

Cooperative recognizes 2017 scholarship recipients

School is back in session, and the cooperative wants to recognize the three area youth who received our 2017 scholarships. The three winners were announced at the cooperative's 79th Annual Meeting in June and were awarded \$1,000 scholarships.

This year's winners were Abby Forlines of Moweaqua, Lawrence Curtin of Stonington, and Dylan Moon of Pana.

Forlines is a recent graduate of Central A&M High School and attends Richland Community College. After graduating with her associate degree, she intends to transfer to Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. She will be studying elementary education and aspires to one day become a teacher at Central A&M. She is the daughter of Eric and Tami Forlines.

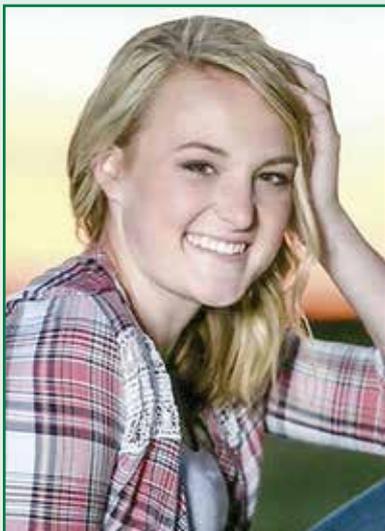
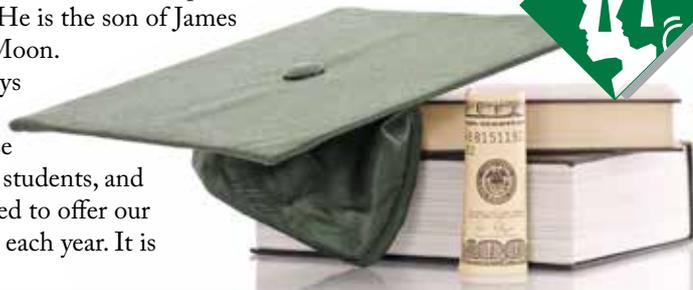
Curtin is a recent graduate of Taylorville High School and attends Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville to study business. With an entrepreneurial spirit, he hopes to someday become a business owner in the Taylorville area. He is the son of Greg and Connie Curtin.

Moon is a recent graduate of Pana High School. He also attends Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville to study computer science. He hopes to find a rewarding career in his field upon graduation. He is the son of James and Leigh Moon.

"It is always exciting to meet these outstanding students, and we are pleased to offer our scholarships each year. It is

one way we can give back to the communities we serve," noted Board Chairman Brent Lively, who presented the certificates to this year's recipients.

Information about the 2018 scholarships will be sent to area high school guidance counselors in January. You can learn more about this and other scholarships on the cooperative's website, shelbyelectric.coop under the "Community" tab or call the cooperative at 1-800-677-2612.



Shelby Electric Cooperative announced the winners of its 2017 scholarships at the 79th Annual Meeting of Members. This year's recipients, pictured from left, are Abby Forlines of Moweaqua, Lawrence Curtin of Stonington, and Dylan Moon of Pana.



Did you know?

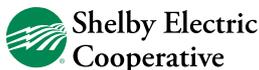
You can keep up with the cooperative on Facebook by going to facebook.com/YourCoop or follow us on Twitter, twitter.com/YourCoop.

You can also link directly to the cooperative's social media pages from the cooperative's website shelbyelectric.coop or via the SmartHub app.



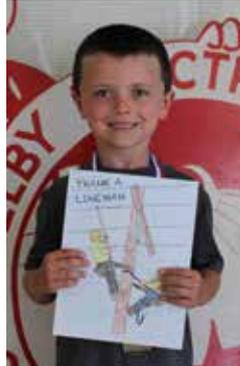
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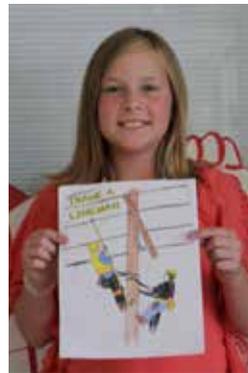
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE COLORING CONTEST WINNERS



SAWYER COLEMAN
AGE 4-6

TAYLEN CAUDLE
AGE 7-9



LIZZIE PARKS
AGE 10-12

This year, our coloring contest paid tribute to the men and women who keep our power on each day – linemen. We invited all children from ages 4-12 to help us “thank a lineman” by submitting an entry.

Out of 38 entries, Sawyer Coleman, 6, of Pana; Taylen Caudle, 9, of Assumption; and Lizzie Parks, 10, of Herrick put their creativity to work and were named winners in Shelby Electric Cooperative’s 2017 coloring contest. Our three winners took home a medal, \$20 gift card, and a toy bucket truck.

Every child who entered the contest also received a certificate, color-changing pencil, and lineman pen in the mail. “The kids took the time to thank our linemen, and we wanted to return the favor,” said Member Services Intern, Morgan Partlow, who organized the contest for the cooperative.

For more information about Shelby Electric Cooperative’s youth programs, visit the “Community” tab at www.shelbyelectric.coop.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Cooler temps will be here soon! No matter what kind of heating system you have in your home, you can save money and increase your comfort by properly maintaining and upgrading your equipment. Contact a licensed professional to inspect your system *before* the winter chill arrives.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

REAL LIFE  REAL POWER

Getting Real with Marla & Fake UL Certification

Fake fruit is not dangerous as long as you don't try to eat it. Fake product labeling is another matter and can be very dangerous, especially when dealing with electrical products. A hazard exists when an electrical product is labeled as though it has been properly tested and verified, but the label is a fake. Consumers should confirm electrical products are legitimately tested and certified by the Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Based in Northbrook, Ill., the UL is the largest and best-known independent, not-for-profit, testing laboratory in the world. The UL Mark is the single most accepted Certification Mark in the United States, appearing on 22 billion products annually.

As a result of the UL's work, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has recalled more than 1 million counterfeit electrical products. Some of these recalls included circuit breakers that did not trip when overloaded, cell phone batteries without a safety device to prevent overcharging, and extension cords that overheated.



Knowing consumers recognize and trust the UL label, some less-than-trustworthy manufacturers will falsely label their products with a fake UL certification. Fake UL labeling may take various forms, from being fabricated altogether to using a certified component to make the entire product appear certified. For example, a certified light bulb's label may be used to make an entire lamp appear to be UL approved. To help consumers verify UL label authenticity, look for these four distinguishing characteristics:

- The name and/or certification mark of Underwriters Laboratories (UL with staggered letters in a circle)
- The word "LISTED" or "CLASSIFIED" in capital letters
- Product identity
- A control number or issue number

Warning signs

After making sure the four characteristics listed above are present, consumers have signs they can look for to help spot fake certifications. Some examples are:

- If the letters "UL" are side-by-side instead of staggered
- The words "Approved" or "Pending" instead of "LISTED" or "CLASSIFIED"
- Product packaging that has grammatical and/or spelling errors
- Lack of manuals, documentation and manufacturer contact information. Legitimate manufacturers will usually provide a toll-free number or other contact information
- Be cautious purchasing electrical products from unknown sources, such as street vendors
- If the price seems too good to be true ... then it may be a fake

Additional resources

- CPSC offers email alerts for product recalls at cpsc.gov
- Verify UL Marks at verify.ul.com

Stay vigilant and stay safe!

~Marla Eversole,
Communication Specialist

Sources: *UL.com, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Electrical Safety Foundation International*

BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL

Sign up during the month of September and PWR-net will waive the \$99 installation fee!

Get Unlimited Data!

- fee based on basic installation
- some restrictions may apply
- offer expires September 29, 2017

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Cooperative**

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Balloonfest is just around the corner!

The streets of downtown Shelbyville will soon come alive with a festive flair, and the skies will be filled with the vibrant colors of hot air balloons as the 20th annual Scarecrow Daze takes place on Columbus Day weekend, October 6-8.

Shelby Electric Cooperative and several other Illinois Touchstone Energy Cooperatives have teamed up to bring the Touchstone Energy Hot Air Balloon Team to Lake Shelbyville for the 7th annual Touchstone Energy Balloonfest.

Pilots from around the Midwest will take to the skies with flights on Friday night and Saturday and Sunday mornings. After a cookout for charity and other festivities on Saturday evening, you can enjoy a nightglow as the balloons light up the night at the Shelby County Airport on Route 16 west of Shelbyville.

Mark your calendars now because you won't want to miss all there is to see and do on Columbus Day weekend in Shelbyville.

For more information about the



Touchstone Energy Balloonfest or to volunteer to be a crew member for a hot air balloon, contact the cooperative at 217-774-3986 or visit www.lakeshelbyville.com and click the event calendar. There will be a

schedule of events in the October 2017 Shelby News insert of the Illinois Country Living magazine. Follow the event on Facebook by searching Lake Shelbyville Balloonfest.



**Cooperative offices
will be closed Monday,
September 4th for
Labor Day**



Shelby Energy Company
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24-hours-a-day

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