

Shelby Electric Cooperative sponsors “Youth Day” in Springfield and “Youth to Washington” tour

James E. Coleman, President/CEO and the Board of Directors of Shelby Electric Cooperative, will provide two students from every high school in the Cooperative’s service area the opportunity to attend the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives “Youth Day” **April 21, 2010**. During the day in Springfield, hundreds of students from Illinois will have an opportunity to meet with elected senators and representatives at the Capitol. In addition, students will tour the Old State Capitol and visit other sites. Shelby Electric will provide transportation and meals. Last year, 16 students from eight area high schools attended the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives “Youth Day,” representing Shelby Electric Cooperative.

Two of the Shelby Electric students who attend “Youth Day” will be selected to attend the “Youth to Washington” tour. Shelby Electric Cooperative will sponsor these two students on a weeklong, all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The “Youth to Washington” tour will begin on Friday, June 11 and conclude on Friday, June 18. During the week in the nation’s Capitol, the



Illinois contingent will meet with Illinois senators and the downstate Illinois congressional delegation at a Capitol Hill luncheon. Meetings are also scheduled with leaders of co-op organizations such as the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. In addition, there will be opportunities to tour many historic sites. For more information about the “Youth to Washington” tour, visit www.youthtour.coop.

Area high schools have been informed about “Youth Day” and the “Youth to Washington” tour. Each high school has been asked to select two students to represent their school at the Illinois Electric

and Telephone Cooperatives “Youth Day.” Students should be a junior or senior and the manner in which students are selected is determined by each high school. Any student interested in participating in the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives “Youth Day” should contact the Guidance Counselor at the high school. For additional information, contact Marla Eversole at Shelby Electric Cooperative at 217-774-3986 or 1-800-677-2612.



Mark your calendar

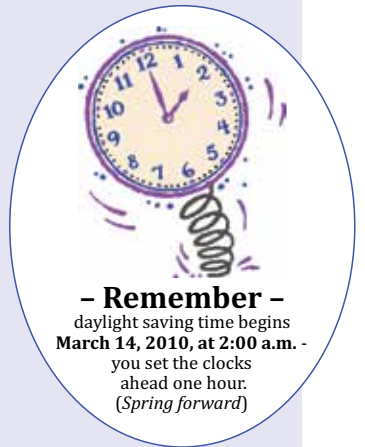
Shelby Electric Cooperative employees will be holding a rummage sale from 8 a.m. to noon on March 13. It will be held in the cooperative’s community room at the main office on North Route 128 in Shelbyville. ALL proceeds will go toward the cooperative’s safe trick-or-treat event, Spooktacular IV.

REAL LIFE REAL POWER

Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring! Spring clean your way into an energy efficient home

March is the month when daylight saving time begins (March 14) and the first day of spring occurs (March 20). Before you get too busy working outside, make time for some spring cleaning. Don't stop with putting snow boots into storage – make some changes that will help your home be more comfortable and energy efficient!

- Schedule a tune-up of your HVAC system.
- Change the dust-filled furnace filter before the AC is needed.
- Clean refrigerator coils.
- While dusting ceiling fan blades, make sure the blades are rotating for optimal cooling. EnergyStar.gov recommends, "In the summer, use the ceiling fan in the counterclockwise direction. While standing directly under the ceiling fan you should feel a cool breeze. The airflow produced creates a wind-chill effect, making you "feel" cooler. In the winter, reverse the motor and operate the ceiling fan at low speed in the clockwise direction. This produces a gentle updraft, which forces warm air near the ceiling down into the occupied space. Remember to adjust your thermostat when using your ceiling fan – additional energy and dollar savings could be realized with this simple step!"
- While cleaning, make note of any AC adaptors and battery chargers plugged in but not in use. Make a habit of unplugging them when not in use.
- Change incandescent light bulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Close the fireplace damper (unless you have a fire going, of course!!).
- Turn off the TV, computer and lights before heading outside to enjoy the spring weather and ex-daylight.
- Check and clean the clothes dryer outside exhaust vent.
- Consider putting up (and using) a clothesline.
- Clean lawn debris from around your outside HVAC equipment.



- Remember -
daylight saving time begins
March 14, 2010, at 2:00 a.m. -
you set the clocks
ahead one hour.
(Spring forward)

For more ideas visit www.TogetherWeSave.com

Counting Illinois – Census surveys out this month

The Census Bureau will be mailing out surveys this month and they encourage people to fill out the survey and return it.

In 2010, unlike past censuses, all households will receive a "short form" estimated to take only 10 minutes to fill out. The short form has 10 questions and sticks to basic facts, such as a respondent's age, gender, race, relationship to the head of the household and whether residents own their home.

If a household does not fill out their survey and return it, census takers will canvass areas, door to door, to get the information.

The census' main role, prescribed by the U.S. Constitution, is to determine how many seats in the U.S. House of Representatives each state receives. Over time, it's taken on far greater importance. The census serves as the basis for rebalancing power at nearly every level of government, distributing federal and state taxpayer money and even helping businesses decide where to build new stores or factories.

Residents can go to www.Census.Illinois.gov for up-to-date information regarding the Census and Illinois' efforts. The United States Census is taken every 10 years.

<p>Shelby Energy 1-217-774-2311 24-hours-a-day</p>	<p>PWR-net & WildBlue Internet 1-877-994-2323 weekdays</p>	<p>Shelby Electric Cooperative 1-800-677-2612 1-217-774-3986 24-hours-a-day</p>
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Girl Scout Cookies for the Troops, store-front sales event, March 13

Missed the door-to-door sales, already eaten all your cookies or just want more? Then be sure to mark your calendar for the Cookies for the Troops store-front sales event to be held March 13 at the Shelbyville Walmart from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Shelby Electric Cooperative, for the fifth straight year, has teamed up with the Shelby County Girl Scouts to ship these delicious cookies to the troops serving overseas.

“We will have several Girl Scout Troops manning the booth throughout the event. People coming by to purchase cookies will have a chance to register for great prizes,” said Kevin Bernson, spokesperson for the cooperative and project coordinator.

“If you’ve already purchased cookies and wish to donate them to this cause bring them by and we will make sure they get shipped out with the rest of the cookies. You can also drop off addresses of people serving overseas that you’d like to have these cookies sent to,” added Bernson.

Talk 101’s morning personality, Scott Busboom, will be broadcasting live on WEJT Classic Hits 105.1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. during this event and the Macon Speedway car will also be on display.

Shelby Electric, which is coordinating this project, has received community support from other area businesses to help with the shipping



Jodi Marty and Bette Lee’s (standing in back left to right) Scout Troop 3021 participated in the Cookies for the Troops store-front sale held last year. Lee is the Shelby County Service Area Product Manager and coordinates the cookie sales for Shelby County.

costs. These include: Monical’s Pizza, Macari’s Service Center, the Edward Jones office of Tad Mayhall, State Farm Agent Jeremy Jokish and Walmart, all of Shelbyville and R & K One Stop in Findlay (owners Gary and Chrissy Grant). Two businesses who wanted to remain anonymous have also contributed to the shipping costs.


Girl Scout cookie lovers can buy cookies for themselves; but to enter to win one of the prizes available on March 13, cookie buyers will have to purchase at least one box for the troops.

If you can’t make it to the cookie event and you have cookies to do-

nate, bring them by the cooperative’s headquarters on North Route 128 in Shelbyville and they will ship them to the troops.

For more information regarding dropping off cookies to the co-op, contact Kevin Bernson at Shelby Electric at 217-774-3986. If you want to have cookies shipped to a loved one or someone you know who is serving overseas, provide their name and address and submit it to the cooperative by using the “contact us” form on their Web site www.shelbyelectric.coop or drop it by the cooperative office.

Outage Report				
Date	Hours	Substation	Cause	Members Affected
1/5/2010	0.55	Richland	Power Supplier	644
1/5/2010	1.50	Shelbyville	Power Supplier	556



Energy Efficiency
Tip of the Month

When washing clothes, use less water by running full loads. In addition, approximately 80 percent of the energy used by washing machines heats water, so by using cold water and cold-water detergents you can cut a load’s energy use in half.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Global warming survey results

Coop urges members to stay in contact with legislators

If you've read your cooperative's newsletter, attended our Annual meeting in June or just paid attention to the news on TV or radio in the past few years, you've heard a lot about climate change and the impact proposed legislation and regulation could have on your energy bill.

"Cap and Trade" legislation is still in the news and has been debated in both the U.S. Congress and recently at a world conference in Copenhagen. Many of you participated in our direct mail letter campaign in 2009 and your voice has made a difference but we need to stay

engaged by following the issues closely.

If you have the chance to talk to your local legislators, continue to ask them where they stand on this issue. The easiest way to make your voice heard is to go to www.ourenergy.coop. Through this Web site you can let your elected representative know where you stand and that we need fair, affordable and achievable solutions to today's issues.

Here are the results of the survey posted in the December 2009 *Shelby News*. Thank you to all the members who took time to fill out our survey.

1. Do you believe in "man made" Global Warming?

62% of the respondents said they didn't believe, 21% said they believed and 17% hadn't decided yet.

2. On a scale of 1-10, how concerned are you with Global Warming issues?

While nearly 60% of survey respondents were not very concerned about Global Warming, just over 15% were quite concerned.

3. Do you think the United States Congress should be involved with Global Warming issues?

70% of the members who responded said that Congress should not be involved, 20% thought they should and 10% hadn't decided yet.

4. On a scale of 1-10, how concerned are you with the proposed Cap and Trade legislation?

Nearly 80% of respondents were quite concerned about Cap and Trade legislation.

5. If you believe in Global Warming and support Cap & Trade legislation, how much are you willing to pay in higher rates from legislation by Congress to

potentially reduce Global Warming?

Just 11% of respondents were willing to increase rates at all to support Cap & Trade legislation and potentially reduce Global Warming.

6. Have you expressed your opinion to Congress on Global Warming/proposed Cap & Trade legislation?

76% of respondents have contacted Congress to express their opinion of Global Warming/proposed Cap & Trade legislation.

7. Have you made an effort to become more energy efficient in your home during the past year?

Almost 100% of the respondents have made an effort to become more energy efficient.

8. Did you know your cooperative's Web site

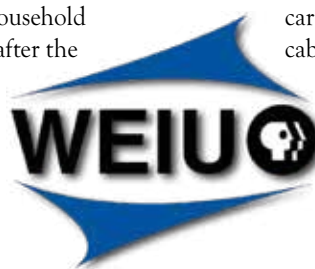
www.shelbyelectric.coop has a link to "Our Energy Our Future" and also to home energy savings tools? Almost half of the respondents who have access to the Internet are aware of the link to "Our Energy Our Future" campaign as well as the home energy savings tools that are available on the cooperative's Web site.

See "Power for the Parkinsons" on PBS!

The 57-minute documentary "Power for the Parkinsons," produced, directed and written by Dr. Ephraim K. Smith, will be aired on PBS station WEIU on March 15. Narrated by broadcast-news icon Walter Cronkite, the documentary tells about making the classic film "Power and the Land" in 1939-1940, produced by the Rural Electrification Administration. At that time, 90 percent of the nation's farms were without electricity, including the one near the Ohio-West Virginia border operated by Bill and Hazel Parkinson, the original film's central characters. The Parkinsons allowed Dutch director Joris Ivens to film their family for "Power and the Land" doing

their typical farm and household chores both before and after the arrival of electricity. Ephraim Smith said it's "the film and family that helped electrify the American farm."

"Power for the Parkinsons" tells the story that was repeated in Illinois and across the country in the 1930s and 1940s, as farms and rural homeowners received electricity for the first time. WEIU will be showing this historic program on Monday, March 15 at 11:00 p.m., and again on Tuesday, March 16 at 4:00 a.m. (Set your VCR or DVR!) WEIU is based in Charleston, Illinois, and is



carried on most of our local cable systems

as well as Channel 51 on DirecTV and Dish Network.

To find out if your provider carries

WEIU go to

www.weiu.net, then click on

"Program Schedule" menu tab and click on "Change Provider".

WEIU plans to air this program again in future months and we'll provide notice whenever possible to help more people catch a glimpse of our rural history.