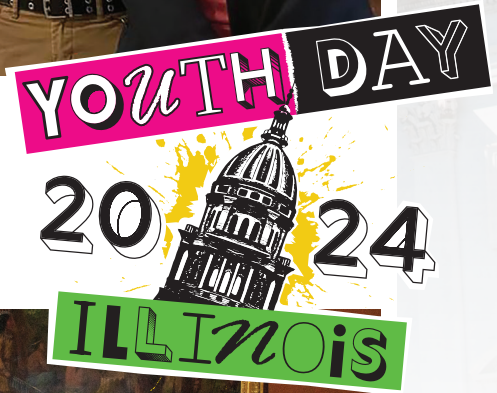




During 2023's "Youth Day," the students ran into Comptroller Susana Mendoza at the Illinois State Capitol. She was kind enough to pose for a photo!



Youth Day just around the corner

For over 60 years, the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois have given tomorrow's leaders the opportunity to learn from today's public officials. Each year, nearly 250 outstanding students from across the state receive an up-close and firsthand look at democracy in action when they meet their elected representatives during Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day. Over the years, thousands of students have learned how government works and why it's important for every citizen to get involved. State senators and representatives have the opportunity to inspire and encourage the leaders of tomorrow during this annual event held in Springfield.

Two high school students representing Shelby Electric Cooperative on "Youth Day" will be selected to take part in an all-expense-paid trip known as the "Youth To Washington" tour. "Youth Day" will be held on March 20, 2024 and the "Youth to Washington" tour is scheduled for June 14-21, 2024.

If you are a high school junior in the Shelby Electric Cooperative service territory, let your guidance counselor know you are interested in attending "Youth Day" or contact the cooperative for more information at 800-677-2612.



Shelby Electric Cooperative "Youth Day" participants with Senator Doris Turner at the Illinois State Capitol.

SCAN CODE

FOR YOUTH DAY INFO



BEST BETS FOR Winter Savings

Energy consumption spikes during winter months as we spend more time indoors and heating systems work overtime. You can help reduce demand and strain on the electric grid by conserving during peak energy times. Reducing energy use will also help lower your energy bills.

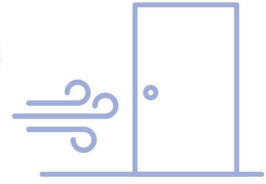
UNPLUG WHEN POSSIBLE



Turn off unnecessary lights and electronics when you aren't using them.

ELIMINATE DRAFTS AND AIR LEAKS

Seal air leaks and drafts around windows and exterior doors.



USE APPLIANCES WHEN ENERGY DEMAND IS LOWER

Run large appliances like clothes washers, dryers and dishwashers early in the morning or before you go to bed.



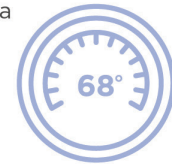
MAINTAIN HEATING EQUIPMENT



Maintain your heating system by replacing dirty, clogged filters and scheduling an annual inspection for necessary maintenance.

LOWER THE THERMOSTAT

Home heating accounts for a large portion of energy consumption. Adjust your thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting (68 degrees or lower).




SHELBY News

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

 **Shelby Electric Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Area rugs are an easy, cost-effective solution to cold floors. Adding area rugs to hard-surface flooring can add warmth to any room and keep your feet cozy on cold winter days.

Choose rugs made from wool or other natural fibers and plush or high-pile textures for the most insulation. Place rugs in areas where you need additional warmth, like the foot of a bed or under a coffee table. Area rugs can enhance the aesthetic of your home and keep you cozier.



Look out for galloping lines

High winds and ice build up can affect power lines in a way that makes them gallop. When this disproportionate buildup occurs, it changes the flow of air around the power line, which can then cause it to start bouncing or galloping. This galloping can potentially damage the lines, cause power outages, and even result in the lines falling to the ground.

Once galloping starts, there is not much a power company can do to stop it until winds die down. This is why some power lines have objects, like twisted wire or pieces of metal attached to the line. These devices are placed on power lines to help reduce the galloping of lines and prevent potential danger. While this can help, sometimes they are no match for severe ice buildup and whipping winds.

Stay away from galloping lines. If you see galloping or downed lines, contact your utility as soon as possible. It is also important to keep your distance from downed power lines and equipment, as it is impossible to visually assess if the line is energized. Exercise caution while driving during adverse weather conditions and be prepared for a power outage at home.

Be sure to have a storm preparedness kit ready before a storm strikes to help get you and your family through a power outage. This kit should include bottled water, nonperishable food, blankets, warm clothing, first aid kit/medicine, flashlight, radio, extra batteries, and toiletries.



Ice buildup on power lines and poles, plus high winds, can cause galloping lines and poles to fall.

Aside from ice storms, year-round storms can cause damaging winds, which can knock down power lines along with blowing trees and limbs onto the lines. Keep the following safety tips in mind:

- ❄️ When you see a power line on the ground, stay away, warn others to stay away and contact the electric utility or call 911. Lines do not have to be arcing or sparking to be live.
- ❄️ Any utility wire, including telephone or cable lines that are sagging or down, could be in contact with an energized power line, also making it dangerous. Do not try to guess the type of line — stay away from all lines.
- ❄️ Be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide electrical hazards. Downed

power lines can energize objects around them, such as chain-link fences and metal culverts.

- ❄️ Keep in mind that a dead line could become energized during power restoration efforts or with improper use of generators.
- ❄️ Never drive over a downed line. It could start a chain reaction and cause additional poles or other equipment to collapse.
- ❄️ If you are in a car that has contacted or is near a downed power line, stay in your vehicle. Wait until the utility crew has arrived and deenergized the line. Warn others not to approach the car.
- ❄️ Only exit a car or cab near or on downed lines if there is a fire. If this happens, cross your arms over your chest and make a solid jump out and away from the car with both feet together. Then hop away at least 50 feet or more while continuing to keep both feet together.



Utilities become concerned when ice builds up to a quarter inch or greater.

For more electrical safety information, visit SafeElectricity.org.

Shelby Energy Company

Like father, like son

If you know Larry Danneberger at all, you probably would not have guessed he retired from Shelby Energy Company (SEC) as the Office Manager. Due to some staffing changes, Danneberger found himself doing just that. Between his familiarity with the billing software and the relationships he has with SEC customers, it was the perfect fit. His move from Propane Technician and Driver to being in the office filled a void, and he was able to provide training to two new inside employees.

So how did he get to this point? We have to go back to 1979, when he was in high school working at the family business, Danneberger Oil. Not sure he started out planning to follow in his father's, Marion "Junior" Danneberger, footsteps; however, he did just that. Larry became a second generation propane man. After nearly 45



Larry Danneberger recently retired after 17 years of service with Shelby Energy Company.



In August 2007, Larry Danneberger joined Shelby Energy Company after they acquired Danneberger Oil.

years in the lubricant and propane business and wearing many hats on the job, he recently retired from the cooperative's propane subsidiary after 17 years of service.

Larry came to SEC in 2007, as the propane company needed another experienced driver. SEC not only gained another delivery person, it also acquired the lubricant business from Danneberger Oil. Larry continued to be the main point of contact for the lubricant customers, which made for a smooth transition for everyone involved.

What does Larry plan on doing now that he is retired? He said, with a grin on his face, "Whatever I want and whenever I want." He has projects that need done around the homestead, wants to spend more time with his eight grandkids, and hopes to do a little bit of traveling. Larry

and his wife Tracey, who works in human resources for Shelby County State Bank, have three sons and one daughter between them.

When asked what he will miss the most about his 17-year career with SEC, he said he will miss all the great customers he served and waited on over the years and the wonderful relationships that he developed with them. What he will not miss, he chuckled, is being out in the cold making much-needed propane deliveries or the middle-of-the-night emergency calls he would get from time to time.

Larry said he was blessed with a great working relationship at SEC and was honored to follow in his father's footsteps, even if that was not his original intent.

Wishing you the best in retirement Larry!



OFFICES CLOSED

COOPERATIVE OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 19 IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS DAY!