

PowerLines

YOUR CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS CONNECTION

**Central Electric
Cooperative**

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Humbled to Serve By Fred Terwilliger

Interim CEO & General Manager

As many of you know, Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) recently said goodbye to CEO and General Manager Matt Boshaw after 16 years of dedicated leadership.

Before I share a little about myself, I want to thank Matt for his service to our cooperative, our employees, and our members. Throughout his career, Matt helped guide CEC through growth, change, and new opportunities while staying true to the cooperative values that make our organization unique. We wish Matt and his family all the best.

For those I haven't had the opportunity to meet, my name is Fred Terwilliger, and I am humbled to be serving as CEC's Interim CEO and General Manager.

While this position is new to me, CEC is not. I began my career with the cooperative nearly 38 years ago and have had the privilege of serving in a variety of roles throughout that time, most recently as Assistant General Manager and Chief Operating Officer. I am an electrical engineer by education,

but more importantly, I have spent my career working alongside the dedicated employees who keep the lights on and serve our members every day.

This community has been my home for all of my life. Like many of you, I have raised my family here, built lasting friendships here, and have a personal investment in the future of our communities. One of the things I've always appreciated about the cooperative business model is that the people we serve aren't just customers. They're member-owners, neighbors, friends, and fellow community members.

I understand that leadership transitions can bring questions, but I want to assure you that CEC remains in a strong position. We have an experienced leadership team, talented employees, and a dedicated Board of Directors committed to serving the best interests of our membership. While leadership positions may change, the mission of our cooperative remains the same: providing safe, reliable, and affordable electricity while putting our members first.

As the Board begins preparing for the cooperative's next permanent CEO and General Manager, my focus remains on

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supporting our employees, maintaining a reliable electric system, and continuing to provide the level of service our members expect and deserve.

Serving as Interim CEO and General Manager is one of the greatest honors of my career. I am grateful for the trust that has been placed in me and for the opportunity to continue serving the cooperative that has meant so much to me over the years.

Thank you for being a valued member of Central Electric Cooperative. I look forward to working alongside our employees, Board of Directors, and members as we continue building on the strong foundation that has served our communities for generations.



**H A P P Y
THANKSGIVING**

From Central Electric Cooperative

CEC Holiday Closures:

Nov. 26 for Thanksgiving
(normal business hours resume Nov. 27)

Dec. 24 at noon in observance of Christmas Eve

Dec. 25 for Christmas Day
(normal business hours resume Dec. 28)

Dec. 31 at noon in observance of New Year's Eve

Jan. 1 for New Year's Day
(normal business hours resume Jan. 4)

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Fred E. Terwilliger

Interim CEO & General Manager

Samantha J. Prasky

Director of Finance and Accounting/CFO

Lisa A. Hoover

Director of Member Services

Christopher W. Kossman

Director of Information Technology

Chad Master

Interim Director of Engineering and Operations

Caitlin T. Kriebel

Director of Human Resources

ENTER THE CEC CHRISTMAS LIGHT CONTEST

Members must submit a photo or video of their display at central.coop by Dec. 8. The contest is open to residential and commercial members.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

High School Juniors, **APPLY FOR YOUTH TOUR!**



By: **Stephanie Okuniewski**, Member Engagement Specialist, PREA



Every June, I have the privilege of watching something remarkable happen. High school juniors board buses for Washington, D.C., excited, nervous and unsure of what the week ahead will bring. Some arrive eager to meet new people. Others stay quietly in the background, content to observe. By the time we head home, the students have changed. They have found confidence, discovered new perspectives and realized they are capable of more than they imagined.

That transformation is why the Rural Electric Youth Tour matters, and it makes each year I take part in Youth Tour new and exciting for me!

2026 marked my 20th year participating in this event and my fifth year as the Pennsylvania/New Jersey director. While every group is different, one thing never changes: Given the opportunity to step outside their comfort zones, young people almost always surprise themselves.

In 2026, nearly 1,800 students representing electric cooperatives across the country took part in Youth Tour, including 88 delegates from Pennsylvania and New Jersey. They joined a tradition that began in 1964. The program was the brainchild of Lyndon B. Johnson, who while serving in the U.S. Senate in 1957 encouraged electric cooperatives to bring young people to the nation's capital to learn about American history, government and the cooperative way of doing business.

Since then, more than 4,400 students from Pennsylvania and New Jersey have participated. While the itinerary includes iconic monuments, memorials and museums, the real value of the experience extends far beyond sightseeing.

The lessons students take home often come from the people they meet along the way. They learn to collaborate with peers from different backgrounds, speak up in www.central.coop

unfamiliar situations and challenge themselves to try something new. Friendships form quickly, confidence grows naturally and students begin to see themselves as leaders, often without realizing it.

That is what I look forward to every year.

By the end of the week, the quiet student who hesitated to introduce themselves on day one is volunteering to lead a discussion. New friendships have formed across state lines, and students leave with a broader understanding of their communities, their country, and their own potential.

The impact of Youth Tour doesn't end when the buses return home. Former participants have gone on to become business leaders, including former Apple CEO Tim Cook, as well as authors, athletes and public servants. In Pennsylvania and New Jersey, alumni have become cooperative board members, employees and even a chief executive – all of whom are passionate advocates for rural communities.

Those accomplishments are impressive, but they are not what defines the program. Success is just as often found in the student who returns home with the confidence to speak at a school board meeting, pursue a new opportunity or become more involved in their community. Those quieter victories matter just as much.

After two decades, I've learned that Youth Tour isn't simply about introducing students to the nation's capital. It's about helping them discover something within themselves. Long after the monuments fade into memory, that newfound confidence is what stays with them. And that's why Youth Tour is still one of the most meaningful investments our cooperatives can make in the next generation!

2027 Youth Tour will be held June 17-22, for more information, call the office at 800-521-0570.



Stay Warm, Stay Safe: Heating Safety & Home Fire Prevention

by Tyler Grayson Manager of Safety and Loss Control

As temperatures drop, many homes begin using furnaces, fireplaces, wood stoves and space heaters for the first time in months. A few simple precautions can help prevent fires and carbon monoxide incidents throughout the heating season.

Space Heater Safety

- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from furniture, curtains, bedding and other combustible materials.
- Plug heaters directly into wall outlets. Do not use extension cords or power strips.
- Turn heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep. Choose models with tip-over and overheat protection.

Heating System Checkup

- Replace or clean furnace filters as recommended and keep vents and registers clear.
- Schedule routine maintenance and investigate unusual odors, noises or performance issues.
- Have fuel-burning heating systems inspected regularly to reduce carbon monoxide risk.

Fireplace & Chimney Safety

- Have chimneys and flues inspected and cleaned as needed. Use a fireplace screen to contain sparks.
- Place cooled ashes in a metal container and store it outdoors away from structures.

Test Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Test alarms monthly, replace batteries as needed and confirm alarms are within their service life.
- Know possible CO exposure symptoms: headache, dizziness, nausea, weakness and confusion. Move to fresh air and call 911 if an alarm sounds or exposure is suspected.



Role: Safety & Loss Control Administrator

Employee Since: August 2026

Employee Spotlight:



What do you do at CEC? I'm the Manager of Safety & Loss Control. I help develop and manage safety programs, conduct incident investigations, perform safety audits and inspections, and help ensure our crews have the tools and resources they need to work safely.



Do you have any pets? I have two dogs, Scout and Samson. Scout is an 11-year-old Husky/Shepherd mix who is diabetic and blind, and Samson is a 8-year-old Great Pyrenees/Super Mutt mix who enjoys barking and waking up the neighborhood, but we love them both!



What do you enjoy doing outside of work? I enjoy spending time with my wife and 2-year-old son and being outdoors. I like to spend my free time hiking, snowboarding, riding four-wheelers, boating, and fishing. I also enjoy playing drums and teaching my son how to play.

Powering Comfort, Value and Everyday Life

by Nikki Staley, Communication Supervisor

When it comes to electricity, we rarely think twice when we flip on a light switch, brew coffee in the morning, charge our phones or adjust the thermostat. We simply expect the power to be there, and that's exactly how it should be. As your local electric cooperative, providing safe, reliable electricity to our members is at the heart of everything we do.

We know many families across our communities are feeling the impact of rising costs. Groceries, gasoline, insurance and other everyday expenses cost more than they did just a few years ago. Because of that, we understand that every household is paying closer attention to where each dollar goes.

That's why it's worth taking a moment to consider just how much value electricity brings to our daily lives.

The average U.S. residential electric bill is about \$150 a month, or roughly \$5 a day. I often think about what that \$5 provides. It's about the cost of a specialty coffee, yet electricity powers nearly every moment of our daily lives, often without us giving it a second thought. In fact, many everyday purchases cost more than a day's worth of electricity. A fast-food combo meal averages about \$9, and a single movie ticket can cost around \$13.

For about \$5 a day, your refrigerator keeps food fresh around the clock. Your heating and cooling system helps keep your family comfortable through the seasons. Lights brighten your home after sunset. Appliances make cooking and cleaning easier. Devices stay charged so you can work, learn, communicate and stay connected with family and friends. When you consider everything electricity makes possible, it's one of the greatest values in the average household budget.

Even with electricity's exceptional value, we know every dollar matters. That's why Central Electric Cooperative offers programs and resources to help members make the most of every energy dollar.

As colder temperatures return, many members start thinking about how to keep their homes comfortable without seeing a significant increase in energy costs. Our team is available to help you identify opportunities to improve your home's efficiency and make the most of

every energy dollar this winter. From energy-saving tips and efficiency recommendations to rebates and our electric water heater program, we're here as a resource whenever you need us.

Qualified members can have an electric water heater installed for as little as \$615. If you'd like to learn more about available programs or discuss ways to improve your home's efficiency before winter arrives, give us a call at 800-521-0570.

Central Electric Cooperative is proud to be more than your electric provider. Because we're a cooperative, we're locally owned by the members we serve. That means every decision we make is guided by what's best for our members and communities, not by outside shareholders.

Thank you for trusting us to power your home and support your way of life. We're committed to providing reliable, affordable electricity and being a trusted resource for our members through every season.



Central Electric Cooperative



Smart Cooking, Sweet Savings

by Connie Long, Key Account &
Energy Management Advisor

The holidays are finally here, and if your house is anything like my family's, the kitchen is about to become non-stop busy! Every year, my family gathers for our big "cookie day," we spend the whole day baking our favorite holiday cookies together, catch up on life, and then divide up the goodies at the end. It's one of my favorite traditions. But honestly, until I started working here at CEC, I had no idea that tackling all that baking in one afternoon was actually doing our electric bill a huge favor, too!

When you keep your oven warmed up for a single baking spree, it uses way less power than heating it up from scratch every couple of days. So, if you want to keep things simple, delicious, and budget-friendly this season, here are a few easy kitchen habits that really help:

- **Resist the urge to peek:** I know it's tempting but try to hold off on opening the oven door until the timer actually goes off. Every time you open it, a cloud of heat escapes and your oven has to work extra hard to catch back up. Just flip on the oven light and take a peek through the glass instead!

- **Pair up your pots and burners:** Putting a small pot on a large burner lets about 40% of that heat escape straight into the air. Matching your cookware size to the burner keeps the heat right where you need it.

- **Put a lid on it:** Don't forget to pop lids on your pots while cooking. Trapping that steam helps your food cook much faster, which gets dinner on the table sooner and uses less energy.

- **Let the oven heat the room:** All that holiday cooking generates plenty of extra warmth in the kitchen. Go ahead and bump your thermostat down a notch or two while you're cooking to stay comfortable without running your home heating.

- **Give your big oven a break:** For smaller side dishes or warm-ups, lean on your countertop helpers like slow cookers, air fryers, toaster ovens, or pressure cookers. They do a fantastic job and draw a fraction of the power.

- **Take the easy route on clean-up:** When the dinner is over and the dishwasher is fully loaded, skip the heat-dry cycle and just let your dishes air-dry. It's an effortless way to save both electricity and water!

A few tiny tweaks in the kitchen can go a long way toward keeping your home cozy and your power use low. From all of us at Central Electric Cooperative, we wish you a warm, wonderful holiday season filled with good food and great memories!

Enter CEC's Christmas Lights Contest!

One of the best parts of the holiday season is seeing homes and businesses shining with festive lights. CEC loves to see it all and that's why we're thrilled to kick off our annual Christmas Lights Contest!

The Contest is open to all commercial and residential CEC members. A photo or video of your display must be submitted on the website by December 8th to participate. All participating members have the chance to win a prize upon entry. First place, also known as the Griswold Award, will receive a \$500 bill credit and \$500 donation

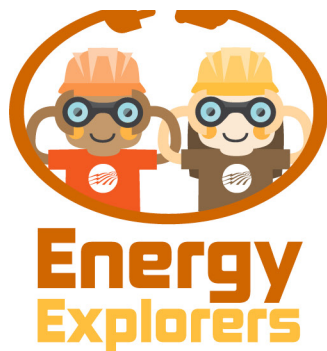
to a charity of your choice. Second place will receive a \$250 bill credit, and third place a \$100 bill credit.

Voting for the contest's winners is open to all CEC members and can be found on our website at www.central.coop. You can check out each entry and vote for your three favorites until voting closes on Dec. 20th. The winners will be announced on Dec. 23 on our website and in February's Power Lines Newsletter.

Be creative, but safe too! Do not overload your outlets. Do check your wires and cords for any damage, and be mindful of ladder safety as you deck the halls.

This contest is an opportunity to showcase your Christmas spirit and bring our communities together. We encourage everyone to join in, both by creating your displays and by voting for your favorites. We can't wait to see this year's entries and celebrate the holiday season together. Have fun, be safe, and good luck!





FALL ENERGY SAVINGS WORD SEARCH

Fall is a great time to put energy efficiency into action! Read the following energy-saving tips, then find the **bolded** words in the puzzle below.

- Turn off the lights when you **leave** a room.
- **Unplug** chargers when you're finished using them.
- On chilly days, open **curtains** to let sunlight help warm your home.
- Wear a sweater instead of turning up the **heat**.
- Turn off the TV and other **electronics** when you're done using them.
- Tell an adult if you see a dripping faucet or a drafty **window**.

Word Bank:

Leave	Heat
Unplug	Electronics
Curtains	Window



E	S	P	A	E	G	W	A	U	H	R	W	A	L	D
V	L	W	D	K	V	U	U	E	U	K	I	Q	Y	N
L	Q	E	G	D	H	A	H	E	A	T	N	N	U	W
C	U	U	C	B	S	L	E	D	N	Q	D	O	Y	A
A	D	I	E	T	R	B	J	L	C	W	O	Z	J	F
V	Y	G	I	R	R	P	M	J	B	U	W	S	P	L
Q	Q	U	T	D	F	O	W	L	A	D	N	T	Y	B
N	Q	L	M	O	A	Q	N	V	F	I	X	L	Y	W
Z	G	P	C	Y	I	M	M	I	A	I	L	O	X	B
C	N	N	W	E	Q	X	P	T	C	I	H	G	T	X
C	Y	U	V	Q	Q	V	R	D	P	S	B	G	G	A
B	K	R	O	R	X	U	M	T	O	M	C	V	W	S
J	E	Y	L	S	C	M	V	G	T	N	S	M	F	T
D	X	Y	D	M	U	R	J	G	Q	N	S	E	P	B
Y	A	K	T	J	H	H	G	J	L	Q	K	S	T	F

From the Kitchen of:
Katy Best

RECIPE: **BROCCOLI STUFFING BALLS**



INGREDIENTS:

- 1 box chopped broccoli (frozen)
- 8 oz. package mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 cup melted margarine
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- 1 small onion
- 3 eggs
- 1 box chicken flavored Stove Top

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. cook and drain broccoli, mix with cheese & butter.
3. Add garlic, eggs, and stuffing.
4. Chill for 2-3 hours.
5. Shape into balls.
6. Back at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy* Cooperative



Your Board of Directors

From left (back row): Kenneth Durrett, Vice President, Butler County; Jared McFarland, Forest County; Jody Weaver, President, Clarion County; Todd Shingleton, Butler County (front): Richard Weaver, Clarion County, Nancy Lendyak, Armstrong County, Althea Smith, Secretary/Treasurer, Venango County; Dana Kellogg, Venango County.



central.coop/meet-your-directors

MISSION: CEC safely provides reliable and competitively priced electricity to our consumer-members and was established by and is committed to the communities we serve.

716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker PA 16049

Member Services: 800-521-0570

Outages: 800-282-8610

Newsletter Editor: **Nikki Staley**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



**ON THE GO AND
IN CONTROL.**

MANAGE

your account

REPORT

service issues

VIEW AND PAY

your bill

RECEIVE

key notices

MONITOR

usage 24/7

*...all in the palm of your
hand and online.*



Missed an issue?

Catch up at www.central.coop

Read past issues of Power Lines and
stay up to date on CEC news.

