



Ready or Not, Here We Come!

Although MJM stays regularly busy, July is going to be busier than normal. It is moving time and we can hardly contain our excitement! MJM *finally* will be moving into the new building on July 20th and 21st. Since that is a Monday and Tuesday, the office will be temporarily closed to the public. We will resume normal business hours on Wednesday, July 22nd, at the new headquarters! At that time, our lobby will officially be opened to Members for business. Until then, our current lobby is likely to remain closed at our 264 N. East Street headquarters for the safety and health of our employees and Members. Please do not hesitate to call us if you have questions.

As mentioned in previous building updates, the new headquarters will have a drive through for quick access to drop off payments. The building will also have a secure drop box that will be located near the drive through window. This drop box will submit payments directly into the building so it will remain secure. The drop box at the old headquarters at 264 N. East Street will ***no longer be functional*** and will be removed when we move.

The only contact information that will change is our physical address. Our new address will be 18300 Shipman Road, Carlinville. Members can continue to send mail to P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL, 62626. Our phone number will remain the same: 217-707-6156. Please note that **we will not** be able to accept payments in the *office, by phone or electronically* on July 20th or 21st while we are relocating.

Because of these uncertain times, our Open House is being postponed at this time. For a sneak preview, please see pages 4 and 5 to see what we have been working with for so long and how it has been upgraded. Safety and efficiency have been the main focus of this building project. We believe we have accomplished that goal.



On June 23, 2020, MJM Member Aaron Miller, VP of Operations at Jun Construction, hands over the headquarter's keys to MJM Member Joe Heyen, Director of Engineering and Operations.

Open for business July 22nd at 18300 Shipman Road, Carlinville! 



ALONG THE LINES
Published by:

MJM Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
264 N. East St., Carlinville, IL 62626

Office 217-707-6156
Pay by Phone 1-855-313-6314

Office Hours
Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. 

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- Vice Chairman
Dennis Stewart.....Nokomis
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- Joe Heyen.....Director of Engineering and Operations
- Jeremy Pattillo.....Director of Finance and Accounting
- Jennifer Peterson.....Executive Administrator

Editor

Brooke Gross..... Communications and Member Services Coordinator

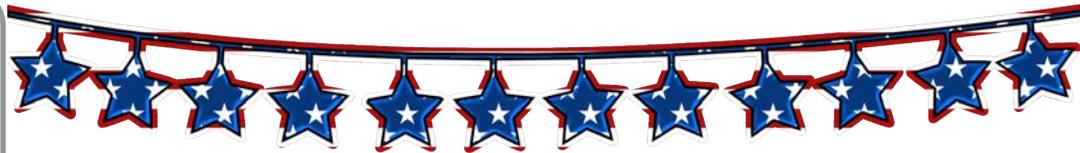
Holidays observed

New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, day following Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

How to report an outage

Call 217-707-6156. Collect calls will be accepted to report outages. When you report an outage, give your name and location number. Before calling, check your fuses or circuit breakers. Check with your neighbors. Call to report hazardous conditions. Please do not report outages on Facebook.

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Happy 4TH of JULY

INDEPENDENCE DAY

MJM will be closed on Friday, July 3rd, in observance of Independence Day.



Energy Star: Does It Really Save You Money?

If you are in the market for a new appliance, you might wonder if buying an ENERGY STAR-certified version will make a difference in your energy bills.

The **short answer is yes**, when you compare its estimated energy costs to its less efficient counterpart.

In fact, there are really two costs to consider before buying an appliance: the cost itself and the projected monthly energy costs. The energy-conscious appliances donning the square-shaped Energy Star logo use 10 to 15 percent less energy and water than standard models, according to Energy.gov. For example, Energy Star clothes washers use about 40 percent less energy than conventional clothes washers while also reducing water bills.

And the **longer answer is yes**, if you consider the appliance's lifespan.

Energy Star appliances and other products used throughout your home can save you a collective \$750 over their lifespan, according to Energy.gov. (Besides appliances, there are other Energy Star-certified products, such as lighting and electronics). While selecting energy-saving designated appliances could have a slightly higher price tag, they don't always. Compare prices and don't assume they cost substantially more than less efficient models.

The biggest bang for your energy-savings buck might be your refrigerator, especially if it is 15 years old or older. By replacing your old fridge with a new Energy Star-certified model, you can save more than \$200 over a 12-year lifespan.

Tip: EnergyStar.gov offers a "Flip Your Fridge" calculator to estimate savings depending on the size and age of your largest kitchen appliance.

Bottom line? The typical U.S. family spends around \$2,200 a year on home utility bills. Switching to ENERGY STAR products can help lower these costs over time. 🌈



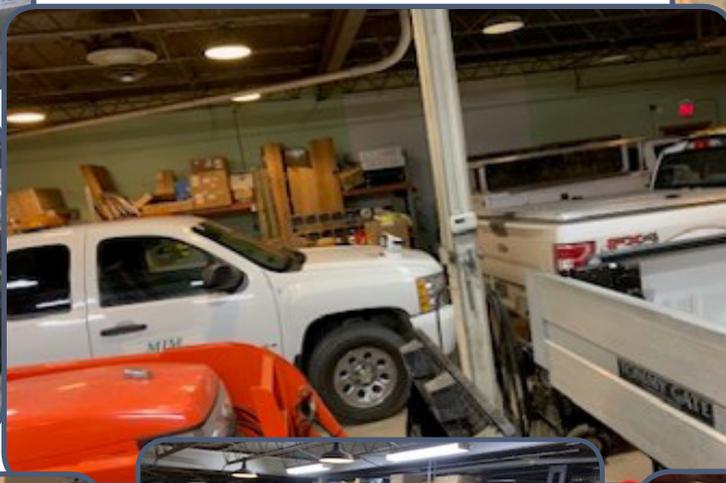
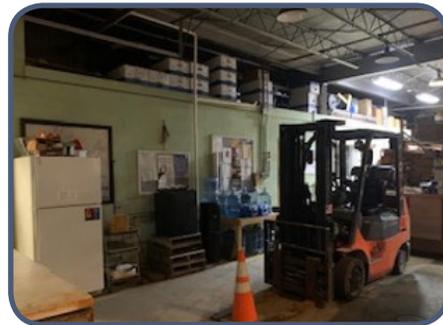
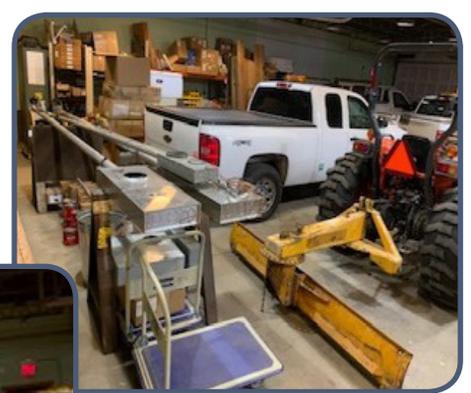
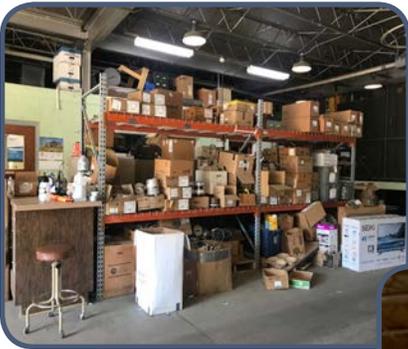
According to EnergyStar.gov, if every appliance purchased in the United States this year earned the ENERGY STAR, Americans would:

- Prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to the emissions from 225,000 cars.
- Save more than 1.3 billion kWh/year of electricity.
- Save \$425 million in annual energy costs.
- Save more than 28 billion gallons of water per year.*

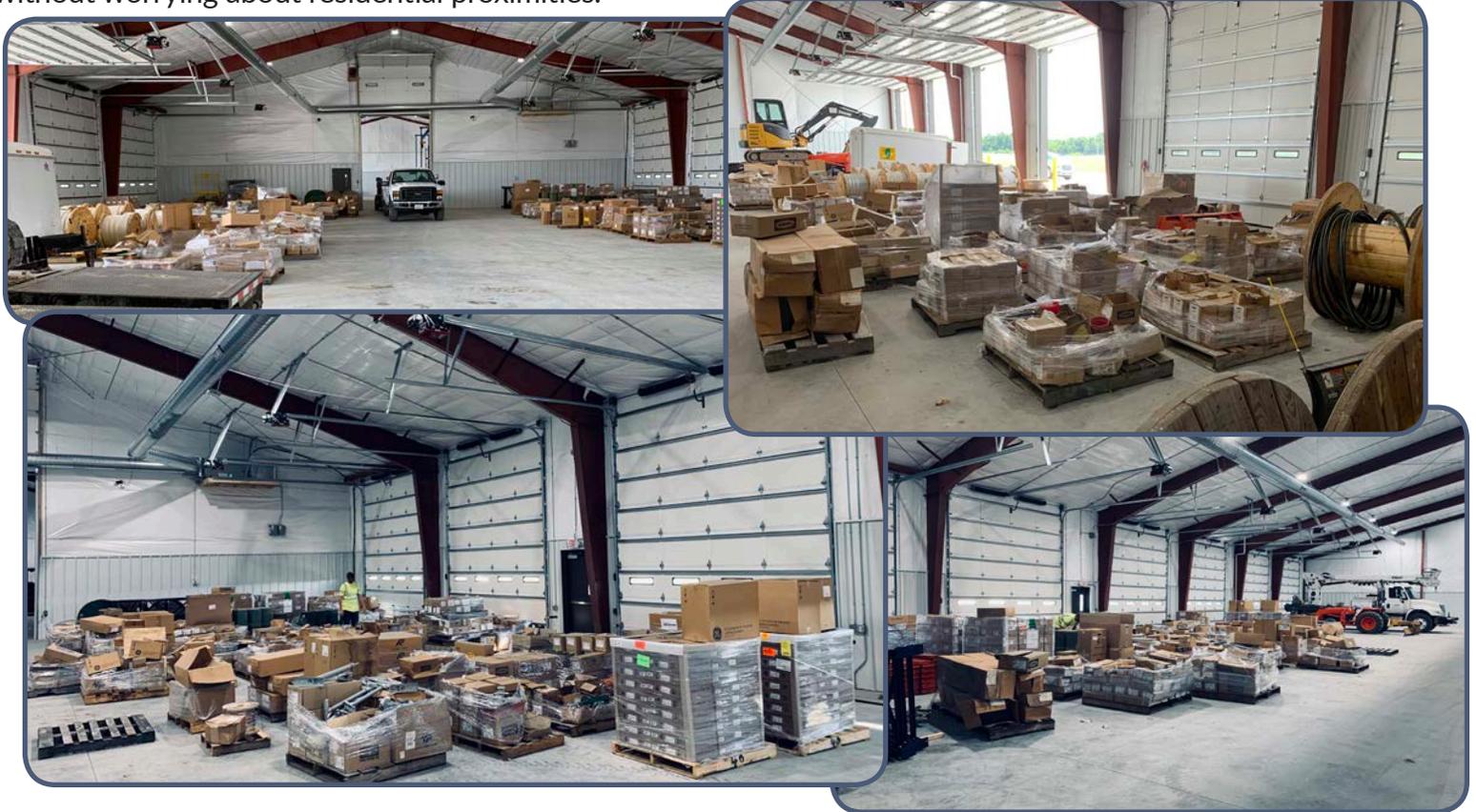
*Includes ENERGY STAR-certified clothes washer, dishwasher, and refrigerator. Dollars savings reflect savings generated from the reduction of energy and water usage.

By Safe Electricity

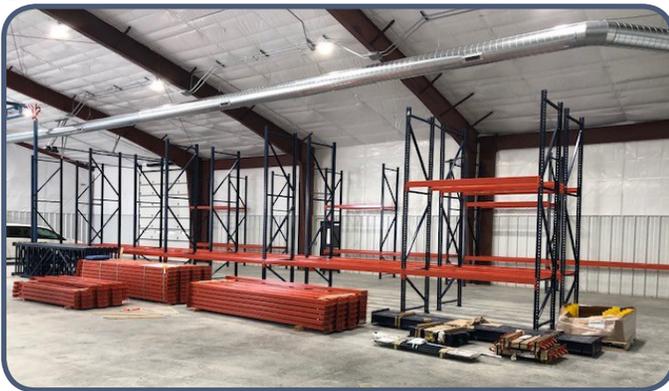
► MJM's current truck bay/warehouse storage is open which subjects the utility trucks and material to the weather due to overcrowded-ness. The garage for smaller service trucks, equipment, material and linemen's work area is hampered as well.



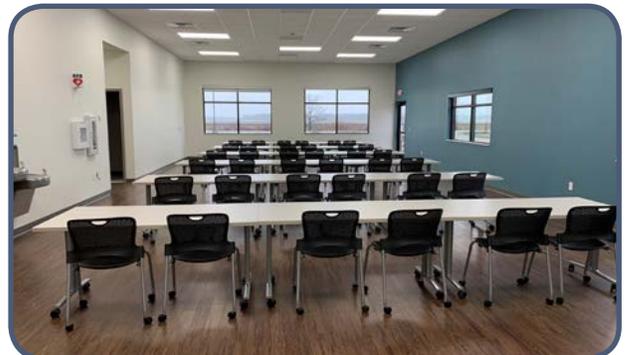
►MJM's new headquarters provides drive-thru truck bays and a drive-thru warehouse for a more proficient way of loading and unloading. It also provides linemen and suppliers the ability to maneuver through a spacious lot without worrying about residential proximities.



►The truck bays (pictured above) were used to hold inventory from the old warehouse, while the shelves were being stocked for efficiency in the new warehouse.



►Employees will now have a training room that is not shared as vehicle, warehouse storage or linemen work area. This room (pictured bottom right) will also serve as a multipurpose room for the community.



KEEP THE FUN IN THE SUN

with *Summertime* Pool Safety Tips



Before you jump in the pool this summer, you need to take the necessary steps to make sure everything is safe and you are ready for any possible emergency so that you can concentrate on having fun!

Homeowners should make sure that the National Electric Code (NEC) has been followed for wiring and that ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are properly installed on equipment in areas around pools, spas, and hot tubs.

Other recommendations from the Consumer Protection Safety Council (CSPC) involve:

- Knowing where electrical switches and circuit breakers are for pool, hot tub, and spa equipment and know how to operate them.
- Refraining from swimming before, during, and after thunderstorms.
- Having an electrician who is qualified in pool, spa, and hot tub repairs inspect and upgrade your pool, spa, or hot tub in accordance with local codes and the NEC.
- Making sure all electrical wires and

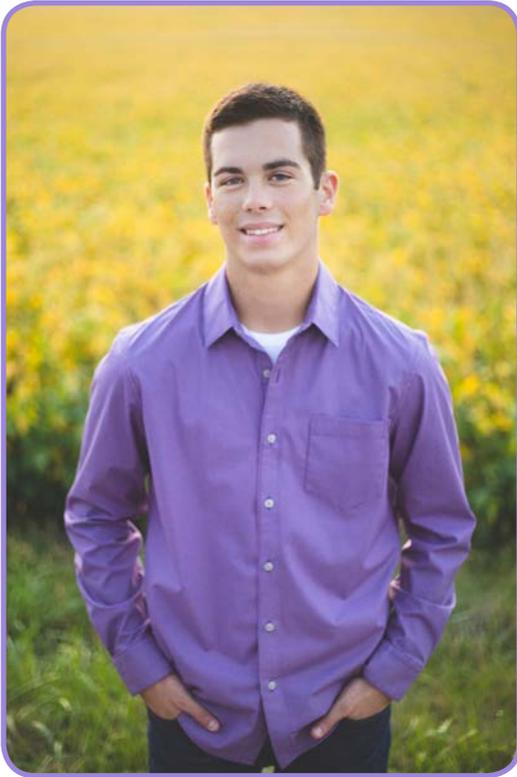
junction boxes are at least 5 feet away from water as required by the NEC.

- Ensuring that the overhead power lines and junction boxes are safely positioned and have the proper clearance according to the NEC when installing a new pool, hot tub, or spa.
- When cleaning the pool, knowing where any overhead power lines are to avoid making contact with them while using long-handled tools.
- Purchasing a fiberglass Shepherd's crook/rescue hook for emergencies.

Other steps to take to ensure the swimming season is a safe one include using battery-powered appliances and electronics around the pool instead of connecting them to an extension cord. Pool owners should have an emergency plan posted in plain view in the pool area with instructions on how to assist someone who is suffering an electrical shock. One such emergency plan is available from CSPC at <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PREREL/prhtml03/03125.pdf>. 

By Safe Electricity

Kessinger Wins IEC Memorial Scholarship!



Jack Kessinger of Carlinville High School is one of twelve winners of this year's Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship. He is the son of Jason and Tanya Kessinger.

Jack competed for the scholarship with 266 other students from across the state. The \$2,000 awards are given each year to eleven sons or daughters of electric co-op members, employees or directors. (A twelfth scholarship reserved for a student interested in lineman's college will be announced at a later date.) Jack will be recognized during the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives' annual meeting on July 23rd.

Candidates were judged on grade-point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities, and a short essay demonstrating their knowledge of energy cooperatives.

Come this fall, Jack has been accepted into the Mizzou Honors College and will be attending the University of Missouri this fall to study business. He plans to receive his master's degree and help people and businesses by being a financial planner to make sound economic decisions. He plans on using this scholarship to make his community proud. Jack was also recognized at MJM's Annual Meeting in March as one of the recipients for this year's \$1,000 MJM Scholarship Program.

This summer Jack is one of two part-time summer helpers that were hired to assist with moving and organizing the new warehouse. MJM wishes the best of luck to Jack on his future endeavors! 🎉

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 \$250 bill credit.**

Neither the AIEC or the survey vendor, Inside Information, will 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 at 217-707-6156. 🎉





Member Trading Post

FOR SALE: One row garden planter with plates. Stainless gas grill. Pair of water skis. 4 – 18” tires. 217-825-4361. Call for price on all items.

FOR SALE: 2013 Harley Davidson Electric Glide Classic. It is pearl blue. 11,830 miles. Asking \$13,500. Bike is in Hillsboro. Call 217-820-7848.

FOR SALE: 230 Massey Ferguson Diesel with power steering, live PTO. Also have a 6ft Woods completely reconditioned Brush Hog. Willing to sell together or separate. Asking \$6,000 for both. Call 618-278-4662.

FOR SALE: 200-gal water tank with hose \$150. 217-825-4361

FOR SALE: Three-point post hole digger for \$300. Five good solid pallets \$20 each O.B.O. Three-point head mover for IH combine heads. Three-point attachment on a 16-foot bar. Four

Texaco oil burner guns-build your own heater or incinerator. 50 ft. of sliding door track. Track and most components for a Sukup 24 ft. grain bin stir all. Out of season special size 38 waist length leather coat, make an offer. Please call 217-854-2063.

WANTED: Ear corn conveyor support cages, metal rod, half oval type about two feet long each. They were used long ago in the corn cribs to keep floor conveyor free. Located in Hillsboro. Please call 217-532-9335.



To list your free ad, email brookeg@mjmec.coop, call 1-800-648-4729, or mail the ad to MJM Electric Cooperative, 264 N. East St., P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL 62626. Each ad will run for one month. Some restriction may apply. Thank you.