

THE GRID

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888-661-CMEC (2632)
Office hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

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Jeffery HudsonCharleston

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To Report an Outage
call 888-661-2632

Send your current email
to info@cmec.coop
for a chance to win a
\$50 bill credit



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Member Celebration & Annual Meeting

We are celebrating you, our members, on Friday, Oct 7th, at Peterson Park. This will be a hybrid drive-thru event with the option to stay for our meeting at 1 p.m. or listen live on Facebook or tune in on your radio to Victory 103.9. Enter the park from Broadway Avenue at the 5th Street entrance and follow the signs. Employees will be on hand to guide you or answer questions.

- Early bird registration available at 8:30 a.m.
- \$100, \$250 and \$500 bill credit drawings (need not be present to win)
- Boxed lunch available from **11 a.m.-1 p.m.** with seating in the Park Pavilion
- Bucket truck rides and Big Al's shakeups
- \$25 bill credit for registered members



CMEC employees are excited to participate in local parades once again!

The Power of Preparation

With severe weather events occurring more frequently, now more than ever it makes sense to be prepared. During a prolonged power outage or other emergency, this means having enough food, water and supplies to last at least a few days.

In honor of National Preparedness Month in September, we want to remind members of our community about the power of preparation. While you don't have to achieve a "doomsday" level of preparedness, there are several practical steps you can take to keep you and your family safe.

Even at a modest level, preparation can help reduce stress and anxiety and lessen the impact of an emergency event. We recommend starting with the basics.

Here are general guidelines recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- Assemble a grab-and-go disaster kit. Include items like nonperishable food, water (one gallon per person per day), diapers, batteries, flashlights, prescription medications, first-aid kit, battery-powered radio and phone chargers.
- Develop a plan for communicating with family and friends (i.e., via text, social media, third party, etc.)
- Have some extra cash available; during a power outage, electronic card readers and cash machines may not work.
- Store important documents (birth certificates, property deed, etc.) in safe place away from home (for example, a bank safe deposit box).
- Keep neighbors and co-workers apprised of your emergency plans.
- Fill your car with gas.
- Organize your supplies so they are together in an easily accessible location that family members know about.

Caring for vulnerable family members

If you have older family members or those with special needs, make sure they have enough medication and supplies for a few days. If they don't live with you, arrange for a neighbor to check in on them. If a severe weather event is expected, consider having your relative stay with you if feasible, otherwise call them daily. If you have an infant or young children, make certain that you have ample formula, diapers, medications and other supplies on hand to weather an outage lasting several days or more.

Keeping four-legged family members safe

Having a plan in place for pets in the event of a prolonged outage or an emergency will also help reduce worry and stress, especially if you

need to make a decision during an emergency.

- Bring pets indoors at the first sign of a storm or other emergency. Pets can become disoriented and frightened during severe weather and may wander off during an emergency.
- Microchip your pet and ensure the contact information is up to date.
- Store pet medical records on a USB drive or in an easy-to-remember location.
- Create an emergency kit for pets (include shelf-safe food, bottled water, medications and other supplies).

Amanda Lewis
At CMEC, we care about your safety. Planning for an emergency situation today can give you more confidence to deal with severe weather and potential outages in the future.



Shaking Things Up

Big Al's Shakeups was founded by Al Krietemeier in 1993 to teach his children about work ethic. After Al's untimely passing in 2014, his family continued to run the business, and it is now into the third generation. Over the years, it has grown and operates at more than a hundred fairs, festivals and special events per year in central Illinois. Known for their signature Big Al's Shakeups, they also offer funnel cakes, sno cones, cotton candy and fried Oreos. To keep up to date on their current location, you can follow them on Facebook and Instagram. Be sure to sample a shakeup at our Member Celebration on Friday, Oct 7th at Peterson Park.

Your CMEC Member Service Representatives



Kellie Moore



Kelsey Hawkins



Heather Hakman

60+
YEARS OF
COMBINED EXPERIENCE



Summar Smith



Julie Butler



Visit insulationinstitute.org for a great resource when considering adding insulation to your home or business and CMEC has a rebate. Forms can be found on our website: www.cmec.coop.

National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday, September 20



Visit www.vote.coop to ensure you're #voteready.

THE CHARLESTON AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PRESENTS



AFTER THE RACE:

BEER
GARDEN

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD
TRUCKS

PRIZE
DRAWINGS

GAMES

AND MORE!

THE 8TH ANNUAL
**TOUR DE
CHARLESTON**

TIMED RACES - AWARDS FOR ALL AGE DIVISIONS
BIB #'S, DISPOSABLE TIMING CHIPS, & SHIRTS FOR ALL
FOOD AND WATER STATIONS ALONG ROUTES
PROFESSIONAL RACE PHOTOGRAPHY

3 RACE ROUTES:

12.5 M
25 M
62.5 M

START AND FINISH LINES ON THE CHARLESTON SQUARE
WITH SCENIC ROUTES THROUGHOUT CHARLESTON
AND THE SURROUNDING ILLINOIS COUNTRYSIDE

SEPTEMBER
24TH, 2022

CHARLESTONCHAMBER.COM/
TOUR-DE-CHARLESTON



Find Your Name and Win \$50

Find your name hidden inside this issue of The Grid and receive a **\$50 bill credit**. Credit must be claimed by the end of each month in which this newsletter is published.

We will be closed
Labor Day

Coles-Moultrie Electric
Cooperative's office
will be closed Monday,
September 5th for
Labor Day.

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: cmec.coop

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Our faucets and appliances use a lot of hot water. You can lower your water heating costs by using less hot water in your home. Water heating accounts for a large portion of home energy bills.

To save energy (and money!) used for water heating, repair any

leaky faucets, install low-flow fixtures and insulate accessible hot water lines.

When it's time to purchase a new washing machine or dishwasher, look for models that are ENERGY STAR®-certified

Source: Dept. of Energy

