors and representatives and their immediate families (mother, father, brothers, sisters, spouse) are not eligible. Winner will accept the vehicle “as-is,” and taxes on the fair market value are the sole responsibility of the winner.

Recipient will be required to complete tax documents. Acceptance of the prize constitutes permission for Holston Electric Cooperative to use winner’s name, likeness and other personally identifiable information for promotional, advertising and marketing purposes.

# Win a new iPad!

Holston Electric Cooperative is assessing the needs of our members. By simply filling out this survey and returning it to any Holston Electric Cooperative office, you will have the chance to win an iPad. Only Holston Electric Cooperative members are eligible. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. One entry per household. Holston Electric Cooperative employees, directors and their immediate family members are ineligible to win. Taxes are the sole responsibility of the winner, and the winner may be required to complete tax forms.



Name as it appears on your account

Holston Electric Cooperative account number

Mailing address

City, state, ZIP

Telephone number

**Television providers available in your area** (Please check all that apply)

Charter     DirecTV     Dish     Spirit/Middle Tennessee     Xfinity     Other \_\_\_\_\_ None

**Who is your television programming provider?**

Charter     DirecTV     Dish     Spirit/Middle Tennessee     Xfinity     Other \_\_\_\_\_ None

**How long have you had service with this provider?**

New     1-3 years     3-5 years     6 or more years

**Do the services offered by this provider meet your needs?**

Yes     No

**Telephone providers available in your area** (Please check all that apply)

AT&T     Charter     CenturyLink     Verizon     Xfinity     Other \_\_\_\_\_ None

**Who is your home phone/landline telephone provider?**

AT&T     Charter     CenturyLink     Verizon     Xfinity     Other \_\_\_\_\_ None

**How long have you had service with this provider?**

New     1-3 years     3-5 years     6 or more years

**Do the services offered by this provider meet your needs?**

Yes     No

**Internet service providers available in your area** (Please check all that apply)

AT&T     CenturyLink     Charter     Verizon     Xfinity     dishNet     Earthlink     Exede     HughesNet     Other \_\_\_\_\_ None

**Who is your internet service provider?**

AT&T     CenturyLink     Charter     Verizon     Xfinity     dishNet     Earthlink     Exede     HughesNet     Other \_\_\_\_\_ None

**How long have you had service with this provider?**

New     1-3 years     3-5 years     6 or more years

**Do the services offered by this provider meet your needs?**

Yes     No

**Which items would you connect to available internet?** (Please check all that apply)

PC/Laptop/Tablet     Gaming System     Ipad     Smartphone     Other \_\_\_\_\_ None

# Put your computer to sleep

Just like apps and graphics eating up the battery power on your cell phone, extra features on computers can unnecessarily use energy. And that could be costing you extra on your electric bill. If your home has multiple computers, don't let them waste energy. Here's how to start:

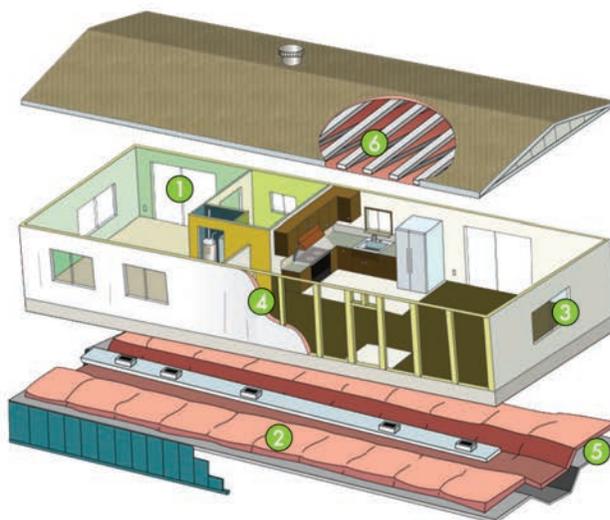


- Unplug seldom-used computers. Even if they are shut down, they continue to draw small amounts of electricity as long as they are plugged into the wall.
- Move the computer and printer in each room near the TV and phone charger, and plug them all into a power strip. That will make it easy to switch them all off when you leave the house for the day or turn in at night. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that devices that are always on use up to 23 percent of a home's electricity — even though the appliances are rarely in use.

- Set each computer to “sleep mode.” That will slow it down when it's not in use so it uses less electricity.
- Program the “hibernate” function on your computers to turn them off when they're not in use for more than 30 minutes. “Hibernate” shuts the device down but makes it easy to recover everything you were working on when you switch it back on.
- Get rid of screen savers: They turn your computer monitor into an energy hog. Better to set the monitor to shut down after 15 minutes of inactivity.
- Switch to a laptop. Portable devices like iPads and Kindle tablets use up to a third less energy than a big desktop computer and monitor.
- Buy an Energy Star-rated computer next time you need a new one. The label guarantees that the machine is energy-efficient.

## Retrofitting your manufactured home for energy efficiency

- 1 Install energy-efficient windows and doors.
- 2 Replace insulation in the belly.
- 3 Make general repairs (seal bottom board; caulk windows, doors, ducts, etc.).
- 4 Add insulation to your walls.
- 5 Install or seal belly wrap.
- 6 Add insulation to your roof, or install a roof cap.



Original artwork provided by Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives



June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**



*Celebrating 75 Years  
1941-2016*

## Mountain Electric Cooperative

604 S. Church St.  
Mountain City, TN 37683  
423-727-1800  
www.mountain.coop

**Newland, N.C., office**  
1373 Elk Park Highway  
Newland, NC 28657  
828-733-0159

**Roan Mountain, Tenn., office**  
8477 Highway 19E  
Roan Mountain, TN 37687  
423-772-3521

**Office Hours**  
Monday through Friday  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

**General Manager**  
Joe Thacker

### Board of Directors

President —  
**R. Bruce Lacey** (District 5)  
Vice President —  
**George Lowe** (District 2)  
Secretary/Treasurer —  
**Joe Atwood** (District 1)  
**Ross Dowell** (District 3)  
**Harry Smith** (District 4)  
**Ronnie Townson** (District 6)  
**W.O. Hampton** (District 7)  
**David Ellis** (District 8)

## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

# What's in it for 'we?'

One of the most attractive features of cooperatives is that we answer the popular question, "What's in it for me?" with "What's in it for we!" Cooperatives are formed when the market fails to offer goods or services with decent quality at an affordable price. Mountain Electric Cooperative was formed in 1941 because when investor-owned utilities realized there was not enough profit to be made in our community, they refused to offer electricity.

The founding members of MEC went door-to-door to collect \$5 in order to raise a portion of the original investment the co-op needed. Each of those "go-getters" realized that the only way to get electricity for "me" was to get it for "we," the whole community.

Since cooperative ownership is in the hands of the people who use the co-op's goods and services (instead of investors), not only do co-ops start out answering the question of "What's in it for we?" but continue to answer that question for as long as they exist.



**Joe Thacker**  
General Manager,  
Mountain Electric  
Cooperative

These days, we often hear about companies that abandon their local communities and move overseas in search of cheaper labor. This negatively impacts the community through job loss, decline in housing values and school closures. Because local residents own a majority of cooperatives, they are less likely to leave their community. In fact, it would be impossible for MEC to leave our area. The co-op is a critical part of what makes the community a community.

The way co-ops continue to answer the question, "What's in it for we?" is critical to their survival. It is imperative that we keep you — our members — as the primary focus. Keeping rates as low as possible is one major part of that focus, but ensuring that we provide real value as your trusted energy adviser is also extremely important.

By maintaining that focus with your help and support, we will continue to be able to serve the "me" and the "we" in our community long into the future.



*In Mountain Electric Cooperative's early days, new members received membership cards like this one that was submitted to MEC by Mrs. Helen Hampton of Roan Mountain, Tennessee.*

# Operation Pocket Change

## *Changing Lives with Pocket Change*

**O**peration Pocket Change funded \$19,502.32 in community/individual service grants in March and April. Since the inception of the program in 2002, more than \$2 million in grants and scholarships has been awarded. Applications can be picked up at any office and are also available online at [www.mountainelectric.com](http://www.mountainelectric.com). Submit completed applications to one of the co-op offices prior to the second Tuesday of each month. For additional information, contact the office of Member Services at 423-727-1811.

### *Grants in March and April*

Johnson County 4-H: Miscellaneous programs	\$ 4,805.00
Avery County Group Home: Supplies for handicapped residents	\$ 802.32
Trade Community Center: Construct a storm shelter for the community	\$ 10,000.00
Three individual medical hardships	\$ 2,395.00
Long Journey Home Music Heritage Festival (Johnson County Arts Council): Miscellaneous expenses	\$ 1,500.00

***Total for March and April*** ***\$19,502.32***

The program is completely voluntary. All it takes is a phone call to your local MEC to participate in the program. You can cancel at any time, also by a phone call. Roughly 26,000 members participate in Operation Pocket Change.

---

## Calendar of events

### *Mountain City, Tennessee*

**June 3-4 and 10-11 at 7 p.m. and June 4 at 3 p.m.** • “The Last Roundup of the Guacamole Queens” at Heritage Hall Theatre. For tickets or more information, call 423-727-7444.

**June 3 • Annual Johnson County Chamber of Commerce Dinner and Awards Event.** For tickets or more information, call 423-727-5800.

**June 10 • Deputy Allen Lipford Car and Bike Show.** For more information, call 423-291-1082.

**June 24 at 7 p.m.** • “Tribute to Patsy Cline with Katy Deal” at Heritage Hall Theatre. For tickets or more information, call 423-727-7444.

### *Roan Mountain, Tennessee*

**June 18-19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** • Roan Mountain Rhododendron Festival. Call 423-772-3303 for information.

### *Beech Mountain, North Carolina*

**June 4 from 9 a.m. to noon • Kiddo Fishing Derby** for ages 12 and younger

**June 10-11 • A Cool 5 Race Weekend**

For more information on these events, call 828-387-3003.

# Employees celebrate co-op anniversaries



Ethen Proffitt, 20 years



JD Houtsma, 30 years



Robert Brown, 30 years



Roger Harrauld, 30 years

# MEC announces promotions, new hires



Austin Bell has been promoted to line clearance foreman.



Shane Heaton has been promoted to fourth-step lineman.



Michael Styles has been promoted to second-step lineman.



Jimmy Norwood has been hired as a customer service representative at the Newland office.



Micalea Gragg has been hired as a customer service representative at the Newland office.

# Stay safe around lightning

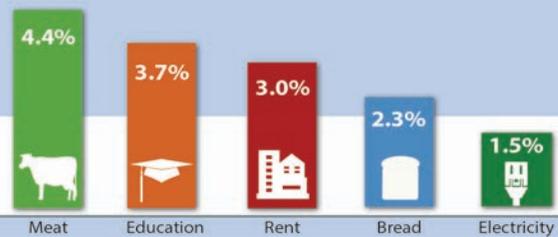
When spring storms shoot lightning down from the sky, know how to keep your family safe. Here is some advice from the National Weather Service:

- Don't touch your plugged-in computer or TV indoors when there's a lightning storm outdoors. Stay safe by using remote controls to operate them.
- Avoid corded phones. It's OK to make calls on cell or cordless phones during a lightning storm.
- To preserve expensive electronic devices, unplug them before the storm hits. Once lightning starts, it's not safe to touch those plugs or cords.
- Keep your distance from anything that can conduct electricity like power lines, barbed-wire fences and, of course, metal ladders.
- Don't go outdoors during a lightning storm, and stay away from windows and doors. Even a small leak can let lightning into your home.

## Electricity remains a good value

The cost of powering your home rises at a slower pace than many of your typical expenses. Compare the average price increases of these expenses each year over the last five years, and the value of electricity shines.

**Average Annual Price Increase**  
2010-2015



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

# MEC honors its linemen on Lineman Appreciation Day

In April, Mountain Electric honored its linemen with cake and ice cream in celebration of Lineman Appreciation Day. Cakes read “MEC Loves Our Linemen” and featured group pictures taken earlier this year of them all on poles.

This is just a small token of gratitude to these men who leave their families at all times of the night, on holidays and during special events like their children’s

baseball games to go make sure MEC members have electricity — not to mention the dangerous and stressful nature of their day-to-day jobs. When you see our linemen out, let them know how much their hard work is appreciated!

A special thank you to the Hardee’s of Mountain City and McDonald’s of Newland for donating sausage biscuits for the linemen’s breakfast.



Linemen from Mountain City, left, and Newland and Roan Mountain, right, celebrate Lineman Appreciation Day.

## We are prepared for summer storms

By Meghaan Evans, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Mountain Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled

first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

MEC’s line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify MEC so crews can inspect these lines.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Remember to stay safe during severe storms by seeking shelter, and be prepared with extra food and water if a storm causes severe damage to MEC’s system, causing prolonged outages.

# Avery Heating & Air, Hometown Heating & Cooling join Quality Contractor Network

**M**ountain Electric recently gained two heat pump contractors eligible to install heat pumps through the Energy Right Loan Program. Avery Heating and Air is located in Newland, North Carolina, and Hometown Heating and Cooling is in Mountain City, Tennessee. Both contractors are licensed in Tennessee and North Carolina.



*Avery Heating and Air*



*Hometown Heating & Cooling  
owner Travis Ward*

## Heat pump loan program offers efficiency and comfort

**O**ne of the biggest energy decisions you'll ever make is how to heat and cool your home. With an energy-efficient heat pump, you get an effective heating and cooling system that equals a comfortable, steady temperature every season of the year.

### *Heat pump loan guidelines*

- Homeowners in the Mountain Electric Cooperative service area qualify for 6-percent-interest loans on energy-efficient heat pumps.
- Maximum loan amounts are \$10,000 for air-source heat pumps and \$12,500 for high-efficiency systems.
- You must use a Quality Contractor Network (QCN) installer approved by MEC and TVA.

### *How to get started*

- Have the required documents for credit approval, i.e. driver's license and Social Security number.

- Call MEC Member Services at 423-727-1805 or 423-727-1811.
- You will receive a loan contract for approval and a list of QCN installers.

### *Once your loan is approved*

- Get estimates and choose a QCN member to perform the installation.
- After your system is installed, a certified heat-and-air specialist will conduct a 40-point inspection of the entire system.
- After the passed inspection, MEC will pay the contractor, and you will begin paying monthly installments on your electric bill.

For more information, contact MEC at 423-727-1805, 423-727-1811 or [brarnold@mountainelectric.com](mailto:brarnold@mountainelectric.com).

# Area farmers markets just keep growing and growing ...

**M**ountain Electric's members are blessed with many opportunities to shop locally, including three farmers markets in our service area selling homegrown food, canned goods and local crafts. Here is the 2016 summer season schedule for the farmers markets in Roan Mountain and Mountain City, Tennessee, and Banner Elk, North Carolina.

## Avery County Farmers Market



Held at the Old Banner Elk Elementary School  
185 Azalea Circle, Banner Elk, NC 28604  
Open from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. each Thursday evening  
April through October.  
Visit the market's Facebook or [www.averycountyfarmersmarket.net](http://www.averycountyfarmersmarket.net).

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



*Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.*

*Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)*

## Roan Mountain Farmers Market



*At the Roan Mountain Farmers Market, you'll find vendors like Mr. Ed selling homegrown fruits and vegetables.*

Located directly behind the Roan Mountain Post Office  
8600 Highway 19E, Roan Mountain, TN 37687  
Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Oct. 1.  
Visit the Roan Mountain Farmers Market Facebook page.

## Johnson County Farmers Market



*Photograph courtesy of Dennis Shekinah*

Held beside the Johnson County Courthouse  
110 Court St., Mountain City, TN 37683  
The market is open from 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, May through October.  
Visit the Facebook page or [johnsoncountyfm.org](http://johnsoncountyfm.org).

# SUMMER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

There are many ways you can practice energy efficiency in your home. Use the word bank below to complete the crossword puzzle. Be sure to tell Mom and Dad about these energy-efficiency tips so you can practice at home!

## DOWN

1. Use ceiling \_\_\_\_\_ to circulate cool air.
2. Taking \_\_\_\_\_ are more energy efficient than taking baths.
3. Always turn the \_\_\_\_\_ off when you leave a room.

## ACROSS

4. Plant shade \_\_\_\_\_ around your home.
5. Open \_\_\_\_\_ on cool evenings and turn off the air conditioner.
6. Close shades, drapes and blinds during the \_\_\_\_\_ to help keep warm air out of your home.



**Word Bank:**

- Trees
- Showers
- Daytime
- Windows
- Lights
- Fans

June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative

**Keith Carnahan, President and CEO**

MLEC Office Hours —  
Monday through Friday,  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Hickman Office

**Dwight Bates, District Manager**

Phone: 931-729-3558  
After Hours, Holidays,  
Weekends: 1-800-482-6553  
(including Dyer Road)

Houston Office

**Jeff Rye, District Manager**

Phone: 931-289-3311  
After Hours, Holidays,  
Weekends: 1-800-650-6814

Humphreys Office

**Carl Brazzle, District Manager**

Phone: 931-296-2581  
After Hours, Holidays,  
Weekends: 1-800-893-8273

Lewis Office

**Jason Graves, District Manager**

Phone: 931-796-3116  
After Hours, Holidays,  
Weekends: 1-800-256-2807

Perry Office

**Derle Hill, District Manager**

Phone: 931-589-2151  
After Hours, Holidays,  
Weekends: 1-800-316-2342  
(including Pleasantville)

Featured this month  
in *Watt's Up* on  
mlec.com

- *Energy Explorer Crossword Puzzle*
- *Stay Safe Around Lightning*
- *Attention: Do-It-Yourself Dads*



Like

or



Follow

The easy way to pay  
Sign up for  
bankdraft today!

## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

### It's pretty simple, really

When you step into a dark room, you flip the switch and expect the lights to come on. It's pretty simple, really. Enter room. Flip switch. Lights come on, and all is good.

When your son or daughter puts dirty clothes in the hamper (good luck with that one), you put the laundry in the washer and expect the clothes to be clean when the cycle stops. It's pretty simple, really. Dirty clothes. Electric washer and detergent. Clothes are clean, and teenager is happy.

When your family sits down for some television, you find the remote and expect to enjoy a good show. It's pretty simple, really. Push buttons on remote. Television comes on, and cherished family memories are made.

These simple tasks take place almost instantaneously with the push of a button or flip of a switch. You most likely don't think about all the preparation and processes that make them happen. Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative is glad. To quote an old line, "We work hard so you don't have to."

Why does this matter? Because serving our members is important to us, and when your electric provider is the locally owned and operated cooperative, it comes with the territory.

MLEC works hard behind the scenes so the energy is there when you need it. We want you to trust that when you need power to cook a meal, wash clothes, search the internet for a research paper or take a hot shower, the power will be there without your having to give it a second thought.

The job of maintaining a distribution power system the size of MLEC — spread across five counties — isn't easy and is neverending. Our team works tirelessly on continual upgrades and improvements. Our commitment to you, our member-owners,

is to keep safety, cost and reliability our priorities. It's pretty simple, really.

If MLEC did not dedicate time and resources to building a quality power system, the result would be one none of us wants or expects.

Linemen, of course, immediately come to mind. MLEC's 23 linemen and apprentices cover 3,400 miles of line. Add the 83,000 poles and connected equipment maintained by MLEC, and you get a glimpse of the big job on their shoulders.

Thankfully, they do not act alone. Just like the infrastructure of the counties and communities we serve, MLEC relies heavily on our entire team.

Keeping trees away from the power lines is as important as regular equipment checks and safety briefings. If trees touch the

lines, your lights may flicker, and they may go out. By the same token, someone in the vicinity might receive a little shock or a deadly lesson. It takes planning and dedication by our right-of-way coordinator and others to avoid such unwanted situations.

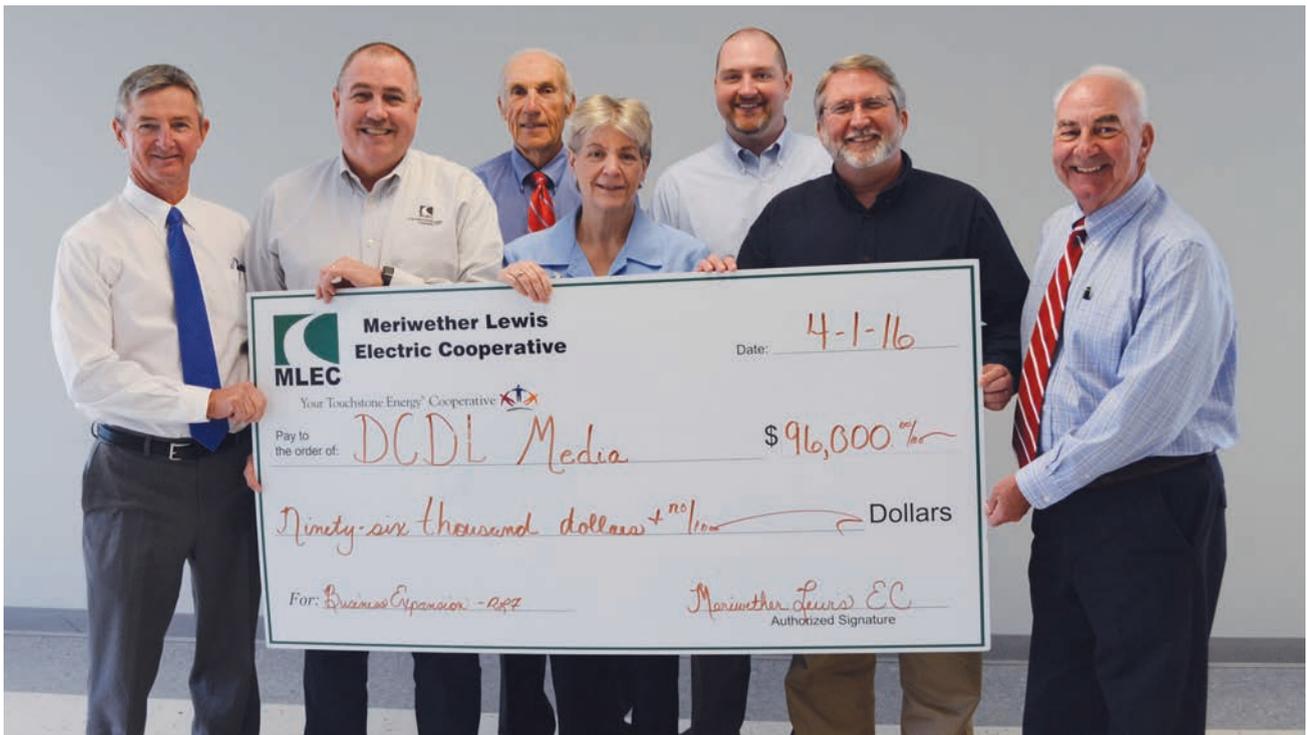
It's a team effort at MLEC because co-ops adhere to principles that include training and education, democratic member control, and concern for community. MLEC's engineers, Billing Department, customer service representatives, board and everyone in between do their parts so you can trust that your appliances, equipment, and electronics will respond when you need them.

We say that providing safe, low-cost, reliable electricity is one of our key values, and it isn't just a "company line." It's pretty simple, really. We believe it and are committed to achieving it — because we're the co-op, and that's what we do.



Keith Carnahan  
President and CEO,  
Meriwether Lewis Electric  
Cooperative

*Keith*



MLEC representatives make a check presentation to DCDL Media Owners Connie and Dean Duke. From left are MLEC Board Member Jessie Wallace, MLEC President and CEO Keith Carnahan, MLEC Board Member Reed Dreaden, Connie Duke, MLEC Board Member Andy Porch, Dean Duke and MLEC Board Member Larry Mayberry.

## Making waves (of expansion) in Waverly

DCDL Media of Waverly is getting a little help from its friends at Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative in the form of a zero-interest loan to grow its services for Humphreys County. The loan is made possible by MLEC’s Revolving Loan Fund (RLF).

Owned by Connie and Dean Duke, DCDL Media will use the MLEC loan to complete a project several years in the making to help ensure quality emergency broadcasting for the citizens of Humphreys County using WQMV AM1060. With MLEC’s help, DCDL will purchase the FM license and equipment needed to communicate important news and safety information to area residents during emergency situations.

“MLEC is committed to improving the quality of life in our communities,” says MLEC President and CEO Keith Carnahan. “In this case, we also get the opportunity to increase safety conditions as well. We’re happy to be a source our residential and nonresidential members can call on for help.”

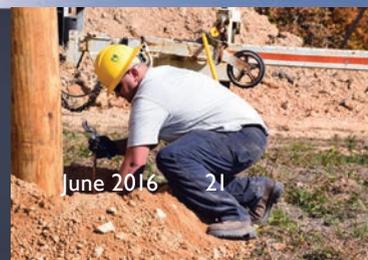
As the loan is paid back over 10 years, MLEC can loan it out again for other economic and community development projects. The RLF was established in 1996 with co-op funds and a grant from Rural Utilities Service. Since its inception, the RLF has awarded nearly \$846,000 in the MLEC service area, supporting the cooperative’s goal to help our communities grow.

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Helping you keep the lights on. Helping you keep informed. To Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative, that’s trust. Learn more at [www.mlec.com](http://www.mlec.com).

MLEC: YOUR SOURCE OF POWER AND INFORMATION.



June 2016 21

*Meriwether Lewis*  
Washington Youth  
Scholarship Winners



# Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Short Story Winners

Each year, high school juniors get the chance to compete in a writing contest held by Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative: the Washington Youth Tour Short Story contest conducted through English classes. The competition encourages students to use their writing skills to create a story based on a given theme. This year, it was “Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Lives.” Prizes include scholarships and an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

More than 200 entries were submitted to MLEC for judging. Students were asked to describe how local electric co-ops help “power everyday life” in their rural communities and how co-ops help those communities realize their full potential, improving lives across their service areas while providing safe, reliable, low-cost electricity to their members.

Scholarship winners (a boy and girl from each high school who reside with an MLEC member) receive \$1,000. The student who receives the highest MLEC score overall earns a \$2,000 scholarship.

The student at each high school receiving the highest score is awarded a spot on the week-long Washington Youth Tour. During the trip, they’ll have the chance to visit our nation’s capital, experience our government in action and learn about the electric cooperative movement.

“Reaching out to local students is important to MLEC,” says Vice President of Employee and Member Services Miranda McCaleb. “Showing our future members what co-ops are all about and helping with their education is the co-op way.”

*MLEC congratulates all of its 2016  
WYT and scholarship winners:*

*\* indicates trip winner \*\* indicates overall winner*

### **1. Hickman County High School:**

Ethan Elliott, Katelyn Prince\* and Brianna Hogan  
— pictured with District Manager Dwight Bates

### **2. East Hickman High School:**

Charis Waters\* and Miles Amos  
— pictured with District Manager Dwight Bates

### **3. Lewis County High School:**

Hope Kelley\*\* and Joel Mozo  
— pictured with District Manager Jason Graves

### **4. Perry County High School:**

Brandon Warren and Michaela Frank\*  
— pictured with Lineman Matthew Lineberry

### **5. McEwen High School:**

Katy Grebner\* and Elijah Drew  
— pictured with McEwen teacher Shannon Tolene and  
District Manager Carl Brazzle

### **6. Waverly Central High School:**

Emma Rushton, Jenny Reynolds\* and Joshua Curtis  
— pictured with Waverly Central Principal Richard  
Rye and District Manager Carl Brazzle

### **7. Houston County High School:**

Emily Jeffers\* and Bryant Wilson  
— pictured with District Manager Jeff Rye





# The Waverly Café

“More than just a cup of coffee” is not only the Waverly Café’s slogan, it is also a description of the menu and community support. Open since 2006, the café is owned by Lori Blosser and Janie Tomlinson.

In addition to a variety of espresso drinks, flavored teas and hot chocolates, the menu includes scones and other pastries, delicious sandwich options and salads. The café also serves brunch items and a “meat-and-three” menu for Sundays.

“When we first opened, people were surprised that we weren’t serving biscuits,” says Lori. “We keep the menu unique to the café and offer things you can’t find anywhere else in town. We want folks to enjoy the food and have a place to belong. The café lets us connect to the community and get to know people.”

With its quaint decor, awesome menu and other services, the café makes good on the promise of connecting with the community.

“Our walls are lined with work by local artists,” says Lori. “We also sell gift items and have a book exchange. School children

can even redeem their reading journals for ice cream. We are also a venue where local authors can do signings and the local radio station does a weekly live broadcast. Then, of course, we have a connection with our regular café customers as well.”

In fact, many regulars purchase Waverly Café mugs and have their names put on them before they’re put on display. Whenever these customers come in, they find their mugs and receive discounts on their purchases. The café also works to do fundraising with the humane society and local school organizations.

As you can see, the Waverly Café makes good on the “more

*“We want customers to feel like this is their café, not ours,” says Janie.*

than just a cup of coffee” tagline. It is this and more. Stop in the next time you visit the Waverly square.

Learn more on Facebook or at [waverlycafe.net](http://waverlycafe.net). Oh, and don’t forget to cash in on your MLEC Co-op Connections Card discount. It’s another partnership brought to you by your local co-op.

**Waverly Café’s Co-op Connections Discount: \$1 off any salad.**



# Ways to save with Wagner

## Summertime Savings



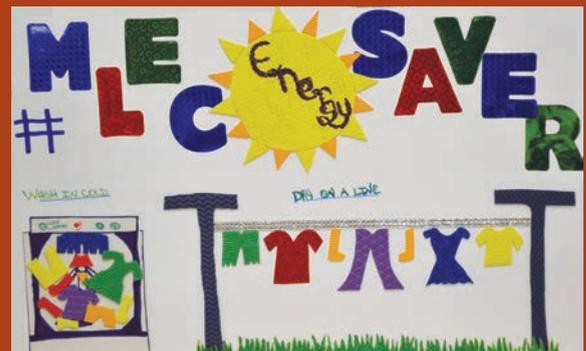
Summer is here and, it seems, ready to stay. But never fear! Meriwether Lewis has you covered when it comes to ways to stay cool and save energy dollars at the same time!

Trying to help our members just comes naturally to the electric utility when it has “cooperative” in the name. Working to educate our members and make them aware of how little changes can add up to big savings is high on our list of “to dos” any time of year.

Here are six summertime savings tips our Energy Specialist Nathan Wagner suggests to help you beat the heat and save some green:

1. Change the air-conditioning system’s filter every month during cooling season — more often if your neighborhood is especially dusty. Dirty filters stop air from flowing through, which makes your air conditioner work harder — and use more energy — as it keeps your home cool.
2. If your air conditioner is controlled by a programmable thermostat, instruct it to run only part of the day. There’s no need to keep your house comfortable while nobody’s in it during the day. Running the air conditioner at night could be less expensive than cranking it up during the day when it’s hot and demand for electricity is at its peak.
3. Run your ceiling fans. If you don’t have any, consider them a good investment. Install them in bedrooms, the kitchen and the living room. Fans move the air around and make the people in the room feel cooler. And they’re much less expensive to operate than an air conditioner.
4. Close the drapes. A sunny day is pretty to look at through the window, but hot rays can heat the air in your home and force the air conditioner to work overtime. Keep curtains and blinds drawn on bright, hot days, especially on south- and west-facing windows.
5. Wait until after dark to run your pool pump. Operating it during off-peak hours when fewer people are using a lot of appliances at once can save money on your energy bill.
6. Switch your central air-conditioning system’s fan to “auto.” The “on” setting allows it to run constantly — even when your house is already cool.

### MLEC Energy Tip by Annie Villarreal



Annie is Houston County’s K-2 first-place winner of MLEC’s #MLECEnergySaver poster contest that took place this past fall. What a smart young lady!

# Calling all candidates!

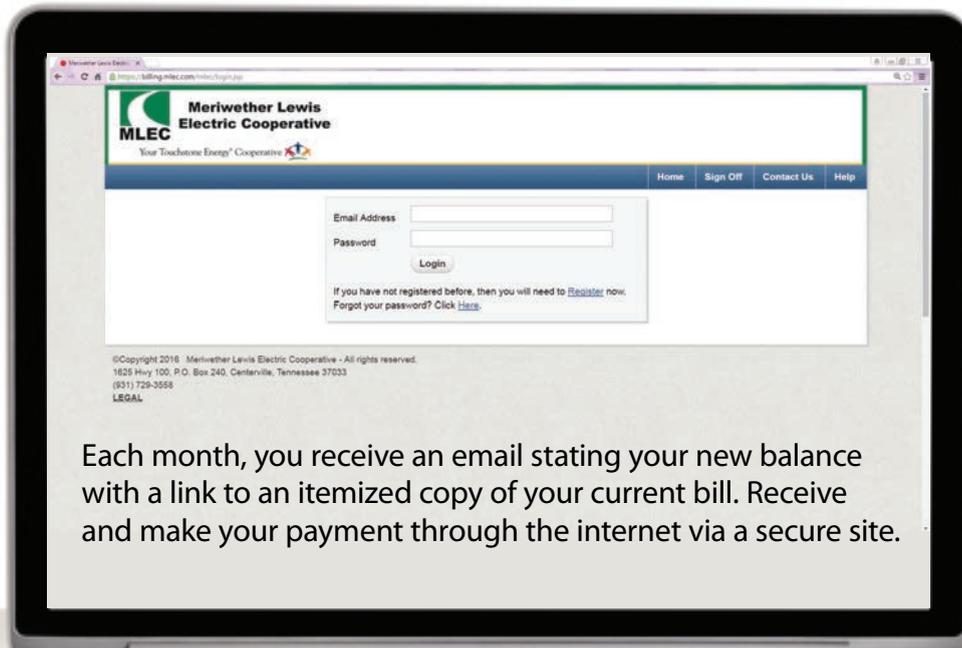
Any Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative member desiring to run for an open position on the MLEC board must meet specified qualifications and submit a Declaration of Candidacy form by close of business day on Friday, July 15, 2016. Declaration forms can be obtained from MLEC. Elections are only held in each county where a director's term expires. This year, there is only one county with an election, and it is Humphreys County. (More details will be available at [www.mlec.com](http://www.mlec.com).) Voting will take place at the district membership meeting in October.

## Candidate requirements:

- Must be a natural person at least 18 years of age and a member in good standing now receiving residential electric service from the cooperative.
- Must not be an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the cooperative nor a child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew of an employee of the cooperative related by blood, adoption or marriage.
- Must not be a former employee nor the spouse of a former employee of the cooperative unless employment with cooperative was at least two years prior to the date of the forthcoming district election.
- Is a high school graduate or holds a GED certificate.
- Has continually resided in the district from which election is being sought.
- Has never been convicted of a felony.
- If a candidate for re-election, must have received certification of completion of the Credentialed Cooperative Director Curriculum offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association or such similar cooperative director education and training program approved from time to time by the board of directors. If not a candidate for re-election, must understand that such will be a requirement for qualification to stand for any future re-election.

Submit completed Declaration of Candidacy and Statement of Qualifications by mail to Cooperative Secretary Pam O'Donnell at P.O. Box 240, Centerville, TN 37033, or by email to [pam.odonnell@mlec.com](mailto:pam.odonnell@mlec.com) by close of business Friday, July 15, 2016. Forms are available at each MLEC office or by calling 931-729-7231 or emailing [power@mlec.com](mailto:power@mlec.com).

## MLEC payment options: online billing



Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative strives to pair innovation and technology to meet the evolving needs of our members.

Offering convenient payment options like online billing is an area where we can help lighten the load of your busy schedule and (we hope) make things just a little easier on you. Online billing is flexible and works well when you are crunched for time. See [mlec.com](http://mlec.com) to sign up.

# Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative

MLEC is member-owned and prides itself in providing safe, low-cost, reliable electricity. We are also committed to improving the quality of life in the communities we serve and pairing innovation and technology to meet the evolving needs of our members.



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**Local Channels and Regional Sports**

All offers require credit qualification, 24-month commitment with early termination fee and eAutopay.

All calls with InfinityDISH are monitored and recorded for quality assurance and training purposes. **Qualification:** Advertised price requires credit qualification and eAutoPay. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 8/03/16. **2-Year Commitment:** Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. **Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$49.99 advertised price:** America's Top 120 Plus programming package, Local channels and Regional Sports Networks (where available), and monthly 1st receiver and HD service fees. **Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost:** Programming package upgrades (\$64.99 for AT200, \$74.99 for AT250), monthly fees for additional receivers (\$7 per additional TV, higher fees may apply for advanced receivers), and monthly DVR service fees (\$10). **NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or \$49.99 advertised price (and subject to change):** Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), Protection Plan, and transactional fees. **Premium Channels:** Subject to credit qualification. After 3 mos., you will be billed \$60/mo. for HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call to cancel. **Other:** All packages, programming, features, and functionality are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., you will be billed \$8/mo. for Protection Plan unless you call to cancel. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only. All rights reserved. HBO®, Cinemax® and related channels and service marks are the property of Home Box Office, Inc. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS Company. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. Visa® gift card must be requested through your DISH Representative at time of purchase. \$50 Visa® gift card requires activation and \$2.95 shipping and handling fee. You will receive a claim voucher within 3-4 weeks and the voucher must be returned within 30 days. Your Visa® gift card will arrive in approximately 6-8 weeks. InfinityDISH charges a one-time \$49.99 non-refundable processing fee which is subject to change at any time without notice. Indiana C.P.D. Reg. No. T.S. R1903.



June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

# It's time to get your home summer-energy-ready

**H**ave you made some plans for summer? Perhaps a summer vacation, camping trip or a yard project, or maybe you just intend to get outside more. When warm weather arrives in late spring, our thoughts and plans turn to summer because we know — with certainty — that it's coming.

That certainty should also include a realization that your consumption of electricity will go up. The oppressive heat and humidity of Middle Tennessee summers take a heavy toll on air-conditioning systems to keep us comfortable. And heat-and-air systems make up the bulk of residential energy consumption.

So, are you preparing for the months of highest energy consumption? Well, the team of employees who work to serve you is here to help. In this month's issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*, we offer tips on how to save energy and, ultimately, money by making small changes to your daily routine. Next month, we will introduce you to those members of Team MTEMC who are experts in helping members conserve energy and make money-saving improvements around your home.

Let me start with a few suggestions.

**Your priority should be on your air-conditioning system.** A

malfunctioning or inefficient cooling system can drastically increase consumption, so a good place to start is an inspection by a licensed professional. If you haven't changed your system's filter in a while, do that right away. And, while we all want to be comfortable, remember that every degree you adjust your thermostat during the summer will amount to about a 3-percent difference in your consumption. So, moving the thermostat from 69 to 72 would save you about 9 percent on your bill.

**Your next priority should be on preventing hot air from coming into your home and cooler air from escaping.** If you haven't caulked since winter, now is the



Chris Jones  
President,  
Middle Tennessee  
Electric  
Membership  
Corporation

time to do it. Seal around doors and windows.

**Change your energy behavior.** Being careful to keep doors and windows closed is important. And, yes, the little things like turning off lights when you leave a room and closing drapes on the sunny side of the house make a difference.

**Have a look at your lights.** If you still have incandescent lights in your home, this summer is a good time to upgrade. LED lights are getting better and less expensive. They quickly pay for themselves in energy savings. LEDs are far more efficient than incandescents, especially when you consider how much heat incandescent lights create.

**Let us help.** MTEMC is here to help you make the wisest use of your electricity. You can call or come by any time and talk with anyone on our member service team. We also have residential energy service specialists on staff who can talk with you in detail about your home and your energy use.

I hope you can use these suggestions to help. Lower electricity bills should make summer that much nicer.

*How are you helping your community?*

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[www.SharingChange.org](http://www.SharingChange.org)

## 2016 Youth Tour Writing Contest Winner

# Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life

By Alexis Seilkop  
*Stewarts Creek High School*

**A**dopting a child was always a dream of mine and my husband's. Luckily, 15 years ago we were able to fulfill that dream and adopt our first child, Thando, from Kenya, a country in Africa. Thando was and still is a boy who stays true to his name, meaning "love," and is also always wanting to help others, no matter if it benefits him. Thando, now 25, works for our local electric co-op, which lets him express his great characteristics and qualities daily.

You might ask, "How did he end up working at an electric cooperative?" Well, it had to do with destiny and a little bit of coincidence as well.

When Thando was young and new to America, he was always extremely curious as to how everything worked the way it did: especially electricity. Being from Kenya, he was never able to experience electronics, gadgets or appliances of any sort. After noticing his complete bewilderment and want to learn more, I decided to bring him to my personally owned business, Cupcake City, where the local electric co-op had just installed many energy-saving appliances.

Thando immediately noticed the solar panels on the roof, which were just installed that week. They

help represent electric co-ops embracing the world of renewable resources, which is a recent venture for most co-ops. "What are those big sheets on the roof?" asked Thando with an inquisitive look. I replied, "They trap the energy from the sun and transfer it into energy to help power my business."

This sparked his interest to learn more. I revealed and explained to him all of my new appliances, installed graciously by the local electric co-op worker, including the top-notch double oven, which conserves energy with every cupcake I bake. Also, I showed him the Green Power Switch, a device that makes sure to supply my business with only the cleanest and most reliable energy, always. "Without my local electric co-op, my small business wouldn't be booming like it is," I exclaimed to Thando. With electric co-ops being nonprofit organizations as well as aids in helping me conserve massive amounts of energy, I have saved more money than I could've ever imagined!

Coincidentally enough, as Thando and I were closing up the shop for the night, the same electric co-op worker who installed my new appliances strolled in to make sure everything was working the way it should. Thando, having a true and genuine heart himself, noticed that this man truly cared



*This year's Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest winner is Alexis Seilkop of Stewarts Creek High School.*

about the people of his community, including me, and that they were his priority.

The man went on to tell Thando more about the new CFL light bulbs, which save a great amount of energy compared to regular incandescent bulbs, as well as the refrigerator, keeping my frosting cold but doing it with the cleanest, most secure electricity around. He also spoke to Thando about how the electric co-ops actually get the power to the businesses, which is through the many distribution power lines. Electric co-ops own about 42 percent of these transmitters.

See **Contest**, page 22

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2016 MTEMC  
ANNUAL MEETING, SATURDAY, AUG. 27,  
AT THE EMBASSY SUITES MURFREESBORO.**

# 2016 Youth Tour Wri

Each year, Middle Tennessee Electric challenges local high school juniors to write short stories about the advantages of a cooperative. This year, the winning story came from Stewart's Creek High School's Alexis Seilkop.

This year's short story theme was "Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life." Students from Cannon, Rutherford, Williamson and Wilson counties submitted stories, and the winners earned cash prizes and the chance to travel on the Washington Youth Tour, which takes students from across the nation to Washington, D.C., to meet U.S. representatives and senators and provides the opportunity to explore the museums, memorials and monuments in our nation's capital.



Cannon County High School: Travis Marlow and Elizabeth Overcast.



Centennial High School: Emily Joyner, teacher Susanna Singleton and Cameron Siegienski.



Eagleville High School: Ethan Dillon, Hannah Erickson and teacher Nancy Warden.



Fairview High School: Josiah LaRocco and teacher Lauren DiCiaula. Not pictured, Kelli Farrar.

## Contest: *Powering Everyday Life*

From page 21

It really hit home with Thando when the man spoke about how electric co-op workers visit other underdeveloped countries like Bolivia. "Volunteers in Bolivia this past year have been able to bring electricity to over 250 homes!" exclaimed the man. Just the thought of his family and friends back in Kenya possibly being able to one day experience what he has been experiencing brought a big, beautiful smile to his face. A wave of gratefulness rushed over Thando. He continued listening intently, not missing a beat. Thando was overjoyed with all of the knowl-

edge he was gaining as well as the feeling that he could call this man his friend.

After this experience, I could tell that Thando admired the man and maybe even wanted to become like him when he grew up. The experience, in my opinion, that made Thando positive that this was the career path for him was when the local electric co-op installed a brand-new greenhouse at his middle school. Covered with solar panels, which Thando recognized from my business, the greenhouse was, in fact, "green" in all ways. The kids were all ecstatic, getting to extend their learning at school outside of the

classroom. They were able to learn more about nature and the environment through different plants and vegetables.

Now an adult, Thando works with the local electric cooperative, installing energy-efficient devices to area businesses like mine. The tables have turned, and now he is teaching me about electric co-ops and its new program ideas such as continuing researching new ways to conserve energy as well as expanding and evolving services. I am overjoyed that Thando has found something he truly loves to do. He is a part in powering everyday life for 1.1 million homes, businesses and farms.

# ting contest winners



Franklin High School: teacher Kelly McElhiney, Julia Bolin, Maddox Burgess and teacher Stephen Womack.



Lebanon High School: Grace Mathews, teacher Lindsay Mosley and Colton Ragsdale.



Mt. Juliet High School: teacher Laura Reed, Brooklynn Butler, Principal Mel Brown, Grayson Burke and teacher Lori Scott.



Page High School: Jared Nesbitt, Emma Sanders and teacher Eve Farrell.



Smyrna High School: Brooklynn Woodall, James Watson and teacher Amy Kay Nickerson.



Stewarts Creek High School: John Brewer, teacher Matt Marlatt and Alexis Seilkop.



Summit High School: Robert King, Assistant Principal Scott Summerlin and Claudia Gutierrez.



Watertown High School: Jody Williams and teacher Beth Pulley.



Wilson Central High School: Molly Grace Christian, teacher Andrew Schmeltzer and Curtis Hudson.



Blackman High School: teacher Erica Griggs, Principal Dr. Leisa Justus and Madison Flannery.



*Let's take a closer look:*

# Ways energy efficiency can **\$ave you money**

**W**ith only one more installment of “Let’s take a closer look” after this month, now is a great time to understand some quick-and-easy ways being energy-efficient can save you money daily.

Middle Tennessee Electric, as a member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperative, offers numerous programs to help members save money on their electric bills. The eScore program, a partner initiative with the Tennessee Valley Authority, offers members credits on their electric bills for making energy-efficiency improvements to their homes. For those members who aren’t looking to make

larger home improvements, a self-audit option offers opportunities for performing minor, less-expensive changes that still make a difference monthly.

“One of the easiest and most cost-effective changes members can make is to change their lightbulbs to compact fluorescent or LED bulbs,” said MTEMC Energy Services Coordinator Phillip Price. “That little change can save you up to 20 percent annually.”

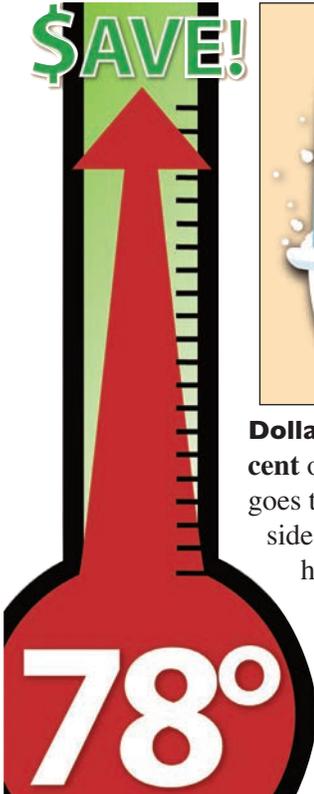
More energy-efficiency tips and information on programs offered by MTEMC, including the eScore program, can be found at [www.mtemc.com](http://www.mtemc.com).

**Information Sources:**

*Energystar.gov*  
*Alliance to Save Energy: www.ase.org*  
*PaystoLiveGreen.com*  
*Energysavers.gov*



**More than just pictures:** A screen-saver can be fun, but did you know that utilizing one — or even sleep mode — not only saves your screen but also can save you more than \$40 per year on your utility bill?



**\$AVE!**

**78°**



**A reason to sing in the shower:** A low-flow showerhead can save you nearly \$145 per year on your energy costs because you’re using less hot water!

**Dollars and degrees:** Up to 50 percent of the energy used in your home goes to heating and cooling the air inside. A programmable thermostat can help you save nearly \$180 per year on your energy costs depending on your temperature settings. Setting your thermostat to 78 degrees in the summer and 68 degrees in the winter reduces your energy use by about 9 percent.



**Lightbulb moment:** Switching from a 100-watt lightbulb to a 23-watt compact fluorescent lightbulb (CFL) or 9.8-watt light-emitting diode (LED) bulb can save you 20 percent or more each year. For the same price as a \$2 cup of coffee, you can power a CFL for more than 1,000 hours and an LED for more than 2,400 hours!



# SharingChange Spotlight

## APRIL GRANTS

- One Generation Away**  
Multicounty - \$4,817.92
- Alert Community Development Corporation**  
Rutherford - \$10,000
- Friendship Fishing Club**  
Wilson - \$1,000
- Crohn's & Colitis Foundation**  
Multicounty - \$9,066
- Alive Hospice**  
Multicounty - \$5,000
- Tennessee Hemophilia and Bleeding Disorders Foundation**  
Multicounty - \$10,000
- Interfaith Dental Clinic**  
Multicounty - \$10,000
- Easter Seals Tennessee**  
Multicounty - \$10,000
- Mountain Trackers Association**  
Multicounty - \$3,750
- REBOOT Combat Recovery**  
Multicounty - \$5,000
- Building Lives Foundation**  
Multicounty - \$5,000

*\*April grants continued on page 26*

**TOTAL GRANTS:**  
**\$122,533.92**



## Meet Your SharingChange Board

From left: Carolyn Peebles, Bill Brown, Doretha Wright, Mike Waller, Joan Wherley and, not pictured, Becky Vassar and Dot Maxey make up the SharingChange board. Each month these seven members, appointed by the MTEMC Board of Directors, review grant applications from charitable organizations in the MTEMC service territory and distribute member donations to those that qualify.

SharingChange is a foundation created by Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation's board of directors for the sole purpose of giving back to the communities served by the cooperative. Funds granted by the foundation come directly from members and are then used in the county where they are collected.

"Concern for community," the Seventh Cooperative Principle, fo-

cuses on members' needs while helping develop the communities served.

Since 2003, MTEMC's charitable foundations have distributed more than \$8 million to some 550 organizations in our communities. For more information, visit [www.SharingChange.org](http://www.SharingChange.org).

*\* SharingChange is a voluntary program, and members have the option to discontinue participation at any time.*

## MARCH GRANTS BY COUNTY



### WILLIAMSON

**\$48,998.34**

Beginning balance .. \$72,737.58  
 Incoming ..... \$32,740.96  
 Funds available ... \$105,478.54  
 Ending balance\* ... \$56,480.20

### WILSON

**\$26,411**

Beginning balance .. \$188,842.58  
 Incoming ..... \$20,806.97  
 Funds available ... \$209,649.55  
 Ending balance\* .. \$183,238.55

### RUTHERFORD

**\$43,924.58**

Beginning balance .. \$79,933.60  
 Incoming ..... \$23,751.98  
 Funds available ... \$103,685.58  
 Ending balance\* ... \$59,761.00

### CANNON

**\$3,200**

Beginning balance ... \$9,606.82  
 Incoming ..... \$2,556.80  
 Funds available ... \$12,163.62  
 Ending balance\* ..... \$8,963.62

*\*Ending balance is awaiting future grant applications.*

## APRIL GRANTS CONTINUED

**Tennessee Senior Olympics**

Multicounty - \$10,000

**Sight Seekers of the Blind Support Group**

Wilson - \$3,500

**Muscular Dystrophy Association**

Multicounty - \$10,000

**Tennessee Beef Agribition**

Multicounty - \$5,000

**Tennessee Jr. Dairy Show Foundation**

Multicounty - \$5,000

**Tennessee Environmental Council**

Multicounty - \$9,500

**Owl's Hill Nature Sanctuary**

Multicounty - \$5,900

**TOTAL GRANTS: \$122,533.92**

# ABSOLUTELY THE EASIEST GOOD THING YOU'LL EVER DO.

For pennies a month, support hundreds of local, nonprofit organizations through SharingChange and Middle Tennessee Electric.



**Find out more & join at [SharingChange.org](http://SharingChange.org)**

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Hopper upgrade fee may apply.

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For Life

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All offers require credit qualification, 24-month commitment with early termination fee and eAutopay.

All calls with InfinityDISH are monitored and recorded for quality assurance and training purposes. **Qualification:** Advertised price requires credit qualification and eAutoPay. Upfront activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 8/03/16. **2-Year Commitment:** Early Termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. **Included in 2-year price guarantee at \$49.99 advertised price:** America's Top 120 Plus programming package, Local channels and Regional Sports Networks (where available), and monthly 1st receiver and HD service fees. **Included in 2-year price guarantee for additional cost:** Programming package upgrades (\$64.99 for AT200, \$74.99 for AT250), monthly fees for additional receivers (\$7 per additional TV, higher fees may apply for advanced receivers), and monthly DVR service fees (\$10). **NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or \$49.99 advertised price (and subject to change):** Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), Protection Plan, and transactional fees. **Premium Channels:** Subject to credit qualification. After 3 mos., you will be billed \$60/mo. for HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call to cancel. **Other:** All packages, programming, features, and functionality are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., you will be billed \$8/mo. for Protection Plan unless you call to cancel. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only. All rights reserved. HBO®, Cinemax® and related channels and service marks are the property of Home Box Office, Inc. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS Company. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. Visa® gift card must be requested through your DISH Representative at time of purchase. \$50 Visa® gift card requires activation and \$2.95 shipping and handling fee. You will receive a claim voucher within 3-4 weeks and the voucher must be returned within 30 days. Your Visa® gift card will arrive in approximately 6-8 weeks. InfinityDISH charges a one-time \$49.99 non-refundable processing fee which is subject to change at any time without notice. Indiana C.P.D. Reg. No. T.S. R1903.



# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**



*Serving members  
in all of McNairy County  
and portions of Chester,  
Hardeman and Hardin  
counties in Tennessee  
and Alcorn and  
Tishomingo  
counties in Mississippi*



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Selmer, TN 38375**

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**731-632-3333**  
**1-800-372-8258**  
**Outage Hotline:**  
**1-866-260-4025**

**Web site:**  
**[www.pickwickec.com](http://www.pickwickec.com)**

**These seven pages  
contain local news  
and information  
for members of  
Pickwick Electric  
Cooperative.**

## We are prepared for summer storms

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm.

In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Pickwick Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, though, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Outage report calls are managed by our staff or the call center. The big problems are handled first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people. These prob-

lems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

PEC's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem

starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews

repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify PEC so crews can inspect these lines.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to check our website at [www.pickwickec.com](http://www.pickwickec.com) or our Facebook page on your smartphone for the latest updates during a power outage. Be mindful that neither of these is monitored 24/7, so please report your outage by calling our office at 731-645-3411 or the outage hotline at 1-866-260-4025.



**John Bowers**

*President,  
Pickwick Electric  
Cooperative  
[jbowers@pickwick-electric.com](mailto:jbowers@pickwick-electric.com)*

# Don't drive blindfolded down the highway

By Anne Prince

**W**ould you drive on a highway blindfolded? Of course not. However, if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cell phone also carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them — traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians — when talking on a cell phone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving — talking, texting, sending emails — is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and, most likely, we, ourselves, have used a phone while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel to focus on activities other than driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each day in the U.S., more than nine people are killed and more than 1,153 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Administration notes that 3,154 people were

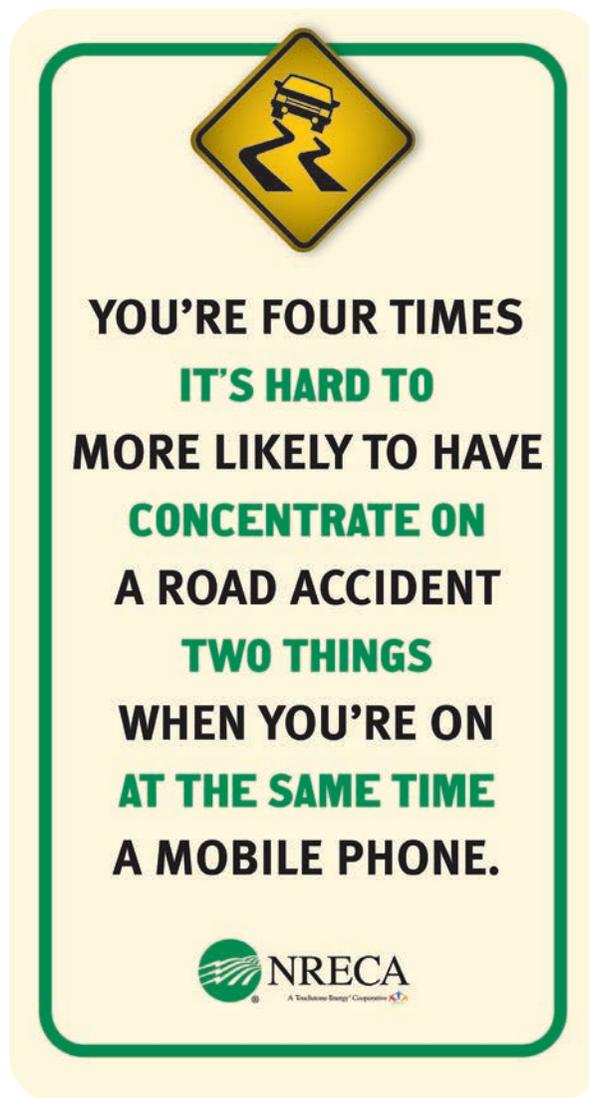
killed and an estimated 424,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2013.

Texting and cell phone use behind the wheel take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel and your focus off driving — putting the driver and others in danger, including passengers, pedestrians, other drivers and bystanders. On the tragic end of the spectrum, victims' families, friends, co-workers and community are impacted.

At Pickwick Electric Cooperative, safety is a core value. At this time of year in particular, when more people are on the roads and kids are out of school, our goal at your electric cooperative is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cell phone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the potential danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends and neighbors safer by putting their phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving.

*Anne Prince writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Virginia-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*



# 'Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life'

By Demie Milford, area winner of the PEC Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest

**A**re you ready, Sully? This is going to be a big day! There are so many new children to scare! I can feel the energy flowing from their screams to power our city, Monstropolis!" Mike Wazowski exclaimed as he and Sully were on their way to Monsters Inc., their workplace.

"I guess I am ready, Mike. I just wish there was a better way to power our city besides collecting screams from innocent children. For instance, I read about a company that uses solar panels to bring in electricity more efficiently," Sully responded.

"What are solar panels?" asked Mike.

"Solar panels are panels that collect energy from the sun and transfer it into electricity. You can install these panels on your home to provide electricity for everything from lighting to appliances, reducing your dependency on the utility company. This innovative way of powering also reduces your electric bill, all while saving innocent children from nightmares," replied Sully.

"Well, Sully, we have tried to find a replacement, but, you see, unlike conventional fuels, children's screams are a clean and reliable energy source used to operate appliances, automobiles, lightbulbs and so forth. So put a scary growl on your face, and get in there," Mike said as they approached Monsters Inc., where the automatic doors waited for them to enter and scare the children.

"I just don't think this is the only way to power Monstropolis," said Sully, about to enter the closet door. "Is there not some type of local cooperative that can give us an affordable and more efficient way to provide our city with the energy it needs?"

"I don't know about that, Sully, but I do know that if we don't hurry up, we are not getting paid this week, and we cannot lose electricity at home again," said Mike.

"OK, OK," Sully sighed as the electric powered door appeared from a cluster of hundreds.



*Demie Milford, daughter of John and Deana Milford, will be a senior at Adamsville Jr/Sr High School this fall. This month, she and some 140 peers from Tennessee will travel to Washington, D.C., as part of the Rural Electric Youth Tour.*

The door was light pink with hot pink lightbulbs on it. Mike set the door in place and prepared it for Sully to scare whatever poor, innocent child was waiting asleep in bed behind it.

"Are you ready, Sully?" Mike asked.

"As ready as I will ever be, Mike," Sully responded as he opened and entered the mysterious door.

The room was messy, and Sully could not see anything. He tiptoed to the bed so he could scare the child when all of a sudden a small girl appeared from under the bed and yelled "Boo!" Sully jumped and ran as fast as lightning. Using all of his energy, he sprinted to the door to return to Monsters Inc. When he left the room, Mike, breathing heavily, slammed the door.

"What's wrong, Sully?" screamed Mike.

“The girl, she was awake, she jumped up and scared me!” Sully exclaimed, out of breath.

“What? There is no way,” said Mike, “These doors are powered, so no one can enter unless the child is asleep.”

“Get in here; I will show you,” said an exasperated Sully.

Sully and Mike entered the door and looked around when suddenly the girl popped out from behind her bed and yelled, “Boo!”

The monsters screamed, but did not move.

“What are you doing awake?” they asked.

“What are you doing in my room?” the girl responded.

“We came to scare you so our city can have the energy we need to survive. You see, we use the energy that is produced in your screams to live,” said Mike.

“Your electric cooperative is powered by screams?” the little girl asked.

“Electric cooperative? What is that?” asked Sully.

“An electric cooperative is a nonprofit organization owned by the consumers that it serves and provides safe, reliable and affordable energy to its neighbors. Think about it: Without electric cooperatives, we would not be able to do the simplest things like brush our teeth or turn lights on by flipping a switch. Co-ops also help provide affordable electric-

ity and water appliances such as geothermal heat pumps, compact fluorescent lamps and heat pump water heaters,” stated the little girl. “I have a fluorescent lamp here in my room, and it is awesome!”

“See, Mike?” said Sully. “This is exactly what I was talking about earlier. There is a better way for the people of Monstropolis to have the power and energy needed without frightening young kids.”

“That sounds great and all, but I am sure that screams are more efficient, and without us monsters getting screams, we would have no job and could not work,” Mike said.

The little girl responded, “Electric cooperatives are the cheapest source of energy and provide you with the lowest cost for these resources. They also offer special programs such as Green Power Switch to ensure that your power comes from clean, renewable resources. And there are many opportunities for jobs such as linemen, managers, accountants, engineers and more!”

“Wow, it looks like the city of Monstropolis has been missing out!” Mike exclaimed.

“Thank you, little girl, for introducing us to the power and opportunities of electric cooperatives,” stated Sully. “But one last thing: We forgot to ask your name!”

“Boo!” the little girl screamed.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



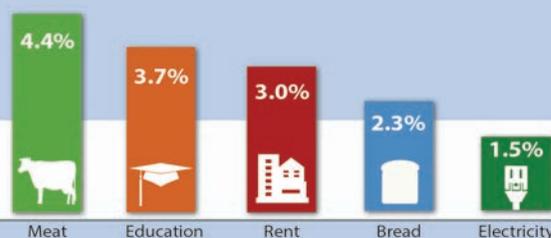
*Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.*

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

### Electricity remains a good value

The cost of powering your home rises at a slower pace than many of your typical expenses. Compare the average price increases of these expenses each year over the last five years, and the value of electricity shines.

 **Average Annual Price Increase**  
2010-2015



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

# Notice:

## Service fees effective July 1, 2016

Here is a list of service fees charged to our members when applicable:

1. Meter Set Fee	\$ 35.00
2. Regular Hours Trip Fee	\$ 35.00
3. After Hours Trip Fee	\$100.00
4. Returned Check Fee	\$ 35.00
5. CT metering fee first 2 meters (single-phase)	\$675.00*
each additional meter (single-phase)	\$250.00*
Combo metering fee first 2 meters (single-phase)	\$450.00
each additional meter (single-phase)	\$250.00
* Secondary Voltages Only, Primary Voltages will incur additional charges	
6. Meter Base Fee	Actual Cost
7. Underground Metering Pedestal	\$325.00
8. Tampering Fee	\$200.00 plus actual costs
9. Meter Test Fee	\$ 50.00
10. Late Fees	5% first \$250, 1% remainder
11. Primary/Secondary Overhead Single-Phase and Secondary Underground Single-Phase Cost per Foot	\$ 2.00
12. Primary Underground Single-Phase Cost per Foot	\$ 11.00
13. New Service Setup and Installation Fee	\$200.00
14. Pole/Line Relocation Cost (Service and Single Phase Primary) **	\$750.00 plus Sales Tax
** cost per pole	
15. Secondary Lightning Arrestor (each)	\$100.00
16. Total Fee for Regular Hours Reconnect (2 regular trips)	\$ 70.00
17. Total Fee for After Hours Reconnect (1 regular trip and 1 after hours trip)	\$135.00
18. Pole Rental Fee	\$ 2.25

# Put your computer to sleep

Just like apps and graphics eating up the battery power on your cell phone, extra features on computers can unnecessarily use energy. And that could be costing you extra on your electric bill. If your home has multiple computers, don't let them waste energy. Here's how to start:

- Unplug seldom-used computers. Even if they are shut down, they continue to draw small amounts of electricity as long as they are plugged into the wall.
- Move the computer and printer in each room near the TV and phone charger, and plug them all into a power strip. That will make it easy to switch them all off when you leave the house for the day or turn in at night. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that devices that are always on use up to 23 percent of a home's electricity — even though the appliances are rarely in use.



- Set each computer to “sleep mode.” That will slow it down when it's not in use so it uses less electricity.
- Program the “hibernate” function on your computers to turn them off when they're not in use for more than 30 minutes. “Hibernate” shuts the device down but makes it easy to recover everything you were working on when you switch it back on.
- Get rid of screen savers: They turn your computer monitor into an energy hog. Better to set the monitor to shut down after 15 minutes of inactivity.
- Switch to a laptop. Portable devices like iPads and Kindle tablets use up to a third less energy than a big desktop computer and monitor.
- Buy an Energy Star-rated computer next time you need a new one. The label guarantees that the machine is energy-efficient.

---

## Summertime energy-saving tips

Apply these energy-saving tips at your home this summer and save a few extra dollars on your energy bills:

1. Change air filters monthly.
2. Set your thermostat between 75 degrees and 78 degrees, and raise it higher when no one's home.
3. Keep curtains or blinds closed during the day on the south, west and east sides of the house to block sunlight and keep cool.
4. Run your ceiling fans. They move the air around and make the room feel more comfortable.
5. Air-dry dishes instead of using the dishwasher's heat-drying option.
6. Look for the Energy Star label when replacing large or small appliances.
7. Keep your outside air unit clean and clear of debris and weeds.
8. Tune up your heating and cooling system annually to keep it running as efficiently as possible.
9. Use cold water for laundry whenever possible, and wash only full loads.
10. Replace incandescent lightbulbs with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) or light-emitting diodes (LEDs), which use 75 percent less energy and last 10 times longer.
11. Use the microwave — it cooks faster and doesn't create as much heat as the stovetop.
12. Plant a tree. Shade trees on the south or southwest side of your home will keep it cooler.

# SUMMER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

There are many ways you can practice energy efficiency in your home. Use the word bank below to complete the crossword puzzle. Be sure to tell Mom and Dad about these energy-efficiency tips so you can practice at home!

## DOWN

1. Use ceiling \_\_\_\_\_ to circulate cool air.
2. Taking \_\_\_\_\_ are more energy efficient than taking baths.
3. Always turn the \_\_\_\_\_ off when you leave a room.

## ACROSS

4. Plant shade \_\_\_\_\_ around your home.
5. Open \_\_\_\_\_ on cool evenings and turn off the air conditioner.
6. Close shades, drapes and blinds during the \_\_\_\_\_ to help keep warm air out of your home.



**Word Bank:**

- Trees
- Showers
- Daytime
- Windows
- Lights
- Fans

June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## Powell Valley Electric Cooperative

Serving all of Hancock County and portions of Claiborne, Grainger, Union and Hawkins counties in Tennessee and portions of Lee, Scott and Wise counties in Virginia.

**Randell W. Meyers,**  
General Manager/CEO  
**Charles "Bo" Goodin,**  
Assistant General Manager  
**JoAnn Dillingham,**  
Director of Accounting and Finance  
**Gary Hatfield,**  
Director of Special Projects  
**Ronnie Williams,**  
Tazewell Area Supervisor  
**Jason Stapleton,**  
Jonesville Area Supervisor  
**Joey Southern,**  
Sneedville Area Supervisor

**PVEC office hours**  
Monday through Friday,  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Tazewell office:**  
Service requests: 423-626-0707  
Billing inquiries: 423-626-0706  
Outages/trouble: 423-626-5204  
Other inquiries: 423-626-5204

**Jonesville office:**  
Service requests: 276-346-6003  
Billing inquiries: 276-346-6003  
Outages: 276-346-6065  
Other inquiries: 276-346-6016

**Sneedville office:**  
All inquiries: 423-733-2207

Calls to all PVEC locations will be answered by emergency operators after office hours and on week-ends and holidays.  
Visit us at [www.pve.coop](http://www.pve.coop).  
You also can contact us via email: [info@pve.coop](mailto:info@pve.coop)

**PVEC Board of Directors**  
**Roger Ball,** President  
**David T. Kindle,** Vice President  
**Judith Robertson,** Secretary-Treasurer  
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**Allen Parkey**  
**Gary Russell**  
**Mikel Sharp**  
**Michael Shockley**  
**Dr. John Short**

## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

### We are moving!

I was a young lineman who hadn't been with the co-op very long when the front office was added to the cooperative's Tazewell facility in 1972. Prior to that, the billing office was located on Main Street in New Tazewell in a barber shop next to the old Star Theater. The Tazewell crewmen worked out of the building we now occupy, which was originally a helicopter hangar. There were five of us working here when I first started.

How things have changed and how we've grown! The decision was made in 1991 to relocate the cooperative's headquarters to a more central location in the co-

op's service area, and the headquarters were moved to Tazewell.

We grew and expanded over the 40-plus years, making offices out of the warehouse and shop areas and operating in very close quarters inside and outside.

Seven or eight years ago, we began budgeting to build a new office. We

looked at many office buildings at other cooperatives to find the best fit for us. We needed space for our trucks, a pole yard, warehouse, mechanics garage, offices and meeting rooms. We confirmed what we already knew: New construction is very expensive. About two years ago, we had the opportunity to buy the vacant old Signal



Randell W. Meyers  
General Manager/CEO  
Powell Valley  
Electric Cooperative



# Holiday closing notice

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, July 4, in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Have a safe and fun-filled holiday!



*Powell Valley Electric Cooperative will soon begin moving into its new office just down the road from the current headquarters building.*

factory property, later a DeRoyal facility. Some of the office space was usable, and there was plenty of room for other facilities such as our warehouse and garage as well as plenty of space for our pole yard.

To take you back a little, as you've probably read about for the past few years, we contracted to build the backbone of Sunset Digital's fiber optic project. This was an extra project for us that we were able to do along with our regular construction. The timing was opportunistic for us because it came when the economy had slowed — as had construction of electrical services. Our day-to-day work was not at its busiest, so we went full-force into hanging fiber optic cable for Sunset. As we've mentioned in our financial reports, we made enough from this project to purchase the property for a new office.

We have operated conservatively and certainly weighed every consideration in order to make a sound decision about a much-needed building. We

are glad to report that without having to borrow any money, we have been able to buy the property and make the renovations and that the front office section is almost ready to use.

It is just down the road — still within seeing distance, actually — from our present location at 325 Straight Creek Road. We don't have a definite date for the front-office move, but we will be ready very soon.

We want you to be proud of your cooperative's new headquarters. When we bought the property, we were thinking long-term about the needs of the co-op and future growth. We believe this facility will last for generations and will serve to meet the needs of you, your children and your grandchildren very well.

We will post a notice in the newspapers with our opening date, but in case you miss it, we will be just down the road!

— Randell W. Meyers

# Jonesville High School Senior Earns Electric Co-op College Scholarship

**A**lley Skidmore of Jonesville has earned a \$1,000 college scholarship awarded by the Education Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC).

Alley, a senior at Lee High School, is the daughter of Joyce Skidmore and was eligible for consideration because her parent is a member-owner of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative.

Recipients are chosen based on three major criteria: financial need (40 percent), academic achievement (40 percent) and community involvement (20 percent). Applicants must provide evidence of their acceptance in post-high school educational institutions or programs.

This year, the VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation is awarding 50 Worth Hudson scholarships of \$1,000 to students who live in areas served by electric cooperatives in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and portions of Tennessee and West Virginia. These grants can be used to pay for tuition, fees and books.

The scholarships are named in honor of Worth Hudson, the first chairman of the VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation and former chairman of the board of directors of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in Chase City, Virginia. Since its inception in 2000, the foundation has awarded 567 scholarships totaling \$466,500.

The foundation is funded through tax-deductible donations and bequests from individuals, proceeds from benefit fundraising events and Co-Bank's Sharing Success Program. It also participates in the Amazon Smile Program.

Founded in 1944, VMDAEC is the trade association for Powell Valley Electric Cooperative and 14 other electric co-ops that serve Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, and portions of Tennessee and West Virginia. It is based in Glen Allen, Virginia, and provides safety and employee training, governmental relations, communications, including the publication of Cooperative Living magazine, and other services to its member cooperatives. For more information on VMDAEC and the scholarship program, visit [www.vmdaec.com](http://www.vmdaec.com) or [www.co-opliving.com](http://www.co-opliving.com).

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## PVEC selects 2016 Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest Winners

**P**owell Valley Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce the winners of the 2016 Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest. Students wrote short stories competing for prizes, including a weeklong tour of Washington D.C., cash awards and college scholarships. This year's theme was "Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life." Each year, short stories are judged by an outside source and scored based on originality, appropriate treatment of theme, knowledge of the subject, grammar and composition.

Pamela Seal, a Hancock High School student, was the top winner. Her story will also compete with the top stories from throughout Tennessee for \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 college scholarships sponsored by Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. Other top winners were Shae Johnson, Hancock High School, second place; Autumn Trent, Clinch High School, third; and Jessica Livesay, Clinch High School, fourth. All four students won expense-paid

trips to our nation's capital in June as part of the Washington Youth Tour.

We are proud to offer this amazing opportunity to the youth in our community. Congratulations to all of these students for their accomplishments.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



*Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.*

*Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)*

# Keep the ‘happy’ in ‘Father’s Day:’ Instructions included

**D**o-it-yourself dads appreciate the gift of power tools on Father’s Day. This year, though, insist that he read the instructions. Amateur handymen — and plenty of pros, too — never read instructions that come with new tools because they figure they already know how to use them properly. It turns out those guys are just as likely to injure themselves as the ones who don’t know anything.

This Father’s Day, give Dad a few tips when he opens his brand-new power tools:

Dress for the job. Looking cool while using tools isn’t nearly as important as staying safe. Ditch loose-fitting clothes, neckties and watches. Tie long hair back. Wear nonslip shoes or boots.

Put the job off if you’re not feeling tip-top. Operating a power tool while you’re tired or tipsy usually doesn’t end well.

Light the room so you can see what you’re doing. Cover your eyes with goggles or glasses.

Double-check that the tool is turned off before plugging it in.

Try out the new tool in a dry area. Water and electricity, you can remind Dad, don’t mix.

Three-pronged plugs go into three-pronged outlets. Never, never, never remove that third prong.

Keep blades and cutters clean. After each use, unplug, clean and store tools in a dry place out of the reach of the precious child who gave it to you.

---

## Put your computer to sleep

**J**ust like apps and graphics eating up the battery power on your cell phone, extra features on computers can unnecessarily use energy. And that could be costing you extra on your electric bill. If your home has multiple computers, don’t let them waste energy. Here’s how to start:

- Unplug seldom-used computers. Even if they are shut down, they continue to draw small amounts of electricity as long as they are plugged into the wall.
- Move the computer and printer in each room near the TV and phone charger, and plug them all into a power strip. That will make it easy to switch them all off when you leave the house for the day or turn in at night. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that devices that are always on use up to 23 percent of a home’s electricity — even though the appliances are rarely in use.
- Set each computer to “sleep mode.” That will slow it down when it’s not in use so it uses less electricity.
- Program the “hibernate” function on your computers to turn them off when they’re not in use for more than 30 minutes. “Hibernate” shuts the device down but makes it easy to recover everything you were working on when you switch it back on.
- Get rid of screen savers: They turn your computer monitor into an energy hog. Better to set the monitor to shut down after 15 minutes of inactivity.
- Switch to a laptop. Portable devices like iPads and Kindle tablets use up to a third less energy than a big desktop computer and monitor.
- Buy an Energy Star-rated computer next time you need a new one. The label guarantees that the machine is energy-efficient.

# Don't drive blindfolded down the highway

By Anne Prince

**W**ould you drive on a highway blindfolded? Of course not. However, if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cell phone also carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them — traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians — when talking on a cell phone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving — talking, texting, sending emails — is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and, most likely, we, ourselves, have used a phone while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel to focus on activities other than driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each day in the U.S., more than nine people are killed and more than 1,153 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Administration notes that 3,154 people were killed and an estimated 424,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2013.

Texting and cell phone use behind the wheel take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel and your focus off driving — putting the driver and others in danger, including passengers, pedestrians, other

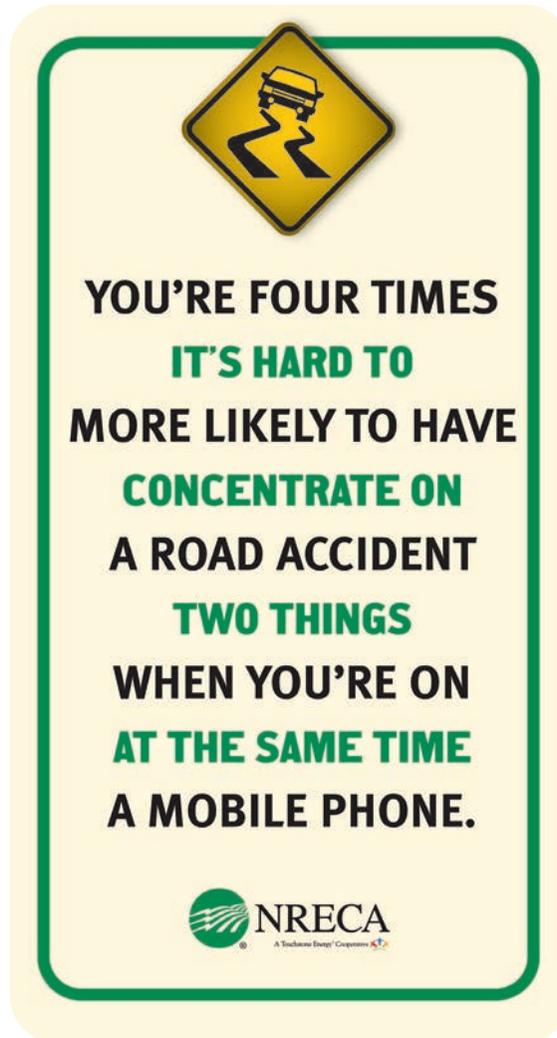
drivers and bystanders. On the tragic end of the spectrum, victims' families, friends, co-workers and community are impacted.

At Powell Valley Electric Cooperative, safety is a core value. At this time of year in particular, when more people are on the roads and kids are out of school, our goal at your electric cooperative is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cell phone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the potential danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends and neighbors safer by putting their

phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving.

*Anne Prince writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Virginia-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*



**YOU'RE FOUR TIMES  
IT'S HARD TO  
MORE LIKELY TO HAVE  
CONCENTRATE ON  
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WHEN YOU'RE ON  
AT THE SAME TIME  
A MOBILE PHONE.**

 **NRECA**  
A Tennessee Energy Cooperative

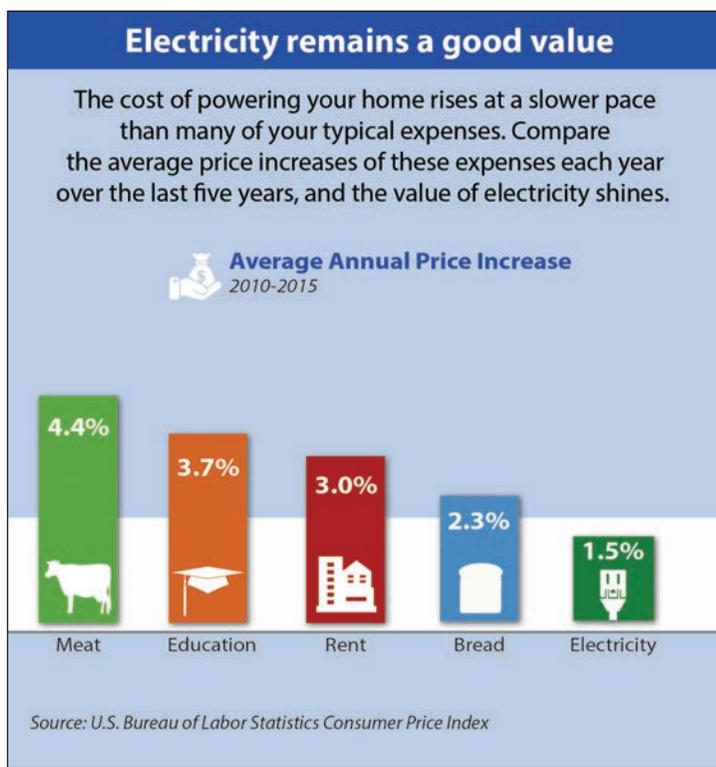
# Electric heat pump facts

One of the most efficient ways to heat and cool today's well-insulated home is a high-efficiency electric heat pump. For every unit of energy a heat pump uses to operate, it will produce an average of two to three units of heat. A heat pump is a central heating and central cooling system in one!

For heating and cooling your home, electric heat pumps are:

- Economical
- Convenient
- Dependable
- Clean
- Efficient
- Safe
- Automatic
- Comfortable

Electric heat pumps are so efficient because they don't start heating or cooling from scratch. They also deliver airflow at an even temperature, and you stay comfortable 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



## Five ways to enjoy summertime energy savings

Here are five ways to use energy more efficiently this summer — and save some money on electricity:

1. Change the air-conditioning system's filter every month during cooling season — more often if your neighborhood is especially dusty. Dirty filters stop air from flowing through, causing your air conditioner to work harder — and use more energy — as it keeps your home cool.
2. If your air conditioner is controlled by a programmable thermostat, instruct it to run only part of the day. There's no need to keep your house comfortable while nobody's in it during the day. Running the air conditioner at night could be less expensive than cranking it up during the day when it's hot and demand for electricity is at its peak.
3. Run your ceiling fans. If you don't have any, consider them a good investment. Install them in bedrooms, the kitchen and the living room. Fans move the air around and make the people in the room feel cooler. And they're much less expensive to operate than an air conditioner.
4. Close the drapes. A sunny day is pretty to look at through the window, but hot rays can heat the air in your home and force the air conditioner to work overtime. Keep curtains and blinds drawn on bright, hot days, especially on south- and west-facing windows.
5. Switch your central air-conditioning system's fan to "auto." The "on" setting allows it to run constantly — even when your house is already cool.

# SUMMER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

There are many ways you can practice energy efficiency in your home. Use the word bank below to complete the crossword puzzle. Be sure to tell Mom and Dad about these energy-efficiency tips so you can practice at home!

## DOWN

1. Use ceiling \_\_\_\_\_ to circulate cool air.
2. Taking \_\_\_\_\_ are more energy efficient than taking baths.
3. Always turn the \_\_\_\_\_ off when you leave a room.

## ACROSS

4. Plant shade \_\_\_\_\_ around your home.
5. Open \_\_\_\_\_ on cool evenings and turn off the air conditioner.
6. Close shades, drapes and blinds during the \_\_\_\_\_ to help keep warm air out of your home.



**Word Bank:**

- Trees
- Showers
- Daytime
- Windows
- Lights
- Fans

June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## Southwest Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation

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Robert Kendrick — Brownsville  
Attorney  
Patrick H. Mann — Brownsville

Connect with us at  
stemc.com or on



## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

# We are prepared for summer storms

Summer is here, school is out, and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Southwest Tennessee EMC is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, though, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations, and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we

can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

Southwest Tennessee EMC line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make

sure you notify Southwest Tennessee EMC so crews can inspect these lines.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to check [www.stemc.com](http://www.stemc.com) on your smartphone for the latest updates during a power outage.



President  
Kevin Murphy,  
Southwest  
Tennessee EMC

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

# Education is key

Story by Jodi Springer

**S**erving on the board at Southwest Tennessee EMC is not a position where you just show up and decide on things to do. It takes hard work, talent and commitment to staying educated. Education is key to mastering new practices and principles around which electric cooperatives revolve. And one particular STEMC board member does just that, learning from others as well as educating those who are eager and willing to learn.

Allan King is an educator and lifelong resident of Haywood County, still living in the house he was born and raised in. He has spent his entire life educating people about different things, organizations and life itself. He started his educational journey at the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall of 1951 when it was a junior college. From there, he went on to graduate from the University of Tennessee Knoxville with a degree in agricultural education. That degree landed him a job as an agriculture education teacher at Haywood High School. There, he taught for six years the importance of agriculture and educated children on how to work the land they were given. After his sixth year, he hung up his classroom teaching hat to farm full time after his father passed away. His teaching hat never really went away, though, because this gave him a way to educate anyone he came in contact with about the importance of agriculture. He's been farming his father's land for more than 60 years now, and on the family farm, the Kings raise corn, soybeans and wheat. They've raised cotton in years past, too, but they say they prefer to stick with the other three for now.

The year 1957 brought joy to Mr. King's life when he exchanged vows with the woman he loves, Patsy. He and Patsy have three beautiful children — Gooch, Jane and John — who have also blessed them with eight grandchildren. Each of their children continues to farm with Mr. King today, and the grandchildren plan to carry on the tradition one day, too.

Over the years, there isn't much Mr. King hasn't done in the agricultural world. He's been a delegate at the National Cotton Council and chairman on the Southeastern Boll Weevil Federation board. He's also been an elder in the church for more than 40 years, an accomplishment of which he is very proud.

When asked why he wanted to run for a board position, Mr. King responded, "I was always interested in serving

the community." That's something he's always done — whether it be on a board or out in the field, teaching kids where their food comes from. He's always willing to teach a listening ear.

Service on STEMC's board involves a lot of responsibility, and it's a role Mr. King doesn't take lightly. He said there are a multitude of things he could list, but the reason he's served so long is for the members and their voice. For the past 40 years as a board member, Mr. King has listened to his neighbors and given a voice to the farmers in his community. He always wants to represent them the way they would represent themselves.

"It's not everywhere you can find someone you can work well with, but every manager I've worked with at Southwest has been excellent," said Mr. King. He stressed that addressing member concerns isn't an easy thing to do if there isn't someone there willing to listen and take action on those concerns. This is why he says he's blessed to have served with the previous managers and current president. "These members are relying on us to make good decisions, so with the support of a good leader, those voices are heard," said Mr. King.

Another way he serves his community is by holding a seat on the county commission. Mr. King has been a commissioner since December 1956, making him the longest-serving county commissioner in the state of Tennessee. The years of hard work led to a very prestigious honor: The Justice Complex in Haywood County was recently named after him.

Board members do other things besides selecting the co-op's manager. They follow the co-op's bylaws, set the budget and ensure the manager understands what members want out of their cooperative. Mr. King listens to every concern and tries to address each accordingly.

Earlier in life, Mr. King enjoyed playing tennis, a sport he grew to love and played regularly on Sunday afternoons at the country club. He also has a bit of an unusual hobby that just "fell in his lap." One day he was asked to film the high school football games, and it became something he's thoroughly enjoyed for 30 years now.

Mr. King said, "Serving the members on STEMC lines is something I enjoy doing, and I will continue to serve as long as I am able."



Allan King

# 2016 Washington Youth Tour

**S**outhwest Tennessee Electric is proud to announce winners of the 2016 Washington Youth Tour Creative Writing Contest. This year, students submitted more than 60 short stories on the topic “Electric Cooperatives: Powering Everyday Life” describing how electric cooperatives continue to power local communities by providing safe, reliable, affordable electricity while improving lives across their service areas. This year’s winners will travel to Washington, D.C., in June for an expense-paid tour of our nation’s capital. Second place winners each receive \$75.

Ellis Osburn, a rising senior at Chester County High School, is the overall winner in the STEMC service area. Her story has been entered in the statewide creative writing competition and could possibly win a college scholarship for Ellis. Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association awards three scholarships — \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 — each year to the top three stories in the state.

STEMC extends our sincere appreciation to the area high schools along with the teachers who participate in the program. This would not be possible without their support.

## Trip Winners



Michelle Mellard  
Brighton High  
Parents:  
Greg and Sherry  
Mellard



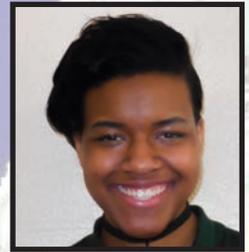
Ellis Osburn  
Chester County  
Parents:  
Wade and Julie Osburn



Amber Higgs  
Covington High  
Parents:  
Tommy and Janice  
Higgs



Felescia Sanders  
Haywood High  
Parents:  
Christopher and  
Brandlin Turner



Xiana Jones  
JCM  
Parents:  
Jamaal and Kimberly  
Jones



Gretchen Quinn  
Liberty Tech Magnet  
Parents:  
Jacob and Amber  
Quinn



Clarissa Miller  
Madison Academic  
Parents:  
Allen and Elena Miller



Jacob Edmondson  
Munford High  
Parents:  
James and Rhonda  
Edmondson



Jaiden White  
North Side High  
Parents:  
Pamela Chism and  
Joseph White



Dora Hernandez  
South Side High  
Parent:  
Amanda Laws

*Cash Winners*



Alexandria Golden  
Brighton High  
Parents:  
Andrew and  
Georgina Golden



Olivia Fraser  
Chester County  
Parents:  
Ryan and Missy Fraser



Ellie Nason  
Covington High  
Parents:  
Jonathan and Angie  
Nason



Elliot Garrett  
Haywood High  
Parents:  
Art and Laurel  
Garrett



Jonathan Cogdell  
Liberty Tech Magnet  
Parents:  
Jeff and Cindy  
Cogdell



Natalie Coffman  
Madison Academic  
Parents:  
Jeff and Molly  
Coffman



Jennifer Taylor  
Munford High  
Parents:  
Shawn and Pam Taylor



Hollie Hansen  
North Side High  
Parents:  
Peter and Wendy  
Hansen



Maria Marquez  
South Side High  
Parents:  
Miguel Marquez and  
Vanessa Kilkan

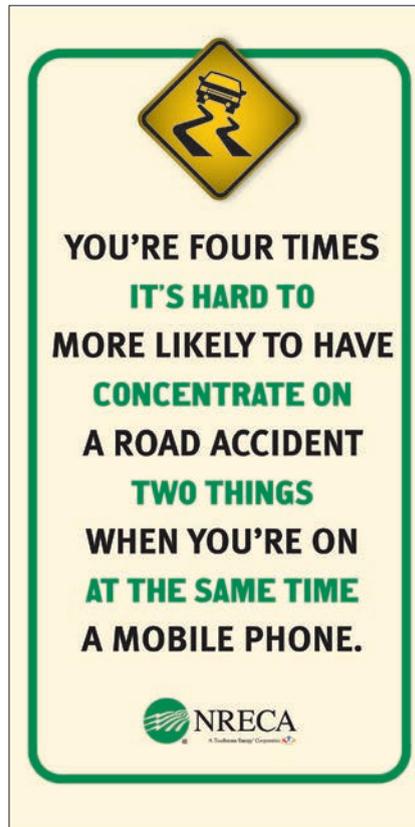


2015 Washington Youth Tour attendees gather in front of the U.S. Capitol.

# Six ways to enjoy summertime energy savings

**H**ere are six ways to use energy more efficiently this summer and save some money on electricity:

1. Change the air-conditioning system's filter every month during cooling season — more often if your neighborhood is especially dusty. Dirty filters stop air from flowing through, which causes your air conditioner to work harder and use more energy as it keeps your home cool.
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4. Close the drapes. A sunny day is pretty to look at through the window, but hot rays can heat the air in your home and force the air conditioner to work overtime. Keep curtains and blinds drawn on bright, hot days, especially on south- and west-facing windows.
5. Wait until after dark to run your pool pump. Operating it during off-peak hours when fewer people are using a lot of appliances at once can save money on your energy bill.
6. Switch your central air-conditioning system's fan to "auto." The "on" setting allows it run constantly — even when your house is already cool.

## 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

Jackson Fairgrounds Park

800 S. Highland Ave., Jackson, TN 38301

Friday, Aug. 12, with registration beginning at 5 p.m.

The annual meeting is a time to celebrate the strength of the cooperative and focus on how STEMC can better work with our members, legislators, and suppliers.

# Happy Father's Day

Show Dad your appreciation by purchasing him a grill from Southwest Tennessee EMC this Father's Day!



- Model 9325 Electric Grill (above)
- Sturdy cart with square-tube legs
  - Sturdy wire lower shelf
  - Foldaway wooden side tables

\$165

Model 5030 Electric Combo Water Smoker and Grill (below)

- 1650-watt heating element
- Removable thermostat control

\$95



**ELECTRIC GRILLS**

clean • safe • convenient



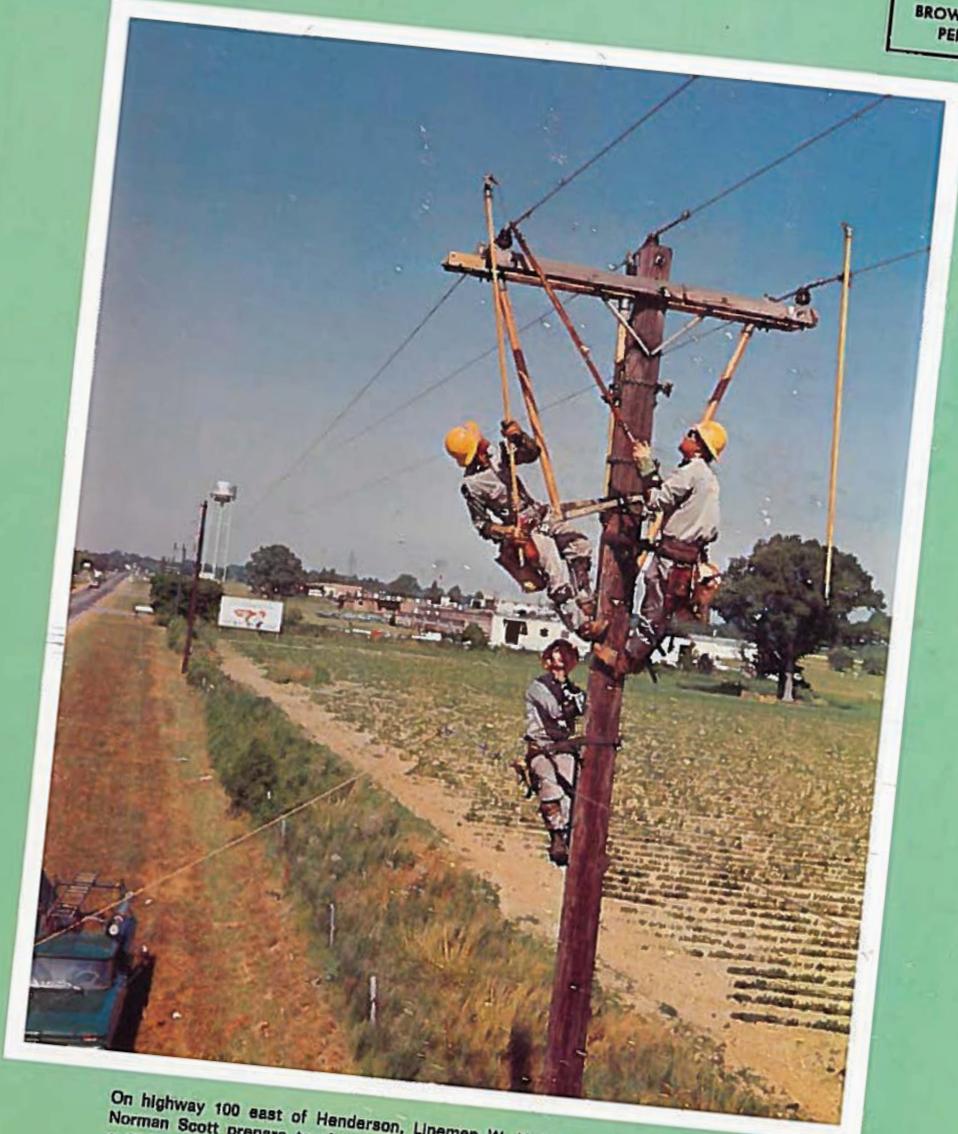
Southwest Tennessee Electric  
Membership Corporation

# A Blast from the Past



To:

Sec. 34.66 P.L.B.R.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BROWNSVILLE, TENN.  
PERMIT NO. 16



On highway 100 east of Henderson, Linemen W. V. Harris, Haskell Cox and Norman Scott prepare to change out a brown insulator on the cross arm of a 13,500 volt line. This work is being done with a set of hot sticks on an energized line.

**Southwest Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation**  
**Building For Your Future**

From the June 30, 1967, 30th Annual Report:

"On highway 100 east of Henderson, Linemen W. V. Harris, Haskell Cox and Norman Scott prepare to change out a brown insulator on the cross arm of a 13,500 volt line. This work is being done with a set of hot sticks on an energized line."

June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



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Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative

Serving all or portions of  
Bledsoe, Grundy, Marion,  
Sequatchie, Coffee, Hamilton,  
Rhea and Van Buren counties.

### Service Centers:

512 S. Cedar Ave.; P.O. Box 31,  
South Pittsburg, TN 37380  
Telephone — 423-837-8605  
Toll-free — 800-923-2203

97 Resource Road; P.O. Box 518,  
Dunlap, TN 37327  
Telephone — 423-949-2198

3396 Main St.; P.O. Box 441,  
Pikeville, TN 37367  
Telephone — 423-447-2131

14002 Highway 41; P.O. Box 100,  
Tracy City, TN 37387  
Telephone — 931-592-2511

14087 Highway 28,  
Whitwell, TN 37397  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday  
Telephone — 423-658-7832

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1-877-521-3055 (toll-free)  
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www.svalleyec.com

Discover the  
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of YOUR  
cooperative —  
Get “social” and  
Connect with  
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www.youtube.com/svalleyec

## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

# We're prepared for summer storms. Are you?

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation.

While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, though, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. The Cooperative Response Center (CRC), our after-hours call and dispatch center, will have every phone line in the Dunlap facility utilized to take your outage report calls. If the outage is so large that the Dunlap customer contact center cannot efficiently handle all the calls, they will be answered by the

CO-OP CRC centers in Minnesota and Texas. The big problems are han-

**T**  
**STRONG**

dled first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.



Mike Partin  
SVEC CEO

Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be

restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the distribution lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a service line outside of your home or business. Make sure you notify Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative so crews can inspect these lines.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to check SVEC's webpage, www.svalleyec.com, and the co-op's Facebook and Twitter pages on your smartphone or install our mobile app for the latest updates during a power outage. It is also a good idea to have whole-house surge protection installed in your home to protect your valuable appliances and electronics against damage in the event of a lightning strike or other sources of voltage fluctuation that may occur during a storm. And prepare an “outage” kit to keep your family safe and comfortable during a storm. Being prepared helps keep us “Co-op Strong.”

# SVEC Spotlight on Safety

## Stay safe around lightning

**W**hen spring storms shoot lightning down from the sky, know how to keep your family safe. Here is some advice from the National Weather Service:

- Don't touch your plugged-in computer or TV indoors when there's a lightning storm outdoors. Stay safe by using remote controls to operate them.
- Avoid corded phones. It's OK to make calls on a cell or cordless phone during a lightning storm.
- To preserve expensive electronic equipment, unplug it before the storm hits. Once lightning starts, it's not safe to touch those plugs or cords.
- Keep your distance from anything that can conduct electricity like power lines, barbed-wire and other metal fences and, of course, metal ladders.
- Don't go outdoors during a lightning storm, and stay away from windows and doors.



*When you hear the thunder, it is time to seek shelter. The sound of thunder means that lightning is close enough to strike. Follow the guidelines at left to protect your home and family. Photo by Carson Camp Photography*

## Notice of directors to be elected

**A**ny interested member of the Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative residing in voting districts 3, 7 or 9 who desires to qualify as a candidate for election as a director must file an official Qualifying Petition and other required information at an SVEC office no later than 4 p.m. Central Daylight Time on Monday, June 27, 2016.

One director to serve a term of four years shall be elected from each of the following directorate districts:

District 3: Parts of Marion County that include Jasper, Mullins Cove and the communities of Nickletown, Cedar Grove, Ebenezer and Rankin Cove.

District 7: Western Grundy County, including Monteaule, Pelham, parts of Marion County adjacent to Monteaule and parts of Coffee and Franklin counties served by the cooperative.

District 9: Northern and northeastern parts of Sequatchie County, including the city of Dunlap and part of Hamilton County served by the cooperative.

The qualifications for eligibility to become a candidate are set forth in Article IV, Section 4.02, of the bylaws as adopted and amended on Feb. 10, 2009. Copies of the bylaws are available at each SVEC office and online at [www.svalleyec.com](http://www.svalleyec.com).

Starting at 8 a.m. Central Daylight Time on Thursday, June 9, 2016, an official Qualifying Petition plus other required information can be picked up at any cooperative office. The official Qualifying Petition must be signed by the candidate and not fewer than 50 other members in good standing whose premises served by SVEC are located in the directorate district of the candidate. The other required information must be filled out and signed as specified.

Remember: Completed official Qualifying Petitions and other required information must be returned to an SVEC office no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, June 27, 2016.

# Toyo Seat USA — Pelham

*Where employees are family and quality is a commitment*

An automotive parts industry is about the last thing you would expect to find nestled in the peaceful rolling hills and farmland of the Pelham Valley. But right down the road from the elementary school and churches, Toyo Seat USA has been assembling the seat components for Honda, Nissan, and Toyota minivans in Pelham for nearly 15 years.

“The South is becoming known for the auto industry,” said James Nunley, plant manager at the Toyo Seat USA’s Pelham plant. “With Nissan in Decherd, General Motors in Spring Hill and Volkswagen in Chattanooga, a lot of automotive companies have located in Tennessee. There have been several in this area since Toyo first opened up the Pelham plant in 2001.”

The plant, which utilizes robotic technology for the welding and wire-bending required to assemble the seat components, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Toyo Seat Corporation, headquartered in Hiroshima, Japan.

The company owns 13 plants worldwide, three of them in the United States. The Pelham plant was established to support the TS Tech plant in Boaz, Alabama, but has expanded services to support Toyota, Ford and Nissan manufacturers.

The Pelham plant began production with about 100 employees, and workforce numbers have fluctuated with the economy. “We got down to only about 65 during the recession in ‘08 and ‘09,” stated Nunley. “During better times, we had up to 205 employees and were running three shifts instead of two.

“We strive to make this plant a success for Grundy County. Our sales team is always out working to grow our business and to bring more industry into the area. We already have a pad built that would allow us to expand in the future.”

Toyo currently employs about 125. About 95 percent of the employees are Grundy County residents, making the plant one of the largest employers in the county and the largest industrial employer.

“Grundy Countians are hard-working people,” Nunley said. “Our biggest asset is our people. A large number of our employees have been here close to 15 years — nearly as long as we have been in business. The current management team is all from Grundy County, and they’ve worked their way up in the company.”

“This plant is family so we do everything we can to keep our employees happy, boost morale and let them know that we care,” said Michelle Rollins, human resources assistant. “We offer great benefits — better than most employers in the area.”

That caring, family atmosphere has paid off in productivity and quality workmanship. The plant produces approximately 12 million parts per year — an average of about 1 million per month. And in an industry where the standard for quality is 10 defective parts per million, Toyo Seat Pelham’s average is around five — it scored four at the last evaluation. The plant’s motto — “Quality isn’t a goal, it’s a Commitment.” — is displayed prominently in the work space as a constant reminder.

Safety is another key concern at Toyo — another way of taking care of the “family” of employees. “Safety is big at our company,” Nunley said. “We have a safety team whose members rotate on and off periodically so that eventually every employee has the opportunity to

*Isaac Parson packs a completed seat frame for shipping to the TS Tech plant in Boaz, Alabama, where it will be installed in a Honda Odyssey minivan.*



**“Grundy Countians are hard-working people. Our biggest asset is our people.**

**— James Nunley, Plant Manager  
Toyo Seat, USA, Pelham Plant**



*Toyo Seat USA’s Pelham plant manager and Grundy County native James Nunley is proud of quality products that he and his “family” of co-workers produce and the positive effect their work has on the economy of their home county and state.*



*The feeling of “family” at Toyo Seat has resulted in loyal, happy employees. Bunia Layne has been employed at the Pelham plant for 14 years and has missed only one day of work.*

serve on the committee. This year we have had no recordable injuries. I believe our safety program is the most important thing we do for our employees,” Nunley said.

With such a high percentage of the employees being Grundy County residents, the company is involved in a number of local community service projects. Toyo Seat sponsors local youth sports teams, programs for Pelham Elementary School and two employees each year in the Leadership Grundy program. The company is very involved in the local Relay for Life fundraising activities for the American Cancer Society and has donated to the Miracle Playground in Monteagle, the Grundy County Food Bank, Appalachian Women’s Guild and Ronald McDonald House.

Taking care of the beautiful place they call home is also important to the management and employees of Toyo Seat. Environmental responsibility is a corporate goal to which all Toyo plants adhere. “We recycle everything we can,” Nunley stated. “Locally, our goal is to send less than 25 tons of trash to the landfill annually. We have met our goals every year to lower our impact on the environment.”

Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative is proud to have been a part of the team that recruited Toyo Seat to our service area and to have the plant as one of our industrial members. Working with a company that treats its employees like family, strives to grow the business for the good of the local economy and produces quality products workers can be proud of while working safely and in an environmentally responsible manner is the kind of teamwork that makes our area “Co-op Strong.”

# Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest

## Working together to prepare our future leaders

**E**ach year, Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative sponsors the Washington Youth Tour Writing Contest to inform our future members and leaders of the important role electric cooperatives play in their rural communities.

However, SVEC can't do it alone; it is a cooperative effort. The principals

who allow us to conduct the contest in their schools, the teachers who make time in their busy schedules for the presentations and for grading and selecting the finalists, the parents who encourage their children to participate, and the volunteer judges who take time to read and score the finalists' papers are all an integral part of making this "trip of a

lifetime" happen annually for one student from each of our public high schools.

We at SVEC thank all those involved in this program to prepare our future members, future employees and future leaders for the challenges that lie ahead for the electric utility industry. Congratulations to the 2016 winners!



*Bledsoe County High School: From left are Melissa Reel, teacher; Rhianna Barrow, first place; Abby Self, second; and Hanna Haston, third.*



*Grundy County High School: From left are Karissa Northcutt, first place; Maddie Nunley, second; Alexa Fults, third; and Beth Brown, teacher.*



*Richard Hardy Memorial School: From left are Madison Huckabee, third place; Ellis Forrester, teacher; and Scarlett Tate, first. Not pictured, Mariah Dawn Sims, second.*



*Marion County High School: From left are Sarah Rheel, first place; Seth Drey, second; and Rachael McNabb, third. Teacher Emily Bourque is not pictured.*



*Whitwell High School: From left are Sadie Logan, third place; Catherine Baker, second; Emily Campbell, first; and teacher Christy Jones.*



*South Pittsburg High School: From left are Stephanie Lewis, teacher; Austin Abbott, first place; MaKayla Mathews, second; Emma O'Hailey, third; and Paige Hill, teacher.*



*Sequatchie County High School: From left are Amy Layne, teacher; Kaitlyn Springer, first place; Alya Sharboug, second; Madilyn Weas, third; and Natalie Kimball, teacher. Springer's story was selected the overall winner from SVEC and has been submitted in the statewide competition for college scholarships.*

# Giving students a chance to succeed

## *SVECares and other local sponsors provide needed school supplies*

**W**hile students are out of school enjoying their summer vacation, community leaders are busy planning events to make “back-to-school” time easier for school-aged children and their families.

Each county in the Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative service area hosts an event in the weeks before school starts to provide children with needed school supplies and services such as haircuts, physicals and vision, hearing and dental screenings. The events are coordinated by members of the local health councils and sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Health and/or Community Advisory Board in each county. These community action groups are made up of professionals and volunteers in the health and family resource fields.

While each county has a person or team to plan the event, it takes the cooperation of the whole community to make it successful.

“I have coordinated the Give a Child a Chance Day in Bledsoe County since it began, but I have to depend on others to make it all happen,” said Rhonda Sills. “I learned early on that in our rural community, with our limited resources, I would have to go outside the county to obtain

the sponsorship and services needed to make the day a success. I was a little timid at first to ask people to help, but as I began to see how much it benefited the children, I didn’t mind asking anyone to help. We gave out 527 backpacks of school supplies and fed lunch to more than 700 at last year’s event, and it keeps growing each year.”

*“We don’t have a lot here, but you can really tell how much people care about the children by how willing they are to help.”*

— Rhonda Sills, Bledsoe County

The SVECares program is one of the resources that each county has utilized. The cooperative’s “round-up” program awards grants to community organizations and groups for initiatives that benefit the community and improve the quality of life in our service area. The SVECares board has approved grants to assist with the county back-to-school events since 2009.

The generosity of our members toward the youth of our communities is what make our area “Co-op Strong.” For more information on SVECares, visit [www.svalleyec.com](http://www.svalleyec.com).



SVEC’s Joan Davis, left, distributes school supplies to a long line of children and their parents during a previous Give a Child a Chance Day in Bledsoe County.

## Back to School Events

### Bledsoe County

*Give a Child a Chance Day*  
July 14 — 9 a.m.- noon

*Bledsoe County High School*  
877 Main St., Pikeville

*Rhonda Sills — 423-447-6749*  
*Rhondasills@hotmail.com*

*Michelle Rains — 423-447-2914*

### Grundy County

*Give a Kid a Chance Day*  
July 25 — 9 a.m.-noon

*Grundy County High School*  
24970 SR 108, Coalmont

*Tonya Garner — 931-967-3826*  
*Tonya.Garner@tn.gov*

### Marion County

*Back to School Event*  
Aug. 6 — 9 a.m.- noon

*Chattanooga State*  
2100 Main St., Kimball

*Sherry Cagle — 423-634-1954*  
*Sherry.Cagle@tn.gov*

### Sequatchie County

*Give a Kid a Chance Day*  
July 29 — 9 a.m - noon

*Sequatchie County High School*  
7067 SR 28, Dunlap

*Amber Hernandez —*  
*423-949-2191*

*AHernandez@sethra.us*

*Services vary at each event. Contact your local coordinator or check local newspaper for details.*

# Co-op Strong Trivia Contest

One Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative member who correctly answers the trivia question below will be awarded a rocking chair handmade in Tennessee — a comfortable “seat” for your porch. The answer will be found by reading the SVEC section.

Send the answer by postcard or email (no phone calls, please). Mail entries to: SVEC — Co-op Strong Trivia; P.O. Box 31, South Pittsburg, TN 37380, or email entries to [memberservices@svalleyec.com](mailto:memberservices@svalleyec.com). Entries must be postmarked or received via e-mail by Thursday, June 30. One winner selected from a random drawing of the correct entries will be named in SVEC’s section of the August issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*.

Thank you to all those who entered the April Contest. The correct answer to the question, “In what year did the Dunlap CRC call center open?” is “2001.” Congratulations to Angela Elledge of Pikeville whose correct answer was drawn as the winner of a Midland Weather Radio and an emergency preparedness kit.

*Correctly answer the trivia question below, and you could win this handmade in Tennessee rocking chair.*

**June Co-op Strong trivia question:**

*The Toyo Seat USA’s Pelham plant produces approximately how many parts each year?*



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June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

Upper  
Cumberland  
Electric  
Membership  
Corporation

**UCEMC**  
**Board of Directors**  
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**Overton County**  
Glenn Honeycutt  
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**Putnam County**  
Joe Mullins  
Alan Pippin

**Smith County**  
Mike Scudder  
Morris (Moose) Tyree II  
C.D. "Digger" Poindexter

## Holiday Closing

**Independence  
Day**  
Monday, July 4

## AS I SEE IT

### Co-ops take messages to legislators

**D**irectors and staff from Upper Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation were among more than 200 electric co-op leaders in Nashville on Monday and Tuesday, March 7 and 8, for the 2016 Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association Legislative Conference. Upper Cumberland Electric Membership Cooperation directors Glen Honeycutt, Alan Pippin, C. D. "Digger" Poindexter and Mike Scudder joined General Manager Jimmy Gregory, Assistant General Manager Tammie Key and Member Services Adviser Carl F. Ledbetter in meetings with legislators on Capitol Hill to help them better understand electric cooperatives and the issues that impact rural and suburban Tennessee.

House Speaker Beth Harwell welcomed the group to Nashville. "You serve 71 percent of our state and 2.5 million Tennesseans," she said. "We recognize the impact you have on our state."

Tennessee's electric cooperatives maintain a visible presence in Nashville and Washington, D.C., to protect the interests of co-op members.

"We are here to give a voice to rural Tennesseans," says David Callis, CEO of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association (TECA). "We must tell the electric cooperative story and educate lawmakers about the impact of proposed legislation."

"Decisions made in Nashville can have serious consequences for our co-op, our members and the communities we serve," says Gregory "We have a responsibility to our members to see that their voice is heard."

Attendees reminded legislators that co-ops are not-for-profit, member-owned and -regulated private businesses that impact

rural and suburban Tennessee in many ways. Visits focused on specific legislation that impacts co-ops and the communities they serve. Co-op leaders expressed support for a bill that allows electric co-ops to provide broadband Internet service.

"We serve the areas with the greatest need for broadband," says Mike Knotts, TECA vice president of government affairs. "We have a role to play in bringing high-speed connectivity to rural Tennessee."

Co-ops also voiced their support of legislation that modernizes the tax code for co-ops and discussed the impact of the recent Supreme Court decision to halt implementation of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

"Educated and informed legislators are necessary for us to provide low-cost, reliable power, and our members make a powerful impression when they come to Nashville," says Knotts. More than 100 legislative visits were made during the conference, and dozens of legislators from across the state attended a reception honoring members of the Tennessee General Assembly.



**Jimmy Gregory**  
*General Manager*  
*Upper Cumberland*  
*EMC*



*Jimmy Gregory, UCEMC general manager, standing left, and UCEMC board members and staff discuss legislative issues with Sen. Mae Beavers, left.*

# UCEMC sponsors McQuiston and Edwards to attend 2016 Youth Leadership Summit

**J**ackson County High School student Courtney McQuiston and Gordonsville High School student Christopher Edwards were in Nashville March 21-23 for the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association's annual Youth Leadership Summit. Courtney, daughter of Robert and Millicent McQuiston of Granville and Debbie and Bobby Broad of LaVergne, and Christopher, son of Charlie and Nikki Edwards of Alexandria, were chosen and sponsored by Upper Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation.

Beth Harwell welcomed attendees to Nashville on Tuesday morning, March 22, in the House Chamber of the Tennessee State Capitol and spent time explaining her role as speaker of the House and the process that is required to pass legislation.

Rep. Kevin Dunlap also addressed the group and encouraged students to stay active and involved. "You are already leaders, or you would not be here today," he said. He also helped students understand the role electric cooperatives play in rural Tennessee. "The electric co-ops were created because there was a problem: Rural Tennessee did not have the privilege of electricity," said Dunlap. "Our leaders and citizens worked together to form the electric cooperatives and solve the problem."

Sens. Mike Bell, Richard Briggs and Ferrell Haile and Reps. Kent Calfee, Dan Howell, Jay Reedy and David Shepard joined Harwell and Dunlap for a town hall meeting with students in the House Chamber.

The theme of this year's summit was "Small Towns, Big Ideas," and attendees were encouraged to use their talents to improve rural Tennessee. "Local



*From left, Larry Fleming, UCEMC Member Services Adviser; Courtney McQuiston, Jackson County High School; Rep. John Mark Windle; West Weaver and his grandmother, Rep. Terri Lynn Weaver; and Christopher Edwards, Gordonsville High School, meet in front of the State Capitol during the 2016 Youth Leadership Summit in Nashville.*

electric co-ops, school officials and guidance counselors chose these deserving students to attend the summit based on their interests in government and strong leadership abilities," says Todd Blocker, vice president of member relations for the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. "During this year's Youth Leadership Summit, we taught these exceptional students that advances in technology have created unique career opportunities in their hometowns. They will be the next generation of leaders in rural Tennessee, and we want to prepare them for the challenges and opportunities they will face."

"These students will soon be our community leaders — and electric cooperative member-owners," said Larry Fleming, UCEMC member services adviser. "We want them to share our passion for our area, so it is an honor for UCEMC to help prepare them for the opportunities that are ahead. We need their talents and leadership more than ever."

# UCEMC's winners for the 2016 Washington Youth Tour



*Ellie Gantenbein*



*Megan Lee*



*Gabby Mancini*



*Mary Beth Watson*



*Destiny Williams*

Each year, Upper Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation, along with the other 22 electric cooperatives across the state, partners with the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association (TECA) to sponsor the Washington Youth Tour. This event is made available to high school juniors who write short stories, the winners receiving weeklong, expense-paid trips to Washington, D.C. In addition to winning spots on the trip, UCEMC awards each of our five winners a \$1,000 educational scholarship. This year's trip is our largest ever with nearly 200 Tennessee students and co-op chaperones.

Winners from the UCEMC territory are Ellie Gantenbein, Smith County High School, daughter of Brian and Tina Gantenbein; Megan Lee, Livingston Academy, daughter of Odell and Tammy Lee; Gabby Mancini, Jackson County High School, daughter of Karen Mancini of Gainesboro and Mike Mancini of South Bend, Indiana; Mary Beth Watson, Gordonsville High School, granddaughter of Susan Cooper; and Destiny Williams, Upperman High School, daughter of Lewis and Hilari Scott.

On June 10, five of UCEMC's brightest students will gather at the Star Motor Inn in Cookeville to board one of the four buses en route to Washington, D.C. Students are picked up at various locations along the route with the last pick-up in Abingdon, Virginia.

An overnight stop in Staunton, Virginia, provides the opportunity for students to play challenging games and become better acquainted. Some will participate in a public speaking competition to represent Tennessee at several local, state and national events next year.

The second morning, students board buses for a side trip to Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson. That afternoon, approaching Washington, their first attraction will be witnessing the entanglement of mass transportation that can bring traffic to a halt. Or, with conditions being just right, they'll cruise into their hotel in Crystal City, Virginia.

Upon receiving important information from the "Red Shirts," past Youth Tour winners who assist throughout the event, everyone receives the magnetic key cards to enter his or her room. Luggage is left in the rooms, and everyone rushes back to their buses for afternoon and late-evening touring of D.C.

The next days begin early. Buses are boarded to begin unforgettable tours of monuments, museums, parks, historic buildings, the Smithsonian and many more attractions in our nation's capital throughout the week.

The final journey in Washington takes the students to the airport for a less-than-two-hour trip back to Nashville. Anxious parents and family members stand in the baggage-claim area, watching for their students to arrive. After hugs and tears from students as they leave the many lifelong friends they made over the week, everyone claims his or her backpack and luggage and departs the airport. As they leave, most will be telling their families about the trip — and may soon be sound asleep in the car after an action-packed week.

But, for the cooperative and TECA employees who serve on committees, planning for the 2017 Washington Youth Tour can be underway within a week. If not, many attractions may not be available to visit for next year's tour.

## Did you know?

UCEMC's power lines could extend from Memphis to more than 200 miles beyond London, England.

# Murphys learn about co-ops, agriculture at Young Leaders Conference

**M**ore than 300 young people from across the state gathered at the 2016 Young Leaders Conference held Feb. 26 and 27 at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Franklin.

The annual conference brings couples and individuals together from rural communities to learn about cooperatives, share their views about agriculture and discuss current issues facing rural Americans.

The Tennessee Council of Cooperatives (TCC) co-sponsors the annual conference with Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmers and Ranchers organization.

This year's event covered a variety of subjects aimed at educating leaders about cooperatives and agricultural issues and strengthening their leadership skills. Attendees discussed issues facing rural Tennessee and were given an overview of Farm Bureau's Ag-in-the-Classroom program.



*Justin and Leann Murphy of Jackson County were sponsored by UCEMC to attend the 2016 Young Leaders Conference at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Franklin.*

Tennessee State University's Dr. John Hall led a breakout session on "Core Values," and the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture's Lisa Stearns discussed "Raising the Profile of Tennessee Agriculture."

Amy Gallimore, chief executive officer of Four16 Training Solutions, taught valuable lessons in perseverance and attitude, and David Turner entertained attendees.

Joe Jackson, retired Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association director of member services and a pivotal leader in establishing the Young Leaders Conference, was presented an annual award given by TCC to an individual who has shown dedi-

cation to the cooperative cause in Tennessee. TCC made a \$1,000 contribution in Jackson's honor to the John Willis Memorial Scholarship fund, which provides financial aid to deserving college agriculture students in the state.

## Woodpecker destroys UCEMC power pole

A woodpecker destroyed an expensive UCEMC power pole when the bird decided to make its home in the pole. Once inside, the woodpecker continued to deepen the hole, furthering the damage.

This weakened the pole and could have caused it to break, resulting in power outages and possible safety issues.

Few realize that in addition to storms, squirrels, woodpeckers, snakes and frogs contribute to many power outages.



# UCEMCCares assists local organizations

## Genesis House — Putnam County



**G**rant money awarded through UCEMCCares has assisted in the addition of night staff at Genesis House, which helps victims of domestic and sexual violence. Genesis House provides shelter, goods and services to the abused. In the meantime, victims are assisted by finding safety in their lives. They can become self-sufficient while in healing as their turnaround guides them to again become independent. The Genesis House educational program enlightens the community in the prevention of domestic and sexual abuse.

Prevention is possible when consent is understood and respected, when everyone is involved, when misconceptions are eliminated and when individuals support change.

If you are interested in scheduling a community education presentation at your school, church, company or agency, please contact Tara Bates at 931-525-1637. Genesis House currently has seven advocates who are available to provide presentations in Clay, DeKalb, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith and White counties.

*From left, Tara Bates, Dina Martin and Melissa Garrett exhibit some of the many items used to assist those who seek help at Genesis House.*

## American Legion — Jackson County

**T**he American Legion Burford Clark Post 129 is grateful for UCEMCCares grants that will help fund the Boys State and Girls State leadership programs.

The American Legion has sponsored Boys State since 1935 and Volunteer Girls State since 1947. The Burford Clark Post 129 of the Gainesboro American Legion sponsors Boys State at Tennessee Tech University and Girls State at David Lipscomb University.

To be selected, a student must be in the top third of his or her class and nominated by a teacher or guidance counselor. The final choices are made by votes from teachers.

The one-week leadership experience is demanding, both mentally and physically. Mornings start early, and the students become involved in learning the political process in detail. A “government” is established with public offices that range from the local dog catcher to mayor. Students are taught the real-life roles and responsibilities of the offices they hold, and, at the end, one student is named the top participant.



*Commander Dale Smith, left, and adjutant Everett Vanhooser represent the American Legion Burford Clark Post 129 of Gainesboro.*

## Smith County Heritage Museum



From left, Board Vice President Teri Rich, Museum Manager Sheena Rittenberry and Board Secretary-Treasurer Barbara Upchurch show a table with chairs purchased using UCEMCCares grants.

In 2004 the Smith County Heritage Museum opened its doors in the old shirt factory building that began operations in 1951. The foresight of some local investors and businessmen was the foundation to start this manufacturing plant that for many years provided employment to many families.

The museum is full of tastefully displayed local history. Its success comes from the donations of historic relics to display, money from donors for its continued operation and a board and staff to oversee its future development. A large room in the back, Performance Hall, can be rented for many functions like receptions, school reunions, weddings and other events.

Within the last year, the old Cumberland Feed Mill that opened in 1948 was torn down and its lumber sold for many repurposing and restoration projects. Eight tables in Performance Hall are made from the Mill's lumber. The Hall is rented hourly, and personnel must be on hand within the museum to secure its contents.

To meet the need for event seating, a UCEMCCares grant provided funding to purchase 60 chairs and caddies for their storage. Purchasing these chairs could have been far into the future without the grant from UCEMCCares.

## Cedar Lake Camp — Overton County



UCEMCCares funding has helped improve camp facilities. The top photo shows some of the rustic cabins, and above are March 2016 Spring Break campers.

Cedar Lake Camp (CLC) is a popular facility for average kids to come to fellowship with one another. Approximately 16 rustic cabins provide housing for campers, and UCEMCCares grant money has gone toward facility upgrades to better serve the retreat guests.

Last year, 649 campers attended for either spring break, fall break or day, resident or canoe camp. Churches, fraternities, sororities and the University of Tennessee have participated in CLC activities, and this is the fourth year the Livingston Police Department has sponsored Police Camp for local youth at CLC.

But, there is more to learn about Cedar Lake Camp, and unlike the famed Paul Harvey, we go back to the “beginning of the story.” According to camp director Ryan Higgins, a minister from New England named Henry C. Geiger wanted to provide a home for orphans and selected this location. He needed enough land to provide housing and produce food for the orphans. Soliciting money to make his dream a reality was not happening. In 1929, a gentleman from New Jersey contacted him, offering help. He said, “I don’t have money to give, but I will give you some stocks.” When he gave the stocks, he advised waiting to cash them in. Deciding he needed the money right then, Brother Geiger cashed in the stocks to purchase the farm. A week later, the 1929 stock market crash that started the Great Depression occurred.

# Lee Martin

... our employee in the spotlight

A lifetime Putnam County resident, Lee Martin is an Upper Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation lineman who, on occasion, works as a service man. He has been employed at the cooperative for 12 years.

Lee is a graduate of Cookeville High School where he was a member of FFA and played baseball. He is the son of Phillip and Shellie Martin, and his grandparents are James and Kaye Nicholas and Forrest and Betty Martin.

His wife, Andrea, works at CadCopies in Cookeville.



Photo by Carl F. Ledbetter

*"UCEMC is a great place to work. I enjoy being around all the great employees."*

They are happy parents of two children: 9-year-old Julie attends Algood Elementary School, and Grant, age 3, attends the CRMC Children's Center. The Martin family attends Life Church in Cookeville.

When time is in his favor, Lee enjoys camping, hunting and watching University of Tennessee football, and he says he enjoys fall and Thanksgiving.

UCEMC is fortunate to have an employee like Lee who exhibits professionalism and a strong work ethic.

When storms come in and the weather is too bad to be outside, our DEFENSIVE LINEMEN are in these trucks, coming to restore your power.

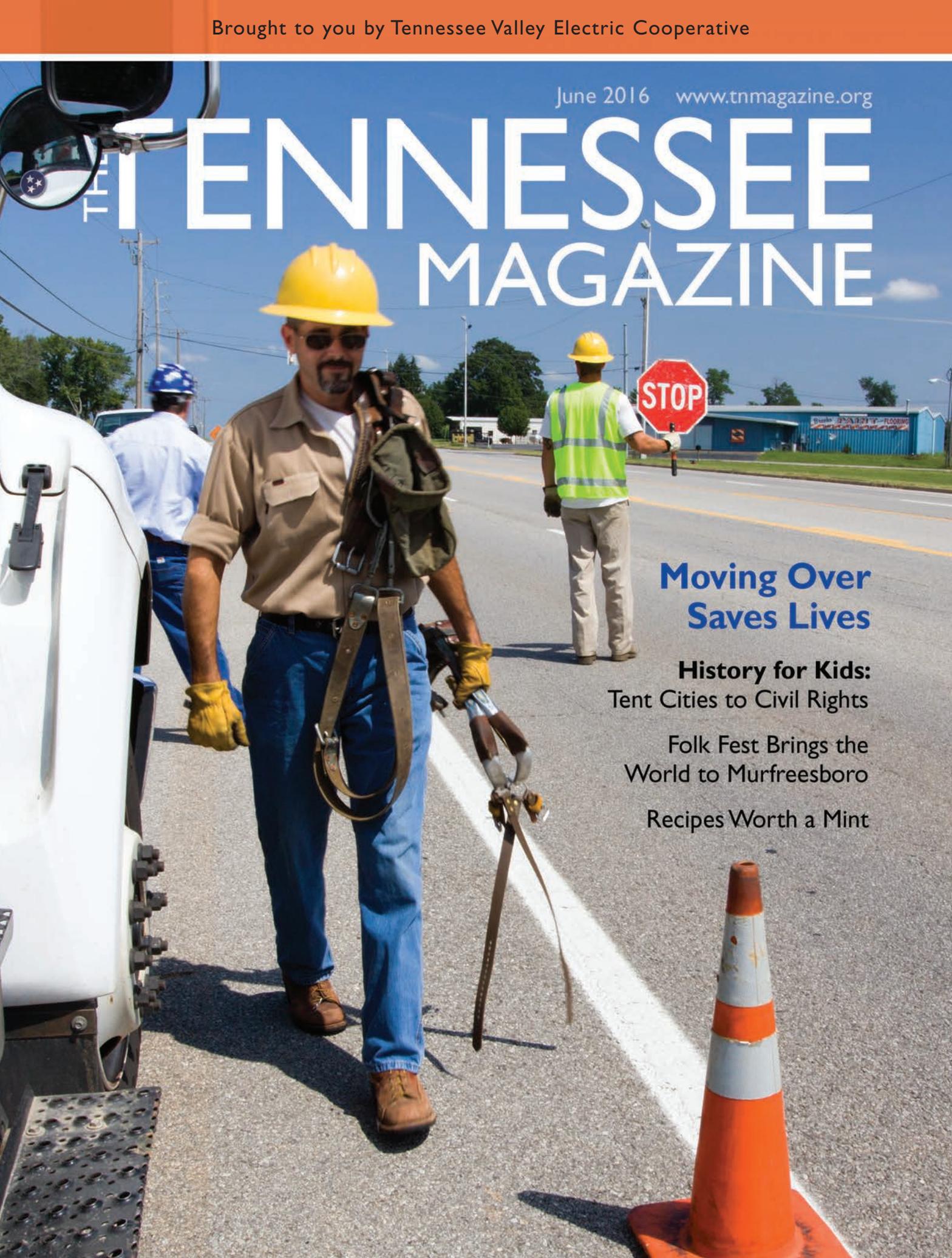
When the weather reaches its worst stage, they are working in it.

When temperatures are extreme, when storms rage and rain is falling or snow and ice cover the ground, they are out there to restore your power. Then, they return home.



June 2016 [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org)

# TENNESSEE MAGAZINE



**Moving Over  
Saves Lives**

**History for Kids:  
Tent Cities to Civil Rights**

**Folk Fest Brings the  
World to Murfreesboro**

**Recipes Worth a Mint**

## Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative

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## AS I SEE IT

Manager's Viewpoint

# We are prepared for summer storms

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems — like damage to transmission lines that serve tens of thousands of people — are handled first. These

problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.



Gerald Taylor  
General Manager,  
Tennessee Valley  
Electric Cooperative

TVEC's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds

of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify TVEC so crews can inspect these lines.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to check our Facebook page on your smartphone for the latest updates during a power outage.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: energy.gov

# What's in it for 'we?'

By Adam Schwartz

One of the most attractive features of cooperatives is that we answer the popular question, “What’s in it for me?” with “What’s in it for we!” Cooperatives are formed when the market fails to offer goods or services with decent quality at an affordable price. Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative was formed in 1939 because when investor-owned utilities realized there was not enough profit to be made in our community, they refused to offer electricity.

The founding members of TVEC went door-to-door to collect \$5 in order to raise a portion of the original investment the co-op needed. Each of those “go-getters” realized that the only way to get electricity for “me” was to get it for “we,” the whole community.

Cooperative ownership is in the hands of the people who use the co-op’s goods and services (not investors), so not only do co-ops start out answering the question of “What’s in it for we?” they continue to answer that question for as long as they exist.

These days, we often hear about companies that abandon their local communities and move overseas

in search of cheaper labor. This negatively impacts the community through job loss, decline in housing values and school closures. Because local residents own a majority of cooperatives, they are less likely to leave their community. In fact, it would be impossible for TVEC to leave our communities. The co-op is a critical part of what makes the community a community.

The way co-ops continue to answer the question, “What’s in it for we?” is critical to their survival. It is imperative that we keep you — our members — as the primary focus. Keeping rates as low as possible is one major part of that focus, but ensuring that we provide real value as your trusted energy adviser is also extremely important.

By maintaining that focus with your help and support, we will continue to be able to serve the “me” and the “we” in our community long into the future.

*Adam Schwartz is the founder of The Cooperative Way, a consulting firm that helps co-ops succeed. He is an author, speaker and member-owner of the CDS Consulting Co-op.*

## Stay safe around lightning

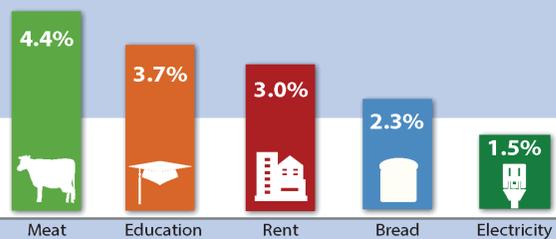
When spring storms shoot lightning down from the sky, know how to keep your family safe. Here is some advice from the National Weather Service:

- Don’t touch your plugged-in computer or TV indoors when there’s a lightning storm outdoors. Stay safe by using remote controls to operate them.
- Avoid using corded phones. It’s OK to make calls on cell or cordless phones during a lightning storm.
- To preserve expensive electronic devices, unplug them before the storm hits. Once lightning starts, it’s not safe to touch those plugs or cords.
- Keep your distance from anything that can conduct electricity like power lines, barbed-wire fences and, of course, metal ladders.
- Don’t go outdoors during a lightning storm, and stay away from windows and doors. Even a small leak can let lightning into your home.

### Electricity Remains a Good Value

The cost of powering your home rises at a slower pace than many of your typical expenses. Compare the average price increase of these expenses each year over the last five years, and the value of electricity shines.

 **Average Annual Price Increase**  
2010-2015



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

# Why rights of way matter

**T**ake a drive down any road, and it won't be long before you see utility lines strung from pole to pole. Placing them close to the road is desirable for the utilities, making it easier to maintain and repair these lines. Extensions of these lines may leave the road and travel through fields or wooded areas where it's more difficult for the same repairs and maintenance to be performed, especially following storms when these areas are less accessible.

A right of way is required anywhere there is a utility line, especially power lines. Miles of power lines can be affected by just a small right-of-way section, making upkeep of these areas vital to ensuring reliable service. Cutting and removal of trees or trimming of limbs allow minimum clearance distances to be met and comply with regulations on what and how close to these power lines objects can be built. Although rights of way are often located on private property, clearing guidelines are set according to industry standards and are widely practiced and mandated. TVEC and other member-owned cooperatives have policies defining these standards to which members agree when they apply for service.

In new construction, the member is asked to clear the portion of the right of way that is not close to existing lines. TVEC will clear areas close to energized lines so the member is not at risk. Talking to one of TVEC's engineers will give the member the guidelines to follow in each instance. Members can clear their portion themselves or hire someone to clear away trees, brush, rocks and other obstacles that hamper the installation or maintenance of the line. Although most often thought of as involving only the clearance of the line, right of way also involves the ground. Gates, large rocks, ditches, fences and other obstacles limit TVEC's ability to provide safe, reliable power to members.

*Specialized equipment allow right-of-way workers to safely trim future problems away from power lines.*



*These pictures compare a right of way prior to, left, and after it's been properly maintained.*

Getting it correct in the beginning is key to limiting right-of-way problems in the future.

Maintaining these rights of way is hard, often tedious work. Trimming and cutting trees close to high-voltage lines are not tasks to be taken lightly. Machinery such as tractors and trimmers coupled with herbicides are used to cover large areas while bucket trucks and chippers are used primarily for more isolated cases. Regardless of the equipment used, manpower is necessary to perform these often difficult tasks. From laborer to equipment operator, right-of-way crew members work together to perform their jobs as safely and efficiently as possible.

PPE — or personal protective equipment — such as safety glasses, saw chaps, hard hats and hearing protection must be worn while doing these jobs to further ensure the safety of the crews. Although the potential for danger always exists, good planning, training and experience allow these workers to perform their duties safely.



# You have the power with prepaid metering

By Tom Tate

**P**repaid metering is as simple as it sounds: Consumers pay for electricity before it is used and then use the electricity until the credit expires. A terrific analogy for prepaid metering is putting gas in your car. Say you only have \$30 for the week to pay for gasoline. You drive down to the station, pump in \$30 and drive off. As you drive during the week, what happens? You monitor the gauge and make sure each trip is necessary. If you drive too much, you burn up your \$30 before the week is out. By checking the gauge throughout the week, you became more prudent with your gas use and make informed decisions on when and how much to drive your car.

Now let's transfer that analogy to your account with Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative. With normal metering, you get a bill after you have used the electricity. Sometimes it comes as a shock: "How could I possibly have used so much electricity?" Prepaid metering is designed to ease — and hopefully eliminate — that shock. Let's take a look at how it works.

The components of a prepaid metering system aren't too different from regular metering. Two extra pieces are required: a way to turn off the power when all your money is used and a way for TVEC to tell you how much you have left in your account — think of this as your "electricity tank gauge." On the cooperative's side, we handle the extra software and processes.

Now let's see it in action. You have the prepaid metering equipment installed. Prepaid users often receive electricity use notifications through a smartphone app, emails and text messages.

Now you decide how often you want to buy electricity. Monthly? Weekly? Then you budget for a certain amount of power and pay the co-op. Bingo, your electricity "tank" is full.

During the time period for which you've paid (let's say a week for this example), you receive regular feedback on how much you have left in your "tank."

As you approach "empty," you add more money to your account and are then set for the next period. If you run out, the power goes off just like your car stops when it runs out of gas. To complete the analogy, let's look at what you have been doing during the week. You become quite aware of how you are using electricity. You turn things off more often. You may change the setting on your thermostat so you don't cool or heat as much. You might cook outside to avoid using the oven or make sure your dishwasher is really full before running it. Industry studies show that consumers who participate in prepaid metering plans use as much as 10 percent less electricity than their counterparts on traditional billing plans.

Prepaid metering teaches the value of electricity and what uses watts in your home, provides absolute control over how much you pay and helps you reduce your energy use. It is a tremendous way to power your life. Contact Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative to learn more about prepaid metering.

*Tom Tate writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*

## *The power is in your hands with* **Prepaid Metering**

By paying for electricity as you go, you can monitor energy use and know when you need to conserve. A few benefits of participating are that prepaid metering:

- teaches the value of electricity
- helps members understand what uses watts in their homes
- provides absolute control over how much money is spent on electricity
- helps reduce energy use



# Buying an older home? Make a few energy updates

**S**ome homeowners swear by their older houses because of their sturdy construction and attention to detail. But most older homes are energy hogs. If you live in one — or are planning to — invest in a few energy-saving upgrades:

- Replace the windows. Single-pane windows allow cool, air-conditioned air to escape from the home and invite the summer heat indoors. Double-pane windows are more energy-efficient and can considerably trim your air-conditioning expenses.
- Install a programmable thermostat. The older your home is, the less likely it is to feature a thermostat that automatically resets itself after your family's morning rush hour. Keeping the house comfortably

cool while nobody's in it during the day is a waste of energy.

- Plug leaks and cracks. They're inevitable as a home ages. Caulk around electrical and cable outlets, windows, window air conditioners and the dryer vent and in cracks in bricks, siding or stucco.
- Add attic insulation. Chances are, your home wasn't built with enough. And what it has is likely to have diminished over the years or become detached from the floors and walls it's designed to insulate.
- Replace older appliances with Energy Star-rated new ones. Newer models of water heaters, clothes dryers and dishwashers are much more efficient and will use less energy than older ones.

## Community events

### Hardin County

**June 6 • Savannah Lions Club Walking Horse Royal.** Hardin County Fairgrounds, Savannah. Prizes awarded. Call 731-925-2554.

**June 10 • Team Hardin County Golf Tournament.** Shiloh Golf Course. Four-man scramble. Cash and prizes awarded. For registration or hole sponsorship information, call 731-925-8181.

**June 12 • Second Fridays.** Hosted by Savannah Main Street on Court Square. Live music, shopping and dining. Call 731-925-3300 for information.

**June 27 • Catfish and Comedy.** Wayne Jerrolds Park, Savannah. Presented by the Savannah Arts Commission. Call 731-925-8181 for information.

**June 26-28 • "Mary Poppins."** Presented by Dreamweavers of West Tennessee at the historic Savannah Theater. Visit [www.drmmwvrs.net](http://www.drmmwvrs.net) for more information.

**June 27 • World Championship of Catfishing.** Pickwick Landing State Park. Catfishing tournament to celebrate the Catfish Capitol of the World. Cash prizes awarded. Call 800-552-3866 or visit [www.bigcatquest.com](http://www.bigcatquest.com).

**July 4 • Fourth of July Fireworks Display.** Pickwick Landing State Park. 731-925-8181 or 800-552-3866.

**July 3-4 • 37th Annual Savannah Bluegrass Festival.** Beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday at Wayne Jerrolds Park and noon on Saturday on Court Square, downtown Savannah. For information, call 731-925-8181.

### Wayne County

**June 4 • Annual Butterfly 5K Walk/ Run.** Waynesboro City Park off Highway 64 East, Waynesboro. Gun time is 8 a.m. Beginners and professionals of all ages invited! For entry forms, please contact Jim Beavers at 931-722-3658 or [beaverslumber@gmail.com](mailto:beaverslumber@gmail.com). Learn more about the Butterfly Foundation at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=iijplAmr7BQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iijplAmr7BQ).

**June 11 • Tour de Wayne,** 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Waynesboro City Park. Bicycle rides of varying lengths through rural Wayne and sections of Lewis and Perry counties. Tour via the antebellum Clifton Turnpike, and visit sites like the Buffalo and Tennessee rivers, Crazyhorse Recreational Park and Tennessee Fitness Spa. Century, metric century, half-metric and family fun rides. Sag support and rest stops on all routes. Rider fee of \$25 includes souvenir T-shirt. Proceeds sponsor future chamber programming. Contact the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce at 931 722-3575 or [chamber@netease.net](mailto:chamber@netease.net).

**July 9 • Family History and Crafts Fair.** Curious about your family history? Do you like to see some of the amazing crafts of Wayne County? Come to the Wayne County Family History and Crafts Fair on Saturday, July 9 starting at 9 a.m. at Wayne County High School.

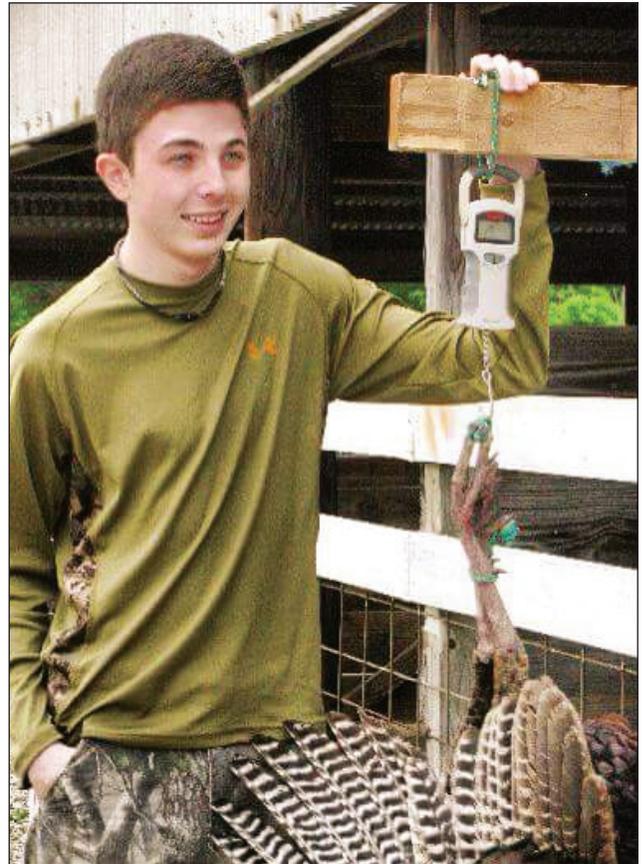
# Hunting for a Cure

Employees from Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative recently took part in the Hunting for a Cure event, which takes place in Savannah each year to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Young hunters ages 6 through 16 and accompanied by parents or guardians take to the field during Tennessee's Young Sportsman turkey season. Many people, including TVEC employees, gladly volunteer their time, knowledge, property and money for this worthy cause.

"I can donate my time while other people donate their money to help the children at St. Jude," said Nick McIntosh, TVEC employee in Savannah who has hunted for seven years with young people during the event and whose family members have dealt with cancer. "My fondest memories of the hunts I have been part of have to include getting to help a young man battling a brain tumor, Price Hancock, kill a turkey. We only hunted 20 minutes before he made a good shot. He lost his battle in December of 2015. I am still very close to the Hancock family and will never forget him." Nick has kept a picture of himself and Price on his Facebook page since the hunt.



*Nick McIntosh, right, and a special hunting buddy, Price Hancock, proudly show off their gobbler after a successful hunt.*



*Aaron Bell weighs a bird he harvested at Hunting for a Cure.*

"I am happy to give these young people a chance to go out on the land before the regular season opens," said TVEC General Manager Gerald L. Taylor Jr., who donates his hunting lease for the young people to use. "I let other adults guide to give the young people a better chance to actually kill a turkey," he added jokingly.

Hunting for a Cure is special to all the employees at TVEC. Retired secretary Judy McCullough lost her grandson, Aaron Bell, to cancer three year ago. Aaron, who also loved to turkey-hunt, inspired many with his bravery. His parents, Chris and Kristy Bell, have a real passion for this fundraiser and spend countless hours in support of the special event.

People from across the United States come to take part in the highly regarded event. This year marked its 12th anniversary, and proceeds topped the \$1 million mark, says Hunting for a Cure founder Mike Davison. A simple vision discussed with his dad, Barney, in the kitchen has now joined people from all over for one weekend every year to help kids in many different ways. For more information, contact Mike Davison at 731-607-8515 or visit [www.huntingforcure.net](http://www.huntingforcure.net).

# Put your computer to sleep

Just like apps and graphics eating up the battery power on your cell phone, extra features on computers can unnecessarily use energy. And that could be costing you extra on your electric bill. If your home has multiple computers, don't let them waste energy. Here's how to start:

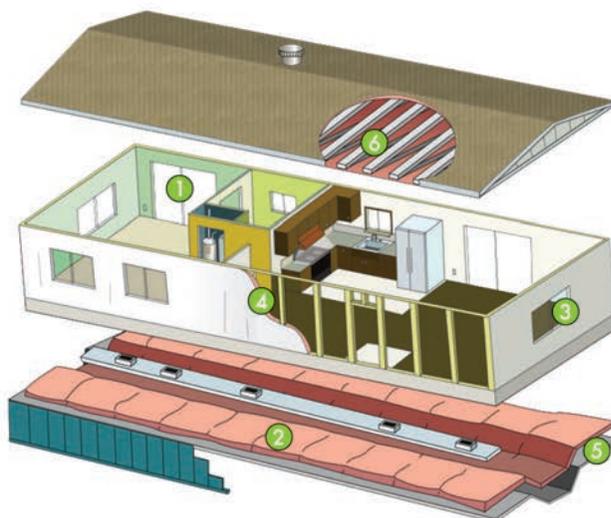
- Unplug seldom-used computers. Even if they are shut down, they continue to draw small amounts of electricity as long as they are plugged into the wall.
- Move the computer and printer in each room near the TV and phone charger, and plug them all into a power strip. That will make it easy to switch them all off when you leave the house for the day or turn in at night. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that devices that are always on use up to 23 percent of a home's electricity — even though the appliances are rarely in use.



- Set each computer to “sleep mode.” That will slow it down when it's not in use so it uses less electricity.
- Program the “hibernate” function on your computers to turn them off when they're not in use for more than 30 minutes. “Hibernate” shuts the device down but makes it easy to recover everything you were working on when you switch it back on.
- Get rid of screen savers: They turn your computer monitor into an energy hog. Better to set the monitor to shut down after 15 minutes of inactivity.
- Switch to a laptop. Portable devices like iPads and Kindle tablets use up to a third less energy than a big desktop computer and monitor.
- Buy an Energy Star-rated computer next time you need a new one. The label guarantees that the machine is energy-efficient.

## Retrofitting your manufactured home for energy efficiency

- 1 Install energy-efficient windows and doors.
- 2 Replace insulation in the belly.
- 3 Make general repairs (seal bottom board; caulk windows, doors, ducts, etc.).
- 4 Add insulation to your walls.
- 5 Install or seal belly wrap.
- 6 Add insulation to your roof, or install a roof cap.



Original artwork provided by Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives



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**Recipes Worth a Mint**

You Have A  
Babysitter



You Have A  
Doctor



You Have A  
Pharmacist



You Have A  
Realtor



# Who's Your FARMER?

The most important people in your life are the ones you know by name. You meet them face to face, and you depend on them to be good at what they do. Who's more important than the one who grows the foods you eat? With the Pick TN mobile app, it's easy to meet the farmers near you at farmers markets, with CSAs, and "pick-your-own" farms.

Find your farmer with the "Pick TN" mobile app  
and [www.PickTnProducts.org](http://www.PickTnProducts.org)

Pick Tennessee



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*Duck River Electric Cooperative lineman Tommy Campbell works on the shoulder of the road in Decherd. See page 12 for a refresher on the Move Over law expanded in 2011 to protect electric utility employees.*



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## TENNESSEE TODAY *Manager's Viewpoint*

# The sad irons of the 1930s

There are truths to be found and lessons to be learned in history. If we pay attention, past events can provide a path forward.

The rugged “Hill Country” of Texas is the birthplace of President Lyndon Baines Johnson. LBJ’s upbringing there spurred him to become a champion for the electrification of rural America. Robert Caro, LBJ’s biographer, writes: “As late as 1935, farmers had been denied electricity not only in the Hill Country but throughout the United States. In that year, more than 6 million of America’s 6.8 million farms did not have electricity. Decades after electric power had become part of urban life, the wood range, the wash tub, the sad iron and the dim kerosene lamp were still the way of life for almost 90 percent of the 30 million Americans who lived in the countryside.

“Of all the chores that befell them, ironing was the most onerous. ‘Washing was hard work, but ironing was the worst,’ one woman said. ‘Nothing could ever be as hard as ironing.’ Properly so, they referred to their tools as the ‘sad irons.’”

Says Clay Coppedge, who writes extensively about Texas history: “Wielding an iron in those days meant tossing around six- or seven-pound wedges of iron, often without handles, that had to be heated over a fire, where soot sometimes accumulated and, despite every effort, sent another garment back to the original washing tub. Also despite every effort, women burned their hands from time to time, which didn’t excuse them from hauling six- and seven-pound loads of clothes around all day.”

Caro continues: “For two decades and more, in states all across the country, delegations of farmers, dressed in Sunday shirts washed by hand and ironed by sad iron, had come, hats literally in hand, to the paneled offices of utility-company executives to ask to be allowed to enter the age of electricity. They came in delegations, and they came alone — an oft-repeated scene was that of the husband whose wife had been taken seri-

ously ill and who had been told by the doctor that she could no longer do heavy work, begging the ‘power company’ in vain to extend electricity to his farm.”



David Callis  
General Manager,  
Tennessee Electric  
Cooperative  
Association

During that period, it was Texas Power & Light (TP&L) policy to only hook up farms within 50 yards of the utility’s lines. Caro continues: “Farmers whose homes were just beyond the fifty-yard limit, farmers who could see those lines every day of their lives, were unable to use them, while they had to watch their wives year by year slaving at tasks that electricity would have made so much easier. Some of these farmers, in desperation, said they would move their houses so that they would be within fifty yards.

TP&L said that it still would not hook them up. Moving houses would set a precedent, a company spokesman explained: Who knew how many farmers would try to move houses near electricity? Where would it all end?”

We know how it ends.

Coppedge sums it up best: “In the 1930s, only 2.3 percent of the farms in Texas had electricity. Thirty years later, only 2 percent were without it. In between came the Rural Electrification Act of 1938, part of President Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal program, and electricity for rural America. Life would never be the same again for Hill Country women, and that was a good thing.”

The vital need in rural Tennessee today is access to broadband, a service available in cities but not readily available in rural areas. Sure, you can have service extended to your home, but installation may cost thousands of dollars even if you are within a few hundred yards of existing lines. Sound familiar?

It’s important for our rural communities to have the services they need to allow businesses to grow, hospitals to access needed resources and your children to have the education they deserve.

The inequality is too great to be ignored, and the need is too great to walk away. Let’s hope all parties involved learn from the lessons of the past. We know how it ends. ■

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Friendly Return Policy <sup>1</sup>	30 days	30 days

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## Move Over — It's the Law

Page 12

Five years ago, Tennessee's electric cooperatives helped expand the Move Over law to include utility workers.



## Best of Tennessee

Page 16 and [tnmagazine.org](http://tnmagazine.org)

Nominate your favorites from West, Middle and East Tennessee to be entered in a prize package giveaway.



## Shutterbug Contest: 'Tennessee Summertime'

Page 31 and [tnmagazine.org](http://tnmagazine.org)

Send us your photos showing how you celebrate summer in Tennessee.

## Art and Poetry

Pages 36-38 and [tnmagazine.org](http://tnmagazine.org)

Interacting with readers is one of the most rewarding parts of our work at **The Tennessee Magazine**. This month, there are several opportunities for you to share your talents with us.

## CO-OP Concerns

Manager's Viewpoint

# Move over and slow down

When I was a kid, my parents taught me some pretty basic concepts about good manners: Address adults as ma'am or sir. Don't put your elbows on the dinner table. Say please and thank you. Open the door for ladies. Look someone in the eye when you shake his or her hand. Now that I'm an adult, I don't have to think about chewing with my mouth closed; I just do it. Unfortunately, not every lesson we learned as young people sticks with us into daily practice. When is the last time you flossed your teeth, for instance?

Not only do we tend to forget some of the simple lessons of life, but we often pick up new bad habits along the way as well. I think this is particularly true in how many of us approach the use of our automobiles. Most Sunday mornings, my wife will groan as we pull into the parking lot at my church. She knows that within a few seconds, I'll begin my weekly rant about the five or six cars whose drivers insist on parking along a curb near the front door rather than in a designated parking spot. One of my kids even poked fun at me by suggesting, tongue-in-cheek, that I should start issuing parking tickets.

While this may not be a life-or-death issue, it does speak to our priorities. Rather than walking a few extra feet, it is just easier to squeeze onto that curb and make egress more difficult for the people who parked their cars in proper spaces. Or perhaps I just need our pastor to preach a sermon titled, "Illegal parkers deserve grace, too."

A parked car is basically harmless. However, when we drive a 2-ton hunk of metal at a speed of 60 miles per hour, we are essentially controlling a guided

missile. If that car makes contact with a stationary object, significant damage will occur. Here is a terrifying question, though: What if that stationary object were a human being?

Well, that is a life-or-death issue. And there are groups of people who deal with that threat every single day. Police, firefighters and EMTs are routinely out in the road, dealing with problems. Most of us instinctively know what to do when we encounter this type of situation — slow down and get out of the way so you don't become the next person to whom these first responders must attend.

But what about others who commonly work along our roadways? Think back to your childhood. After your mom or dad told to you stop asking, "Are we there yet?" on the family vacation, did you ever start counting the utility poles to pass the time? The lifeblood of our modern lifestyle flows across the top of those poles, and real men and women have to fix poles and other electricity distribution equipment when they break.

Electric linemen spend a huge amount of their time working alongside the road. While the truck will have lights flashing and orange cones surrounding it and the workers will wear fluorescent vests, do you give them the same courtesy you afford our police and firemen? Or do you mutter under your breath, hit the accelerator and swerve around the crew?

Hopefully no one needs to tell you to change lanes and slow down — just like no one needs to tell you to knock on the door of someone else's house if you want to go inside. But in case you need some extra encouragement, you *must* move over for utility workers in Tennessee. It's the law. ■



Mike Knotts  
Vice President of  
Government Affairs

# Eye Doctor Helps Tennessee Legally Blind To See

Tennessee

High Technology For Low Vision Patients Allows Many To Drive Again



**F**or many patients with macular degeneration and other vision-related conditions, the loss of central visual detail also signals the end to one of the last bastions of independence: driving.

A Lebanon optometrist, Dr. John Pino, is using miniaturized telescopes that are mounted in glasses to help people who have lost vision from macular degeneration and other eye conditions.

“Some of my patients consider me the last stop for people who have vision loss,” said Dr. Pino, one of only a few doctors in the world who specialize in fitting bioptic telescopes to help those who have lost vision due to macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and other debilitating eye diseases.

Imagine a pair of glasses that can improve your vision enough to change your life. If you’re a low vision patient, you’ve probably not only imagined them, but have been searching for them. Bioptic telescopes may be the breakthrough in optical technology that will give you the independence you’ve been looking for. Patients with vision in the 20/200 range can many times be improved to 20/50 or better.

Macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness and vision loss in people over 50. Despite this, most adults

are not familiar with the condition. As many as 25% of those over the age of 50 have some degree of macular degeneration. The macula is only one small part of the retina; however, it is the most sensitive and gives us sharp central vision. When it degenerates, macular degeneration leaves a blind spot right in the center of vision, making it difficult or impossible to recognize faces, read a book, or pass the driver’s vision test.

Nine out of 10 people who have macular degeneration have the dry form. New research suggests vitamins can help. The British medical journal BMC Ophthalmology recently reported that



*A scene as it might be viewed by a person with age-related macular degeneration.*

56% of patients treated with a high-dose combination of vitamins experienced improved vision after six months. TOZAL Comprehensive Eye Health Formula is now available by prescription from eye doctors.

While age is the most significant risk factor for developing the disease, heredity, smoking, cardiovascular disease, and high blood pressure have also been identified as risk factors. Macular degeneration accounts for 90% of new legal blindness in the U.S. While there is currently no cure, promising research is being done on many fronts. “My job is to figure out everything and anything possible to keep a person

functioning, especially driving,” says Dr. Pino.

When Elaine, 57, of Kingsport, TN, came to see Dr. Pino she wanted to keep her Tennessee driver’s license and was prescribed bioptic telescopic glasses to read signs and see traffic lights farther away. Dr. Pino also prescribed microscope glasses for reading newspapers and menus in restaurants.

As Elaine puts it, “My regular glasses didn’t help too much – it was like looking through a fog. These new telescopic glasses not only allow me to read signs from a farther distance, but make driving much easier. I’ve also used them to watch television so I don’t have to sit so close. I don’t know why I waited to do this; I should have come sooner.”

“Bioptic telescopes can cost over \$2,000,” said Dr. Pino, “especially if we build them with an automatic sunglass.”

“The major benefit of the bioptic telescope is that the lens automatically focuses on whatever you’re looking at,” said Dr. Pino. “It’s like a self-focusing camera, but much more precise.”

To learn more about bioptic telescopes or to schedule a consultation with Dr. Pino, give us a call at 1-855-405-8800. You can also visit our website at:

[www.lowvisiontn.com](http://www.lowvisiontn.com)

For more information and a FREE telephone consultation, call us today:  
**1-855-405-8800**

Offices located in Lebanon,  
Knoxville and Columbia.

**John M. Pino, O.D., Ph.D.**



# Positive STEPS

International FolkFest welcomes the world to Middle Tennessee

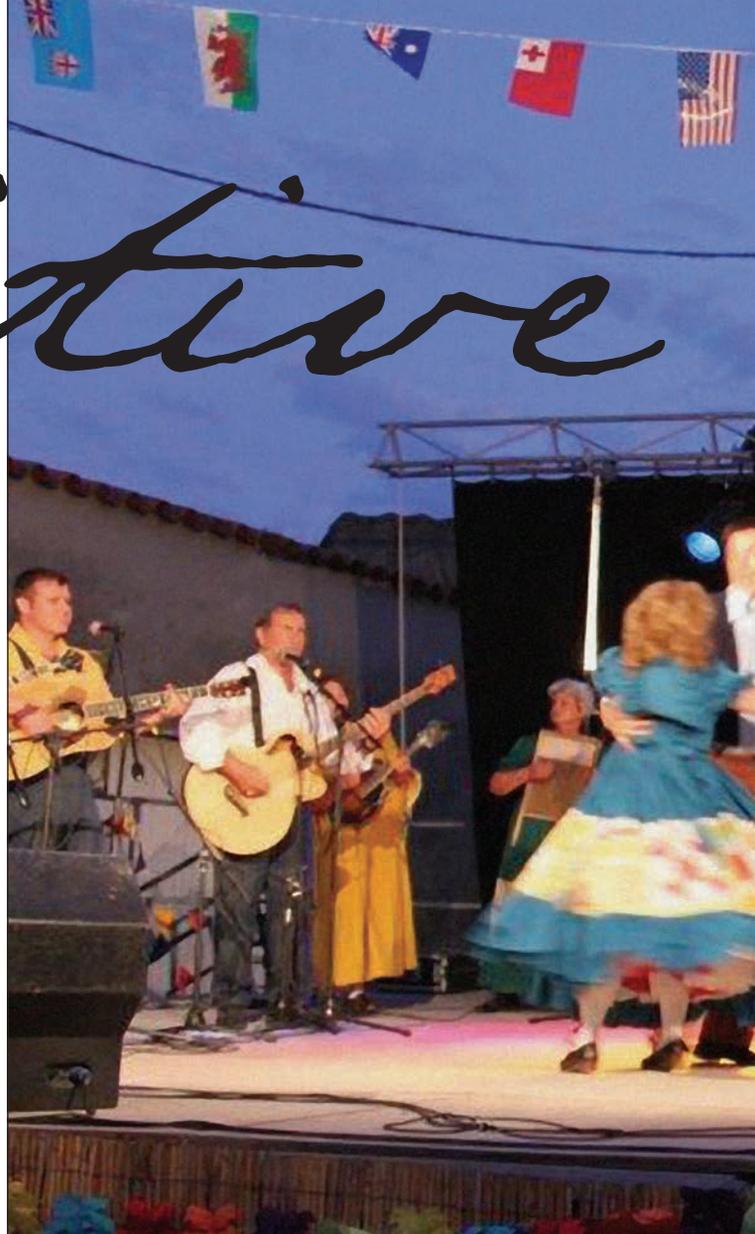
Story by Trish Milburn

Photographs courtesy of the International FolkFest

Even though we live in an unprecedented age when communicating with someone on the other side of the world is just a phone call, text or email away, it can still feel like a great distance separates us from those living in other countries. Who are those people, and what do they think of us? Are we really all that different, or are we more similar than we could ever imagine?

Despite the ability to communicate instantly with people around the world and a 24-hour news cycle that gives us glimpses of other places, nothing compares with meeting those people face-to-face and learning more about them and their cultures. That's one of the reasons the International FolkFest in Murfreesboro draws thousands of interested spectators each year.

Scheduled for June 12-19 this year, the FolkFest brings in dance groups and musical performers from around the world to showcase the rich culture and traditional dances



and music of their countries. This year's visiting groups are from Germany, Puerto Rico and the Czech Republic. The Cripple Creek Cloggers, a local group that represents traditional Appalachian-style dancing, will perform again this year along with musical groups Uncle Shuffelo and his Haint Hollow Hootenanny and Johnsongrass.

The festival, which started in 1982, was the first of its kind in the United States, according to Steve Cates, director of the event and a dancer with the Cripple Creek Cloggers. It took a hiatus from 1997 until 2004 when the celebration of international heritage and music returned with performances by groups from Finland, France and Mexico.

Cates, a member of Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation, was introduced to international dance festivals through his own dancing. The Cripple Creek Cloggers, who are celebrating their 49th year, actually grew out of a 4-H project when Cates was a teacher. That group became the Rutherford County Square Dancers and later the Cripple Creek Cloggers.





Photograph  
by Troy Bell

“Our group’s first international trip was to Romania in 1973,” Cates says. “And our first international festival was in San Juan, Puerto Rico. We traveled to France and Spain in 1979.”

The group enjoyed the trips to international festivals and getting to know the people in dance groups from other countries. The more they traveled, the more they gained new friends and realized that, for the most part, people living in other countries weren’t all that different from them. Cates tells a story about attending a festival in which all the dance groups were marching in a parade, and it was really hot outside. When they all came inside, Cates’ group ended up next to the group from Russia. The festival coordinators, when they realized this, were concerned because of tensions between the two countries. Cates says that to the two groups of dancers, however, it was no big deal. They were just a bunch of people who were hot and thirsty.

The Cripple Creek Cloggers’ positive international experiences were the basis for the creation of the International FolkFest.

*Above, the Cripple Creek Cloggers represent the United States at a festival in the Czech Republic. Right, Curacao dancers teach audience members a few steps at the International FolkFest in Murfreesboro. Opposite page, young men from an Indian folk troupe performing at the FolkFest are fascinated by a Tennessee musician.*



Left, Cripple Creek Cloggers in their traditional costumes greet the audience. Below, Nathan Horton demonstrates buck dancing, a freestyle clog, during a performance by the Cripple Creek Cloggers. His wife, Carey, and Ann Mattox clap along in encouragement.

“We wanted folks here in Murfreesboro to experience it,” Cates says. During the eight-day festival, the groups will be doing a number of performances at schools, libraries, senior centers and on the courthouse square in Murfreesboro on Saturday, June 18.

“It’s a great opportunity for children and citizens to interact on a one-on-one basis with a culture that they might not otherwise have had the opportunity to,” says David Lee, a member of the board of directors at Middle Tennessee EMC and a longtime volunteer with the festival.

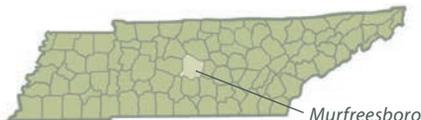
Lee, who with his wife, Lynn, used to dance with the Cripple Creek Cloggers, is one of a great many volunteers it takes to put on the festival each year. Once dancers and musicians touch down at the airport in Nashville, the International Folkloric Society, which coordinates the festival, is responsible for transportation, food and housing. Performers stay in dorms at Middle Tennessee State University and are bused to their various performances and meals. Each of the groups is also assigned two volunteer guides who help the travelers navigate to places they want to visit during their spare time here.

“For many of them, it’s the first trip they’ve ever made to the United States,” Cates says. “They seem to be pleased and fascinated by what they see here. Our community is very welcoming.”

Over the years, groups from more than 50 countries as varied as Ireland, Thailand, Israel and Brazil have taken part in the International FolkFest, exposing thousands of Middle Tennesseans to the rich cultures of other countries.

## A celebration of cultures

The International FolkFest returns to venues in Murfreesboro and the surrounding areas June 12-19. To learn more about the festival and the groups performing this year and to see the schedule of performances, visit [www.mboro-international-folkfest.org](http://www.mboro-international-folkfest.org). Find the event’s Facebook page by searching “International Folkfest.”



don’t even exist anymore.

Cates says it is more of a challenge now than it once was to bring in groups from certain countries.

“It’s hard to bring groups from countries not on the U.S. visa waiver list,” he says.

Funding for the festival also takes a lot of work, but community groups, churches, clubs and businesses such as Middle Tennessee EMC help make this fun and educational event possible.

“It’s a wonderful thing for our community,” Cates says. “If you can meet people face-to-face, mix and mingle, it can’t do harm in our world.”

And just as festival attendees learn about other parts of the world through traditional music and dance, the Cripple Creek Cloggers continue to travel to festivals in other countries to share traditional Appalachian music and dancing. They’ll be performing in the Brittany and Normandy regions of France June 30-July 16 this year. ■





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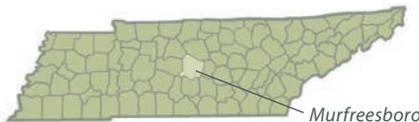
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LOT 69252/60569 shown  
68053/62160  
62496/62516

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE \$60**

**\$5999**

~~\$8999~~

comp at \$119.99

59261477

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 10/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**3-IN-1 ELECTRIC BLOWER VACUUM MULCHER**

**PORTLAND**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE 29%**

**\$4499**

comp at \$63.88

59202010

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 10/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**TRIPLE BALL TRAILER HITCH**

**HaulMaster**

LOT 61914  
61320 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE 77%**

**\$1999**

comp at \$89.99

59199260

LIMIT 6 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 10/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**6.5 HP (212 CC) OHV HORIZONTAL SHAFT GAS ENGINES**

**PREDATOR**

LOT 68121/69727 shown  
CALIFORNIA ONLY

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE \$228**

**\$9999**

~~\$11999~~

comp at \$328

59205395

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**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**3 PIECE DECORATIVE SOLAR LED LIGHTS**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE 70%**

**\$899**

comp at \$29.99

59264645

LIMIT 9 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 10/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**30", 5 DRAWER TOOL CART**

**US GENERAL**

LOT 68397/61427  
95272 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE \$180**

**\$16999**

comp at \$349.99

59195969

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 10/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

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**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**AUTOMATIC BATTERY FLOAT CHARGER**

**CENTECH**

LOT 69594/69955/42292 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE 82%**

**\$599**

comp at \$34.99

59193866

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**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**FOLDABLE ALUMINUM SPORTS CHAIR**

LOT 62314/63066  
66383 shown

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE 55%**

**\$2199**

comp at \$49.97

250 lb. capacity

59236130

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**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**SPLIT LEATHER WORK GLOVES WITH COTTON BACK**

**HARDY**

5 PAIRS

LOT 66287 shown  
60450/62371  
62716/62714

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE 73%**

**\$599**

comp at \$22.45

59213408

LIMIT 8 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 10/1/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

**WOW SUPER COUPON**

**8750 PEAK/7000 RUNNING WATTS 13 HP (420 CC) GAS GENERATORS**

**PREDATOR GENERATORS**

Customer Rating **★★★★★**

**SAVE \$449**

**\$54999**

comp at \$999

59219077

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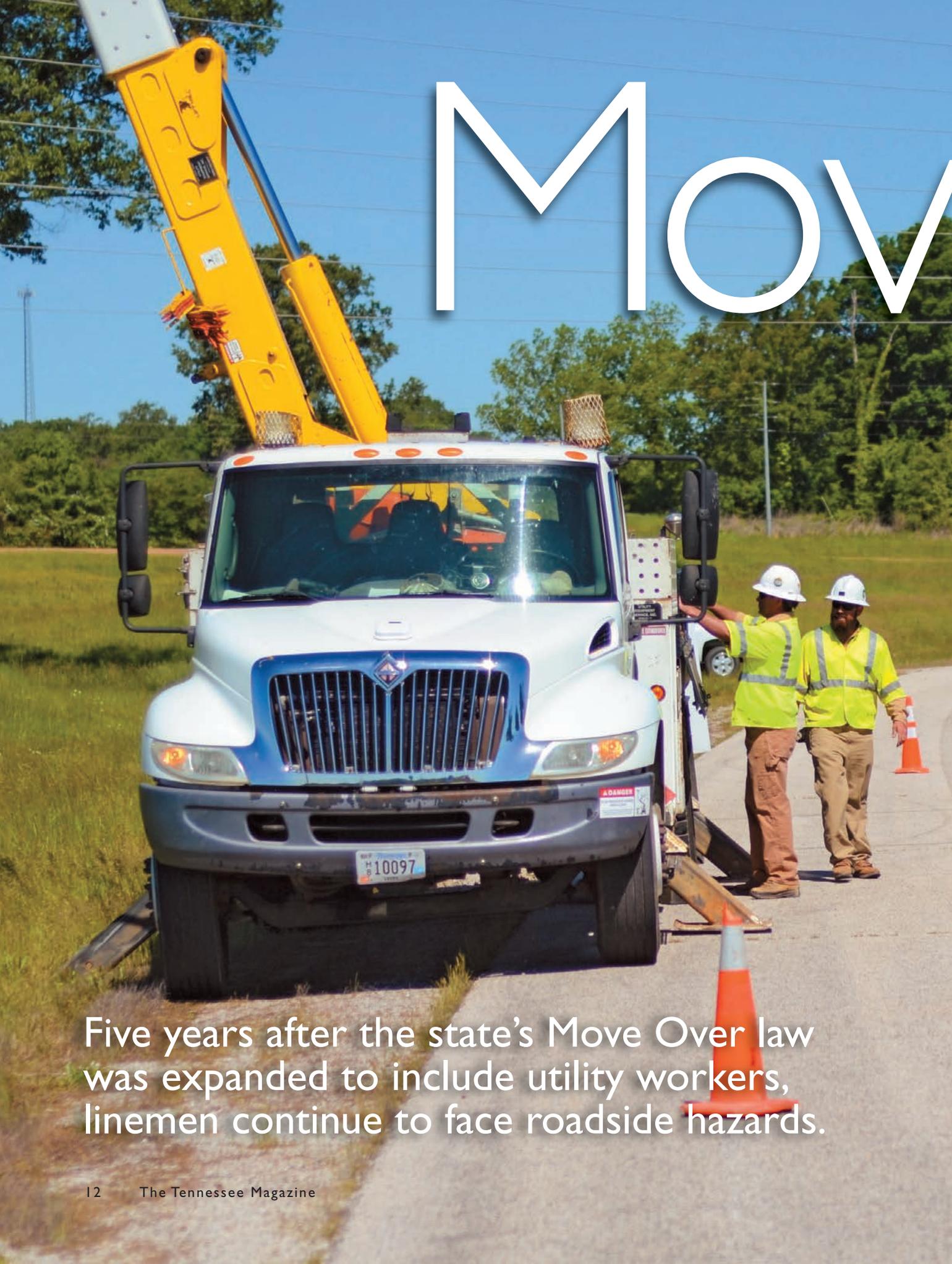
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# MOV



Five years after the state's Move Over law was expanded to include utility workers, linemen continue to face roadside hazards.

# e Over

**E**lectric linemen have dangerous jobs. They work inches away from deadly high voltage in all types of weather — often high above the ground. They take extensive precautions to keep safe, but one of the most dangerous parts of their job is completely out of their hands.

“A lot of the hazards we face are in the air, but we take precautions and have learned to protect ourselves from that,” says Eugene Stephens, line crewleader with Gibson Electric Membership Corporation in Trenton. “On the ground, the hazards are vehicles. We can put signs and cones out, but that is the most dangerous part of working on the side of the road.”

In 2011, following efforts by Tennessee’s electric cooperatives and municipal utilities, the state’s Move Over law was revised to include utility workers as well as the already covered police, firefighters and other first responders. Unfortunately, motorists do not always heed the law.

“Four years ago we had a vehicle, at 9:30 in the morning, come through our work zone and crash right behind the bucket truck,” says Stephens. “It almost hit two of us. It is something we are very aware of when we set up on the side of the road.”

“We have had cars come through at high rates of speed, hitting the cones we have set up and clipping the outriggers that we have put down to support the trucks,” says Greg Bryant, a line foreman with Gibson EMC. “I think people care; they just don’t pay attention like they should.”

“There are a lot of people looking at their phones nowadays — not paying attention to the road,” adds Gibson EMC lineman P.J. Haskins. “It’s pretty dangerous.”

The requirements of the Move Over law are simple. On a four-lane road, if safety and traffic conditions allow, a driver approaching a utility vehicle with flashing lights must move into the far lane. On a two-lane road or when

changing lanes is not possible, a driver must reduce speed.

In addition to electric co-op trucks and equipment, service vehicles used by municipal electric systems, telephone companies and utility districts are also protected by the law.

“July marks the fifth anniversary of the expansion of the law, but there is still a general lack of awareness,” says David Callis, CEO of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. “Tennessee’s electric linemen perform an important job in a dangerous environment. Changing lanes or slowing down to give them a little space is a simple courtesy that could save someone’s life.”

Visit [moveovertennessee.org](http://moveovertennessee.org) to learn more about the expanded Move Over law in Tennessee.

*At left, Gibson Electric Membership Corporation Line Crewleader Eugene Stephens, left, and First-Class Lineworker Josh Ferrell begin work on the roadside. Below, a truck’s flashing lights and the bright cones behind Stephens are visible warnings to motorists to slow down when approaching the work zone.*



# Fayette County's tent cities may have triggered civil rights movement

**T**hanks to the new social studies standards, the civil rights movement in Tennessee is finally receiving the recognition it deserves. In the high school-level U.S. history class, for example, students learn about how Fayette County's tent city movement may have changed the course of American history.

It all began in 1940 when a Fayette County deputy sheriff was killed in a shootout outside the home of a black man named Burton Dodson. Dodson fled Tennessee after the event. Eighteen years later, Dodson was caught and returned to Fayette County where he was to be tried for murder.

In the late 1950s, the population of Fayette County was about 70 percent African-American. However, as Dodson's jury was being selected, it became obvious to everyone (including Dodson's attorney, John Estes) that there were no African-Americans who could serve on his jury because so few blacks in Fayette County were registered to vote.

Why? The reasons were rooted in the history of West Tennessee. Back in the 1880s, a majority-black district in Haywood County elected a black state representative named Samuel McElwee. McElwee served three full terms. However, by 1890, laws and practices were changed to make it practically impossible for an African-American to be elected to public office in Tennessee.

The laws and practices were clever in urban parts of the state such as Davidson and Shelby counties. But in rural areas, black citizens were intimidated from voting by acts of terror or simply not allowed to vote. The state of Tennessee and the U.S. government did not intervene to

help African-Americans in places like Fayette County exercise the right to vote.

However, the world changed a lot between 1890 and 1959. At a time when many black Americans were beginning to demand fair treatment, the Fayette County situation brought to light a clear example of racial unfairness in the Deep South.

Two of the more prominent members of Fayette County's African-American community were farmer and World War II veteran Harpman Jameson and local merchant John McFerren. Attorney Estes met with people such as Jameson and McFerren and began encouraging members of Fayette County's black community to register to vote. But in August 1959, when a small group of African-Americans tried to vote, they were told by poll workers that they could not because it was an "all-white primary." This led some of these people to create an organization called the Fayette County Civic and Welfare League.

After that organization filed a lawsuit contesting the legitimacy of the election, leaders in the white community (through an organization called the White Citizens Council) took steps to punish activism among blacks.

You see, in 1959, most African-Americans in Fayette County didn't own land but worked as sharecroppers on white-owned farms and lived in small homes located on those farms. In the fall of 1959, many white landowners evicted their black tenants, leaving many families homeless. Many white business owners refused to extend credit to their black customers, making it difficult for black families to receive basic services and products such as gasoline and food.

**"The laws and practices were clever in urban parts of the state such as Davidson and Shelby counties. But in rural areas, black citizens were intimidated from voting by acts of terror or simply not allowed to vote."**

One of the few black farmers who owned land was Shephard Towles. Some Army surplus tents were donated (in some cases by anonymous donors) and set up on Towles' land near Somerville where he allowed evicted families to live. Within a few weeks, there were hundreds of people living in this "tent city." Eventually, another tent city was created on land owned by a woman named Gertrude Beasley.

The evictions continued, the number of homeless families rose and more tents were donated. According to one estimate, 345 families were displaced during the peak of the tent city movement. Most of them took refuge in donated tents on Towles' or Beasley's property.

There are several good places to learn detailed stories of the tent city movement. One is called "Our Portion of Hell," a book written by a civil rights activist named Robert Hamburger. Another is the website [www.memphis.edu/tentcity](http://www.memphis.edu/tentcity) created by the Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis. From these sources, you can read wonderful first-person accounts from people such as John and Viola McFerren, Harpman and Minnie Jameson and many others.

"Tent City was a miserable life," recalls Early B. Williams, who was evicted by his landlord in the fall of 1959. "The tent was sixteen by fourteen ... my wife and four kids livin' there. We had to cook in there; we had to sleep in there; we had to eat in there. And mud — when it rained in Tent City, it got so bad on Tent City ground, you had mud almost up to your knees. McFerren managed to get food. We'd sit around outside. Nothin' else to do.

"I was never sorry I registered. I figured we'd overcome someday."

The more I read these stories, the more I am struck by four points about the tent city movement.

One is that it lasted a long time. It wasn't just a few days, weeks or months. Although incremental progress was made every year starting in 1960, some families remained living in tents for as long as four years.

The second is that the movement received consistent national publicity. There were articles about it in newspapers such as the New York Times. People came from



*A family living in a Fayette County tent city. Photograph by Dr. Ernest C. Withers Sr. courtesy of the Withers Family Trust.*

colleges such as Oberlin, Dartmouth and the University of Chicago to help register voters in Fayette County. A radio station in Pennsylvania raised money and supplies to send there. National labor unions donated tents and supplies to the cause.

To this day, there are mysteries about what happened in Fayette County during those years. For instance, at the height of the economic boycott, a gasoline wholesaler from Memphis (who was white) showed up in the middle of the night and sold gas to McFerren's gas station. In doing so, that man risked his own business. To this day, the identity of that wholesaler is unknown.

Perhaps the most important point about the tent city movement is that it was far-reaching. In 1960, the events in Fayette County made it clear to the American public that, in parts of the rural South, African-Americans still could not exercise their right to vote and that the elimination of the poll tax had done nothing to change that. Even without lynchings and other violent acts, there were ways (eviction and economic boycott, for instance) to intimidate people from being able to vote. The federal government needed to do more.

In the 1960s, "more" consisted mainly of two landmark pieces of federal legislation we now know as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. If you ever want to know why those two acts were passed, remember the 300 or so families forced to live in tents in Fayette County. ■



# It's THE BEST time of year again

It's time for you to have your say in determining the best Tennessee has to offer. We again invite — and urge — you to help name the honorees of the 2016 Best of Tennessee Readers' Choice Awards, which recognize winners from the three regions of the Volunteer State. And just for nominating your favorites, you'll be entered in a drawing for entertaining Tennessee-themed prizes. Vote in as many or as few categories as you feel knowledgeable, but keep in mind that only ballots with 15 or more categories with at least one vote will be eligible for the prize drawing.

You can vote for up to three "Bests" in any given category. As an example, if you have a favorite state park in each region of the state — West, Middle and East — then you can vote for one in each. Be as specific as possible, and please include the towns where businesses or parks are located. Generic answers will not be counted. To celebrate the uniqueness of Tennessee, please exclude national franchises and chains (restaurants, coffee shops, hotels, etc.) from your responses.

Our annual "Best of Tennessee" is a fun way to interact with our readers and honor the wonderful aspects of our state.

**Official Rules:** No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Ballot must be postmarked no later than Friday, Aug. 12, 2016. • To be eligible for the prize drawings, ballots must have a "Best of Tennessee" vote in at least 15 categories. You can cast votes in any or all of the regions. • Drawing to be held by Wednesday, Aug. 31. Must be at least 18 years old to win. Grand-prize winners will be notified by mail. • Best of Tennessee results will be published in the October edition of *The Tennessee Magazine*. • Electric cooperative employees and their immediate families are not eligible for the prize giveaways.

### Enter online for a chance to win \$250

You can also vote online at [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org). To encourage online balloting, we will randomly choose one entry from our online submissions to win \$250.

### How to enter via mail

Complete the contact information form below, cast your votes on the ballot on the next page and mail both to the address on the form below.

### Prize packages

Winners will be chosen randomly from a drawing of all entries received. Three grand-prize packages will be awarded (one each from West, Middle and East Tennessee). Remember, you must vote in at least 15 categories to be eligible for the prize drawing.

Winners will receive certificates courtesy of Tennessee State Parks for up to a four-night stay at any of the six state resort park inns. The resort parks are Fall Creek Falls, Henry Horton, Montgomery Bell, Natchez Trace, Paris Landing and Pickwick Landing. Visit [www.tn.gov/environment/parks](http://www.tn.gov/environment/parks).



Each winner will receive a basket of farm-direct and locally made artisan foods from Pick Tennessee Products, a division of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.

*The Tennessee Magazine* will award \$250 to each winner to spend while you're enjoying your state park visit.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Electric cooperative: \_\_\_\_\_  
 In which division of the state do you live: West \_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_ or East \_\_\_

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*The Tennessee Magazine*  
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## Eats

### Bakery

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Barbecue

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Catfish

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Craft Beer Brewery

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Hamburger

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Home/Country Cooking

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Milkshake

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Place for Dessert

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Winery

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Destination & Recreation

### Agritourism Destination/ Pick-Your-Own Farm

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Campground

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Fishing Spot

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Golf Course

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Historic Site

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sporting Event

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## State Park

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Arts

### Art Gallery

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Museum

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Performing Arts Venue

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Getaways

### Place to Take the Kids

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Scenic Drive

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Weekend Getaway

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Shopping

### Antiques Store

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Farmers Market

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Flea Market

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

## Events

### Arts and Crafts Show

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### County/Regional Fair

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Festival

West: \_\_\_\_\_  
Middle: \_\_\_\_\_  
East: \_\_\_\_\_

### Cover to Cover

I really enjoy your magazine, reading it from cover to cover the day it arrives. Thank you for your relevant, well-written product. Keep up the great work.

*Gail Spragins, Linden  
Meriwether Lewis EC*

### Story Ideas

My husband and I moved here from Michigan and love the state with the exception of one thing. We don't understand why trash is thrown out on the roadsides all over the state. We pick up trash on our road at least three times a year, and it is a constant battle. It seems to be mostly beer bottles and cans, fast food containers and soft drink cans. But we have also found lighters, tires, mattresses and even a toilet. We just don't understand!

Your magazine promotes the state and its beauty. Could you help in some way by doing a story about this trash problem and how it destroys the beauty of an otherwise spectacular state?

*Laurie Jeffrey, Medina  
Gibson EMC*

Tennessee is home to more than 10,000 caves. Many people are uneducated on the ecological significance caves hold as well as the variety of creatures that call them home. I am president of the Upper Cumberland Grotto, a caving organization, and I would love to see a story on cave preservation as well as suggestions on proper caving procedures. We promote respectful caving, always with landowners' permission. We do cleanups and trash removals and would like to see as many people as possible gain perspective on

the natural treasures we hold underground and the importance of protecting those areas.

*Natasha Moseley, Cookeville  
Upper Cumberland EMC*

**Editor's note:** Some of our best story ideas come from readers. We wish we could cover them all but don't always have the space. Thank you for the story ideas about the littering problem and caves. We will try to follow up on both suggestions.

Keep 'em coming! Anyone can submit story ideas. Please send them to [storyidea@tnmagazine.org](mailto:storyidea@tnmagazine.org).

### Poetry

I would like to suggest an improvement to the Poetry page: that the second- and third-place winners, even though they don't get their poems published in the magazine, at least get their names printed in recognition of having placed. In that way, they will know that they have won without having to go online, and it also would be a nice way to recognize them.

*Anna Kurschner, Somerville  
Chickasaw EC*

### Duplicates

I get two magazines every month and have for a long time now. Please just send one. Thank you!

*Jeanie Weldon, Newbern  
Gibson EMC*

**Editor's note:** If you receive duplicate copies of *The Tennessee Magazine*, it is usually because you have more than one account at your electric cooperative. To eliminate the duplicates, just call your co-op and make the request.

### Subscriptions

I was reading the letters to the editor and saw where one lady was not a member of the local electric cooperative and could get the magazine. I would also like the magazine. My niece in another county sends it to me or brings copies when she visits. I love the recipes. Thanks very much.

*Effie Marie Raines, Nashville*

**Editor's note:** If you are not a member of a local electric cooperative, you can subscribe to *The Tennessee Magazine*. Rates are \$15 per year or \$30 for three years. You can mail a check or money order along with your name and address to:

*The Tennessee Magazine  
Subscriptions  
P.O. Box 100912  
Nashville, TN 37224*

You also have the option of calling our office at 615-367-9284 and paying for a subscription using your MasterCard or Visa.

Finally, if you prefer to pay using PayPal, you can go to our website, [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org), and order a subscription.

### Keep the letters coming!

We enjoy your letters, emails and phone calls. Here is a quick reference:

**Event submissions:** [events@tnmagazine.org](mailto:events@tnmagazine.org)

**Letters to the Editor:** [letters@tnmagazine.org](mailto:letters@tnmagazine.org)

**Story ideas:** [storyidea@tnmagazine.org](mailto:storyidea@tnmagazine.org)

**Find the Flag:** [flag@tnmagazine.org](mailto:flag@tnmagazine.org)

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When Thelma Beamont's grandson, Tee, returned from Afghanistan battling post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), she turned to Wounded Warrior Project to help ease the readjustment process. Learn more or find out how you can help at [woundedwarriorproject.org](http://woundedwarriorproject.org).



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PROJECT®**

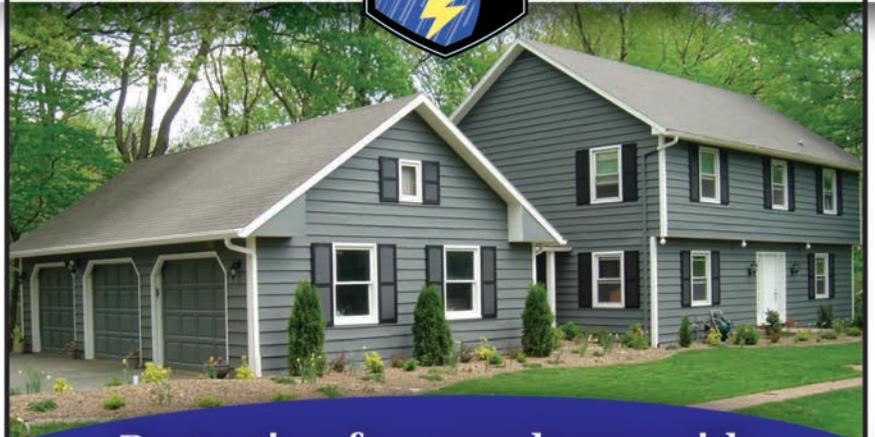
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A TIP FROM A  
**FORMER  
SMOKER**

**Some of the reasons to  
quit smoking are very small.**

*Amanda, age 30, Wisconsin*



*Amanda smoked while she was pregnant. Her baby was born 2 months early and weighed only 3 pounds. She was put in an incubator and fed through a tube. Amanda could only hold her twice a day. If you're pregnant or thinking about having a baby and you smoke, please call*

**1-800-QUIT-NOW.**



**U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention  
[CDC.gov/tips](https://www.cdc.gov/tips)

#CDCTips

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Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention  
[CDC.gov/tips](https://www.cdc.gov/tips)

#CDCTips

# Keep the 'happy' in 'Father's Day:' Instructions included

**D**o-it-yourself dads appreciate the gift of power tools on Father's Day. This year, though, insist that he read the instructions. Amateur handymen — and plenty of pros, too — never read instructions that come with new tools because they figure they already know how to use them properly. It turns out those guys are just as likely to injure themselves as the ones who don't know anything.

This Father's Day, give Dad a few tips when he opens his brand-new power tools:

Dress for the job. Looking cool while using tools isn't nearly as important as staying safe. Ditch loose-fitting clothes, neckties and watches. Tie long hair back. Wear nonslip shoes or boots.

Put the job off if you're not feeling tip-top. Operating a power tool while you're tired or tipsy usually doesn't end well.

Light the room so you can see what you're doing. Cover your eyes with goggles or glasses.

Double-check that the tool is turned off before plugging it in.

Try out the new tool in a dry area. Water and electricity, you can remind Dad, don't mix.

Three-pronged plugs go into three-pronged outlets. Never, never, never remove that third prong.

Keep blades and cutters clean. After each use, unplug, clean and store tools in a dry place out of the reach of the precious child who gave it to you.

## Co-ops are prepared for summer storms

By Meghaan Evans, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

**S**ummer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that your local electric cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. Co-ops work year-round — through right-of-way clearing — to ensure power lines in its service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite its best efforts, though, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, the first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

Your cooperative starts by mobilizing line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before crews can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

Line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there or if there could be an issue down

the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If your outage continues, there may be damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Make sure you notify your co-op so crews can inspect these lines.

Your cooperative does its best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Remember to stay safe during severe storms by seeking shelter, and be prepared with extra food and water if severe damage causes prolonged outages.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

# What's in it for 'we?'

By Adam Schwartz

One of the most attractive features of cooperatives is that we answer the popular question, "What's in it for me?" with "What's in it for we!" Cooperatives are formed when the market fails to offer goods or services with decent quality at an affordable price. Your local electric cooperative was formed because investor-owned utilities realized there was not enough profit to be made in our community and refused to offer electricity.

Your cooperative's founding members went door-to-door to raise a portion of the original investment the co-op needed. Each of those "go-getters" realized that the only way to get electricity for "me" was to get it for "we," the whole community.

Cooperative ownership is in the hands of the people who use the co-op's goods and the services (instead of investors). So, not only do co-ops start out answering the question of "What's in it for we?" They continue to answer that question for as long as they exist.

These days, we often hear about companies that abandon their local communities and move overseas in search of cheaper labor. This negatively impacts the

community through job loss, decline in housing values and school closures. Because local residents own a majority of cooperatives, they are less likely to leave their community. In fact, it would be impossible for your cooperative to leave. The co-op is a critical part of what makes the community a community.

The way co-ops continue to answer the question, "What's in it for we?" is critical to their survival. It is imperative that the co-op keeps you — the members — as the primary focus. Keeping rates as low as possible is one major part of that focus, but ensuring that the co-op provides real value as your trusted energy adviser is also extremely important.

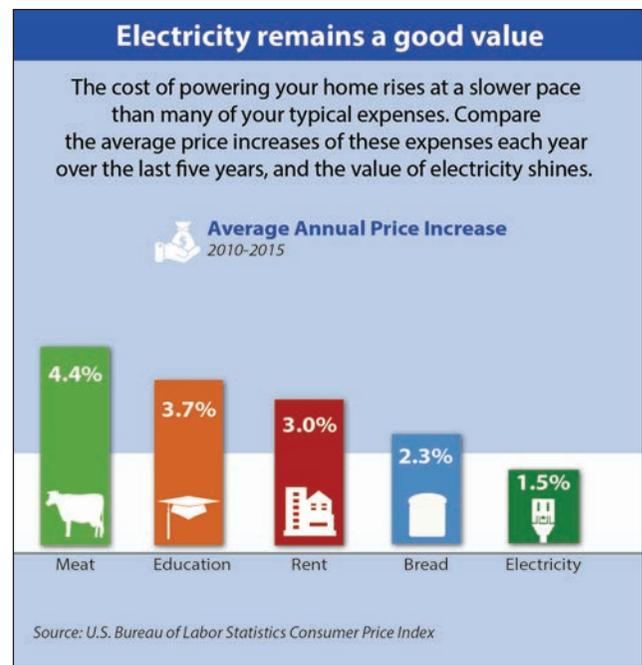
By maintaining that focus with your help and support, your cooperative will continue to be able to serve the "me" and the "we" in our community long into the future.

*Adam Schwartz is the founder of The Cooperative Way, a consulting firm that helps co-ops succeed. He is an author, speaker and member-owner of the CDS Consulting Co-op.*

## Stay safe around lightning

When spring storms shoot lightning down from the sky, know how to keep your family safe. Here is some advice from the National Weather Service:

- Don't touch your plugged-in computer or TV indoors when there's a lightning storm outdoors. Stay safe by using remote controls to operate them.
- Avoid using corded phones. It's OK to make calls on cell or cordless phones during a lightning storm.
- To preserve expensive electronic devices, unplug them before the storm hits. Once lightning starts, it's not safe to touch those plugs or cords.
- Keep your distance from anything that can conduct electricity like power lines, barbed-wire fences and, of course, metal ladders.
- Don't go outdoors during a lightning storm, and stay away from windows and doors. Even a small leak can let lightning into your home.



# Staying ahead of the sun

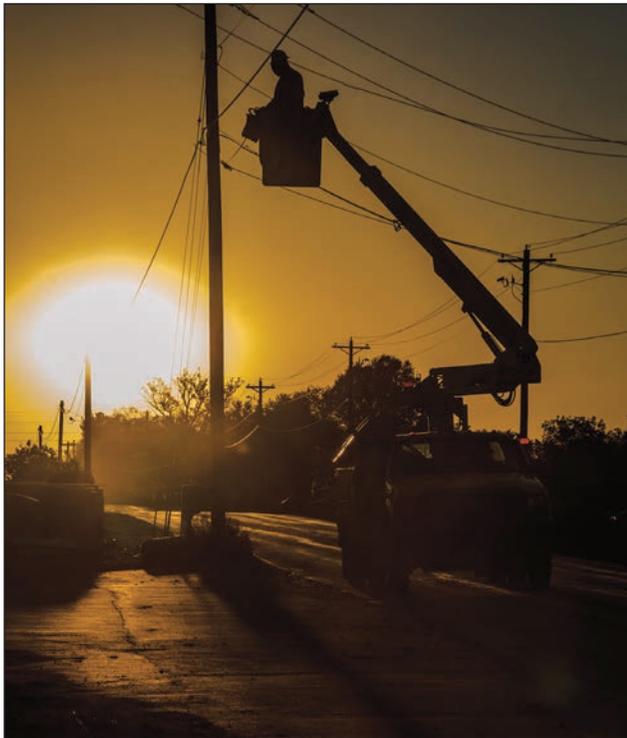
## Co-op leadership in community solar energy helps craft new industry

By Paul Wesslund

**T**he involvement of electric co-ops in the rapidly growing use of solar energy is preparing the way for new and efficient methods of making and using electricity.

Co-ops are leading the way in community solar energy initiatives. Community solar programs allow co-op members to share in a photovoltaic installation that generates electricity from the sun.

“Co-ops are way ahead of the industry in community solar energy,” says Andrew Cotter, program and product manager for renewable and distributed generation with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).



*Solar energy has been creating special excitement recently with electricity generation from photovoltaic cells growing at 30 percent annually for the past two years. At that rate, it will still take a long time for solar to play a major role in energy production. By the end of 2015, solar energy was producing less than 1 percent of the nation's electricity. Electric cooperatives are leading the way in solar energy projects that will provide valuable information in how to best use solar energy as its use becomes more widespread.*

Electric co-op involvement with different types of solar energy projects has grown from enough photovoltaic projects to produce 3 megawatts of electricity in 2009 to 176 MW in 36 different states by the end of 2015, says NRECA Strategic Analyst Michael Leitman. He adds that by 2018, co-op involvement in solar will triple with another 375 MW in the planning stages. U.S. energy experts say we will not be able to meet national energy goals unless we increase our solar energy capacity.

“Cooperative involvement in solar energy has risen very quickly over the last few years,” Leitman says. “And 70 percent of the community solar programs in the country are run by electric co-ops.”

One megawatt is enough to power between 500 and 1,000 homes. So while today's co-op involvement in solar energy would cover fewer than 200,000 homes, those small projects across the country are serving as examples of how to make the best use of the developing solar technology.

Among the new approaches called for by solar energy are ways to assure safety in the way solar panels are connected to power lines and that electric rates are designed in ways that benefit all members of the co-op.

Electric co-ops are even examining ways to overcome one of solar energy's biggest hurdles — producing electricity at night and in weather and parts of the country with limited sunshine. Battery storage technology is improving, and one NRECA idea — community storage — recognizes that energy is stored in the hot water of home electric water heaters. Specially designed electric rates and power line technology could link all those water heaters into one giant community battery. In addition, NRECA participates on a number of codes and standards committees, tackling the most urgent safety and operational issues to keep co-op members and staff safe — and ensure a reliable grid.

NRECA's Cotter says that's just one of the ways that co-op leadership in solar technology “could maximize the usefulness of photovoltaics.”

*Paul Wesslund writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*

# Don't drive blindfolded down the highway

By Anne Prince

**W**ould you drive on a highway blindfolded? Of course not. However, if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cell phone also carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them — traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians — when talking on a cell phone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving — talking, texting, sending emails — is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and, most likely, we, ourselves, have used a phone while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel to focus on activities other than driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each day in the U.S., more than nine people are killed and more than 1,153 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Administration notes that 3,154 people were killed and an estimated 424,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2013.

Texting and cell phone use behind the wheel take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel and your focus off driving — putting the driver and others in danger, including passengers, pedestrians, other

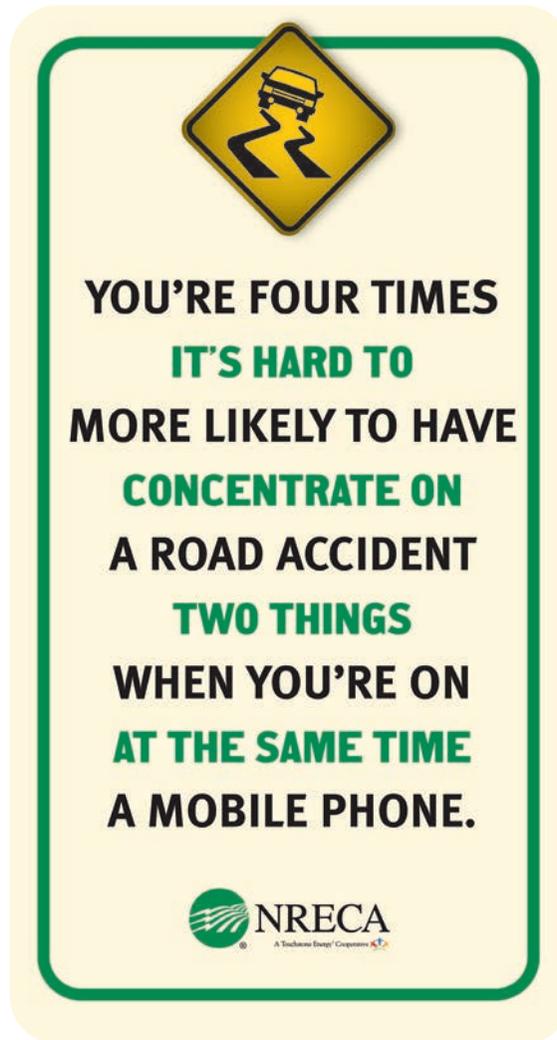
drivers and bystanders. On the tragic end of the spectrum, victims' families, friends, co-workers and community are impacted.

At your local electric cooperative, safety is a core value. At this time of year in particular, when more people are on the roads and kids are out of school, the goal at your cooperative is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cell phone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the potential danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends and neighbors safer by putting their

phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving.

*Anne Prince writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Virginia-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*



**YOU'RE FOUR TIMES  
IT'S HARD TO  
MORE LIKELY TO HAVE  
CONCENTRATE ON  
A ROAD ACCIDENT  
TWO THINGS  
WHEN YOU'RE ON  
AT THE SAME TIME  
A MOBILE PHONE.**

 **NRECA**  
A National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

# Buying an older home?

## Make a few energy updates

**S**ome homeowners swear by their older houses because of their sturdy construction and attention to detail. But most older homes are energy hogs. If you live in one — or are planning to — invest in a few energy-saving upgrades:

- Replace the windows. Single-pane windows allow cool, air-conditioned air to escape from the home and invite the summer heat indoors. Double-pane windows are more energy-efficient and can considerably trim your air-conditioning expenses.
- Install a programmable thermostat. The older your home is, the less likely it is to feature a thermostat that automatically resets itself after your family's morning rush hour. Keeping the house comfortably

cool while nobody's in it during the day is a waste of energy.

- Plug leaks and cracks. They're inevitable as a home ages. Caulk around electrical and cable outlets, windows, window air conditioners and the dryer vent and in cracks in bricks, siding or stucco.
- Add attic insulation. Chances are, your home wasn't built with enough. And what it has is likely to have diminished over the years or become detached from the floors and walls it's designed to insulate.
- Replace appliances that are more than 10 years old. Newer models of water heaters, clothes dryers and dishwashers are so much more efficient that they use up to 50 percent less energy than outdated devices.

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## Put your computer to sleep

**J**ust like apps and graphics eating up the battery power on your cell phone, extra features on computers can unnecessarily use energy. And that could be costing you extra on your electric bill. If your home has multiple computers, don't let them waste energy. Here's how to start:

- Unplug seldom-used computers. Even if they are shut down, they continue to draw small amounts of electricity as long as they are plugged into the wall.
- Move the computer and printer in each room near the TV and phone charger, and plug them all into a power strip. That will make it easy to switch them all off when you leave the house for the day or turn in at night. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that devices that are always on use up to 23 percent of a home's electricity — even though the appliances are rarely in use.



- Set each computer to “sleep mode.” That will slow it down when it's not in use so it uses less electricity.
- Program the “hibernate” function on your computers to turn them off when they're not in use for more than 30 minutes. “Hibernate” shuts the device down but makes it easy to recover everything you were working on when you switch it back on.
- Get rid of screen savers: They turn your computer monitor into an energy hog. Better to set the monitor to shut down after 15 minutes of inactivity.
- Switch to a laptop. Portable devices like iPads and Kindle tablets use up to a third less energy than a big desktop computer and monitor.
- Buy an Energy Star-rated computer next time you need a new one. The label guarantees that the machine is energy-efficient.

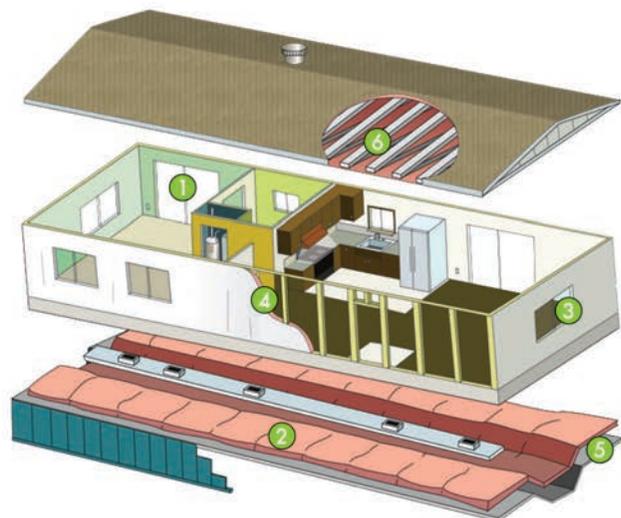
# Six ways to enjoy summertime energy savings

Here are six ways to use energy more efficiently this summer — and save some money on electricity:

1. Change the air-conditioning system's filter every month during cooling season — more often if your neighborhood is especially dusty. Dirty filters stop air from flowing through, which causes your air conditioner to work harder — and use more energy — as it keeps your home cool.
2. If your air conditioner is controlled by a programmable thermostat, instruct it to run only part of the day. There's no need to keep your house comfortable while nobody's in it during the day. Running the air conditioner at night could be less expensive than cranking it up during the day when it's hot and demand for electricity is at its peak.
3. Run your ceiling fans. If you don't have any, consider them a good investment. Install them in bedrooms, the kitchen and the living room. Fans move the air around and make the people in the room feel cooler. And they're much less expensive to operate than an air conditioner.
4. Close the drapes. A sunny day is pretty to look at through the window, but hot rays can heat the air in your home and force the air conditioner to work overtime. Keep curtains and blinds drawn on bright, hot days, especially on south- and west-facing windows.
5. Wait until after dark to run your pool pump. Operating it during off-peak hours when fewer people are using a lot of appliances at once can save money on your energy bill.
6. Switch your central air-conditioning system's fan to "auto." The "on" setting allows it to run constantly — even when your house is already cool.

## Retrofitting your manufactured home for energy efficiency

- 1 Install energy-efficient windows and doors.
- 2 Replace insulation in the belly.
- 3 Make general repairs (seal bottom board; caulk windows, doors, ducts, etc.).
- 4 Add insulation to your walls.
- 5 Install or seal belly wrap.
- 6 Add insulation to your roof, or install a roof cap.



Original artwork provided by Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives



# SUMMER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

There are many ways you can practice energy efficiency in your home. Use the word bank below to complete the crossword puzzle. Be sure to tell Mom and Dad about these energy-efficiency tips so you can practice at home!

## DOWN

1. Use ceiling \_\_\_\_\_ to circulate cool air.
2. Taking \_\_\_\_\_ are more energy efficient than taking baths.
3. Always turn the \_\_\_\_\_ off when you leave a room.

## ACROSS

4. Plant shade \_\_\_\_\_ around your home.
5. Open \_\_\_\_\_ on cool evenings and turn off the air conditioner.
6. Close shades, drapes and blinds during the \_\_\_\_\_ to help keep warm air out of your home.



**Word Bank:**

- Trees
- Showers
- Daytime
- Windows
- Lights
- Fans

# Can you have a zero net energy home?

*Dear Pat: I'm thinking of installing rooftop solar for my home, and a neighbor asked if I was going to have a "zero net energy" home. Can you explain what this means? — Sally B.*

A zero net energy (ZNE), or net-zero, home is one where all of the energy that is used is completely offset by the production of on-site power such as through rooftop solar photovoltaic panels. Having a ZNE home does not mean you are "off-grid" — your home still uses electricity from your electric co-op for daily needs, especially when the sun isn't shining. A ZNE home also means you can supply power back to the electric grid from your solar panels.

If you are considering rooftop solar panels for your home, call your electric co-op's Green Power Providers (GPP) administrator first. You can also find more details about GPP, a Tennessee Valley Authority program, at [www.tva.com/Energy/Renewable-Energy-Solutions](http://www.tva.com/Energy/Renewable-Energy-Solutions).

Usually, the term ZNE is used to describe newly built homes as it is easier to custom-build an energy-efficient home and properly size solar panels that will match the expected energy use. However, existing homes can also be retrofitted to be ZNE. But before you go out and buy a solar panel system that will cover every inch of your roof, remember this mantra: "Reduce before you produce."

Options like more-efficient heat pumps and increased insulation may not seem as exciting as solar panels, but they can produce a better return on your investment. Before you purchase and install solar panels, make all the cost-effective energy-efficiency improvements you can. You will likely be able to reduce the number of solar panels you need while also seeing sustained energy savings over time.

An energy audit is the first step to learning how to make your home as efficient as possible. An energy auditor will walk through your home and perform tests to find out where air is leaking and can perform energy modeling to tell you how much energy you would save by implementing certain improvements. If you are interested in an energy evaluation, your electric co-op might offer audits or have names of trusted energy auditors.

Retrofitting a home to be ZNE will likely require investments — large and small. Upgrading your heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system to something more efficient is a large investment, but, as heating and cooling usually make up half of the average home's energy use, the upgrade will have a substantial impact on your home, especially when combined with insulation improvements. Sealing up air leaks and replacing lightbulbs with LEDs are smaller investments but can also help you reach ZNE. Behavioral changes such as adjusting the thermostat when you leave for the day, using your solar clothes dryer (a clothes-line!) and turning off electronics and lights when you leave a room are also small and easy ways to reduce your energy use.

Once you have reduced your energy use as much as possible, you can now think about producing. Solar photovoltaic panels are the most common residential renewable energy installation, though a small wind energy system could be a good choice if your

home is on one of the rare sites that is windy enough.

There are also other ways to harness the power of the sun. For example, solar water heaters can be cost-effective. Or you can use passive solar techniques like strategic window placement, landscaping and shading and specific building materials to heat certain areas of your home in the winter or reduce sun and heat exposure in the summer.

You may be able to reduce your energy impact without purchasing your own rooftop solar panels. Many electric co-ops are beginning to offer community solar programs, or "solar gardens," where co-op members invest in part of a larger solar installation that supplies the co-op's electric grid. Participating in a community solar program gives you the benefit of solar power without needing to install and maintain your own solar panels.

Remember to talk with your electric co-op's energy experts before making any major upgrades like rooftop solar to your home.

*This column was co-written by Pat Keegan and Amy Wheelless of Collaborative Efficiency. For more information on retrofitting your home or building a new zero net energy home, visit [www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips](http://www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips) or email Keegan at [energytips@collaborativeefficiency.com](mailto:energytips@collaborativeefficiency.com).*



*Wind energy and both passive and active solar can help achieve zero net energy.  
Photo Credit: Flickr user Wonderlane*

## West Tennessee

**June 3-5 • Hatchie Birdfest**, West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center, Brownsville. 731-779-9000 or hatchiebirdfest.com

**June 4 • Piblepalooza**, Leeper Lane Park, Jackson. 731-503-0364

**June 18 • Concert in the Park Series — “Our Nation’s Shared Culture: Americana Traditions,”** Shiloh National Military Park, Shiloh. 731-689-5696 or www.nps.gov/shil

**June 22 • Country Music Lends Down a Hand Concert with Bryan Moffitt, Eric Lee Beddingfield, Ash Bowers, and Kimberlie Helton**, Casey Jones Village Amphitheater, Jackson. 731-499-1065 or dsawt.org

**June 24-28 • Disney’s Beauty and the Beast**, McNairy County Visitors and Cultural Center, Selmer. www.artsinmcnairy.com

**June 25 • Case Built in Bradford Tour**, City Lumber Company of Dyer, Dyer. 731-692-2287 or citylumbercompany.com

**June 25 • Second Annual Car Show**, Discovery Park of America, Union City. 731-885-5455 or discoveryparkofamerica.com

## Middle Tennessee

**June 2-4 • Secret Garden Brunch, Party and Tour benefiting the Discovery Center**, gardens throughout Murfreesboro. 615-893-2300 or www.exploredhdc.org

**June 2-4 • 65th Annual Columbia Spring Jubilee**, Maury County Park, Columbia. 931-797-3139

**June 3 • Concert with Ronnie McDowell**, Palace Theatre, Crossville. 931-484-6133 or www.palacetheatre-crossville.com

**June 3 • Simply Smyrna Celebration**, 101 Front St., Smyrna. www.carpeartista.com

**June 3-4 • The June Bug Sale**, Hayshed Farms On Big Turnbull Creek, Kingston Springs. 615-337-1529

**June 3 and 17 • Millersville Bluegrass Show and Jam**, Millersville Community Center, Millersville. 615-429-6831 or www.millersvillebluegrass.com

**June 3-5 • Hatchie Birdfest**, West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center, Brownsville. 731-779-9000 or hatchiebirdfest.com

Unique outdoor adventures and more than 200 species of birds await you on the Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge. Birdfest will include special speakers and demonstrations, hikes and vendors. It’s perfect for seasoned birders and beginners alike!



**June 3-July 29 • “Smoke on the Mountain,”** Cumberland County Playhouse, Crossville. 931-484-5000 or www.ccplayhouse.com

**June 4 • Gassaway Homecoming**, Gassaway, Cannon County. 615-563-4183

**June 4 • Fourth Annual Coopertown Barrel Festival**, Old Coopertown Road, Coopertown. 615-382-4470 or www.barrelfestival.com

**June 4 • An Evening Re-enactment at Elmwood Cemetery**, Elmwood Cemetery, Springfield. 615-382-7173 or rchs@bellsouth.net

**June 4 • Waylon and Willie Tribute Show**, downtown Wartrace. 931-389- 6144 or townofwartrace@att.net

**June 4 • Shelbyville/Bedford County Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee Garden Tour**, gardens throughout Bedford County. 931-684-3482

**June 4 • National Trails Day Hike or Volunteer Trail Work**, Edgar Evins State Park, Silver Point. 800-250-8619 or 931-858-2114

**June 4 • Liberty 18th Annual Town-Wide Yard Sale**, throughout Liberty. 615-464-8085

**June 4 • 47th Annual Antique Automobile Club of America Tims Ford Region Car Show and Flea Market**, Franklin County Middle North School, Winchester. 931-607-9579

**June 4 • Kids Arts Festival of Tennessee**, Pinkerton Park, Franklin. 615-794-2103

**June 4-5 • Great Tennessee Airshow**, Smyrna/Rutherford County Airport, Smyrna. 615-223-1973

**June 4 and 18 • USA Bassin Next Generation Bass Tournament**, Davis Corner Ramp, Old Hickory Lake, Mt. Juliet. 615-202-5367 or roger.brugger@tds.net

**June 7-11 • Ashland City Summerfest**, Riverbluff Park, Ashland City. 615-792-2655 or www.ashlandcitytn.gov

**June 9 • June Music on Main Street**, Main Street, Portland. 615-325-9032

**June 11 • Grange Hall Decoration**, Grange Hall Cemetery, McMinnville. 931-668-1958

**June 11 • Submarine Memorial Tolling Of The Bell Ceremony**, Middle Tennessee Veterans Cemetery, Nashville. 615-532-2238

**June 11 • Annual Raus Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Supper**, Old Raus School, Bedford County. 931-695-5306 or carolndot\_4360@msn.com

**June 11 • Eagleville Truck and Tractor Pull**, TVPPA Show Grounds, Eagleville. 615-542-5656

**June 12-19 • International FolkFest**, throughout Murfreesboro. www.mboro-international-folkfest.org

**June 13 • Special Olympics of Williamson County Golf Tournament**, The Governors Club, Brentwood. 615-224-1045

**June 16-18 • 21st Annual Antique Tractor and Engine Show**, Cumberland County Community Center, Crossville. 423-533-2478 or 931-484-0478

**June 16 • Jammin’ with the General**, Historic Lebanon Square, Lebanon. 615-444-5503 or www.lebanonwilsonchamber.com

**June 16-July 2 • “JUDY! A Musical Tribute,”** Gaslight Dinner Theatre, Dickson. 615-740-5600 or [www.gaslightdinnertheatre.org](http://www.gaslightdinnertheatre.org)

**June 17 • Monteagle Cruise-In,** Harton Park, Monteagle. 931-691-1765

**June 17 • Cowan Cruise-In,** Cowan Welcome Center, Cowan. 931-636-1670

**June 17-18 • Grits and Glitz Barn Sale,** Sutton Homestead, Granville. 931-653-4151 or [granvilletn.com](http://granvilletn.com)

**June 17-18 • Ardmore Lions Club Eighth Annual Tractor Pull,** John Barns Park, Ardmore. 931-427-6988

**June 17-Aug. 28 • “The Little Mermaid,”** Cumberland County Playhouse, Crossville. 931-484-5000 or [www.ccplayhouse.com](http://www.ccplayhouse.com)

**June 18 • 32nd Bethel Homecoming,** 4357 Skelley Road, Bethel. 931-682-2398

**June 18 • RC-Moon Pie Festival and 10-Mile Run,** downtown Bell Buckle. 931-389-9663 or [bellbucklechamber.com](http://bellbucklechamber.com)

**June 18 • Kids Fishing Tournament,** Edgar Evins State Park, Silver Point. 800-250-8619 or 931-858-2114

**June 18 • Good Time Cruisers Cruise In,** Liberty Square, Sparta. 931-212-7658

**June 22-25 • Lynchburg Frontier Days,** downtown Lynchburg. 931-759-4111 or [lynchburgtn.com](http://lynchburgtn.com)

**June 25 • Excursion Train to Del-Monaco Winery,** Tennessee Central Railway Museum, Nashville. 615-244-9001 or [tcry.org](http://tcry.org)

**June 25 • Miss Jamboree Pageant,** DeKalb County Complex, Smithville. 615-597-5485 or [sreview@dtccom.net](mailto:sreview@dtccom.net)

**June 25 • Paisley and Plaid Handmade Market,** Lane Ag Center, Murfreesboro. [facebook.com/events/216188362082229/](https://facebook.com/events/216188362082229/)

**June 25 • Estill Springs Community Celebration,** Estill Springs City Park, Estill Springs. 931-808-2504

**June 25-26 • Tullahoma Campaign Heritage Days Living History Event,** Beechwood Farm, Wartrace. 931-205-1683 or [philipdgentry@bellsouth.net](mailto:philipdgentry@bellsouth.net)

**June 26 • Hollywood Cemetery Decoration Day,** Hollywood Cemetery, Wartrace. 931-389-6144 or [townofwartrace@att.net](mailto:townofwartrace@att.net)

**June 30-July 2 • 21st Annual Shadow Valley Gospel Music Festival,** 54 Warden Road, Fayetteville. 931-580-5956

## East Tennessee

**Now-July 31 • “A Closer Look at Abraham Lincoln,”** Buttonwillow Civil War Dinner Theater, Whitwell. 423-658-7478 or [www.civilwardinnertheater.com](http://www.civilwardinnertheater.com)

**June 2 • Chuck Wagon Gang,** Morristown West High School, Morristown. 423-581-1953

**June 3-4 • White Lightning Trail Festival,** downtown Cumberland Gap. 423-626-4149

**June 3-4 • Cumberland Gap Artists’ Co-op Summer Art Extravaganza,** downtown Cumberland Gap. 616-540-7532 or [www.cumberlandgapartistscoop.com](http://www.cumberlandgapartistscoop.com)

**June 3-4 • Coke Ovens Bluegrass Festival,** Historic Coke Ovens Park, Dunlap. 423-309-0069 or [cokeovens.org](http://cokeovens.org)

**June 3-4 and 10-11 • Johnson County Community Theatre’s “The Last Roundup of the Guacamole Queens,”** Heritage Hall Theatre, Mountain City. 423-727-7444 or [heritagehalltheatre.org](http://heritagehalltheatre.org)

**June 4 • Heritage Day,** Vardy Church Museum, Sneedville. 423-586-6452 or 423-733-2305

**June 4-5 • Sycamore Shoals Native American Festival,** Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park, Elizabethton. 423-543-5808 or [www.sycamoreshoalstn.org](http://www.sycamoreshoalstn.org)

**June 4-5 • Third Annual Tennessee Metis Aboriginal Tribe Powwow,** Corner of Highway 111 and Highway 127, Dunlap. 423-949-7459

**June 11 • Kids Free Fishing Day,** Ralph Stout Park, Mountain City. 423-727-4181 or 423-470-4786

**June 11 • Claiborne High School Football Car Show,** Davis Drive, New Tazewell. 865-585-4396

**June 11 • 32nd Annual Smoky Mountain Walking Horse Show,** Sevier County Fairgrounds, Sevierville. 865-256-2591

**June 18 • Fourth Annual Trade Pig Pickin’,** Trade Gristmill, Trade. 423-895-2213

**June 18-19 • Rhododendron Festival,** Roan Mountain State Park, Roan Mountain. 423-772-3303

**June 24-26 • Nine Mile Bluegrass Festival,** Edmons Music Park, Pikeville. 423-533-2720 or [www.ninemilebluegrass.com](http://www.ninemilebluegrass.com)

**June 26 • Tribute to Patsy Cline with Kathy Deal,** Heritage Hall Theatre, Mountain City. 423-727-7444 or [heritagehalltheatre.org](http://heritagehalltheatre.org)

## List your events in our Almanac

**T**he *Tennessee Magazine* publishes event listings as space allows, giving preference to events of regional or statewide interest and those that are annual or one-time happenings. The magazine does not publish recurring events such as those held weekly.

The magazine assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information submitted for publication and advises calling or emailing ahead to confirm dates, locations, times and possible admission fees.

To be included in the calendar, visit our website, [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org), and fill out the submission form. You can also email listings to [events@tnelectric.org](mailto:events@tnelectric.org) or send them to Tennessee Almanac, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224.

Please include the name of the event, where it will be held (both town and physical location), a phone number readers can call for more information and an email or website address, if applicable, where readers can find more information. Event listings must be received at least two months in advance and will be accepted up to a year in advance.

# 50 YEARS AGO

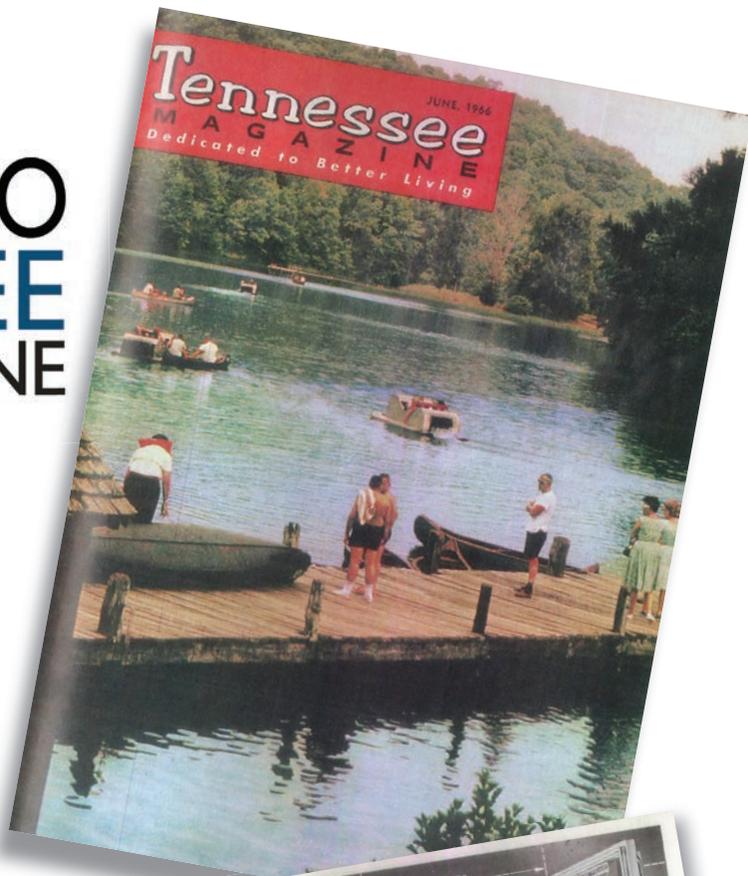
# in the TENNESSEE MAGAZINE

For more than 50 years, *The Tennessee Magazine* has been the official publication of our electric cooperatives, keeping member-owners informed about their co-ops, showcasing the wonders of electric service and highlighting the special events around the state.

Back in June 1966, readers saw advertisements for products like the largest refrigerator on the market, were invited by Gov. Frank Clement to “discover more of Tennessee” and given the opportunity to supplement their income by raising chinchillas.

While our fashions, appliances and recipes have significantly changed since 1958, our mission to entertain, educate and inform our readers has not. Here’s a glimpse of what members 50 years ago saw in *The Tennessee Magazine*.

View the entire June 1966 edition online at [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org).



**DISCOVER MORE OF TENNESSEE**

Tennessee's mountains, state parks and many historic sites are at their peak in beauty.

Accommodations in several state parks have been remodeled and enlarged to give more pleasure to those who prefer variety in recreation.

Fishing, boating, swimming and skiing sports are enjoyed year round on Tennessee's spacious lakes, scenic rivers and streams. Camping enthusiasts will find the most modern facilities provided in natural surroundings for outdoor vacationing.

Many new roads and highways have been completed during the past year, insuring motorists greater safety and driving pleasure. Take time this summer to see and enjoy more of Tennessee.

*Frank P. Clement*  
Governor

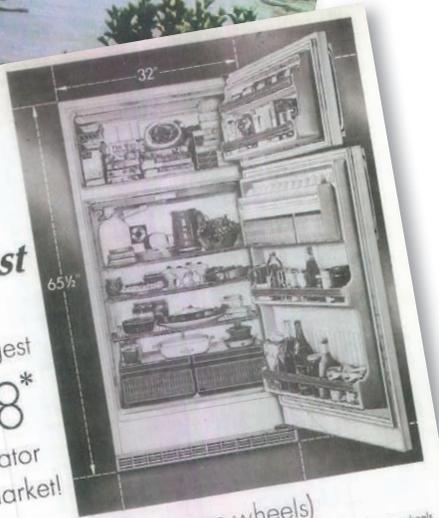
Department of Conservation, 2611 West End Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37203

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The 3-BR. OXFORD

**\$2,195.\***  
The 2-BR. JAMESTOWN

Hotpoint's new 'O-Frost 17" is the biggest \$298\* refrigerator on the market!



(and it rolls out on wheels)

Hotpoint's new 'O-Frost 17" is the biggest \$298\* refrigerator on the market!

Hotpoint's new 'O-Frost 17" is the biggest \$298\* refrigerator on the market!

**Could You Use Additional Income?**  
Write Today to Find Out How Easy it is to Become a Chinchilla Rancher  
No Obligation of Course

Your required investment is small when compared to your expected return. The cost of becoming a Chinchilla Rancher is from \$700 to \$2,500 depending on the number of animals you start with. Cash investments are from \$200 to \$800. Financing can be arranged for the balance.

This graph shows your potential yearly income for the number of breeding females listed.

Chinchillas are friendly, odorless and easy to raise.

Your dollar investment is small compared to your potential earnings. (See graph at left.)

Chinchilla raising can be done in your spare time.

All you need is a spare room, outbuilding or basement. We supply all of the necessary cages.

**SEND TODAY FOR FREE BOOKLET!**

Continental Chinchilla Ranch  
7304 St. Andrews Church Rd.  
Louisville, Kentucky

Please send me Free Booklet on Chinchilla Raising. I understand there is no obligation. Please have representative call. (Attach direction to your home)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

# Shutterbug

## Photography Contest

It's summertime in Tennessee. That means it's time to get outside and take advantage of all that Tennessee has to offer. We are looking for your best photographs of what a "Tennessee Summertime" means to you. Whether it's taking a scenic drive, spending a weekend camping or sitting lakeside and watching a sunset, send us your best shots.

Keep in mind a few basics: Use natural light, make strong compositions and focus on interesting subject matter. Simple, straightforward images with defined subjects and strong lighting usually work well.

There's really no substitute for natural light. Early morning and late afternoons usually provide great opportunities. The wind is usually calmer, the lower angle of light provides more depth to subjects and colors can appear more saturated without direct, overhead sun.

As you accept this challenge, stay safe and keep in mind that photographers strive to keep from disturbing or harming their subjects in any way. Please remember to take only photographs, and leave only footprints.

### Contest rules

1. The contest is open to amateur and professional photographers. For the purposes of our contest, you are considered a professional if you regularly sell your images or garner more than 50 percent of your income from photography.
2. Photographs must have been taken by you.
3. A photographer can enter no more than three photographs in any category. There is no cost to enter.
4. A completed entry form (at right) must be attached to the back of **every** photograph entered. You can photocopy the form. Omitting any of this information can result in disqualification.
5. Extensive digital manipulation of photographs is prohibited. Limit the use of photo-editing software. Adjusting exposure, color balance, contrast and sharpness is allowed, but highly manipulating colors and content of images is not.
6. Employees of Tennessee's electric cooperatives and their immediate families are not eligible to win.
7. Please include the name of each recognizable person, if any other than yourself, in your photograph. It is the photographer's responsibility to have the subject's permission to enter his or her image in the contest. You must include the subject's name and contact information with your submission. Omitting any of this information can result in disqualification.
8. By entering the contest, photographers automatically give *The Tennessee Magazine* permission to publish the winning images in print and digital publications, social media and on websites.

## Shutterbug Entry Form

Clip this form and tape it to the back of each "Tennessee Summertime" entry.

(Please check one)

Amateur \_\_\_\_\_ Professional \_\_\_\_\_

(Please check one)

Junior Shutterbug \_\_\_\_\_ Shutterbug \_\_\_\_\_  
(17 and younger) (18 and older)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Electric cooperative: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry title: \_\_\_\_\_

Location where the photograph was taken:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Any additional information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PRINTS WILL NOT BE RETURNED.**

This entry form is also available on our website.  
Go to [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org) for more information.

### Shutterbug assignment

"Tennessee Summertime"

### Submissions — mail prints or enter online

1. Photographs must be entered as unmounted, 5-by-7-inch or larger prints or submitted online at [www.tnmagazine.org](http://www.tnmagazine.org). Please don't mail your only print of a photo. Because of large numbers of entries, **prints will not be returned.**
2. Enter online or send entries to *The Tennessee Magazine*, Tennessee Summertime Photo Contest, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224.

### Deadline

Entries must be entered online by midnight or postmarked by Monday, July 25. Winners will be published in the September issue.

### Prize packages:

Judges will select a first-, second- and third-place winner in each category. The following prizes will be awarded: First place wins \$150, second place \$100 and third place \$50.

# MINT CONDITION

**Add a refreshing twist to your summer meals**

**Y**ou don't need a green thumb to grow fresh mint in Tennessee. In fact, be sure to grow it in a container or a sunny location where you won't mind when it runs rampant. This fresh herb needs regular clipping, which is perfect for the variety of recipes that follow. Snip, snip, hooray!



*Early Garden Tabbouleh.*

*Photograph by Robin Conover • Recipes compiled by Tammy Algood*

### Mint and Dried Currant Pesto

Yield: 1 cup

3 tablespoons dried currants or golden raisins  
3 tablespoons dry white wine or water  
⅓ cup fresh flat parsley leaves  
½ cup fresh mint leaves  
1 large garlic clove, peeled  
¼ cup chopped pecans  
¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese  
½ cup olive oil  
Fresh figs, cut in half

Place the currants or raisins in a small bowl and cover with the wine or water. Set aside for 15 minutes. Drain and transfer to a food processor with the remaining ingredients. Process until blended but not smooth. Use right away as a spread on fresh fig halves or refrigerate and use the following day.

### Frozen Mojito

Yield: 12 servings

1 (3-ounce) package lime gelatin  
2 tablespoons sugar  
1 cup boiling water  
1 cup fresh mint leaves  
2 (12-ounce) containers frozen limeade concentrate, thawed  
2 cups cold water  
1 cup carbonated grapefruit beverage (such as Fresca)  
1 cup clear rum or additional grapefruit soda  
Additional grapefruit drink for serving  
Mint sprigs for garnish

In a small bowl, dissolve the gelatin and sugar in the boiling water. Add the mint, cover and steep 20 minutes. Press through a wire mesh sieve and discard the mint. Add the limeade concentrate, cold water, soda and rum (or additional soda). Transfer to a 2½ quart freezer container and freeze overnight or until set. Scoop into a glass, add ½ cup of additional grapefruit soda in each serving and garnish with mint. Serve cold.

### Chopped Fresh Spinach and Chicken Salad

Yield: 4 servings

1 (7.5-ounce) jar marinated artichoke hearts packed in oil

5 cups tightly packed chopped fresh spinach  
2 cups chopped smoked or roasted chicken  
1 cup loosely packed chopped fresh mint  
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard  
¼ cup balsamic vinegar  
½ teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon black pepper  
¼ teaspoon paprika

Drain the artichokes and set aside 2 tablespoons of the oil. Chop the artichokes and add to a bowl with the spinach, chicken and mint. Toss well.

Whisk together the reserved oil, mustard, vinegar, salt, pepper and paprika. Drizzle over the spinach mixture and toss to evenly coat before serving.

### Lime and Mint Mocktail

Yield: 6 servings

1 cucumber, unpeeled and thinly sliced  
1 cup packed fresh mint  
1 lime, thinly sliced  
1 quart water  
1 quart club soda, cold

Place the cucumber, mint and lime in a pitcher. Add the water. Cover and let sit in the refrigerator at least 2 hours, preferably overnight. To serve, fill glasses with ice and half-fill each glass with the infused liquid. Top with club soda and enjoy.

### Mint and Corn Fritters

Yield: 12 servings

3 cups fresh cut corn kernels  
½ cup finely chopped pecans  
2 shallots, peeled and chopped  
¼ cup chopped fresh mint leaves  
1 teaspoon salt  
½ teaspoon black pepper  
1 egg  
6 tablespoons all-purpose flour  
Vegetable oil for frying  
Sour cream

In a mixing bowl, combine the corn, pecans, shallots, mint, salt and pepper. Add the egg and whisk in the

flour to make a thick batter. Place oil to a depth of ¼ inch in a large skillet over medium-high heat.

With floured hands, pat about 3 tablespoons of the batter into a fritter. Place in the skillet so that the fritters do not touch. Fry, turning once, around 3 minutes per side or until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Serve with sour cream.

### Lemon Mint Tea

Yield: 12 servings

12 cups water, divided  
8-10 tea bags (not family-sized)  
1 cup fresh mint  
1½ cups frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed  
Additional mint sprigs for garnish

Bring 6 cups of water to a boil over high heat. Place tea bags in a heat-proof container and add the boiling water. Cover and steep 7 minutes. Remove, squeeze tea bags and cool 15 minutes. Add the mint and steep 5 minutes. Strain and add the remaining water and lemonade concentrate. Stir and refrigerate before serving over ice with a mint garnish.

### Early Garden Tabbouleh

Yield: 8-10 servings

1½ cups chicken or vegetable stock  
¼ cup bulgur  
3 plum tomatoes, diced  
2 small cucumbers, peeled and chopped  
3 green onions, sliced  
½ cup chopped fresh parsley  
3 tablespoons fresh chopped mint  
1 teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon chopped fresh dill  
¼ teaspoon celery salt  
¼ cup toasted pine nuts  
½ cup lemon juice  
2 tablespoons olive oil

In a small saucepan over high heat, bring the stock to a boil. Remove from the heat and add the bulgur. Stir, cover

*Continued on page 34*

## Taste of Tennessee

Continued from page 33

and let stand 30 minutes or until the liquid is absorbed.

Meanwhile, in a serving bowl, combine the tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, parsley, mint, salt, dill and celery salt. Add the bulgur and pine nuts and stir well. Drizzle with the lemon juice and oil, stirring well. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours before serving.

### Mint Jelly

Yield: 6 pints

3½ cups firmly packed chopped fresh mint

4½ cups water

6½ cups sugar

¼ cup lemon juice

2-3 drops green food coloring

1 drop blue food coloring

2 (3-ounce) envelopes liquid pectin

In a large stockpot, combine the mint and water and place over medium-high heat. Bring to a boil. Remove from the heat, cover and let stand 30 minutes.

Strain through a fine-mesh sieve and discard the pulp. Rinse the sieve and line with 4 layers of damp cheesecloth. Strain the juice through the cheesecloth twice, rinsing the cheesecloth between each straining. Refrigerate the juice overnight.

Strain the juice through a damp coffee filter and measure out 3½ cups of juice. Transfer to a large stockpot and stir in the sugar, lemon juice and food coloring. Place over medium-high heat and stir until the sugar dissolves. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Add pectin and return to a boil, stirring constantly. Boil 1 minute, stirring constantly.

Remove from the heat and skim off any foam. Using a canning funnel, ladle into the hot jars, leaving ¼-inch

headspace. Remove any air bubbles, wipe the rims, cover with the lids and then adjust the screwbands.

Process in a boiling water bath 10 minutes. Remove from the canner and place on a wire rack away from drafts. Allow to cool 24 hours. Check the seals and tighten the screwbands. Label and store in a cool, dry, dark place up to a year.

### Lynne's Famous Mint Tea

Yield: 1 gallon

2 cups sugar

2 cups plus 3 quarts water, divided

8 mint sprigs

12 regular tea bags

1 cup orange juice

½ cup lemon juice

Place the sugar in a saucepan with 2 cups of water over high heat. Bring to a boil, stirring frequently until the

sugar dissolves. Boil 5 minutes. Add the mint sprigs and steep 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, add the tea bags to 1 quart of simmering water and allow to steep. Squeeze and discard the mint sprigs from the sugar water and add to 2 quarts cold water along with the orange and lemon juices. Squeeze and discard the tea bags and add the tea, stirring well. Serve cold.



*Pick Tennessee spokesperson Tammy Algood develops recipes for The Tennessee Magazine featuring fresh Tennessee food products. Pick Tennessee Products is a promotion of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture developed to help consumers recognize and choose foods grown or processed in Tennessee. To learn more about our state's food products and find more recipes, go to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Market Development website at [www.PickTnProducts.org](http://www.PickTnProducts.org) or contact Algood at 615-837-5160 or [tammy.algood@tn.gov](mailto:tammy.algood@tn.gov).*



### Watch us on the web



Fresh or dried, herbs are DIY flavor. Check out our latest video at [tnmagazine.org](http://tnmagazine.org) to learn about keeping herbs fresh.

Want to cut back on salt? Herbs add flavors that can keep your taste-buds so happy they won't miss that sodium.

Herbs are easy to grow, so be sure you grow or purchase at the farmers market enough to dry. Home-dried herbs are fresher and pack more tasty punch than any you'll find on a store shelf.

To dry herbs, simply cut enough stems to make a bundle, secure with a string and hang the bundles upside-down



in a dry spot out of direct sunlight. They need plenty of air circulating around them to dry properly, so don't hang them close together. Keep hanging herbs protected — enclose bundles in paper bags with slits cut down the bags' length. The slits permit good airflow, and the bags protect herbs from light and dust. Just be sure each bag is considerably larger than its bundle of herbs so that air circulation is not impeded.

Once leaves are dry and brittle, store herb stems whole in airtight containers. Crush the leaves only when ready to use, and remember that drying food concentrates flavors. The large amounts of fresh herbs you used during growing season is much greater than the amount you'll need once all that flavor has been concentrated down to little dried bits.

Let us hear from you with an email to [food@tnmagazine.org](mailto:food@tnmagazine.org).

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# Find the Tennessee flag

**W**e have hidden somewhere in this magazine the icon from the Tennessee flag like the one pictured here. It could be larger or smaller than this, and it could be in black and white or any color. If you find it, send us a postcard or email us with the page number where it's located. Include your name, address, phone number and electric cooperative. One entry per person. Three winners will be chosen from a random drawing, and each will receive \$20.

Note that the icon we hide will not be on an actual flag or historical marker, will not appear on pages 20-26 and will not be placed in any ads. This month's flag will not appear on this page (that would just be too easy). Good luck!

Send POSTCARDS ONLY (no phone calls, please) to: *The Tennessee Magazine*, Find the Flag, P.O. Box

100912, Nashville, TN 37224. Or email entries to [flag@tnelectric.org](mailto:flag@tnelectric.org). Entries must be postmarked by Friday, July 1. Winners will be published in the August issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*.

## April's Flag Spotters

Thanks for the postcards and emails again this month identifying the correct location of the flag, which was found on Eleanor Ford's sleeve on **page 8**.

Winners are drawn randomly from each month's entries. April's lucky flag spotters are:

**Coy Hayes**, Munford, Southwest Tennessee EMC

**Bonnie Sells**, Winchester, Duck River EMC

**Carroll Jenkins**, Shady Valley, Mountain EC



## Artist's Palette Assignment for June

**Artist's Palette for June** — You decide what to draw or paint. No more topics. It's up to you. Good luck!

**Three age categories:** 1 to 9, 10 to 14 and 15 to 18 years old. Each group will have first-, second- and third-place winners.

**Media:** Drawing or painting on 8½-by-11-inch **unlined** paper. We encourage the use of color.

**Entry:** Send your original art to: *The Tennessee Magazine*, Artist's Palette — **June**, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224. (Please make sure you include the month on the outside of the envelope!)

**Deadline:** Art must be postmarked by Friday, July 1.

**Include:** Your name, age, address, phone number and electric cooperative. **Leaving anything out will result in disqualification.** Artwork will not be returned **unless** you include a self-addressed, **stamped** envelope with your submission. **Each entry needs its own SASE, please.** Siblings must enter separately with their own envelopes.

**Attention, teachers:** You may send multiple entries in one envelope along with one SASE with sufficient postage.

**Winners** will be published in the August issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*. First place wins \$50, second place wins \$30 and third place wins \$20. Winners are eligible to enter again after three months. Winners will receive their checks, artwork and a certificate of placement within 30 days of publication.

## Call for Entries Poetry Contest

**A**re you a poet at heart? If so, we would like to see your efforts in *The Tennessee Magazine's* new monthly poetry contest. Please limit your poem to no more than 100 words. Your work must include a Tennessee theme. Winning poems will be printed in our August issue.

**Subject:** While the theme of your poem must include something Tennessee-related, including the word "Tennessee" is not required.

**Age categories:** The competition will include six age divisions — 8 and younger, 9-13, 14-18, 19-22, 23-64 and 65 and older. Each group will have first-, second- and third-place winners. First place wins \$50 and will be printed in the magazine, second place wins \$30 and third place wins \$20. Poems capturing first-, second- and third-place honors will be published online at [tnmagazine.org](http://tnmagazine.org).

**What to enter:** A poem of 100 words or fewer pertaining to the theme. One entry per person, and please give your entry a title.

**Deadline:** Entry must be emailed or postmarked by Monday, June 27.

**Please note:** By entering, you give *The Tennessee Magazine* permission to publish your work via print, online and social media.

**Please enter online at [tnmagazine.org](http://tnmagazine.org) or mail handwritten entries to:** Poetry Contest, *The Tennessee Magazine*, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224. Please make sure to print your poem legibly. Please keep a copy of your poem as submissions received via mail will not be returned.

All entries must include the following information, or they will be disqualified: your name, age, mailing address, phone number and the name of your electric cooperative.

# Artist's Palette *April Winners*



Hannah Brooks



Gabriel James Harrod

## WINNERS, 15-18 AGE GROUP:

**First place:** Hannah Brooks, age 15, Cumberland EMC;

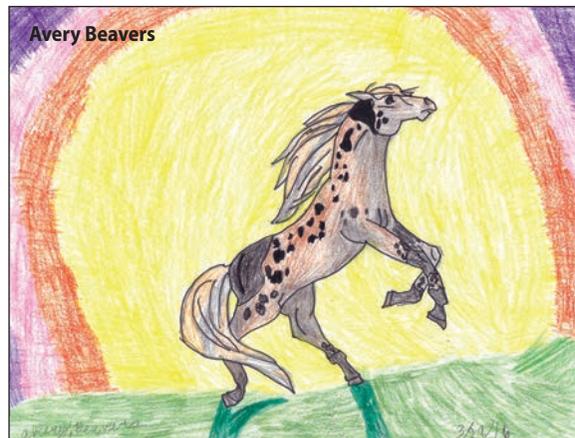
**Second place:** Gabriel James Harrod, age 15, Meriwether Lewis EC

**Editor's note:** Our oldest artists must have been busy working toward a strong finish to the school year! Because of a lack of entries, judges chose only to award first- and second-place honors in this age group.

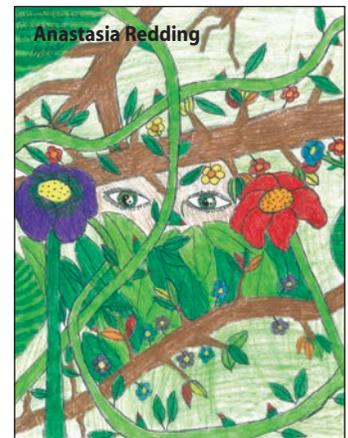
If you're thinking about entering, please go ahead and send in your artwork! Your odds of winning may be better than you expect.



Cheyanna Walker



Avery Beavers

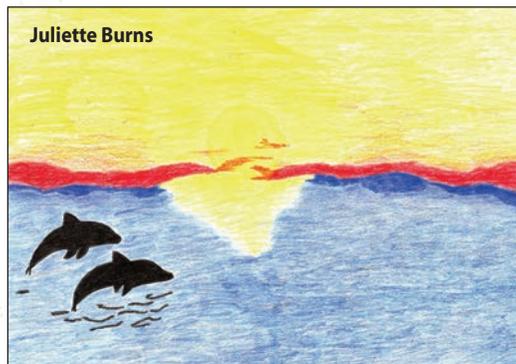


Anastasia Redding

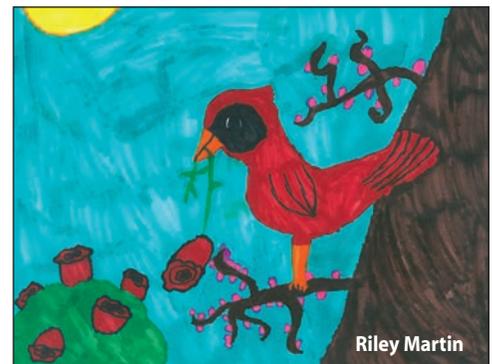
**WINNERS, 10-14 AGE GROUP:** **First place:** Cheyanna Walker, age 14, Middle Tennessee EMC; **Second place:** Avery Beavers, age 10, Middle Tennessee EMC; **Third place:** Anastasia Redding, age 10, Middle Tennessee EMC



Ezra Peterson



Juliette Burns



Riley Martin

**WINNERS, 1-9 AGE GROUP:** **First place:** Ezra Peterson, age 7, Middle Tennessee EMC; **Second place:** Juliette Burns, age 8, Cumberland EMC; **Third place:** Riley Martin, age 7, Middle Tennessee EMC

# Poet's Playground

## Age 8 and younger

### Do you see?

do you see the Tennessee worm  
deep in the ground as they squirm  
do you see the Tennessee bear  
going fishing in a pair  
do you see the Tennessee beaver  
making the wood a lot cleaner  
do you see the Tennessee deer  
standing so tall without any fear  
do you see the Tennessee bunny  
hopping in a patch so sunny  
do you see the Tennessee mom  
as bright as morning dawn  
do you see Tennessee  
home to you and me

— *Dominique Major*  
*Sequachee Valley EC*

## Age 9-13

### The Parthenon

As I walk up stone steps  
Up and up they climb  
I look high and see the  
Towering image of the scene  
85 Doric columns  
Acting prodigious and mighty  
They hold up the ceiling  
And protect the statue from the  
Evil lurking outside the walls  
Nike is placed snug within the  
Hand of Athena  
She towers over the public and  
Intimidates with her spear  
With her serpent at her foot,  
She is unstoppable  
Made out of pure gold,  
She is priceless  
A perfect replica of history

— *Emma Laymon*  
*Middle Tennessee EMC*

## Age 14-18

### Cracks

Creeping along the sidewalk in branching  
patters,  
Cracks spread.  
Populace rushing past never notices;  
The world whirls on;  
Weeds and wrappers fill the gaps  
And birds peck crumbs.  
Leaves are caught and decompose  
With long seasons.

Still the cracks spread in erratic lines  
Past blues shops  
Nestled deep in Nashville's heart  
And under speeding traffic.  
Rush! Says Humanity, but the cracks  
digress.  
They spread slow and sure  
Past a weather-beaten building "for Rent,"  
Pausing by a man sitting.  
He plays the guitar slow and sure,  
Waiting for crumpled bills.  
Though few ever take much notice,  
The cracks make the city.

— *Anna Kurschner*  
*Chickasaw EC*

## Age 19-22

### On the Corner of 2nd and Union

Purple-brown Memphis,  
served up steaming;  
River water to drink, blues-  
drenched, cold and pure. Shoulders,  
thick, burning on a fire  
down the alleyway. The dim light  
of yellow teeth — lining roving mouths;  
lining the bridge, the iconic  
Pyramid, the Promised Land  
elsewhere — sunk in greasy Southern ribs,  
the famous Rendezvous,  
but with none spared. Someone  
stumbling in Memphis  
begs for more baby backs, more  
smoke. Keep the fire going.  
But only the ribs matter,  
and shoulders that fall  
off the bone clean, easy;  
once you slaughter the pig  
no one remembers his face.

— *Hunter Keough*  
*Pickwick EC*

## Age 23-64

### Reminiscing Tennessee

When days were long and years  
inconceivable  
Tennessee meant  
Backyard, barefoot  
Breakfast biscuits  
And wading the creek with mama

When weeks were long and season  
conceivable  
Tennessee meant  
Christmas roast  
Spring Irises  
And camping by the creek with papa  
When months were long and the future  
almost tangible  
Tennessee meant  
Bashful kisses  
Growing impatience  
And craving beyond the creek  
When years became long and hours longer  
Reminiscing Tennessee  
During Chinese Take-out Christmases  
With Snowy Springs  
And no creeks.

Now years are short but days long  
(Plump with my second)  
Tennessee is  
Backyard, barefoot  
Breakfast biscuits  
And wading, together, the creek.

— *Julianna Chaney*  
*Meriwether Lewis EC*

## Age 65 and older

### Tennessee Weather Explained

Thundering herds of elephants  
Race across the sky;  
Gathering on the mountaintops,  
They trumpet 'til they cry.  
Their tears rain down on earth below  
And gather in the streams.  
Their trampling feet make thunder roll,  
Upsetting all my dreams.  
Their flashing eyes now pierce the night  
With lightning bolts, deadly and bright.  
And flapping ears create a breeze  
Whose bluster uproots countless trees.

And so you see how storms are made.  
They all arise from an elephant raid.

— *Gayle Moody*  
*Middle Tennessee EMC*

Congratulations to our winners. Be sure to visit our website, [tnmagazine.org](http://tnmagazine.org), to  
read more poetry from our runners-up.

See page 36 for details on how to enter *The Tennessee Magazine's* monthly poetry contest.

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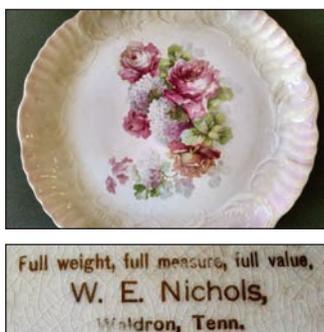
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I found this beautiful platter in my mother-in-law's home after she passed away. I have tried to find information about Waldron, Tennessee, which is printed on the back. It looks very old. I would love to know more about it.  
*Lisa*



*Dear Lisa,*

Although Waldron isn't on the map, the Waldron family settled in the LaVergne area in the early 1800s. To this day, Waldrons live and work in the area. Trying to connect Waldron to Nichols, I found a W.E. Nichols III trucking company in Alamo, Tennessee. You may need a genealogist and historian to seal this deal.

I do, however, know a bit about pretty plates. All that I've seen marked in this manner suggest a business either sold or offered the plates as premiums for advertising. In a retail market, yours would be priced under \$20. I'd date it just before 1950. State abbreviations were reduced to two letters in 1963.

*Dear Connie,*

This was my grandmother's.

I remember it as a child. I am 46 now. I have looked for similar pieces. I haven't found anything close. Can you give me any information?

*Sangria*

*Dear Sangria,*

Items with the Norleans Japan mark are quirky and colorful dinnerware and figural pottery made by Meiko China Company. Although Meiko began production in 1908, your bright green cat cookie jar was made circa-1965. Similar pieces sell for \$35.



*Dear Connie,*

I found these beautiful end tables on Craigslist. The stickers on the bottom of both tables say: "Superior Tables, Model

5441, 1951."

I am having no luck finding any information on them. I also



can't find any tables that remotely look like them. Very unique. Please help.

*Celeste*

*Dear Celeste,*

Superior Furniture Company began hand-making furniture in Lowell, Michigan, near Grand Rapids, in 1936. The company was still in operation in 2009. The 1951 date on the label and the clean lines of the blonde tables place them in the midcentury modern era. This is currently the most sought-after style of furniture and decorative arts. In a shop specializing in this era, the retail price might be \$225 each. Collectors dream of sneaking up on one at a sale for a fourth of that.

*Dear Connie,*

This blue china accessory set was in my husband's family for many years. Now I have inherited it. Could you place its origin and value?

My husband's parents were from the Pittsburgh area.

The markings on the bottom of each piece state, "Rosenthal

Bahnhof Selb Germany." There is also an image of a crown surrounded by two flowers above the words. I have no idea of the age of these pieces. Your assistance would be much appreciated!

*Ruth*

*Dear Ruth,*

The mark on your Rosenthal console set indicates it was made between 1943 and 1948. The pattern is often called Chippendale, but I cannot confirm this on my favorite research site, Replacements.com. Similar blue band china with the same flower arrangement sells in the range of \$25 to \$45 each. I'd place the higher value on the compote and covered bowl and \$25 on the vase.



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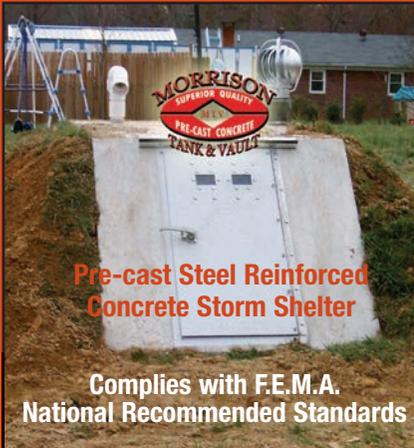
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Connie Sue Davenport makes her living by appraising houses full of antiques for private clients and at appraisal events hosted by businesses and organizations. Her website, [ConnieSue.com](http://ConnieSue.com), describes these services.



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# Point *of* View

By Robin Conover

*"Cordell Hull Sunset" by Robin Conover*

*Canon EOS 6D, 24-70 mm, 2.8 L-series lens, Gitzo tripod, ISO 100, f22 at 1/10 sec.*

My first camping trip of this year began with cloudy skies and a constant, cool rain. But my favorite weather apps indicated there was a possibility of clearing skies by the end of the day. So I tried to remain optimistic as I sat in the camper with rain chattering on the roof.

I've found that no matter how well you plan, the weather will always be unpredictable and ultimately emerge as a determining factor in camping trips and photo ops alike. Waiting for the weather to break or the light to be just right, I'm often reminded of a favorite elementary school expression — "You get what you get, and you don't pitch a fit." In fact, it's a rhyme that my young friend, Cole Harman — whom you

can see fishing on the left side of the lake above — learned from his parents and teachers.

With that in mind, I decided to enjoy the day and hope for some sort of sunset shot. Defeated Creek was a new campground for me, so I wasn't sure exactly where the sun would set.

Apps came to the rescue. I opened SkyView to get an idea of when and where the sun would meet the horizon. The app indicated it would be right across the lake from my camper, so I decided to stay put and not seek another vantage point. I then checked the radar on the Weather Channel app and saw the storm front was just past our area and that some breaks in the cloud cover might coincide with sunset.

I have to say that technology, especially apps and smartphones, definitely makes it easier to use weather variables to my advantage as a photographer. Knowing the clouds may break soon seems to make waiting for perfect light go by faster.

As the clouds thinned on this particular evening, the air was clear of spring pollen, and the light began to filter across the lake. I set up with an area of rocks and wet shoreline in the foreground and waited for the moment the clouds lifted.

I had about 15 minutes of light that danced off the low cloud cover and the lake's surface. The effect of a golden fog of light was certainly the most beautiful scene of the day. ■



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