

SHELBY News

A Shelby Electric Cooperative publication • www.shelbyelectric.coop



Top: The 2024 Youth Day students were able to meet and talk with Senator Steve McClure during their time at the Capitol. Bottom: The students also engaged in great conversation with Senator Doris Turner.

For over 60 years, the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois have given tomorrow's leaders the opportunity to learn from today's public officials.

Each year, nearly 250 outstanding students from across the state receive an up-close and firsthand look at democracy in action when they meet their elected representatives during Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day held in Springfield. Over the years, thousands of students have learned how government works and why it's important for every citizen to get involved. State senators and representatives have the opportunity to inspire and encourage the leaders of tomorrow during this annual event.

Two high school students representing Shelby Electric Cooperative on "Youth Day" will be selected to take part in an all-expense-paid trip known as the "Youth to

Washington" tour. "Youth Day" will be held on March 5, 2025, and the "Youth to Washington" tour is scheduled for June 16-23, 2025.

If you are a high school junior in the Shelby Electric Cooperative service territory, let your guidance counselor know you are interested in attending "Youth Day" or contact Faith Wheeler at the cooperative for more information at 217-774-3986 or 800-677-2612.

SCAN CODE



FOR YOUTH DAY INFO



Elizsha Darnell
Easement Specialist

Employee News

The cooperative recently welcomed four new employees; Jason Rhodes, Thomas Campbell, Wesley Matthews, and Matthew Amerson. Also, Elizsha Darnell moved from Member Accounts to ShelbyFiber.



Jason Rhodes
Fiber Outside Plant Engineer



Thomas "Tommy" Campbell
Journeyman Lineman



Wesley "Wes" Matthews
Journeyman Lineman



Matthew "Matt" Amerson
IT Specialist

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Pay-by-Phone:
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www.shelbyelectric.coop

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Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



WHEN SECONDS COUNT



Shelby Electric Cooperative has teamed up with Air Evac Lifeteam to offer air ambulance service memberships to rural residents. Air Evac members who use the Air Evac Lifeteam service for critical emergencies will not receive a bill for the flight no matter how many times a year they use it.

Cooperative members can have the \$5 monthly membership charge added to their electric bill. To learn more or download an application, simply scan the QR code or call the office at 217-774-3986 or 800-677-2612.



Scan to learn more



smart hub gives you the power!

Did you know you can be notified by email or text message when you are part of an outage and when your power has been restored? All you need to do is sign up through SmartHub, which can be found on the cooperative's website, shelbyelectric.coop. Just sign in, click on **notifications**, and select **manage contacts**. After determining whether to receive notifications via email, text, or both, go to **manage notifications** and choose to receive outage alerts, as well as other messages. If you have not set up an account yet, you can do this at the same SmartHub link. You can find SmartHub how-to videos on the cooperative's website and Facebook page.

Download the SmartHub app for your smart devices from your favorite app store. You can report an outage, check your usage, communicate with your cooperative, and much more. Download it today!



**Cooperative offices will be closed
Monday, February 17
for Presidents Day**

GET SOCIAL WITH SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

INSTAGRAM

@yourcoop_sec



FACEBOOK

@YourCoop



X (TWITTER)

@YourCoop



Propane Safety Tips

- Handle any propane-powered equipment cautiously and always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Propane tanks for equipment such as stoves and ovens must be located outside of the home.
- Never store or use propane gas cylinders larger than one pound inside the home.
- Never operate a propane-powered gas grill inside the home.
- Have propane gas equipment inspected periodically by a professional for possible leaks or malfunctioning parts.
- Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions when igniting a pilot light.
- If you smell a strong odor of gas, leave the area immediately, call 911 from outside the home, and then call your propane provider.

Shelby Energy Company is an LP gas subsidiary of Shelby Electric Cooperative. You can reach them by calling 217-774-2311, visit their website at shelbyenergyco.coop, or like them on Facebook@ShelbyEnergyCo.



Shelby Energy Company



2024 scholarship recipients were, left to right, Jessi Wright of Taylorville, Jay Bliler of Taylorville, and Caroline White of Tower Hill.

2025 Scholarship Deadline Ahead!



As high school graduation inches closer, the frequency increases of hearing, “So, where are you going to college, and what will you be studying?” Probably a bigger question that arises is, “How are you going to pay for it?” Scholarships are a great way to help relieve some of the financial responsibility. Past Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) scholarship recipient Samantha McCue reminds high school seniors to not procrastinate. “Apply for as many scholarships as you can. Make sure you include all your high school activities, as well as activities outside of the classroom, that highlight all your skills and abilities.”

The cooperative will once again award three academic scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. Eligible students are sons or daughters of any current SEC member who is receiving electric service from the cooperative at the time the scholarship application is submitted. Students must be high school seniors pursuing a college education in the United States. These \$1,000 scholarships may be used for educational costs at any two-year or four-year accredited college or university, including vocational/technical schools.

Recipients are chosen based on academic and community accomplishments, character, and financial need as demonstrated in the application and essay. **The deadline for receipt of the completed applications for 2025 graduates is Wednesday, March 5.** The three scholarship winners will be notified in May and will be invited to attend the cooperative’s 86th Annual Meeting of Members on Friday, June 6 to be recognized.

In 2024, the recipients were Jessi Wright of Taylorville, Jay Bliler of Taylorville, and Caroline White of Tower Hill. “Offering these scholarships gives us an opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding youth in our service territory and allows us to give back to the communities we serve,” noted Faith Wheeler, who coordinates the program for the cooperative.

Another past recipient, Jodi (Miller) Clark, urges students to, “Always give 100 percent of yourself to the task at hand; whether it is homework, extracurricular activities, your job, or writing essays for scholarships like this one.”

Scholarship guidelines, official rules, and applications can be obtained by visiting SEC’s website, shelbyelectric.coop, and clicking on the “Community” tab. They are also available from area high school guidance counselors. Please call the cooperative at 217-774-3986 or 800-677-2612 and ask for Faith if you would like more information about this scholarship opportunity.

Now is the time to start filling out scholarship applications. **Do not delay, the deadline is fast approaching!**

Scan QR code for full details

