



Clinton County Connection

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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Become a Co-op Voter

When was the last time you voted? As member-owned electric cooperatives, voting is already in our DNA. It's how we maintain an electric utility which is responsive to the consumers it serves. But voting also plays a crucial part in our representative democracy. Federal, state and local elections offer an opportunity to exercise a civic responsibility -- to select the best leaders for our communities. Yet in places all over America, even those served by electric cooperatives, citizens aren't exercising that right.

In the 2012 national elections, voter turnout dropped overall, but the decline in rural counties was 18 percent—twice that of the nation as a whole. And when voters miss the chance to vote, they also lose the opportunity to communicate their concern to our leaders about the issues that matter to us, where we work, live, and raise families.

Reliable electricity, access to rural broadband and the quality of our healthcare system are just a few issues we all care about. Still, they only become priorities if enough people show elected officials that they are paying attention. Registering to vote and voting are the most effective ways to send this message.

When we go to the polls with the cooperative principle of "Concern for Community" in mind, we instantly improve our political system. It's a system designed to produce a government "of the people, by the

people and for the people."

I'd like you to join me in a new initiative to get every eligible person registered to vote—you, our family and friends—and take the pledge to **BECOME A CO-OP VOTER**.

Clinton County Electric Cooperative has joined America's electric cooperatives in launching a campaign to help get out the vote and insert issues important to cooperatives into the public discussion. Called "Co-ops Vote," this effort will help boost voter turnout in areas served by cooperatives across the country to ensure that our voices are heard loud and clear every day, and especially on Election Day.

Here's what you can do to help. Visit the Co-ops Vote web site, WWW.VOTE.COOP, and take the pledge to **BECOME A CO-OP VOTER** to support your community and electric cooperative when casting your vote in 2016. The web site will give you information on your elected officials and candidates, the voter registration process, election dates and locations, and background about eight key cooperative issues we want our elected leaders to understand: rural broadband access, hiring and honoring veterans, low-income energy assistance, cybersecurity, water regulation, rural health care access, affordable and reliable energy and renewable energy.

Co-ops Vote is a non-partisan program developed by the National Rural Electric Cooperative

Association (NRECA), the national service organization that represents the nation's more than 900 private, not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives. With 42 million members across the nation, electric cooperatives are a powerful voice on national issues that have a local impact.

If you have any questions, please visit WWW.VOTE.COOP or contact us directly at 618-526-7282. I hope to see you at the polls!

Please remember, all initiatives we embark upon always have our members' best interest in mind. Providing our members with safe, reliable, reasonably priced electricity while providing excellent service will continue to be our goal. As always, if you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at Johnson@cceci.com.



Mike Johnson

\$2,000 Thomas H. Moore Scholarship Awarded

Madeleine Henderson from Wesclin High School was one of nine recipients of a \$2,000 Thomas H. Moore IEC Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship program is designed to assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.” It is also a way for individuals to honor deceased members of the cooperative family through memorial gifts.

Five scholarships are awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative. A sixth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, is awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director. Three additional scholarships are reserved for students

enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

Madeleine competed with 275 other students from across the state of Illinois. Candidates were judged on grade-point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities and a short essay demonstrating their knowledge of electric cooperatives.



Clinton County Electric Cooperative Chairman of the Board Vernon Mobesky is pictured with a recipient of the 2016 Thomas H. Moore \$2,000 scholarship Madeleine Henderson

Sons & Daughters of CCECI members are awarded scholarships

Clinton County Electric Cooperative proudly offers two \$500 scholarships to senior students from Carlyle, Central, Christ Our Rock Lutheran, Mascoutah, Mater Dei and Wesclin High Schools. The following sons and daughters of Cooperative members were awarded \$500 scholarships this past May on behalf of Clinton County Electric Cooperative:

Carlyle High School:	Asia Graham, daughter of Dedra Peters	Hunter Ebmeyer, son of Jennifer Morence
Central High School:	Emily Detmer, daughter of Jeff & Chris Detmer	Amber Gerdes, daughter of David & Stacey Gerdes
Mascoutah High School:	Alexis Perez, daughter of Mark & Kathy Perez	Rebecca Chicosky, daughter of Stephen & Karen Chicosky
Mater Dei Catholic High School:	Evan Schuette, son of Cliff & Christy Schuette	Bryce Beckmann, son of Mark & Tracy Beckmann
Wesclin High School:	Madeleine Henderson, daughter of Hank & Laurie Henderson	Nicole Fuhler, daughter of Mike & Lynn Fuhler
Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School:	Cameron Owen, son of Shane & Pamela Westfall	Anna Koen, daughter of Michael & Marie Koen

Congratulations to all of the sons and daughters of CCECI members who were awarded scholarships in 2016.

Prairie State Generating Campus

A Safe, State-Of-The-Art, Clean Energy Campus

Prairie State Generating Campus in Marissa hosted a group of Clinton County Electric Cooperative Advisory Committee Members, Board Members, and Employees for a tour on May 18, 2016. The tour started at the coal mine with an overview of the mine and its workings. The group then made their way over to the power plant where they were able to see how a power plant works up-close and personal. By the end of the day, the tour group departed with some interesting facts about the Prairie State Generating Campus including:



Clinton County Electric Cooperative Advisory Committee Members, Board Members, and Employees toured Prairie State Generating Campus.

- On-site coal mine produces nearly 7 MILLION TONS per year
- Over \$22 BILLION economic impact over the next 30 years
- 1,600 MEGAWATTS of power from two 800-megawatt units
- Provides 2.5 MILLION families with electricity every day



The Cooperative Office will be closed Monday, July 4, 2016 in observance of Independence Day and Monday, September 5, 2016 in observance of Labor Day. Although the office will be closed, you can still view your account information and pay your bill 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting our website www.cceci.com or by calling 800-526-7282.

CCECI sparks learning

On April 22, 2016, Linemen Mike Faust, Jacob Haselhorst and Foreman Brian Taylor were invited to the Corp. of Engineers' Earth Day celebration at Carlyle Lake to present a Live Line Safety Demonstration. The linemen spent the day educating approximately 450 grade school students and chaperones from across Clinton County on the power of electricity.



**EVERY MEMBER HAS A VOICE.
TOGETHER THEY WORK IN HARMONY.**

Every electric co-op member has a say in what's best for the community. Power to the people, from the people. Doesn't that sound good? Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at TogetherWeSave.com.

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