NEWS, NOTES

Illinois Electric Cooperative

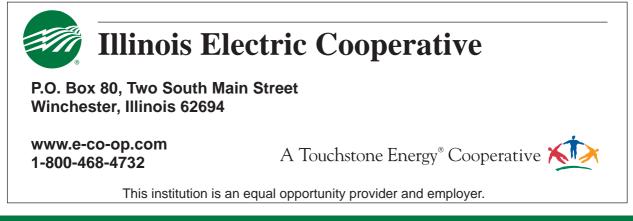
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Getting to Know Your Serviceman with Jamie Killday

Servicemen have unique jobs at the co-op: They spend much of their time working alone, behind the wheel across their defined sections of the co-op's service territory. Their work varies quite a bit day-to-day, and they're on call around the clock. Some of their duties include going out in the middle of the night to restore a

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member's power to assisting the line crews, to repairing line breaks and fixing security lights.

Jamie Killday is one of our five servicemen for the co-op. A Winchester native, after high school he joined the Air National Guard before enrolling at Lincoln Land Community College. Jamie has now been with the co-op for 33 years and maintains a portion of the service territory that spans from Beardstown to White Hall.

Today, he resides in Winchester with his wife Shannon. They have two children, Sam and Joyce, both who have worked as interns at the co-op while in college.

Speaking with Jamie about the duties of a serviceman, he shared that what he enjoys the most is serving the members. "I enjoy helping the members of the co-op and other co-ops after major storms," he said, referring to the times he's traveled to assist fellow co-ops in their times of need.

The co-op's continued efforts to improve the area comes to mind when he reflects on his career. Along with the core operations of the co-op, one specific program stands out to Jamie: The CEO program, an entrepreneurship program in Pike, Scott, Morgan, Greene, and Calhoun Counties for high school seniors that teaches essential life skills.

"Both of my children were in the CEO program that the co-op sponsors. I've seen firsthand how CEO teaches amazing skills they will use throughout their lives. If you know a high school senior, please encourage them to check out the program," he said.

When talking with Jamie, it's easy to see he takes pride in his work and the 33 years he's dedicated to the co-op.

Calhoun Fiber Update

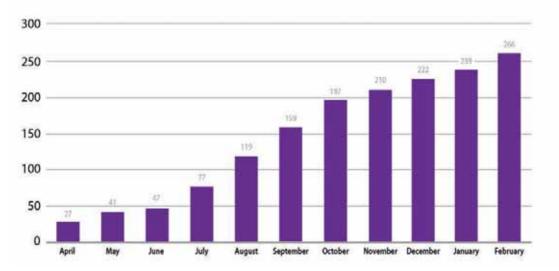
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Internet Technician Aaron Rodhouse working on an aerial install for a member in Calhoun County.

Co-op and contractor crews continue on the fiber build-out. Over the winter, we installed "temporary" fiber drops at some residences by laying the fiber on the ground. Now that ground conditions have improved, crews will return to these residences to bury the fiber. We will do our best to get all "temporary" fiber drops buried before mowing season. In the event we don't make it before the first mowing, please be careful to avoid the fiber on the ground.

We continue to make progress in our Connect Illinois program areas. We're currently installing members in Winneberg and Hardin construction will begin soon. Calhoun Fiber is a multi-year project. Once all is said and done, there will be 421 miles of fiber optic cable ran in Calhoun. Along with the significant amount of construction to be completed, easements are critical to the project. Easements can delay construction significantly. If you have not yet signed an easement, please do so and encourage your neighbor to sign one as well.

If you have any questions, we have an extensive Frequently Asked Questions section on *CalhounFiber.com*. We can also be reached at 1-800-468-4732.



Calhoun Fiber Connections



Text Message Outage Alerts

We're live! Sign up today!

Illinois Electric Cooperative recently launched a new text messaging service to keep our members more informed. If you did not receive the initial welcome text, sign up at <u>e-co-op.com</u>!



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