

# Norris Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# News

## 2020 scholarships awarded

Fifty-four students applied for the 2020 scholarships offered by Norris Electric Cooperative. Paperwork was sent to all area high schools for seniors to complete. The forms were also available on the co-op website. A panel of judges reviewed the applications and with much difficulty narrowed down the list to three students.

Elsie Whewell, daughter of Garth and Christine Whewell of Lawrenceville, enrolled at Lawrenceville High School; Garrett Flexter, son of Trent and Tammy Flexter of Oblong, enrolled at Oblong High School; and Tori Zumbahlen, daughter of Lisa Zumbahlen and Jason Zumbahlen of Newton, enrolled at Newton Community High School



*Garrett Flexter*



*Elsie Whewell*



*Tori Zumbahlen*

each received a \$1,000 scholarship to further their education.

Co-op Manager Tamara Phillips said, "The employees and board members of Norris Electric Cooperative have always been involved in our local schools and communities. We live here too, and like our members, have

a vested interest in the future of our children. These scholarships are just a small way we can help make a difference for students like Elsie, Garrett and Tori."

Congratulations to all area graduates!

## 42 years of service

Norris Electric would like to congratulate Scott Ghast on his retirement.

Scott started his employment on Aug. 29, 1978. The first position Scott held was a groundman. He began his line clearance apprenticeship in 1979 and became a line clearance journeyman in 1980. In 1985, he began his work as an apprentice lineman and became a full-fledged journeyman lineman in 1988. The last position Scott held was line foreman from 1996 to July 6, 2020.

Norris would like to thank Scott for his 42 years of service and dedication to the co-op. We wish him well in his retirement.



HAPPY  
**Retirement!**

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Spending more time at home? Try an online energy audit to assess the overall efficiency of your home.

Visit [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov), then enter "home energy yardstick" in the search box to get started!



# Travis Wilke wins IEC Memorial Scholarship

**T**ravis Wilke, a 2020 graduate of Richland County High School, has been selected as a recipient of the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Scholarship. Travis is the son of Ron Wilke and the late Shelley Wilke of Olney, who are members of Norris Electric Cooperative. Travis plans to study ag at Lake Land College this fall. Travis was selected from among 265 applications.

The Thomas H. Moore IEC Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1994 to provide financial assistance to deserving students. Applicants must be high school seniors who plan to enroll full-time at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school in Illinois. Scholarships are based on grade point average, college entrance test scores, work and volunteer experience and participation in school and community activities.

Each year, 12 \$2,000 scholarships are awarded to Illinois students who are sons or daughters of cooperative members, directors and/or employees. Six scholarships are given to students enrolling at a four-year

institution; four are reserved for those enrolling in a two-year Illinois community college; one (the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship) is awarded to the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director; and the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship is presented to a student to attend the lineworker's school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College.

Congratulations Travis on winning a \$2,000 scholarship!



Utility poles are not bulletin boards or support for satellite dishes and bird houses. These obstacles create a dangerous environment for lineworkers. Norris Electric line crews climb utility poles at all hours of the day and night, in the worst of conditions. Anything attached to utility poles can create serious hazards for our line personnel.

Please help us keep our linemen and our community safe. Don't attach any unauthorized and dangerous items to utility poles.

**Your opinion matters to us!**

Every other year, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) conducts a statewide member survey project on our behalf. You may be randomly selected to participate in the project. You could receive the survey via mail, be given a link to complete the survey online or receive a telephone survey. People who complete the survey by one of the above-listed methods will be entered in a drawing to win a bill credit.

Neither the AIEC nor the survey vendor, Inside Information, will not ask for credit card information or sell or share your private information. They will provide us with the anonymous survey results, and we will evaluate the information that is gathered to help improve our service to you.

The more completed survey questionnaires we receive, the more accurate the information will be, so if you're selected to participate, please take the time to answer the short survey. We anticipate that survey questionnaires will be distributed in late summer/early fall.

Please contact us with any questions you may have about this.

# YOU get the credit

**Norris Electric retires \$1,806,769.10 in capital credits**

Norris Electric is a cooperative, which makes it different from other utilities in many ways. One of the biggest examples of this difference is Norris' capital credits. This year, the cooperative is retiring \$1,806,769.10 worth of capital credits to members who bought electricity from 1982 – 1983.

Most companies charge above and beyond what it actually costs them to run their business so they can generate profits for their investors. Norris does not operate this way. As a cooperative, Norris operates at-cost. Its rates are set to collect enough revenue to run and improve

the business, not to generate profits for shareholders.

Each year, if there is excess revenue, it is divided and allocated as capital credits among all of Norris' members. The dollar amount is based on how much electricity each member purchased that year. When the financial condition of the cooperative permits, these capital credits are "retired" or paid to the members as a check or bill credit.

Checks were mailed out June 3, 2020. If you were a member any time from 1982 – 1983 and

have not received a check, please let us know. Contact our office at 618-783-8765 or email [capitalcredits@norriselectric.com](mailto:capitalcredits@norriselectric.com).



## WATT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

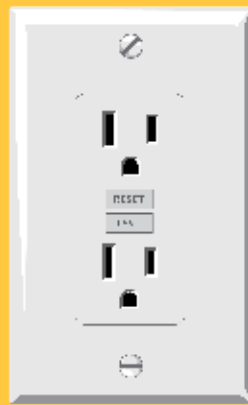


### Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter

Prevents electrical shock by detecting variations in current.

Install in areas where water and electricity are in close proximity.

Test outlets with GFCIs monthly; if they don't work properly, consult your electrician.

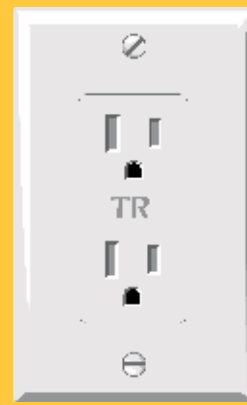


### Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter

Prevents electrical fires caused by arc flash. Usually installed by an electrician.

An arc is an electrical discharge that can cause intense heat or light.

It interrupts the circuit when it detects an arc or other abnormalities in the flow of electricity.



### Tamper Resistant Outlet

Prevents shocks caused by tampering with an outlet.

The protective shutters are designed to move when a plug is correctly inserted.

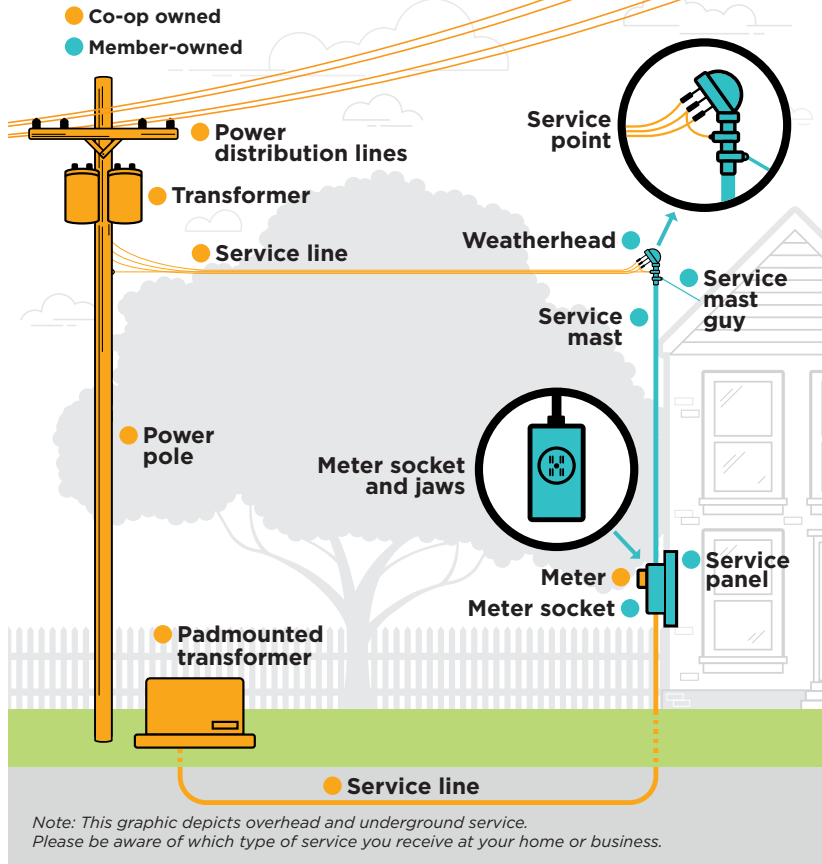
Became part of the National Electrical Code in 2008; if your home does not have these, install childproof devices.

 Safe  
Electricity.org

# Who Owns What?

## Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.



*This is a reprint due to errors in the recipe last month*

## Nana's Pineapple Pecan Cake

Submitted by Norris Employee  
Jamie Mendenhall

Adapted from [imjussayin.co](http://imjussayin.co)



### Ingredients

- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 - 20-ounce can crushed pineapple in its own juice (no syrup), undrained

### Cream Cheese Frosting

- 1/2 cup butter or 1 stick
- 1 - 8-ounce cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups confectioners' sugar

### Directions

Preheat oven to 350 F. Mix all cake ingredients in a bowl. Pour into a greased 9X13-inch pan and bake for 35 to 40 minutes until top is golden brown. For the frosting, beat butter, cream cheese and vanilla together until creamy. Gradually mix in powdered sugar. Frost cake while still warm. Sprinkle with chopped nuts, if desired.

★ ★

# HAPPY *Independence* DAY

We want to wish members of Norris Electric Cooperative  
a safe and happy Independence Day!

★ ★