

# THE GRID

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Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Phone: 217-235-0341  
or Toll-Free:  
1-888-661-CMEC (2632)  
Office hours:  
Monday-Friday  
7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

**Chairman**

Kent Metzger ..... Gays

**Vice Chairman**

Thomas Sherman... Humboldt

**Secretary**

Andrew Fearn.... Charleston

**Treasurer**

Mike Love ..... Mattoon

**Directors**

Jeffery Hudson . Charleston

Colt Roderick..... Trilla

Ed Voltenburg ..... Sullivan

**Interim President/CEO**

Jim Wallace

**To Report an Outage  
call #888-661-2632**

**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.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Youth to Springfield



Area students braved the weird weather in Springfield on March 5th to visit our Capitol and hear from legislative leaders. Students also visited the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and will have the chance to attend the Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., in June.



*Pictured from left: Alivia Hughes, Brayden Ray, Ames Drollinger, Katie Livingston*

## Annual Audit Review

CMEC completed an Annual Review in March. This is conducted each year, by an independent auditor, to ensure we meet all Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). This information is included in our Annual Report sent to members each fall prior to our Annual Member Celebration and Annual Meeting.

**Check out  
our updated  
website!**

[www.cmec.coop](http://www.cmec.coop)



# Futures Day at MHS

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year, and more often if there are pets in the home.

When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



Pictured from left: Student Kael Alexander and Lineman Bob Schafer



Pictured from left: Mattoon High School Faculty Member Jim Sledge & Lineman Bob Schafer

Cooperative employees Carla Bradbury and Bob Schafer enjoyed visiting Mattoon High School (MHS) for Futures Day. If you are interested in hearing more about our co-op and the lineworker profession, contact us at [info@cmeccoop](mailto:info@cmeccoop).



## A Phone Call Away

Our automated phone system options have been updated to include "outages." Members will have four options:

1. Press 1 to report an outage through our automated system.
2. Press 2 to make a payment through our automated system.
3. Press 3 to make a payment with a representative through our call center.
4. Press 4 to speak with a Coles-Moultrie representative for all other inquiries.

Members may also visit our website at [www.cmeccoop](http://www.cmeccoop) for additional assistance.

# SAVE THE DATE

10/03  
2025

## 85th Member Celebration & Annual Meeting

Friday, Oct. 3rd

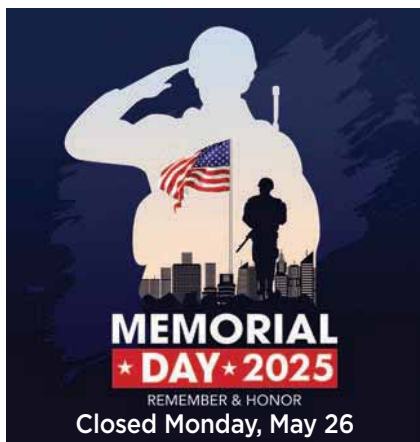
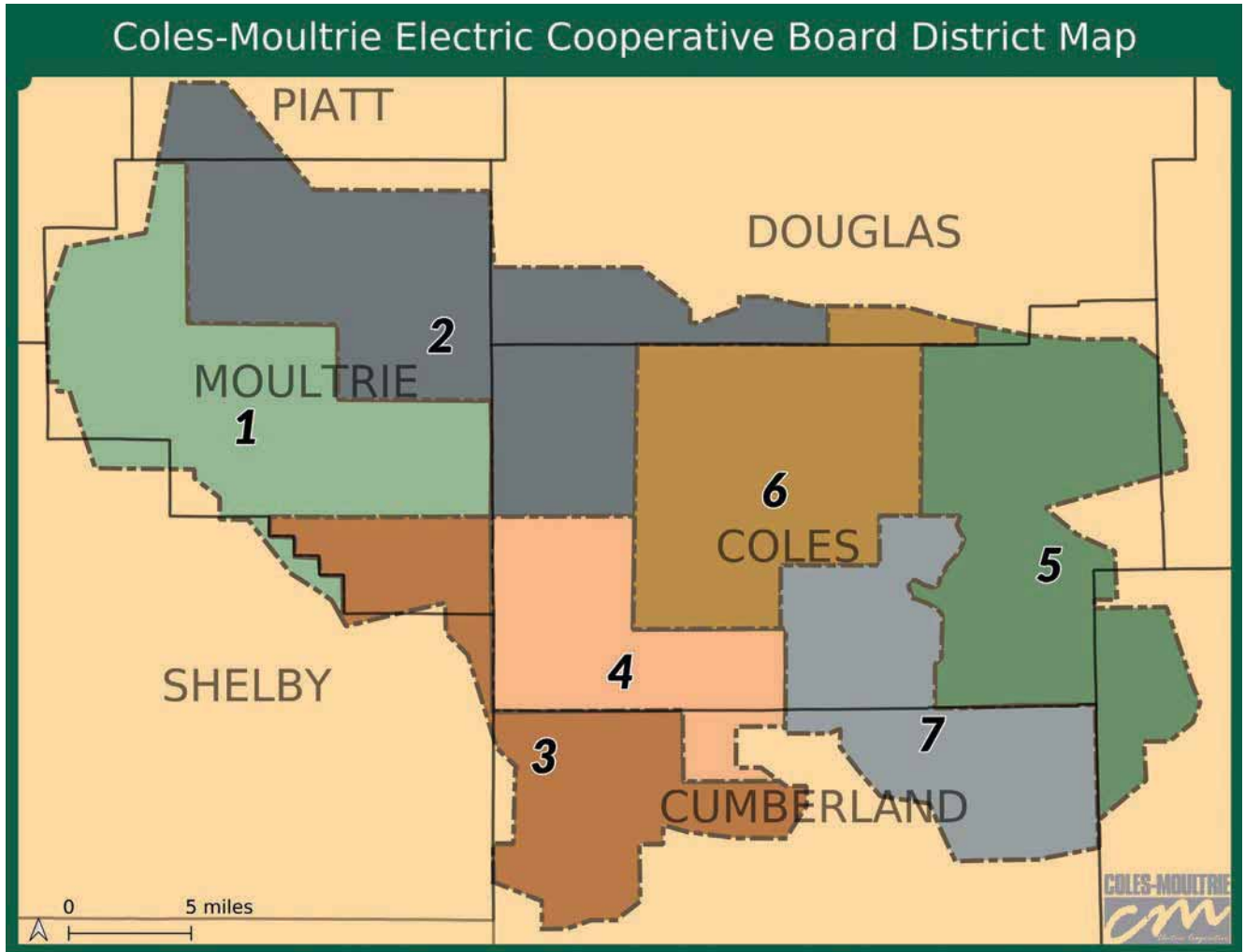
Peterson Park, Mattoon

# Board Nominations

Board of Director nominations are due to our office at 104 Dewitt Ave. E, Mattoon, no later than July 2nd. Director districts to be elected in 2025 are one and seven. Nomination is made by the petition of members in accordance with cooperative bylaws. Directors represent all members of Coles-Moultrie Electric

Cooperative, serve three-year terms, and attend monthly board meetings. The co-op is divided into seven districts. **Melinda Nelson**

We welcome any members from districts one or seven who are considering nomination to call our office at 217-235-0341 or email [info@cmec.coop](mailto:info@cmec.coop).



# Safety Improvement Plan



Safety is a fundamental value to our co-op and providing electricity for our members requires employees to focus on the welfare of all of us. CMEC wants our team to return home to our loved ones each day, which is why we continue to make safety a priority. We have a Safety Committee that meets regularly and sets goals each year. Our goals for 2025 are:

- Striving to be a safety leader in our industry
- Fostering dialogue around safety, including near misses, incidents, and accidents
- Continuing to make employee and community education a priority

Do you



“Watts” a good way to manage your contact information, track energy usage, and plan to conserve electricity to lower your bill?

Download the Smarthub app or visit our website at [cmec.coop](http://cmec.coop).



These eco-friendly options honor special moments without harming others or the planet.

Released balloons can go from heartfelt sentiment to significant hazard. They can harm wildlife through ingestion or entanglement, contribute to pollution as they eventually become litter, and cause power outages and safety risks by interfering with electrical lines.

## CONSIDER THESE ALTERNATIVES TO A BALLOON RELEASE

- Throw biodegradable confetti.
- Blow bubbles in a bubble release.
- Light candles or lanterns.
- Plant trees, hand out flowers or sprinkle flower petals.
- Dedicate a memory garden or bench.
- Paint stones.
- Donate to a charity to support a meaningful cause.

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: [cmec.coop](http://cmec.coop)