

# DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

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## Electric cooperatives proudly power a Friday night tradition

There is nothing more exciting than Friday night high school football in Kentucky, and your cooperative plays a crucial role in supporting this beloved tradition. Between 2006 and 2011, a popular television series explored small town football and its importance to students, parents and an entire community. Of course, that Emmy Award-winning series was *Friday Night Lights*.

Kentucky's cities and towns have developed their own unique versions of Friday night lights, and electric cooperatives like South Kentucky RECC are an essential part of the phenomenon. The action gets underway in just a couple of weeks on Friday nights for our local gridiron teams. South Kentucky RECC supplies electricity to football facilities all across our service area and we're proud to be the power source that makes Friday night lights possible for all the schools we serve.

### A pigskin passion

Kentuckians have been passionate about football since the sport began. The Kentucky Encyclopedia notes that the first college game occurred here in 1880. High school football debuted in 1893.

By 1914, football was commonplace at most large high schools. Smaller



schools later followed suit, with the majority of Kentucky high schools fielding a team when the first state championship games were held in 1959.

Friday night football games wouldn't happen until the 1950s and 1960s for most schools in South Kentucky RECC's service area. By then, most rural homes and businesses had access to electricity through their co-op membership. Schools were also powered by co-op electricity, but their football fields weren't equipped with lights. One by one, communities rallied around their hometown teams by raising funds to buy field lights that co-op employees often would help install.

### Under the lights

By the 1970s, playing under the lights was a Friday night tradition. South Kentucky RECC is proud to be a part of this tradition, providing the dependable electricity teams and fans count on.

Co-op electricity lights up stadiums, locker rooms and parking lots. We power scoreboards and public address systems. We're also the power source for concession stands that crank out hot foods and cold beverages for fans.

The high school football season kicks off in late August. Like the teams we serve, South Kentucky RECC is conditioned and ready for a great season.

Let the games begin!



# SKRECC Annual Membership Days

**W**e were excited to see 5,415 members during our annual membership days this year. It was great spending time connecting with our members. Thank you to all who participated, and congratulations to our prize winners.

## DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

### Somerset

65" TV: Norman Merrick  
iPad: Gary Warren  
Tool Combo: Mildred Mullins

### Clinton County

65" TV: William Shelton  
iPad: Sabrena Patrick  
Tool Combo: Brad Cross

### McCreary County

65" TV: Betty Cooper  
iPad: Roscoe Meadows  
Tool Combo: Chad Taylor

### Russell County

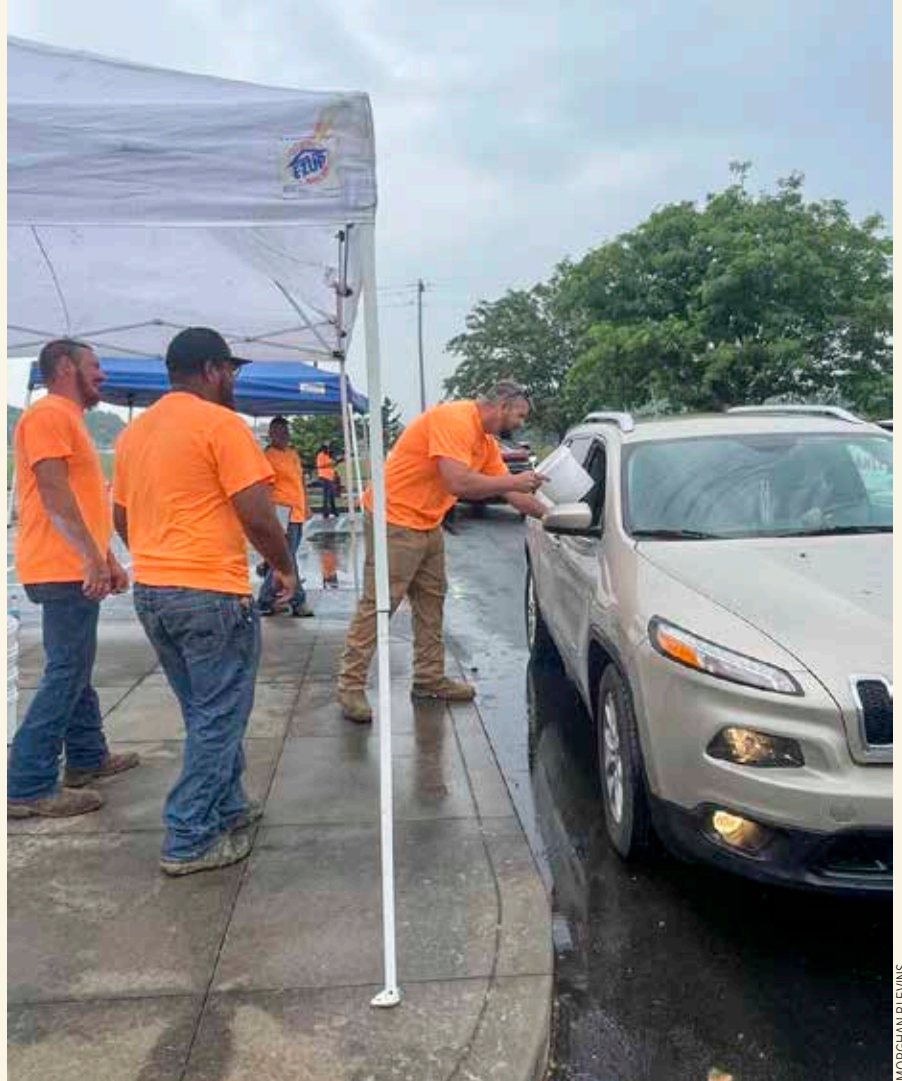
65" TV: Joshua McKinley  
iPad: Michelle Carnes  
Tool Combo: Margaret Sullivan

### Wayne County

65" TV: Frankie Davis  
iPad: Diana Denny  
Tool Combo: Steven Dobbs

*Grand prize winner of a  
2008 Chevy Trailblazer:  
Shannon Boston*

**Congratulations to Charles 'CV'  
Hansford on his election by our  
members to serve District 3.**



MORGHAN BLEVINS



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WADE HARRIS



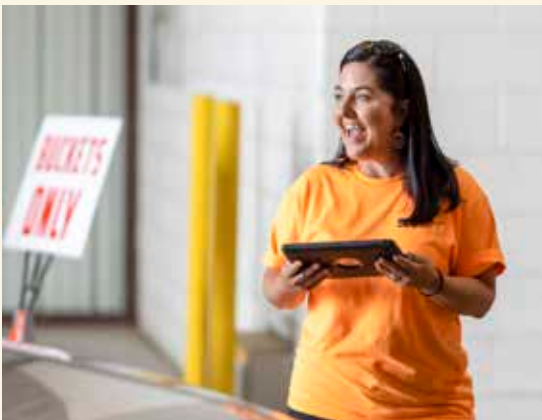
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**Visit [www.skrecc.com/career-opportunities](http://www.skrecc.com/career-opportunities)** to explore exciting career opportunities with the South Kentucky RECC Team.

South Kentucky RECC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

**Visit [www.skrecc.com](http://www.skrecc.com)** to pay your bill online, to visit our outage center, or for more information about the Co-op Connections Program.

**To report an outage 24/7/365**, please call your local office, (800) 264-5112, or set up your account to be able to text outages. Please do not report outages via social media.

**Plug into South Kentucky RECC. Follow us on social media:**



# Safety lessons for students

School is back in session across Kentucky. As your household falls into the back-to-school routine, take a minute to review these electrical safety tips with your kids. Knowing electrical hazards and how to address them gets students off to a good—and safe—start to the school year.

## Elementary/middle school students

- Don't play near or around power lines, poles or pad-mount transformers (those big green boxes) on school property.
- Never place writing utensils or other supplies like paperclips in or near electrical outlets.
- Ensure hands and the area around you are dry before plugging in an electric device. This is especially important in science labs where water may be used.
- When unplugging, always hold the plastic base to pull the plug out of an electrical outlet. Never yank it out by the cord.

## High school students

- If you drive to and from school, obey all traffic laws and practice safety when driving in areas where utility crews are working.

- If you're in an accident involving a downed power line, make sure to assume the line is energized. Remain in the vehicle and call 911. If you must exit the vehicle, jump out of it with feet together, avoiding contact with the vehicle and ground at the same time.

## College students

- Don't overload electrical outlets. Some older dorms or campus housing may not be equipped to handle today's use of electronic appliances and gadgets.
- Keep all electrical appliances and cords away from bedding, curtains and other flammable materials.
- Don't nail or tack an electrical cord to any surface and never run cords under rugs.
- Use power strips with a built-in surge protector to prevent possible damage to electronics and computers.

Share these fundamental electrical safety rules with your students before they head back to school. It could prevent injury or even save a life.

*Sources: Electrical Safety Foundation International, Safe Electricity*



TIM WEBB