

Plan to attend your Cooperative's 78th annual meeting on June 17th

You have a voice in your cooperative and by attending the annual meeting you will learn more about how your cooperative operates. Plan to attend this year's annual meeting on Friday, June 17.

Depending on the weather, the business portion of the meeting will either be held inside the 4-H Center or in the Show Arena at the fairgrounds located off North Route 128, just behind the Cooperative and the Shelby County Farm Bureau offices. You should have already received your annual meeting notice in the mail.

This notice contains information about the cooperative, a meeting agenda and registration information. As in previous years, a barbecue pork chop dinner will be served by the Shelby County Pork Producers between 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. with the business-meeting to follow at 1:00 p.m.

Bring the whole family and join us on June 17 for your cooperative's 78th annual meeting.



Your annual meeting notice was mailed in mid-May. ▲



See how the cooperative's two solar arrays are doing by visiting www.shelbyelectric.coop and clicking on the story under the Shelby News banner on the home page.



REMINDER: NEW OFFICE HOURS EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2016

In an effort to streamline all business units and better serve our members, Shelby Electric Cooperative, PWR-net Wireless Broadband and Shelby Energy Company will be open from **7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday starting June 1, 2016.**

Area third graders get certified as Super Energy Savers!

One of Shelby Electric's best friends, CFL Charlie, made an appearance at several schools throughout the cooperative's service area this spring, making sure all the students he met learned how to be safe around electricity and to become more energy efficient at home with his classroom kits. CFL Charlie's Super Energy Savers kits are classroom kits packed full of activities, lesson plans and materials for teachers and presenters to use with elementary students.

"The kids enjoyed the project Shelby Electric Cooperative's member services manager Heidi Hall brought to them and they really enjoyed celebrating their accomplishments with a visit from CFL Charlie said," Kris Daugherty, 3rd grade teacher at Taylorville Memorial Elementary.

"Mrs. Hall brought a lot of enthusiasm when she walked into the classrooms. She kept the students attention from beginning to end. The 3rd graders learned the importance of conserving energy and being safe around electricity both inside and outside the home," added Daugherty.



At the conclusion of the program, students were given a check-list to take home which includes some of the following items:

- Turn off all the lights every time you leave the room.
- Shut down the computer when you are done using it.
- Unplug electronics like cell phones, video games and televisions when not in use.
- Don't hold the refrigerator door open for long periods of time.

CFL Charlie poses with 3rd grade students from Pana Lincoln, Stonington and Taylorville Memorial Elementary Schools.

the cooperative," continued Hall. This is Shelby Electric's third year in offering the classroom kits to area schools. To date, this program has reached over 1,000 students. This year, participating schools included Pana Lincoln Elementary third grade, Taylorville Memorial Elementary third grade and Stonington Elementary third grade. It is extremely important to the future of our communities to teach kids about energy efficiency, and vitally important they learn about safety around electricity. Information learned could save a life.

~ Member Services Manager, Heidi Hall, works closely with area schools on various programs. If you would like someone from the cooperative to visit your school, give Heidi a call at 1-800-677-2612.

"Once the students have learned about electricity safety and energy efficiency in the classroom, Charlie sends them home with a task – reduce the amount of energy used at home," stated member services manager Heidi Hall. "When students bring their checklists back to school, they receive certificates, certifying them as Super Energy Savers.

"The kits are a fantastic resource and they are free for teachers from



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www.shelbyelectric.coop
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**Office Hours:
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense. *Source: energy.gov*

REAL LIFE  REAL POWER

Getting Real with Marla ~ Home Electronics

It is estimated that 10-15% of electricity used in homes in the United States is consumed by home entertainment systems and office equipment. The quantity of electronics in our homes has affected our electricity consumption more than any other item.

When “Off” doesn’t mean “Off” – The operating modes of On/Off are not like a light switch. “Off” can actually mean “standby.” Standby allows for convenience, such as remote controls, instant-on, clocks and timers not having to be reset. For example, we log off our computers and utilize sleep modes instead of actually powering down the system. We do not like the inconvenience of our electronics having to start up from being truly powered off.

Run your hand around your electronics that appear to be off. If you feel warmth, there is energy being used (and wasted) as heat. Also, if you see any lights, you can be sure that electricity is still being used.

Set-top boxes – These are the boxes supplied by the cable provider. These boxes can use as much power when they are not in active use as they do when they are in use. Ask your cable provider for their most efficient Energy Star model of set-top box. Additionally, if you have DVRs for multiple televisions, request a whole-home DVR for the main television and

a “thin client” for additional televisions. The thin client uses about three times less energy than a DVR.

Video game consoles – Gaming consoles have become quite popular and versatile, allowing users to not only game, but also play movies and stream video and music online. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, the annual energy consumption of video game consoles in the United States is estimated to be as much as the annual electricity consumption of all the households in Houston!

There are more efficient ways to utilize these game consoles. The console can be configured to energy saving modes when not in active use. If you no longer have the console’s instruction manual, search online to find your brand’s website or try searching this topic at www.energystar.gov.

Efficiency (or lack of) can vary quite a bit by brand.

- Nintendo Wii U is the most energy efficient overall.
- Sony Play Station 4 uses the most energy in active play



The infrared picture shows where hot spots are located; in this instance heat is coming off the satellite receiver and the Internet modem. This represents electricity in use or Phantom load.

mode (gaming and watching video).

- Xbox One uses the most of these three in TV mode and standby.

Something to be aware of, streaming content through a game console can use up to 10 times more energy than streaming through a laptop or tablet.

For optimal energy savings (but not necessarily convenience) unplug electronics when not in use or plug into smart-strips that can power off several items with the flip of one switch.

Of course, you and the kids can also spend more time outside doing activities requiring no electricity but burning off some energy, all the same!

~ Marla Eversole

Shelby Energy Company

1-217-774-2311

24-hours-a-day

PWR-net Broadband Internet

1-877-994-2323

7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Please leave a message after hours

Shelby Electric Cooperative

1-800-677-2612

1-217-774-3986

24-hours-a-day

Cooperatives participate in Youth Day

Senator Andy Manar and Representative Avery Bourne met with 16 students representing Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperative's Youth Day on Wednesday, April 13, in Springfield. More than 225 students from across Illinois had an opportunity to visit the State Capitol, view state government in action and question their legislators on key issues. They also were invited into the office of Secretary of State Jesse White.

"Elected officials always enjoy the opportunity to meet with students and learn first-hand some of their concerns, especially in this current political climate. Many of the issues debated in the Illinois General Assembly affect their future," said Duane Noland, President and CEO of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC).

During lunch, Treasurer Michael Frerichs addressed students, as well as chaperones, and challenged them to take an interest in the political process especially now that we are in a Presidential election year. Frerichs also encouraged them to follow their dreams and do what interests them because life can take interesting turns and twists along the way. Jyotsna Bitra, the 2015-16 Illinois Youth Leadership Council Representative from Corn Belt Energy Corporation, spoke about her experience on the Youth to Washington tour and challenged attendees to maintain an interest in their cooperatives and the political process. While in Springfield, the students also visited the Supreme Court, Old State Capitol and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum.

At the end of the day the students were interviewed for the chance to participate in the Youth to Washington Tour, which takes place from June 10 – 17, 2016. Of the 16 students, two were selected



*Pictured (L-R) are: **Front Row:** Senator Andy Manar, Kierstyn Albin and Rachel Ewing of Neoga High School, Samantha Hafliger and Alexis Gibson of Edinburg High School, Representative Avery Bourne, Marcail Clark of Stew-Stras High School, Brianna Creviston of Okaw Valley High School, Claire Reynolds of Meridian High School and Alisa Miller and Shayna King of Cowden-Herrick High School. **Back Row:** Caleb White of Meridian High School, Gabe Allen of Stew-Stras High School, Sterling Howard of Windsor High School, Nathan Goebel of Morrisonville High School, Levi Call and Jordan Sieger of Shelbyville High School and Landon Cina of Morrisonville High School.*

to represent Shelby Electric in Washington D.C. The two students selected were Marcail Clark of Stew-Stras High School and Sterling Howard of Windsor High School. Gabe Allen of Stew-Stras High School and Samantha Hafliger from Edinburg High School were chosen as alternates.

This marks the 57th year students have participated from Illinois. SEC has been sending students on the Youth to Washington Tour since 1967.

Youth Day was sponsored by the AIEC and is designed to introduce young rural leaders to state government. There were 24 co-ops from across the state represented at the event.

For more information about the Youth to Washington Tour visit www.shelbyelectric.coop and click on the "Our Community" tab then select "Youth Programs" or visit the cooperative's Facebook page at facebook.com/YourCoop or search Shelby Electric Cooperative.



Two students were chosen to go on the Youth to Washington D.C. trip in June. Pictured (L-R): alternate Gabe Allen of Stew-Stras High School, winner Marcail Clark of Stew-Stras High School, winner Sterling Howard of Windsor High School and alternate Samantha Hafliger of Edinburg High School.

