

E L E C - O - N E W S

Come See Us At The Yamboree!

The 78th Annual East Texas Yamboree will be held October 14-17, 2015 in Gilmer, Texas. Upshur Rural Electric will have an information booth in the Exhibit Building at the Yamboree Grounds.

Come By and See Us!

We will have giveaways and the opportunity for you to sign up for door prizes. Drawings will be held on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. You need not be present to win!



For Your Information!

Our drive thru is now closed in order to bring you a new kiosk and secure payment drop box that will be available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day! It will be conveniently located where our current drive thru is located and will be readily accessible from your vehicle! (We are straightening the road too!) The kiosk will accept cash, debit cards, credit cards (Visa or Mastercard) and electronic checks. We believe this will bring our members a more convenient method of making a payment as it is available 24 hours a day instead of 8-4:30.

Please pardon our progress!



On October 25, 2015, Upshur Rural Electric will celebrate its' 78th birthday! We have come a long way since 1937. We will forever be indebted to the men and women of rural Upshur County that had a vision and made it a reality!

We now have a Facebook page! Go check it out and like us!



October is National Cooperative Month

Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative is inviting everyone to celebrate cooperatives in Texas—and across America—during National Cooperative Month.

Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique. Seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member's economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

This Co-op Month, we are focusing on “The Electric Co-Op Connection: discover the meaning of membership.” Co-ops exist to serve their members, but they also play a major role in their local communities.

“Cooperative membership is

unique,” says Robert Walker, General Manager for Upshur Rural Electric. “Electric cooperatives are committed to providing members with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity, but there is more to it than that. We're local, and that means we care about our community. This is why we participate in programs such as the East Texas Rural Electric Youth Seminar (ETREYS). We also award a large number of scholarships to graduating seniors as well as providing folders to area schools. We are currently working on a safety demonstration that we are planning on using to educate our community on electrical safety.

Upshur Rural Electric is proud to be part of America's cooperative network, which includes more than 47,000 cooperative businesses. We provide power for more than 45,000 meters in ten counties; maintain 290

miles of transmission lines, 5,873 miles of overhead lines and 264 miles of underground.

“In the 1930's, rural America needed electricity just as much as anyone else,” Walker said. “It was a major challenge that big utilities weren't interested in tackling. So, the men and women of rural America banded together and made it happen. And that's why we celebrate in October—we celebrate the power of working together for the common good and bettering the quality of life for our families, friends and neighbors.”



Serving at the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life in Gilmer were employees (L-R) Chris Young, Jennifer Henson, Lula Johnson, Irma Williams, Sandee Gipson, Kerry Smith and Keli Moore.



**You are invited to stop by our office located at
1200 W. Tyler Street in Gilmer
on Friday, October 30, 2015 for a “treat!”
While you are here, we invite you to VOTE
for your favorite pumpkin that we will have
on display. Our employees are having a “friendly”
little competition between departments and will be counting
on your vote to determine the favorite!**