

MJM IS ON THE RISE...



In April's MJM's Along the Lines it was predicted that dirt work, footings, under slab rough-ins and the concrete slabs would be poured and completed in April. Actual wall framing construction was anticipated to start sometime in May. Need-less-to-say, mother nature continued its course and delayed the project even further. Between showers, the contractors worked hard to do a little work here and there. Mid-June footings were finally poured, and the final slab of concrete was completed on July 29th.

But with every cloud comes a silver lining!! Just as quickly as the corn shot up from the ground, rafters were being placed on the new administrative office. The contractor is working diligently towards shelling in this area of the new facility before inclement weather hits. Construction of the pre-engineered metal building, consisting of the warehouse and truck bays, should begin early in September. Our goal is to move in by Spring of 2020. 🏗️



MJM Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Office Hours

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



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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 1-800-648-4729. 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.


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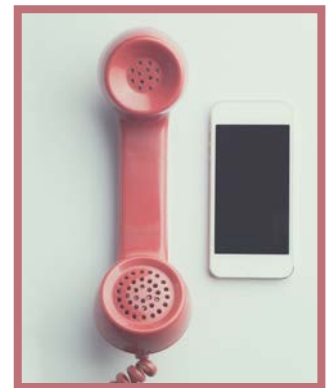
SURVEY TO BEGIN

Data gathered will help plan for the future

From September 2019 through January 2020, MJM Electric will be conducting a survey of residential Co-op Members. This telephone survey is conducted every three years, and helps our power supplier, Wabash Valley Power Alliance, determine how much power we'll need in the near future.

The survey will be conducted by Oppenheim Research, a Tallahassee, FL firm with experience in a wide variety of research methods as well as a strong history of satisfied customers. Co-op Members will be randomly selected, and 300 completed surveys will be done for our Co-op. The survey is designed to last approximately 10-12 minutes, and will primarily focus on the appliances and items in and around your home that consume electricity.

The calls will take place Monday through Friday, beginning mid-afternoon and running until about 9:00 pm. If you are called and don't wish to participate, you will not be pressured to do so. We greatly appreciate those who do take the time to help us plan better for the future! If you have any questions about the process, please call the office at 217-707-6156. 



2019 Substation Upgrades

As part of our ongoing work plan, we utilize a dissolved gas analysis program to analyze oil samples from the substation transformers. This analysis gives us a method for rating the transformers performance and life expectancy. Based on that work we determined that the transformers at Jerseyville and Bunker Hill were near the end of their useful lives and would need to be replaced or reconditioned.

At Bunker Hill, we opted for a replacement transformer purchased through our power supplier's (Wabash Valley Power Alliance - WVPA) pool inventory well below market price. Before setting that transformer, it was necessary

to tear out the original concrete pad and pour a new one. The work at Bunker Hill is now complete.

At Jerseyville, the project was a bit more involved. The concrete pad was also replaced but two transformers were replaced with a single larger transformer. Additional configuration was necessary to do this, but we were able to purchase this transformer from the WVPA transformer pool at a price substantially below market as well.

Due to the current load we carry at our Jerseyville substation, we had to bring a portable substation in to provide constant power to our Members while the work was being done. This service was provided by WVPA, free of charge. We hope to have all the work at Jerseyville completed by September 20.

But we aren't finished yet. The three transformers that were removed from these substations have been sent to Solomon Electric

to be inspected for possible reconditioning, rewinding, or if they are not repairable, they will be scrapped.

What does this mean to YOU, the Member? Well, we get asked this question a lot - "Why do I pay a service delivery charge every month?" The answer is simply this. In order to continue to provide safe, reliable and affordable power, costly projects such as these are required to keep Members' lights on. It's not just the kWh's that a Member is paying for. It's the fixed costs as well that provide the Member with the service for when they want to turn the light switch on. We do our best at keeping costs down as much as possible. Partnering with WVPA has helped us do that with these two projects. 🏗️



Celebrating 80 Years with Ice Cream

Ice cream, socializing, and free give-a-ways. Does it get any better than that? Yes, it does! At the end of March, MJM celebrated their 80th year with a "Back in Time – It's 1939" with the Wizard of Oz theme. The celebration then was just too good it had to continue! MJM held two different ice cream socials during the month of August to try and meet with those Members who couldn't attend the annual meeting.

The ice cream socials were a hit with our Members and their families. It was a blast to see children running around with their face painted or yelling with joy as they bounced in the bounce houses. During our social at the Piasa Warehouse on Thursday, August 8th, MJM hosted over 200 attendees! Although it was an incredibly hot day, soft serve ice cream provided by MJM retiree Bob Heyen couldn't have tasted better. Members got to indulge in chocolate or vanilla and build their own sundae with our sundae bar.



While some MJM employees celebrated in Piasa, other MJM employees walked in the Old Settler's Parade in Hillsboro. They handed out frisbees and fans to the audience. Those in the parade were Matt Waters (Linemen), Kyle Waters, Daniel Drumeller (Director of Finance and Accounting), Colin Drumeller, Chuck Lucykow (Linemen), Kim, Lauren and Paige. Photos are pictured above.

That following week, on Thursday, August 15th, MJM hosted another ice cream social at the Event Center (old K.C. Hall) in Hillsboro. MJM welcomed back a few special guests; Tim the Twister and Sunshyne the Clown. Since they have done a wonderful job at MJM's annual meeting, they absolutely had to come back for our ice cream socials! They made balloon animals and painted faces. Ice cream was provided by, Hillsboro's family-owned ice cream shop, Sweet Addictions. They provided a variety of flavors and Members got to build their own sundae there, too! MJM hosted over 100 attendees at this event.

Members who attended were also entered into a drawing for an \$80 bill credit. Two winners were selected - one from Piasa's ice cream social and one from Hillsboro's ice cream social. Congratulations to Piasa's winner **Margaret Marie Fisher Bierman** of Godfrey and Hillsboro's winner **Gerald Young** of Hillsboro.

Thank you to those who helped make both ice cream socials happen. A very big thank you to those Members who took time out of their evenings to see what information MJM Electric needed to share. Photos from the events are on the next page. The top half of the page is from Piasa's ice cream social and the bottom half of the page is from Hillsboro's. More photos can be found on MJM's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MJMElectricCooperative. Don't be sad if you missed these two awesome events. Our 81st Annual Meeting will officially be on Saturday, March 7th, 2020, at the Carlinville High School. We will see you then! 🎉



"There's No Place Like [MJM Electric]" - Dorothy

Increase your Insulation - Not Your Electric Bill



Proper insulation can keep your home comfortable and cut energy costs. With some tips from the Energy Education Council, you will be ready to update your insulation and start saving money.

At EnergySavers.gov you can find out the R-value your insulation should be. R-value measures resistance to the flow of heat and is one of the most important factors in insulation. Insulation can come in the form of batts, rolls, loose fill, expanding foam, or spray-in insulation. Foams, spray-ins, and loose fill are good for hard to reach areas. Batts and rolls are good for large areas. The R-Value and type of insulation you need depend on where you live, the building materials in your home, and your heating and cooling system. Customized information is available by typing in your zip code at www.ornl.gov/~roofs/Zip/ZipHome.html.

Insulation can be difficult to update because it often involves getting behind walls. However, the attic is an easy place to start and has a big effect on your home's overall efficiency. To upgrade your insulation, you will want to know your starting point by examining your current insulation. If you can see the ceiling joists in your attic, you do not have enough insulation. You can lay new insulation directly on top of existing insulation. Be sure to wear a respirator mask and safety goggles and to follow all the safety precautions accompanying the insulation.

If your insulation is adequate, you may still want to consider sealing your home. Just as sealing an envelope keeps its contents inside, sealing your home keeps warmth inside in the winter and cool air in the summer. Use caulk and weather strips to seal gaps where air sneaks in around windows, electrical outlets, and doors. 🌈

JERSEYVILLE'S DEVELOPING BUSINESS PARK NAMED AN ILLINOIS SUPER SITE

As a part of Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker's newly introduced initiatives, the state's Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity recently reviewed 19 applications before selecting 16 community economic development projects as Illinois' first designated Super Sites. One Jerseyville-based major industrial development project was among those 16.

This major industrial development project is in Jersey County, Illinois, just outside Jerseyville's city limits on U.S. Highway 67's southeast side at Crystal Lake Road. The site encompasses approximately 1,600 acres, with roughly 1,200 acres being developed.

Stonemont Financial Group, an Atlanta, Ga.-based investment firm, has been working with Jerseyville Economic Development Council, Inc. and Kansas City Southern Rail in bringing the much-anticipated development known as Mid-American International

Gateway Business Park to the St. Louis metropolitan region. This site had been chosen to be among the 16 Illinois' first-designated Super Sites.

So, what does this designation mean? What impact does it have on the Jersey County-based major industrial development project, the community and its residents? David Pierson, with Illinois' DCEO Office of Business Development, provided some further insight:

"The purpose of the Illinois Super Sites program is to provide a statewide inventory of very large industrial sites that meet a consistent set of standards. The program reduces the risk associated with development by providing detailed and current information about a site including availability, utilities and access. Super Sites are listed on the Illinois Department of Commerce web site, as well as on local economic development web sites.

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“The designation improves the odds of attracting site selectors seeking locations for major industrial projects. Successfully attracting a major industrial project to a community means the creation of good-paying jobs for the area,” Pierson added.

“Large industrial projects typically include a significant manufacturing component, which could help support local businesses that supply materials or offer other professional services. Landing a large manufacturing project can result in the establishment of a more vibrant, economically-secure community,” he said further.


After receiving this designation, Stonemont CEO and Managing Principal William “Zack” Markwell said, “Stonemont is thrilled to see the Mid-American International Gateway Business Park designated as an Illinois Super Site. This designation further validates the potential that our firm saw for this project at the inception.

“Projects of this size and scope require many pieces to come together for success,” added Markwell. “Stonemont stands dedicated to providing the capital needed to make it happen. Now with the Super Site designation, site selectors across the globe will know the project stands ready for business. The roads and infrastructure are the final pieces of the complex puzzle that is being put together.”

“We are very excited to have the national and international visibility that this designation provides,” he said further. “To keep up with the economic demands, site selection firms for large corporations across the globe are required to move at unprecedented speed today. Without the State’s ‘Super Site’ stamp of approval, sites often get passed over.”

“Our firm doesn’t invest in projects; we invest in people and communities. This designation allows the residents of Jersey County and the surrounding region to now wave a flag to global corporations looking for a new home. We are extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication of Jerseyville’s Mayor (Bill) Russell, JEDC Director Shari Albrecht and the entire JEDC board to achieve this great designation,” Markwell further noted.

Pierson said that the Illinois Super Sites designation began with a request for sites in March 2019. Specific criteria had to be met by site applicants, determined based on input from utility, rail and major port partners. Illinois communities were required to submit their proposals by April 5, 2019 and the inaugural group of Illinois Super Sites was determined later in April.

MJM, as sole electric provider of this project, has been working behind the scenes in preparing as much as possible without any known facts. It takes about 24 months to build a new substation, but for the early stages of this project, the Jerseyville substation will be able to handle the new load. As local jobs and businesses leave, MJM was excited to see that the project was among the Super Sites to help economic development in this area. 

Member Trading Post

FOR SALE: Fifteen acres, timber property with creek. Great location. All utility access. Secluded with nature/ wildlife. Great for hunting, RV home-site or investment. Litchfield Unit 12 school district. Access off Illinois Route 16. Sorry, no contract for deed or hunting leases. Selling by original owner. \$96,000. Please call 217-324-3869.

FOR SALE: Piano is a Classic Credential Acrosonic by Baldwin. Exterior is in excellent condition. It is needing tuned and has a few keys that stick. The piano is in great shape. Style #908. 40 inches high, 59 ¾ inches wide. 25 inches deep. 618-372-0084. Call for price and leave a message. FREE – wanting for it to go to a good home. Must come get it.

FOR SALE: Simmons mushroom cap 4 poster 1890's made- to- Queen size brass bed with original finish . Great condition. \$500.00; Gold velour rocker/recliner. Good condition. \$30.00; 1921 Hoosier economy oak cabinet with porcelain top.

Great condition. \$325.00; Ornate marble hanging table with gold tones light fixture. Must see. \$150.00; Ethan Allen matching upholstered foot stools/benches. Great condition. \$25.00/each; Three chiffon strapless floor length burgundy gowns by Jim Hjelm sizes 6, 8, 10. Worn once. Dry cleaned & ready for Homecoming. Paid \$200.00 ea. Asking \$35.00 ea.; One Pretty Red chiffon A-line Princess scoop neck floor length gown with beading & sequins. Size 12. Never worn with tags. Paid \$216.00. Best offer. Call 618-444-2585.

FOR SALE: For the coffee lover! Keurig 2.0 Coffee Maker. It includes: coffee maker, K-Carafe and 8 K-Carfe pods. Folgers and 29 assorted coffee pods: hazel nut, donut shop, Dunkin Donuts, carmel, swiss miss and three new water filters. All instructions are also included and moveable pod holder. It holds up to 40 coffee. It sets under the coffee maker and slightly lifts it. All for \$125. Please call 217-204-6460.

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.