

# NEWS, NOTES & VIEWS 11/16



Apprentice lineman Joe Alexander competing in the Hurtman Rescue event at the Lineman's Safety Rodeo.

Linemen from Illinois Electric Cooperative participated in the 19th annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) on Friday, Sept. 30. This year 16 teams participated in the competition.

The rodeo gives linemen the opportunity to showcase their skills in front of families, friends and fellow linemen. It's a chance to network and show their pride in the special skill sets that keep our lights on in a way that makes sure they also return home safely after a long day or night of work.

*continued...*



## Illinois Electric Cooperative

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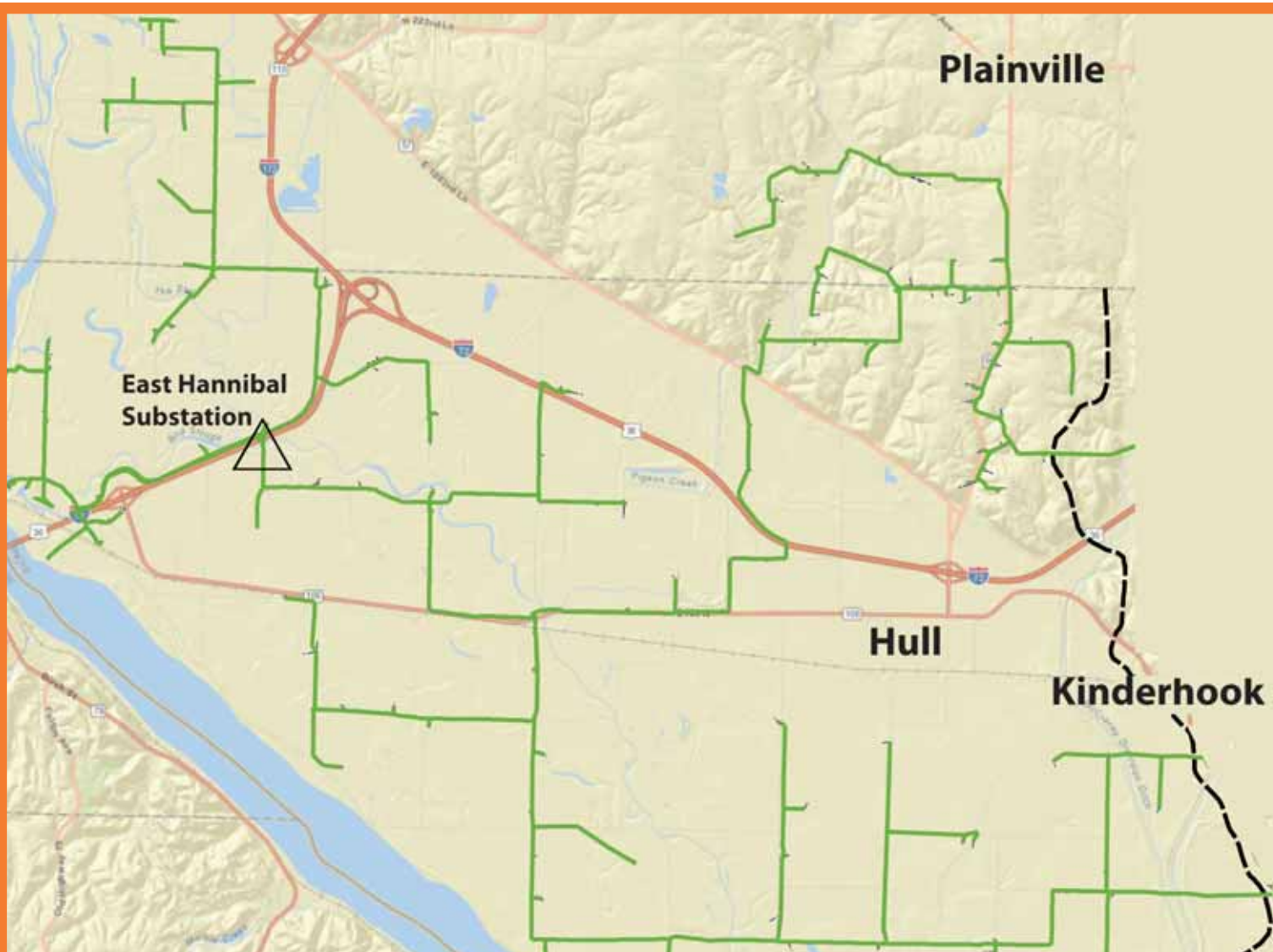
Apprentice lineman Ryan Little competing in the 19th Annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo.

Linemen Cole Hurrelbrink, Joe Alexander, Ryan Little, and Josh Davis, as well as servicemen Darren Hayn and Nathan Wegs represented the co-op at the rodeo. Overall, the co-op finished fifth out of the 16 teams. Ryan Little took first place in the Egg Climb event.

The Lineman's Safety Rodeo is held on the Chuck West Lineman Training Grounds at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) in Springfield. The college also offers an associate's degree and a certificate in Electrical Distribution Lineman, the majority of which is coordinated by the AIEC. Courses are designed for new linemen and to help existing electric line personnel improve their work skills in safe and efficient ways. Each year at the rodeo, teams of linemen from Illinois electric cooperatives participate in competitive events using skills that focus on agility, speed and accuracy. While these skills are part of the judging, above all the linemen are judged on safe work practices.

Line personnel competed in five team events and three individual events. Team events included Hurt Man Rescue, Egg Climb (linemen climb a 30-foot pole with a raw egg in their mouth), H-Structure Obstacle Course, and two Mystery Events. Individual linemen and apprentices competed in the Egg Climb, Hurt Man Rescue and H-Structure Obstacle Course. Scores for each event use a 100-point scale and are based upon completion time and proper execution of the task including safe work practices. Deductions were made to a team or individual's overall performance score due to such things as slipping when climbing poles, dropping tools or executing inappropriate procedures or methods.

See more photos from the Lineman's Safety Rodeo on our Facebook page at [facebook.com/illinoiselectric](https://facebook.com/illinoiselectric).



## Right-of-Way Clearing

Our forestry crews have begun right-of-way clearing in the green highlighted areas show on the map above. These operations consist of tree pruning, brush clearing, and/or tree removal. We will follow up with spraying in the area the following year. All of our personnel who spray have passed the IDNR tests to ensure full compliance.

Trees are an essential part of the environment. However, during storms they can cause outages and blinks for electric members. This is why the co-op does year round trimming and removal of trees in the right-of-way.

For more information on right-of-way clearing, visit our website at [e-co-op.com](http://e-co-op.com) and click on Tree Trimming under the Services tab. If you have any questions, concerns, or requests, please contact Roger Fletcher at (217) 742-3128 ext. 140.





# Christmas at the Pike County Lodges

Tuesday, Dec. 6th & Saturday, Dec. 10th

Four Pike County lodges will be decorated for the Christmas season and open to the public on Tuesday, December 6th and Saturday, December 10th. Christmas at the Pike County Lodges presented by Access Illinois Outdoor showcases Heartland Lodge, Lodge at Hadley Creek, Kinderhook Lodge, and Illinois Xtreme Lodge.

The tour includes a brunch, lunch, wine tasting, dessert and appetizers. Each lodge features a different floral designer who will have their creations for sale that day. A diverse selection of talented musicians will be performing a variety of seasonal music at each lodge. For more information call Access Illinois Outdoors at (217) 285-2464.

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