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Employee spotlights: The new faces at EnerStar

There were several employee retirements at EnerStar in November 2018, so that means we have a few new faces at our cooperative. Rest assured, they will still give you the great member experience that you have come to expect from your cooperative employees!

KIM STEWART



A graduate of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Kim Stewart of Paris began her employment at EnerStar in November as

our Executive Administrator, replacing Vicki Ewing who recently retired. In this position, Kim will work closely with the board of directors, maintain corporate records, assist CEO Mike Clark and handle human resources functions. She was employed with Manpower, Inc. for 23 years as a market manager in Paris, Ill. and Terre Haute, Ind. Most recently, as the market delivery leader for western Indiana.

"I am looking forward to starting a new career, broadening my skills in a different type of industry," said Kim. "I look forward to contributing to the vision of Enerstar."

Kim was born and raised in Paris and has been married to her husband, James, for 26 years. She has two sons, Payton, a chemistry student at Eastern

Illinois University and Alex, a senior at Paris High School. It just so happens that Alex is this year's high school intern at EnerStar. He plans to attend Ivy Tech prior to transferring to lineman school in Iowa the following year.

KAYLA MCELHENY



A "new" but familiar face at EnerStar is Kayla McElheny. Kayla has been employed since Feb 2017 at the co-op as a part-time

member services representative through Manpower but was promoted in November 2018 to a full-time position after the retirement of long-time employee Kelly McCrocklin.

"Not being from the area, I have really enjoyed meeting our co-op members and hearing their stories," said Kayla. "I enjoy learning about the communities that EnerStar serves and figuring out what programs and services we have here at the co-op that will benefit our members."

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

11597 Illinois Highway 1
Paris, IL 61944
800-635-4145
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Employee Spotlights

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Kayla was born and raised in Parke County, Ind. where she lives with finance Dave and son Hunter. She graduated from Ivy Tech Community College in December 2010. Through her previous employment at State Farm and Simonton Windows, she has an extensive background in customer service and administrative functions.

BRITTA BAKER



The new smiling face at the co-op's front counter is Britta Baker. She will mostly be assist-

ing employees in the member services department with all billing and member service functions as well as assisting with co-op special projects. Britta graduated from Lakeland College with an associate degree in business management. She was the senior store coordinator for 14 years at Cellular One of east central Illinois in Paris, Ill. before the company was sold to AT&T in 2016.

"I am excited for the opportunity to be a part of the Enerstar family," said Britta. "I look forward to using my experience in customer service to assist our members."

Britta was born and raised in Kansas, Ill. where she lives with her husband John and their two children Brooke, 14, and Wes, 9. The family spends most of their time attending the children's school and athletic events. In addition, Britta has served on the Kansas school board for eight years.



FINAL CALL

to apply for the Youth to Washington Tour

Deadline to represent EnerStar in D.C. is January 31

The deadline is quickly approaching to represent EnerStar Electric in Washington, D.C. this summer. For more than 50 years, electric co-ops of Illinois have given tomorrow's leaders the opportunity to learn from today's public officials, and EnerStar is looking for two outstanding students in our cooperative family to represent us at Youth Tour this year.

EnerStar's Youth Tour is two separate events: **Youth Day** in Springfield, held **April 3**, and the week-long, all-expense paid **Youth to Washington** trip on **June 14 - 21, 2019**.

During this trip, students will get the chance to meet other students from across the nation, shake hands with political leaders, and visit museums and monuments.

Candidates should be high school sophomores, juniors or seniors in the fall of 2019. In addition, candidates must reside in the EnerStar service territory and receive their electricity from EnerStar.

Visit www.enerstar.com to find the application in the Community Section. **Applications are due Jan. 31, 2019.** If you have any questions, please contact EnerStar's Angela Griffin at 800-635-4145, extension 103 or via email at agriffin@enerstar.com.



Planned Outage Notification Call List

If you depend on life support equipment, contact EnerStar

EnerStar does its best to keep the power on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Yet despite our best efforts, outages do occur. For most members, this is an inconvenience, but for those who depend on electricity to power life support equipment, an outage can present a real challenge. To protect yourself, be prepared by installing a generator or having some other form of backup plan.

While most outages are weather-related, a few are planned in advance for maintenance and construction purposes. In instances of a planned outage, EnerStar maintains a Planned Outage Call List for those members with a



verified medical necessity. These members receive notification in the event of a scheduled power outage.

If you or a relative depend on electrically powered life support equipment and would like to be put on the call list for medical reasons, it is necessary for the member's doctor to send a letter to EnerStar indicating the need for electrically operated life support. The letter should include information regarding the person needing life support

If your business depends on uninterrupted power supply, the use of an electric generator is highly recommended, and computers should have some sort of a battery back-up system.

equipment, the type of equipment, and location information. It is the member's responsibility to keep all contact information updated with EnerStar.

It is important to stress that by being placed on the planned outage call list, **EnerStar is in no way guaranteeing uninterrupted power supply.** Members must make personal arrangements for both unplanned and planned outages.

To apply for the Planned Outage Call List, send an email to EnerStar's Kayla McElheny at kmcelheny@enerstar.com or call her at (800) 635-4145, extension 112.

Why we plan outages

Sometimes, you may hear that EnerStar will be having a "planned outage." Ever wondered why?

Occasionally, the equipment we use to bring power to your home needs to be repaired or replaced. When this happens, as a way to keep our crews and you safe, we plan a power interruption.

"We do our best to plan these outages during times when you will be least inconvenienced," said EnerStar's CEO Mike Clark.

Clark explained that while it may be inconvenient, planned



outages are actually beneficial. "Regular system maintenance is critical for many reasons. Yes, power reliability is one issue to avoid after-hour outages but there is also the issue of public safety and the safety of our employees," he said.

Here at EnerStar, we want to make sure we are doing everything we can to keep you safe and to keep our system running smoothly. So the next time you hear about a planned outage, know that it is one of the best ways we can provide you with quality electric service.

Want to get updates on outages?

Sign up with SmartHub!



Visit www.enerstar.com or download our free, secure mobile app!

Board petitions still available

The annual meeting of members is just around the corner, and the January 15, 2019 deadline to submit petitions is fast approaching. If you are interested in running for election to the EnerStar Board of Directors, pick up your petition now!

Prior to receiving a petition, candidates should verify with cooperative personnel that they reside within an open Representative District. Petitions require the signatures of 15 EnerStar members who live in the candidate's Voting District. All members signing petitions must have an original membership card on file and must be currently receiving electricity from the cooperative at their primary residence.

When petitions are submitted, candidates are encouraged to provide a short biographical sketch of 250 words or less and a digital photo to be included in the official notice to members. The biography will also be included in the March 2019 issue of this publication.

The role of director is a huge commitment – of time, energy and education – more than most members realize. The petition packet provides considerable detail about the role of a director.

To receive a packet or for questions regarding the petition process, contact EnerStar's Kim Stewart at 800-635-4145 or email her at kstewart@enerstar.com.

2019 Annual Meeting of Members

January 2, 2019 – First day to turn in petition and candidate biography and photo

January 15, 2019 – Last day to turn in petition and candidate biography and photo

March 16, 2019 – 79th Annual Meeting of Members

VOTING

3 Voting Districts

| A | B | C |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 |
| 3 | 6 | 9 |

✓ **Voting District A -**
Representative District 3
Currently served by Dale English, Paris
The Townships of Buck, Paris, Hunter, and Stratton in Edgar County, Illinois

✓ **Voting District B**
Representative District 6
Currently served by Jeff Murphy, Marshall
The Townships of Westfield and Douglas in Clark County, Illinois; all that portion of the Township of Dolson lying north of the 2000th Road in Clark County, Illinois; and all that portion of the Township of Wabash lying north of Interstate Highway 70 in Clark County, Illinois

✓ **Voting District C -**
Representative District 8
Currently served by Tom Jones, Marshall
All that portion of the Township of Wabash lying south of Interstate Highway 70 in Clark County, Illinois

3 year terms
Voting Districts A, B, and C each contain three Representative Districts in shades of red, green, and blue, respectively.



**Office Closing
 December 31
 and January 1
 for New Year's**