

SHELBY News

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

A Shelby Electric Cooperative publication • www.shelbyelectric.coop

Live Line Demo, Inc. coming to 80th Annual Meeting

Don't miss the HEAT, SPARKS, ARCS, and EXPLOSIONS at Shelby Electric Cooperative's 80th Annual Meeting of Members to be held on Friday, June 8, 2018 at the Shelby County 4-H Fairgrounds. In addition to the Hood Family Band returning to entertain the crowd, Live Line Demo, Inc. will be performing electrical safety demonstrations in the 4-H Show Arena. Look for your annual meeting notice to arrive in the mail later this month providing more information and details about this year's meeting.

The notice will contain information about the cooperative, a meeting agenda, and important registration information. Members who register at the meeting will receive a \$10 bill credit. **If you bring your registration**



card with you and present it at the time of registration, you will receive an \$11 bill credit. We will also be giving away two commemorative attendance gifts to celebrate our 80th Annual Meeting. Free blood pressure checks, bucket truck rides, a bounce house, the Shelbyville Fire Department smoke house, and much more will be available. Sunshyne the Clown and Tim the Twister will be making a return appearance to

entertain our younger members. A barbecue pork chop dinner, prepared by the Shelby County Pork Producers, will be served between 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. and the business meeting starts at 1 p.m. in the 4-H Center.

See you Friday, June 8, at the Shelby County 4-H Fairgrounds in Shelbyville and help us celebrate our 80th Annual Meeting.



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CO-OP HISTORY

Annual Meeting meals have transitioned from box lunches and Shaw's Catering to the Shelby County Pork Producers. Over 60,000 pork chops have been served since 1986.





**Cooperative offices
will be closed on
Monday, May 28
in observance of
Memorial Day.**

Living the dream

What was your dream job growing up? In January, Luke Brown's dream job became a reality when he was hired by the cooperative. His journey began growing up near Cowden, Ill. where he was home-schooled. From there, he attended lineman school. While looking for his dream job, he took a position with Miller Ag and was employed there for five years. After spending some time in Iowa, he accepted an apprentice lineman position with Rio Grande Electric Cooperative located in Texas. Four years later, the dream job he was



waiting for became a reality. "I've always wanted to work as a lineman and be part of that legacy, and working for Rio Grande gave me that opportunity. Now, working for Shelby Electric Cooperative has fulfilled a lifetime dream," explained Brown. Luke and his wife Jennifer stay busy with their 8-month-old twin boys, Seth and Jonathan and their 2-year-old daughter, Claire.

Welcome to the cooperative family Luke!

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**Office Hours:
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

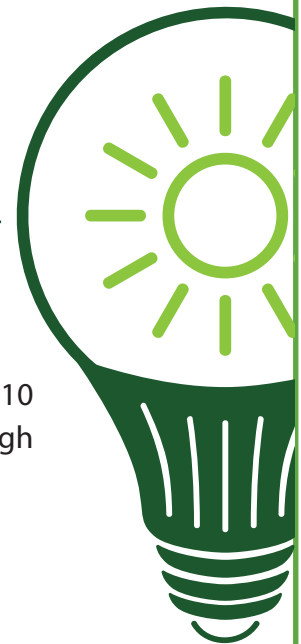
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Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When streaming online content, use the smallest device that makes sense for the number of people watching. Avoid streaming on game consoles, which use 10 times more power than streaming through a tablet or laptop.

Source: *energy.gov*



**Stay up to date on cooperative
news, outages, events, and
more!**



REAL LIFE  REAL POWER

Getting Real with Marla and Humidity

Get ready to start hearing, “It’s not the heat; it’s the humidity.” Humidity is the amount of water vapor in the air. When humidity is high, it starts to feel sticky and uncomfortable.

High humidity not only affects our comfort, it can wreak havoc in our homes. According to ENERGY STAR®, the ideal indoor humidity level is between 30 – 50 percent. Maintaining this optimal humidity level helps control moisture in your home that can damage paint, wood, and other materials; prevent mildew and odors; improve the efficiency of your air conditioner; and improve indoor air quality by reducing mold, dust mites, and other allergens. Keeping the relative humidity below 50 percent considerably reduces the growth of dust mites (American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology).

Knowledge can be the first step to controlling the indoor humidity level in your home. Humidity levels will fluctuate with weather conditions, the use of heating and air conditioning, and household activities. Most hardware stores have humidity/temperature gauges available for under \$10. The following suggestions may help with moisture control and high humidity in your home:

- **Gutters and landscaping:** Gutters and downspouts should direct water at least three feet away from the house. Slope landscaping materials so water will drain away from the foundation and not pool next to the home.

IS IT HUMID TODAY?



IT FEELS A BIT HUMID TO ME



- **Crawlspaces:** If your home has a crawlspace with a dirt floor, it should be covered and sealed with a plastic vapor barrier to prevent moisture from the soil increasing humidity levels in your home. If there is standing water or the soil is wet, dry it out with fans before covering the floor.
- **Ventilation fans:** Use ventilation fans in kitchens and bathrooms to help disperse moisture. In some cases, the fan may have been vented into the attic or become disconnected or blocked. Make sure the fans are vented directly outside.
- **Clothes dryer vents:** Dryer vents should also vent directly to the outside. Inspect the vent duct to make sure it is attached securely to the dryer, is not kinked, and does not have any holes. Check the outside for any obstructions.
- **Use a dehumidifier:** You may want to purchase a dehumidifier with a built-in humidistat so the unit will shut off when the desired humidity level is obtained. ENERGY STAR® certified dehumidifiers have more efficient refrigeration coils, compressors, and fans than conventional models. They remove the same amount of moisture but use nearly 30 percent less energy.

Humidity problems in your home can be tamed with the right tools. Humidity problems with your hair? That is a whole other problem!

~Marla Eversole,
Communication Specialist

Pana Community Hospital is growing

Health care for residents around Pana, Ill. is getting a big shot in the arm as Pana Community Hospital (PCH) continues its expansion project. Currently underway, this is the largest expansion to PCH since the 1970s. Over 30,000 square feet will be added to the hospital. The \$20.1 million expansion project is designed in two areas of the hospital, the Patient Services addition and the Main Entry addition. The Patient Services expansion will create additional space for a new surgical suite, laboratory, diagnostic imaging, cardiopulmonary, materials management, and nutritional services departments. The expected completion date for this area is September 2018.

Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) assisted in securing a zero interest loan through the Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants (REDLG) program to help in this portion of the construction.

“Investing in the rural communities SEC serves is at the core of why electric cooperatives were formed some

80 years ago,” said SEC President/CEO Josh Shallenberger. “This continues to be a cornerstone of the rural cooperative movement, whether through direct resource allocation or through opportunities to partner, as is the case with PCH and USDA’s Rural Development. The cooperative is uniquely positioned and mission-aligned to provide such support through the REDLG program. The investment PCH and the local community banks are making to grow our rural communities and improve quality of life are to be commended.”

“Quality healthcare is a critical success factor for the health of our rural residents, the growth of our businesses, and the strength of our communities,” noted Douglas Wilson, USDA Rural Development State Director for Illinois. “It is a privilege to contribute to the partnership between SEC and PCH that will benefit so many.”

“PCH is committed to providing patient centered, high-quality care to the residents in our service area. Through our historic building

project, we are continuing that commitment and are fortunate to be able to work with SEC and USDA Rural Development on a portion of its financing,” said Trina Casner, President and CEO, PCH.

“This expansion will improve access to quality healthcare not only in Pana, but much of the surrounding area. Partnerships, like the one between SEC and PCH, through the USDA REDLG program, help our rural communities thrive and greatly improve the quality of life for the residents. I am honored to be a part of this project and look forward to PCH serving the community for years to come,” explained Congressman Rodney Davis.

While the Patient Services addition is well underway, the Main Entry addition groundwork has just started. This addition will create space for an urgent care, improve access to the hospital building, and provide a contemporary waiting area with private registration offices. The entire PCH expansion project is expected to be completed by April 2019.



Pictured left to right: Doug Wilson, USDA Rural Development State Director for Illinois; Josh Shallenberger, President/CEO Shelby Electric Cooperative; Matt Bevers, President/CEO First National Bank of Pana; Trina Casner, President and CEO Pana Community Hospital; Congressman Rodney Davis; John Gardner President/CEO People's Bank and Trust, Pana; and Duane Noland, President/CEO Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.