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(Salem Office closed from  
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### Mission Statement

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

## You Have A Voice



**Marcia Scott**  
General Manager

Did you vote in the 2016 elections? If so, you were one of 500,000 MORE voters in cooperative territories that went to the polls. You helped turn the tide of decreasing voter turnout in rural areas like ours...and our elected officials took notice!

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 government. Federal, state and local elections offer an opportunity to exercise a civic responsibility -- to select the best leaders for our communities.

This year is going to be an interesting and important election year, and electric cooperatives have the opportunity to play a vital role in encouraging rural voter turnout and engaging on issues that matter in our community.

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, rural infrastructure and access to rural broadband are just a few of the issues we all care about. These issues will only become priorities if we continue to express our concerns to our elected officials. Registering to vote and showing up to the polls on Election Day 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." People like you and me.

Tri-County Electric Cooperative has (once again) joined America's electric cooperatives in continuing the Co-ops Vote campaign to help get out the vote and insert issues important to co-ops and our communities into the public discussion. This effort will ensure that our voices are heard loud and clear every day, and especially on the next Election Day.

Here's what you can do to help. Ensure you're registered to vote right now. Then, encourage your friends

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## Cookie Sheet Cake

*This recipe was submitted by long-time employee Thelma Boswell in the 1975 Tri-County Electric Cooperative Cookbook.*

### Ingredients

2 c. flour  
2 c. sugar  
1 tsp. salt  
1/2 c. oleo\*  
1/2 c. oil  
3 T. cocoa  
1 c. water  
2 eggs  
1/2 c. buttermilk  
1 tsp. baking soda

### Directions

Mix flour, sugar, and salt. Set aside. Combine oleo\*, oil, cocoa and water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and pour into flour mixture. Mix very well. Add the eggs, milk and baking soda. Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet or flat pan at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.

### Icing for Cookie Sheet Cake

1/2 c. oleo\*  
1 box powdered sugar (3.5 c.)  
3 T. cocoa  
1 tsp. vanilla  
6 T. milk  
1/2 c nuts (optional)

Mix all ingredients and beat until smooth. Ice cake as soon as it is taken from the oven.

\*Oleo is another term for margarine.

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and family to register too. Visit the Co-ops Vote web site, [WWW.VOTE.COOP](http://WWW.VOTE.COOP), to get information on how to register and to learn more about your elected officials.

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.

## Representative Terri Bryant Receives Illinois Electric Cooperative Public Service Award

At the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives' annual meeting, held Friday, July 27th, State Representative Terri Bryant, R-115th District, received the 2018 Illinois Electric Cooperatives' Public Service Award.

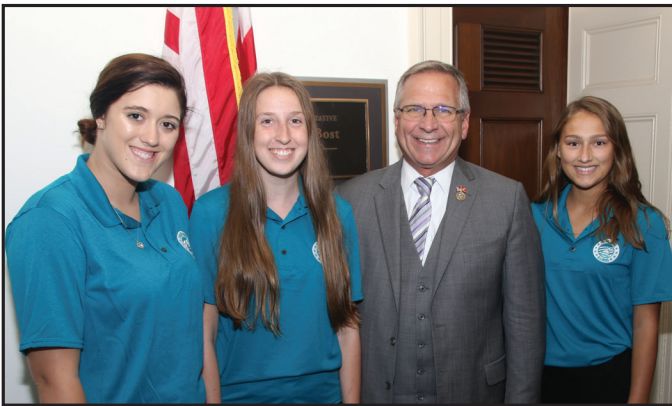
The award was given in recognition of Rep. Bryant's dedicated public service to all citizens of the state of Illinois and for outstanding contributions to the rural electrification program.

Since the award's inception in 1980, the Illinois Electric Cooperative Association has awarded thirty-eight recipients this prestigious honor, including former Senator John O. Jones (2005) and Congressman John Shimkus (2000).



*Pictured from left: Tri-County Electric Cooperative (TCEC) President Greg Vieira, NRECA President and TCEC Director Phil Carson, TCEC Director Tom Beyers, Representative Terri Bryant, TCEC Director Rick Russell, TCEC General Manager Marcia Scott and TCEC Secretary/Treasurer Sam Phillips*





*Pictured from left: Abby Kempfer, Rebekah Marlow, Congressman Mike Bost and Karli Rose*



*Pictured from left: Rebekah Marlow, Congressman John Shimkus, Abby Kempfer and Karli Rose*

What do you get when 71 students from 27 Illinois electric and telephone cooperatives join more than 1,800 of their peers across the United States? You get the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth to Washington Tour.

Three local students were selected from a diverse group of applicants to represent Tri-County Electric Cooperative to enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. from June 8-15 as part of the annual Youth Tour.

The 2018 Youth Tour delegates from Tri-County Electric included Abby Kempfer of Washington County, Rebekah

Marlow of Jefferson County and Karli Rose of Marion County.

The students toured Capitol Hill and met with U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, Congressman Mike Bost and Congressman John Shimkus. They also visited historical and cultural sites including Arlington National Cemetery, the Supreme Court, Newseum, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, a variety of memorials and the U.S. Capitol. Among fun activities the students enjoyed were the Marine Corps Sunset Parade, the Smithsonian Museums and an assembly of Youth Tour participants from across the nation.

“Youth Tour is a great op-

portunity that changes these students’ lives,” says Marcia Scott, General Manager of Tri-County Electric. “This experience helps prepare them for their futures. After touring our nation’s capital, meeting congressional representatives and learning firsthand how our government works, they return home with valuable knowledge and memories that will last a lifetime.”

Since 1964, the nation’s cooperative electric and telephone utilities have sponsored more than 60,000 high school students to visit Washington, D.C. To learn more about the Youth to Washington Tour, go to [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop).

# CO-OPS VOTE

A PROGRAM OF AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES  
VOTE.COOP



America's Electric Cooperatives understand what's important to our homes and our communities, and we understand that registering to vote and voting in every

election is vital to protecting our way of life. So is building relationships with elected officials, so they understand the unique issues we face.

**Co-ops Vote** is designed to boost voter turnout, develop relationships with candidates and elected officials, and ensure that issues that matter in rural America are heard everywhere, from local councils all the way up to the U.S. Capitol.

**Co-ops Vote** provides the tools to help build those relationships and educate co-op employees, directors and consumer members prior to hitting the polls for every election.

Please join us, and make sure our elected leaders know that we expect them to represent all the people electric cooperatives serve. Learn more at [vote.coop](https://vote.coop).

Follow **CO-OPS VOTE** on social media and stay updated



@CoopsVote

## WHAT IS CO-OPS VOTE?

**Co-ops Vote** is a non-partisan campaign focused on enhancing the political strength of electric cooperatives through relationship building and voter engagement. The main goal of the campaign is to boost voter turnout in cooperative areas, making sure that our members exercise one of their most basic rights - the right to vote. Working in collaboration with states and local co-ops, this effort will educate and engage candidates and voters on important issues like:

- Expanding broadband coverage throughout rural America.
- Ensuring continued access to reliable electricity.
- Promoting the work of co-ops within the communities they serve.

## AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

- ✓ **833** distribution and **62** G&T cooperatives, a total of **905** co-op members.
- ✓ Serve a total of **42 million** people in **47 states**.
- ✓ Generate 5% of the total electricity in the United States.
- ✓ Own and maintain **2.6 million miles** or **42%** of the nation's electric distribution lines, covering **56%** of the U.S. landmass.
- ✓ Serve **19 million**, businesses, homes, schools, churches, farms, irrigation systems, and other establishments in **88% of US counties**.



## WHY IS THE CO-OPS VOTE PROGRAM IMPORTANT?

- We must elect public officials who identify with America's Electric Cooperatives and will vote to support the issues important to 42 million electric cooperative members across the nation.
- Electric cooperatives are a trusted resource in the communities we serve. Voters want to hear from community leaders (like electric co-ops) about important issues.

For more information on **Co-ops Vote** please visit [vote.coop](https://vote.coop) or [cooperative.com/coopsvote](https://cooperative.com/coopsvote).

*Cooperative offices will be closed on Monday, September 3rd in observance of Labor Day.*