



A quilt on Charlie and Carol Schleeper's barn in Irish Hollow near Hamburg.

Fall has officially arrived and with it comes area festivals and tours. The Calhoun Barn Quilt Tour leads visitors along scenic routes featuring large outdoor quilts mounted on barns throughout the county.

The project began as a community based effort in 2008 to bring tourists to the area while preserving the rural heritage of Calhoun County.

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Charles Casey helps guide serviceman Darren Hayn while hanging a quilt at Chuck Schumann's on Illinois 96 west of Kampsville.

Each quilt has a unique story of its own, rich with history. The quilts represent the men and women who settled in Calhoun County over the years. Local artists volunteer their time and talents to hand paint each quilt. Quilt owners often choose their designs based off either an original owned by a family, or a hand selected quilt. The quilts vary in size, ranging from two feet by two feet up to eight feet by eight feet.

Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative works with the Calhoun Economic Development Committee to promote tourism in the area. Co-op serviceman Darren Hayn mounts many of the quilts with the help of a bucket truck.



A quilt hanging at the Center for American Archeology in Kampsville.



Serviceman Darren Hayn hangs a quilt on a barn owned by Letha Poore in Belleview.

Visitors traveling through the county during the tour will be able to see over 80 original quilts. The Calhoun County Barn Quilt Tour will be held alongside the Church Quilt Tour on October 21-22 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. Maps with locations of all the quilts are available for purchase at area businesses. A book telling the stories behind the quilts is also available for purchase.



A quilt hanging at the peak of the Kampsville Inn.



# FALL HARVEST SAFETY

Harvest season yields high numbers of electrocution, shock, and burn injuries. Nationwide, an average 60 agricultural workers are electrocuted and even more injured in electrical accidents each year.

Farm workers need to be sure to keep equipment ten feet from power lines at all times. That's ten feet above, below and to the sides of the lines. Lower all equipment you can before moving it and use a spotter for large equipment. If your equipment is too close, the electricity can arch over and get you.

Some equipment safety considerations:

- Always lower portable augers or elevators to their lowest possible level, under 14 feet, before moving or transporting; use care when raising them.
- When moving large equipment or high loads near a power line, always use a spotter, or someone to help make certain that contact is not made with a line.

- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting larger modern tractors with higher antennas.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path.

If equipment comes in contact with power lines, stay inside the cab and call for help. Instruct others to stay away until a lineman arrives at the scene to make sure power is disconnected. If there is risk of fire and you must leave the area, the proper action is to make sure to jump, not step, with both feet hitting the ground at the same time. Do not allow any part of your body to touch the equipment and the ground at the same time. Continue to hop or shuffle to safety, keeping both feet together as you leave the area.

Once you get away from the equipment, never attempt to get back on or touch the equipment. Many electrocutions occur when the operator dismounts and, realizing nothing has happened, tries to get back on the equipment.

For more information on farm and home electrical safety, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

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