#### www.tricountycoop.com November 2024



Hi-Lites



## 15-Year Safety Milestone Reached

I am both proud and reflective as we celebrate a significant milestone: 15 years without a lost-time workplace accident. This achievement is not merely a number; it represents the dedication, vigilance, and commitment to safety that our team exhibits every day.

Working in the electrical industry is inherently dangerous. Our linemen face challenges and hazards that can arise unexpectedly. Each day, they put their skills and training to the test, ensuring that our community receives reliable power while prioritizing their safety and the safety of those around them.

This milestone is a testament to our robust safety culture, built on continuous training, regular safety drills, and a team that looks out for one another. We also want to extend our gratitude to all our cooperative members for your vigilance in reporting electrical hazards. Your commitment to safety and willingness to speak up when something doesn't seem right makes a real difference in keeping our community safe. We've fostered an environment where safety is not just a priority; it's a core value.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of our employees and the Board of Directors for their unwavering dedication to safety and for their tireless efforts in keeping the lights on for our members. Your commitment and hard work make all the difference.

While we celebrate this success, we understand that the potential for accidents is always present. We remain committed to learning from every experience and improving our safety practices. Here's to many more years of providing safe, reliable, and affordable electricity.

Luke Johnson General Manager



#### MISSION STATEMENT

To safely provide our member-owners with reliable electric service, superior customer service, and practical energy solutions, all at reasonable prices.

3906 Broadway Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

618-244-5151 Toll-Free: 800-244-5151 Fax: 618-244-1496 Pay by phone: 844-968-1991

Mt. Vernon Office Hours Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Salem Office Hours Tuesday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Closed 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.)

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Sam Phillips - Salem

Vice-President Doug Knolhoff - Hoyleton

Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Withers - Mt. Vernon

Michelle Barbee - Salem Tom Beyers - Odin Jordan Brink - Richview Phil Carson - Oakdale Christopher Johnson - Belle Rive Donnie Laird - Waltonville

## 17 Scholarships Available!

The electric cooperatives of Illinois will award 17 scholarships, each worth \$2,500, to outstanding students from the electric cooperative family through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

• Ten scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors whose parent(s) are Illinois electric co-op members, giving these students a bright start on their educational journey.

• The Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship is reserved for a student whose parent is an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director, honoring the legacy of service within our cooperative family.

• Five scholarships are dedicated to students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college, who are also children of an electric cooperative member in Illinois.

• The LaVern and Nola McEntire Memorial Lineworker's Scholarship is designed for those ready to light up the world by pursuing a career in linework and are enrolled or plan to enroll at Lincoln Land Community College's lineworker program. This scholarship supports students of co-op members, relatives of employees or directors, and those who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces or National Guard.

Don't miss out on this opportunity! The general scholarship application deadline is Dec. 31, 2024, and the lineworker scholarship is due by April 30, 2025. For more information, reach out to Tri-County Electric Cooperative or visit tricountycoop.com/scholarships.





## Shelled Georgia Mascot Brand Pecans are in stock at Tri-County Electric Cooperative!



In stock: 16 oz. Mammoth Pecan Halves \$11.00 16 oz. Medium Pecan Pieces \$10.75

Other nuts to be shipped in November include: 12 oz. Roasted & Salted Jumbo Cashews 4 oz. Pecan Log 8 oz. Pecan Caramel Clusters 12 oz. Chocolate Covered Pecans

Nuts are available, while supplies last, during regular business hours at both office locations of the cooperative.

Mascot Pecans are great for baking, giftgiving, or snacking! The proceeds from the employee Mascot Pecan Fundraiser are donated to community organizations that serve the membership of Tri-County Electric Cooperative.

Cooperative offices will be closed on: Nov. 11th - Veteran's Day

Thank you for your service, Veterans! **Nov. 28th-29th - Thanksgiving** Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!







## Crockpot Apple Cider

### Ingredients :

- 8 cups apple juice
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 4 cinnamon sticks
- 1/2 teaspoon whole allspice
- 1 teaspoon whole cloves
- 1 orange sliced

Garnishes: cinnamon sticks, sliced apples, oranges, and cranberries

## Homemade Apple Sauce

## Ingredients :

- 6 lb. apples, peeled, cored, and cut into 8 slices
- 1 c. apple juice or cider
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1/2 c. brown sugar, packed
- 1 tsp. cinnamon, more or less to taste.

## Procedure :

#### STEP 1

 Place the apple juice, brown sugar, cinnamon sticks, allspice, cloves, and orange in a slow cooker.

#### STEP 2

 Cook on high for 1 1/2 hours or low for 3 hours. Remove whole spices and orange slices. Serve, garnished with cinnamon sticks, apples, oranges, and cranberries, if desired.

## Procedure :

#### STEP 1

• Combine all ingredients in a large pot and cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, for 25 minutes.

#### STEP 2

 Let cool and then puree in a food processor or blender until smooth. Store in the fridge and serve by itself or serve over pork chops!







## Make your voice count

Take the pledge to vote this election year.

#### Visit vote.coop to take the pledge.

Co-ops across the nation are dedicated to making our voices heard at the polls. Collectively we can make a difference.



It is important for the cooperative community's voice to be heard on all issues, especially for safe, affordable, and reliable electricity. Don't forget to make your voice heard on Tuesday, November 5th, 2024! For more information about **Co-ops Vote**, visit vote.coop.

# HELP KEEP SAFE

Lineworkers take great pride in providing safe and reliable service, but their job involves working around high-voltage power lines in all kinds of weather conditions.



## DO YOUR PART TO HELP KEEP LINEWORKERS SAFE



Never plug a generator into an indoor or outdoor wall outlet. which can cause voltage to back feed.



Workers need to efficiently and safely restore power when it goes out; please be patient.



Do not post signs on a utility pole, especially with staples and nails, which can puncture protective gear.



Slow down and move over in utility work zones. Crowding workers can cause accidents.

