


MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

Waterloo, Illinois • 618.939.7171 • 800.757.7433

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



Save lives. Donate.

Mark your calendar for Friday, November 22 and stop by our office. The American Red Cross will be here from 2–6 p.m. Each unit of blood contains red blood cells for accident victims, plasma for burn patients and platelets for cancer patients.

Donations are welcome by everyone, but each MCEC member who donates will receive a \$10 bill credit. There will also be gifts given to all donors along with refreshments afterwards.

Fall Member Meetings

Monday, November 18 at 7 p.m.
at the cooperative office

Tuesday, November 19 at 7 p.m.
at the Millstadt VFW (upstairs in side room)



Twelve Thomas H. Moore IEC Memorial Scholarships available

Illinois electric cooperatives will award 12 scholarships in 2020 to financially assist deserving students in the electric cooperative family. The 12 scholarships, \$2,000 each, will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program. See page 20B for details.



Our office will be closed November 28-29.



**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING**

Kraft supports ACRE for 20 years

MCCEC board member, Larry Kraft, reached his 20th year of faithfully supporting the ACRE program. ACRE stands for Action Committee for Rural Electrification and is the Political Action Committee of NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) working for cooperative members. Congratulations, Larry and thank you!

If you would like more information on how you can support ACRE, please contact our office at 939-7171 or 1-800-757-7433.



Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial Scholarship Program

The Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program awards twelve \$2,000 scholarships annually to deserving students in the "electric cooperative family" entering college to assist them with their educational costs.

About the scholarships

- 6** scholarships are awarded to students who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2019).
- 4** scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2019).
- 1** scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, is awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2019).
- 1** scholarship, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship, is awarded to a student to attend the lineworker's school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL (deadline to apply April 30, 2020).

For more information about and to apply for the scholarships, visit our website at www.mcec.org/Community/Scholarships. Click on the link at the bottom.

Applications are online only.



Meet the Employees



Andrew Gotto
Apprentice Lineman

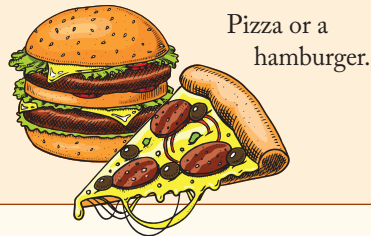
Tell us about yourself:

I've lived in rural Waterloo my whole life. My parents are Marlon and Jane Gotto and I have one older brother, Austin.

When I was a child, I wanted to be:

A farmer or a construction worker.

If I could have any meal to eat, it would include:



Pizza or a hamburger.

Describe the best vacation you ever took:

Float trips on the Black River in Lesterville, Mo. with family and friends.

Do you have a collection of something?

Nope.

What was your favorite thing to play as a child?

Anything outside in the dirt. I never have been interested in sports.

What do you see yourself doing after you retire?

Too soon to tell – 40 years away.

Summers donates time to veterans

On Sept. 18, Chris Summers, our tree trimmer, spent the day volunteering for the Saluting Branches program. Approximately 100 arborists joined to trim, remove and plant trees at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. This project helps keep our veterans' cemeteries safe and beautiful for all who visit. We extend our thanks to Chris!



MCEC line outages - September 2019

Date	Duration	# Out	Map Location	Cause Desc	Substation
9/1/2019	1:22	6	Nelson Ln	Unknown	East Carondelet
9/2/2019	1:52	3	Schmidt Ln	Unknown	Smithton
9/3/2019	4:50	8	G Rd	Other, Deterioration	Fults
9/5/2019	2:49	20	Grant Rd	Vehicles Or Machinery	Fults
9/18/2019	4:14	19	Lake Lucille	Other, Deterioration	North Waterloo
9/30/2019	1:10	2	Beck Rd	Vehicles Or Machinery	New Athens



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Office hours: Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Energy efficiency ideas to help reduce your winter heating bill

It's time to get serious about the approaching winter weather. We all have areas that can be improved in our homes to reduce winter heating bills and provide better comfort. Here are some ideas that you can use before frosty temperatures arrive.

1. Keep the cold air out and the warm air in.

Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doors to eliminate air leaks. Seal gaps in floors, walls, around pipes and electrical wiring. Close any vent to your basement or crawl space. Make sure your attic insulation covers all of the heated ceiling space, with at least eight inches of insulation depending on the material used.

2. Check or replace your heating system.

Change your air filters regularly, and make sure they are facing in the correct position for the airflow. Fix any broken or disconnected ducts, and seal joints and connections with mastic (not duct tape). If your heating system is over 15 years old, consider a replacement with a more efficient model. If you have a propane or gas furnace and an older air conditioner, replace the AC with a heat pump for better efficiency in both winter and summer.

3. Minimize the use of plug-in heaters.

No matter what the advertisements say, there is no "miracle" heater. Typically, a portable heater will use 1,5000 watts of power, which could cost 18 cents per hour to run. That doesn't sound so bad, but it could add up to more than \$4/day and over \$120/month if running continuously! Think about ways to keep an area comfortable without adding an extra heat source (see items 1 and 2 above).

4. Make minor lifestyle changes.

During the day, let the sunshine in by opening shades and drapes. Close them at night to retain the heat. Turn off lights, electronics and computers

when you don't need them. Unplug that extra refrigerator in your garage or basement if it's not stocked with food.

5. Ask us for helpful booklets on energy-efficient construction methods, evaluating appliance energy use, and no-cost energy saving tips. And, sign up for our free SmartHub app to see your daily energy use online!



MCEC rebates/rate reminder

MCEC offers member rebates for energy-efficient electric heating systems and electric water heaters.

Upon installation of the new equipment, contact our member services department for a site visit and have a copy of the invoice for the equipment.

Electric Heat Rebates:

Geothermal System.....	\$1,000
Heat Pump System (minimum 15 SEER).....	\$500
Electric water heater (minimum 50 gallon) replacing a gas water heater	\$100

Water Heater Requirement:

An electric water heater (minimum 50 gallon) must be installed to qualify for the above rebates and electric heat rate.

Rate:.....	Electric Heat Rate – Rate 16
Facilities charge:.....	\$45.00

Winter

Sept. 1 – June 1
1st 800 KWH @ 11.45 cents
Next 3200 KWH @ 8.65 cents
Over 4000 KWH @ 11.45 cents

Summer

June 1 – Sept. 1
All KWH's @ 11.45 cents

Incentives apply to permanently occupied residential homes on cooperative lines only.

Home energy audits available to the members at no charge. Call our office at 939-7171, ext. 115.