

Norris Electric *News*

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Norris Electric Cooperative

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Report an Outage:
1-877-783-3221

Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

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Justin Parcel..... Clark

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Ted Helmink Cumberland

Directors

Ava LemmonCrawford

Brandon Graves Richland

Kurt HolscherCrawford

Gilbert Garbe Effingham

Scott Weiss.....Lawrence

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Dave Sheppard.....Jasper

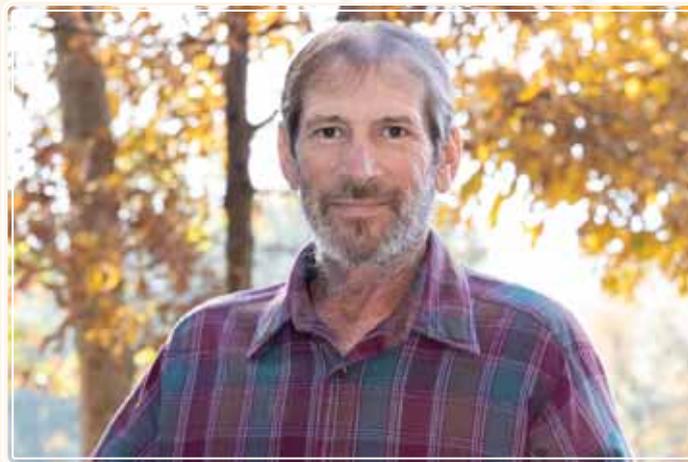
Ron Viehman.....Lawrence

General Manager

Tamara Phillips



In Loving Memory



KEITH JAMES LONG

1960 - 2023

Norris Electric Cooperative is remembering retired Journeyman Lineman Keith James Long, who passed away on Aug. 3, 2023, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 62 years old. Keith was employed with Norris Electric for 41 years and hung up his hard hat on April 3, 2023. Keith served as a groundman, line clearance journeyman and apprentice lineman for the first 10 years of his career. After hard work, determination and persistence, he quickly landed a journeyman lineman position, where he worked for 31 years. Keith was a big part of the Norris Electric co-op and will be profoundly missed. Keith will be forever known for his strength, loyalty and character. Norris Electric extends our deepest sympathies to his family. Keith is survived by his wife Karen; his mother Ladora; his children, Kurt Long and Kasandra Charters, Kristopher and wife Nicole Long; grandchildren Tieler Long, Lilly Long, Abigail Long, Madelyn Long and Payton Smith; brother Doug and Jan Long; sisters Lois Emmerich and Evelyn and Don Zuber.

Our thoughts and condolences go out to Keith's family and friends during this difficult time.



Ribbon-cutting event

On Aug. 16, Norris Electric staff, board members, contractors and other special guests celebrated the completion of the new office building with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Guests were led on a tour of the building to check out the offices and admire the artwork and history displayed through the hallways. General Manager Tamara Phillips spoke on the history of Norris, stating: "In 1938, the very first office was located on the square in Newton at the Marshall Hotel. Then, in 1940, we moved to a local garage building, east of the square. In 1944,

they moved to the north side of the square to the Raymond Heinz building, which is where Circle K sits today. In 1953, the co-op had grown so rapidly, serving 11,000 members and employing 52 people. That prompted the building of our office south of this location, which served us well for 70 years. We have continued to grow as a co-op, serving more than 20,000 members and currently employing 52 great individuals. Much care and attention were put into this project to preserve the co-op's history. We hope that in the next 70 years, this building will

stand as a reminder of our shared values and co-op principles."

Norris Electric is so thankful to so many who contributed to the completion of the office. We hope that the members of Norris Electric enjoy the new conveniences this office building offers them. We would like to invite our members to an Open House that will be held on Nov. 9. Mark your calendars. Details will follow in next month's newsletter, on our Facebook page and on our website.

4 SAFETY TIPS

TEEN DRIVERS NEED TO KNOW



1

THAT TEXT CAN WAIT

When texting while driving, the shortest amount of time a person takes his or her eyes off the road is five seconds. At 55 mph, that is like driving the length of a football field with your eyes closed.

2

don't get out

If you are in a car accident involving a power line or padmount transformer ("green box"), stay inside the vehicle and call 9-1-1. Unless the car is on fire or giving off smoke, do not get out. If there is a fire, make a solid jump from the vehicle without touching it and hop with your feet together as far away as you can.

3

respect work zones

One work zone crash occurs every 5.4 minutes. Remind teen drivers to consider anyone doing their job in or near the road as someone they know and love. Encourage them to move over and slow down for workers.

4

Don't Drive Distracted

Texting is not the only form of distracted driving. Driving and doing anything else is multitasking. Eight deaths occur EVERY DAY due to drivers who drive distracted.

Learn more:



Capital credit refund!

Norris Electric is a cooperative, which makes it different from other utilities in many ways. One of the most significant examples of these differences is capital credits. This year, the cooperative is retiring \$1,916,924.36 worth of capital credits to members who bought electricity in 1986 and 1987.

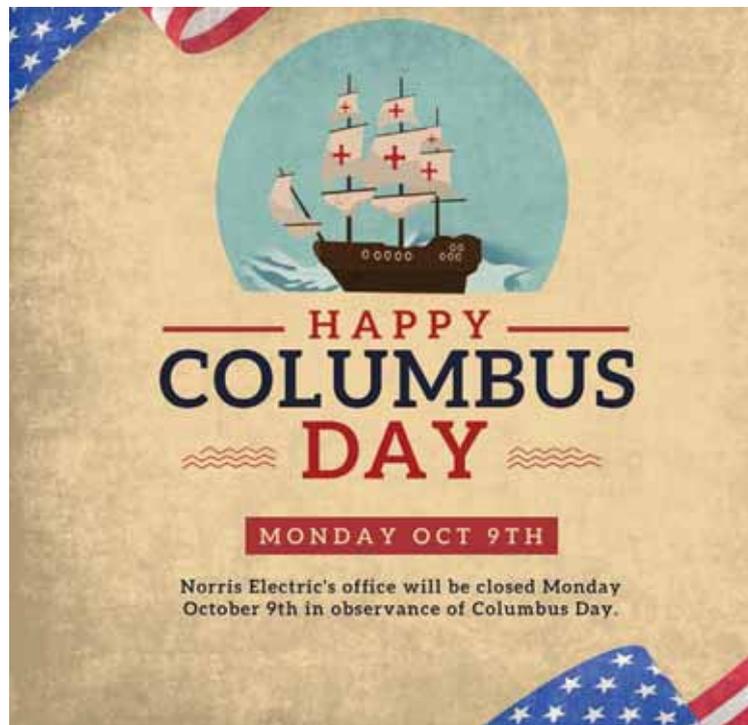
Most companies charge above and beyond what it costs them to run their business to generate profits for their investors. Norris does not operate this way. As a cooperative, Norris operates at cost. Its rates are set to collect enough revenue to run and improve the business, not generate profits for shareholders.

Each year, if there is excess revenue, it is divided and allocated as capital credits to 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.

Members with an active account got a refund in the form of a credit on their September bill. If a member has multiple accounts, credits will be consolidated and applied to the primary account. All inactive members will receive a check in the mail. These checks were mailed on Sept. 8. If you are receiving funds for a deceased individual, those checks will be mailed out in batches over the next several months.

If you move from Norris Electric lines, please keep us updated with your current address so we can ensure you receive your refunded capital credit checks.

If you have any questions, contact our office at 618-783-8765 or email capitalcredits@norriselectric.com.





SPOOKY ENERGY SAVINGS

This spooky season, we are sharing a few energy saving tricks so you can treat yourself to lower energy bills. Here are four simple ways to summon the spirit of energy efficiency.

Conjure instant savings with a smart thermostat. One of the easiest ways to save energy is through thermostat control, since home heating and cooling account for a large portion of monthly energy use. Smart thermostats can help you manage heating and cooling costs by learning your daily routine and adjusting the temperature settings

accordingly. You can control a smart thermostat from anywhere (through your Smartphone), which allows you to prevent unnecessary energy consumption while you're away. Sorcery!

Get rid of goosebumps by eliminating ghostly drafts. The winter chill is just around the corner, so now is the time to seal air leaks around your home. Apply caulk and weather stripping around drafty windows and doors to make your home more comfortable and lower your energy use.

Illuminate your lair with energy-efficient lighting. LED bulbs use 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent light bulbs. Make the switch to reduce energy used for lighting. Remember to use LEDs when it's time to decorate for the upcoming holiday season. LED light strings offer an average of 88% energy savings compared to traditional incandescent light strings.

Stir up savings with countertop cauldrons. Cooler weather summons our favorite soup recipes. Small countertop appliances like slow cookers use



Cookpot - NRECA

less energy than cooking meals on the stovetop. Grab your book of spells (or recipes) and start stirring up savings in the kitchen.

When we look around our homes, there are many opportunities to save energy. So, this spooky season, investigate your space and unlock a different kind of magic — the kind that brings real energy savings.



LED Smart Bulb - Haus Automation