

July 2019

## **Empowering education**

## Shelby Energy offers a variety of youth programs

Shelby Energy Cooperative has always been driven by the desire to make life better for the people we serve and that commitment is about far more than keeping the lights on. Certainly, providing reliable electricity is paramount but we're also dedicated to maintaining vibrant, sustainable communities that our members are proud to call home. We want our children and generations after to live and raise their families here and continue to thrive in this beautiful region.

As an electric cooperative serving rural areas in Shelby, Trimble, Henry and surrounding counties, investing in our local schools is a major way we can contribute to the quality of life in our communities. From preschool to high school, we're working to empower youth through educational programs

Biologist Andrew Stevens introduces students to the Kentucky corn snake during a Conservation Clubhouse program at Eminence Elementary School. Photo: Melanie Morrow

designed to teach the importance of electrical safety, encourage learning and curiosity in the sciences and promote sustainable projects and energy saving that will help the students as they grow in to adults and begin to consider their own environmental impact.

When school resumes in the next few weeks, Shelby Energy Cooperative will once again head back to the classroom along with students. A few of the educational programs we're involved in this school year:

#### Safety and Career Demonstrations—

Shelby Energy provides age-appropriate programming that teaches students to use electricity carefully. Cooperative employees present classroom programs to teach children how to play it safe around electrical power lines

> and at home. For older students, we conduct a high-voltage demonstration using a 14-foot trailer equipped with a real power-line, meter and transformer. We are always available to discuss the variety of careers within our industry.

Cooperative Solar—The Cooperative Solar Farm One in Winchester provides a great opportunity for students to learn

about environmental sustainability and alternative energy sources and is available for field trips. At the farm, students can tour the 60-acres of solar panels and visit our pollinator condo, which provides a safe nesting place for bees and other pollinators. Shelby Energy representatives also enjoy the opportunity to discuss this program with students and encourage environmental stewardship from the classroom.

Conservation Clubhouse—If your student comes home from school talking about holding a snake in class, there's a good possibility a Shelby Energy representative visited that day. The program involves a biologist sharing with elementary school students the importance of environmental sustainability, safety, and renewable energy sources. Students enjoy the opportunity to see and touch non-venomous reptiles and amphibians that are native to Kentucky.

To request an educational program with your students, email coopservices@ shelbyenergy.com.

We look forward to empowering youth through education at your school!

Jack Bragg Jr. President & CEO Shelby Energy Cooperative



#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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#### **Shelbyville Office Hours**

Monday – Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mailing Address: 620 Old Finchville Road Shelbyville, KY 40065-1714 (502) 633-4420

#### **Remote Payment Centers**

Henry County Supply Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Riverside Smoker's Friendly Monday - Saturday: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Poppy's General Store 24 Equity Drive, Bedford, KY 40006 (502) 663-6028 Monday - Saturday: 6 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sunday: Closed

For information or to report an outage 1-800-292-6585

Visit our website at: www.shelbyenergy.com Email: shelbyenergy@shelbyenergy.com

#### Online Bill Pay:

Access your Shelby Energy account through our website at www.shelbyenergy.com.
Click on "Online Bill Pay" to view your electric bill and make payments by debit card, e-check, Visa or Mastercard.

All members signing up for new service with Shelby Energy receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Shelby Energy are automatically eligible to win a one-time \$20 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Shelby Energy member receives a bill credit on their next statement.

The new member survey winner for March is Stephanie Chamberlain of Shelbyville; the winner for April is John Rogers of Shelbyville.







Your Safety Matters

# Prevent injuries when using power tools

Summer is the perfect time to build a playhouse, power-wash the driveway or complete any do-it-yourself projects. Whatever is on your list, power tools make a job much easier.

Before using power tools, take time to look at your equipment and job site. The most serious hazard is electric shock. Power tool injuries account for more than 400,000 emergency room visits each year with many of those incidents involving electric shock.

Always inspect the electric cord for fraying and prong integrity before any

work begins. Use an outlet equipped with a ground fault circuit interrupter (GCFI) to protect from shock. If you feel a tingle in your fingers while using a power tool, stop working, unplug the equipment and find the cause. Tingling in your hands is a classic danger sign.

Never work in wet conditions and always lay down power tools in a dry place where they and their cords will not become a tripping hazard.

Shelby Energy Cooperative wants to make safety your number one priority!



## Don't touch the dial

It's so tempting to turn the thermostat down to freezing cold when you walk into a warm house on a hot summer day. Don't do it!

Setting the thermostat at a very low temperature won't cool your house any faster than setting it on the temperature that you regularly choose to feel comfortable. In fact, lowering the thermostat beyond the temperature you desire only makes your air conditioner run longer, not faster. You could end up paying more for an uncomfortably chilly house.

Here are a few other energy saving tips for summer:

- Install programmable thermostats, which let you set the thermostat higher for hours when the house is empty, but lower during your at-home hours. It takes less energy to re-cool your home when you return than it does to keep it cool while you're gone.
- Set the thermostat to 78 degrees. You'll save about 15% on your cooling bills over a 72-degree setting, while remaining comfortable. (However, if you have a heat pump, your thermostat should not fluctuate more than a degree or two; consult the manufacturer if you're unsure about your heatpump settings.)
- Keep lamps and other heat-emitting devices—like TVs and large electronics—away from the thermostat. Most appliances heat up when you sue them, so they can trick your thermostat into thinking the air is warmer than it really is so it should keep running when the house is already cool.
- Letting the morning sunlight into your bedroom will help you wake up naturally, but it will add to your energy bills during the day. Before you leave the house for the



day, close your curtains and window shades to keep the sun's heat out.

■ If you use room air conditioners, fit them snugly into the window frames and close all heating ducts to prevent cool air loss.

### Integrity

As your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative, we are guided by four core values. One of those is integrity. Across the country, local Touchstone Energy co-ops work to improve our members' quality of life by putting people first. Every day. And our not-for-profit cooperative delivers energy to our members at the cost of service.

That's the power of human connections





## 2019 **Shelby Energy** Scholarship Recipients

DISTRICT I



**Shelby Wallace** 

Martha Layne Collins High School

**Hannah Sanford** 

Shelby County High School

DISTRICT II



**Emily Sharp** 

Henry County High School

Bryce Wilson

Henry County High School

DISTRICT III



Lukas Weaver

Trimble County High School

Will Kunselman

Trimble County High School

Nathan Clifford

Trimble County High School Line Technician Scholarship

Congratulations!



## **Shelby Energy** congratulates Special Olympics Summer Games participants

Shelby Energy is proud to be a sponsor of the 2019 Kentucky Special Olympics Summer Games. The games were May 31-June 1 at Eastern Kentucky University and included competitions in track and field, aquatics, rhythmic gymnastics, bocce ball and soccer.

The motto of Special Olympics athletes is "Let me win, but if I cannot, let me be brave in the attempt." And brave they are. Shelby Energy would like to congratulate this inspiring group of athletes on participating in the 2019 Kentucky Special Olympics Summer Games!



Our office will be closed in observance of Independence Day, Thursday, July 4.

Please call (800) 292-6585 in the event of an outage.