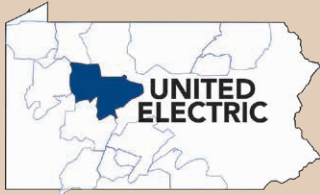




# United Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## UNITED ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

P.O. Box 688  
DuBois, PA 15801-0688  
Customer Service: 888-581-8969  
www.unitedpa.com  
Outage: 800-262-8959  
Office Hours: M - F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Chairman

**Stephen A. Marshall, District 5**  
1030 Donahue Rd.  
Luthersburg, PA 15848  
814-583-7320

#### Vice Chairman

**Timothy D. Burkett, District 6**  
5059 Hamilton Markton Rd.  
Punxsutawney, PA 15767  
814-938-7991

#### Secretary/Treasurer

**Eileen Pisaneschi, District 2**  
1964 River Hill Rd.  
Frenchville, PA 16836  
814-263-4491

### DIRECTORS

**Shanelle Hawk, District 1**  
502 Pine Run Rd.  
Mayport, PA 16240  
814-365-5646

**Arden E. Owens, District 7**  
505 Trout Run Rd.  
Shawville, PA 16873  
814-765-6458

**Richard Petrosky, District 3**  
P.O. Box 612  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-371-8672

**David W. Walker, District 4**  
631 Olanta Rd.  
Olanta, PA 16863  
814-236-3321

**President & CEO**  
Brenda Swartzlander

**Consumer Advocate**  
Lauren Gustafson, ext. 8501

Manager of Marketing & Member Services  
Kristy Smith

## Guest Column

## Contact Us – We Can Help!



TORI URBAN

AT UNITED ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, we are constantly striving to improve our processes to better serve our members. When we have your most accurate and complete contact information, we can continue to provide the quality service you expect and deserve.

This information is important because we cannot discuss your account with anyone other than the members listed. We must verify names, phones numbers and additional personal information. When more than one adult lives in a residence, it's often assumed both are listed on the account, but that's not always the case. Having the most current information about your household is especially important for

discussions about past-due amounts, fees and payment assistance.

As we move into the winter season, some members may be unable to keep up with the balances of their utility accounts. If you need assistance in paying your heating bills, many agencies and programs offer financial assistance, including the following:

- ▶ The **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**, also known as LIHEAP, opens for the season on Nov. 4 and will run through April 4, 2025. Members are eligible whether they rent or own their homes. You can apply with a paper application or at [compass.state.pa.us](http://compass.state.pa.us). Paper applications were mailed to households that applied via paper application last year. Cash grants are available for those who meet certain eligibility requirements, and crisis grants are available in emergency situations.\*
- ▶ The **Emergency Rental Assistance Program** (ERAP) is still available to renters in some counties. Funds are distributed through local Community Action offices. Program details and local office information is available at [dhs.pa.gov/ERAP](http://dhs.pa.gov/ERAP). ERAP applications can also be completed on [compass.state.pa.us](http://compass.state.pa.us).\*
- ▶ United Electric's **Members United Program** offers up to \$400 in assistance and is funded by members helping other members through our Round-Up Program. Please contact our Customer Service Department for current eligibility requirements and guidelines.\*

*\*Every program has its own set of eligibility requirements.*

Program caseworkers will call United Electric to verify and retrieve member information. That's why it's critical that we have your current contact information. Please call our Customer Service Department during regular business hours toll-free at 888-581-8969 for more details and to verify your current contact information. 📞

### TORI URBAN

COLLECTIONS & CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR

## Members United Round-Up Program

*Yes, I would like to help members through the Members United Round-Up Program. Please round up my bill to the nearest dollar amount.*

Name on Account: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Rustic Views

# A Time to Give Thanks

GLENN SCHUCKERS

I HAVE NEVER BEEN SURE whether this month is the end of fall or the beginning of winter. There have been years when November weather has been warm enough for short sleeves, and the leaves have hung on trees until nearly Thanksgiving. It is a journey we have been on before.

One thing I am sure of: One of the most important holidays of the year comes later this month. On Thursday, Nov. 28, we will celebrate Thanksgiving. While it has some religious significance, Thanksgiving is a holiday celebrated almost universally, regardless of religion. That by itself is something unique among holidays.

Thanksgiving is for everyone, no matter their ethnic background, religious affiliation or political leaning. Put another way: Everyone has a reason to celebrate Thanksgiving.

And in case you don't think you have anything to be thankful for, stop and think about when it was first conceived. The idea for a day of giving thanks came when America was embroiled in the Civil War. Every town, city, village, and farm, both North and South, had men and boys who were in battle or at least away from their loved ones because of that war.

One might have thought Americans had precious little to be thankful for at that time, but in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation that read, "I do, therefore, invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise."

If in times of great turmoil people could find things for which to be thankful, who am I to say or even think that I don't have anything for which I should give thanks for now?

Recently, I finished picking and using the produce I grew in a garden. I have a few bushels of apples and I have the apple trees themselves, which have been growing and are now old enough to bear some fruit. I have fresh air to breathe and a sky clear of danger. I have schools that have educated my sons, and I have paths and roads I can use to visit them and other friends and relatives.

I may choose to attend any church or choose not to



GLENN SCHUCKERS

**WHATEVER WEATHER:** There have been some Thanksgivings when I mowed the grass, but in 2018, this is what we woke up to on our front lawn. In case we take nice weather for granted this month, this is what could happen.

attend any church at all. I can associate with anyone I want or not associate with anyone at all. I can speak my mind so long as what I say does not endanger or threaten someone else. I have a roof over my head, clothes on my back and food on my table.

I can be thankful for those things and thousands more too numerous to describe here. They are mostly the same things people were thankful for in 1863. And I assume President Lincoln knew, in the middle of a terrible war, folks shouldn't take the things around them for granted; folks needed to be reminded, even as a war raged, they had reason to give thanks.

Of course, living where we do when we do, it is easy to take an awful lot of things for granted. Had we been living where we do now some 80 years ago, we would have been worried about the outcome of World War II because we almost certainly would have known soldiers who were fighting that war. Had we been living where we do in 1863, we would almost certainly have known men who were fighting a war in our country in a small town named Gettysburg just a little more than 100 miles away.

Is everything in America perfect now? Of course not. Yesterday, I filled my car's gas tank; it costs a lot more now than it did in 1969, the year I graduated from college. But, in 1944 (the year I was born), my dad needed coupons to buy gasoline.

We need Thanksgiving in our farms, fields and gardens. We need Thanksgiving to remind us to take our blessings and be grateful for them. We do not live in a country that is perfect, but we do live in a country that can strive to be better. We have been on that journey for more than 200 years. As we say thanks for all the things we take for granted, we need to remember what we need to do now for next year's fields, fruit trees and gardens. The journey of thankfulness continues. 🍂



**OFFICE CLOSING**  
United Electric Cooperative's office  
will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28,  
in observance of Thanksgiving.



# EXPLORE *Washington, D.C.*

## YOUTH TOUR 2025 HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS: THIS IS YOUR MOMENT!



### Explore

See museums, memorials and monuments all over the city. This all-inclusive trip packs it all in!



### Network

Meet students from nearly every state while you become a part of almost 60,000 Youth Tour alumni.



### Learn

Discover the impact electric cooperatives have nationally and voice your questions to congressional leaders face-to-face.



### Plan

Transportation for the 2025 Youth Tour picks up from many convenient locations across Pennsylvania on Monday, June 16, and returns on Saturday, June 21.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 2/28/25**

**APPLY NOW**

Contact Kristy Smith



[ksmith@unitedpa.com](mailto:ksmith@unitedpa.com)




888-581-8969, ext. 8507

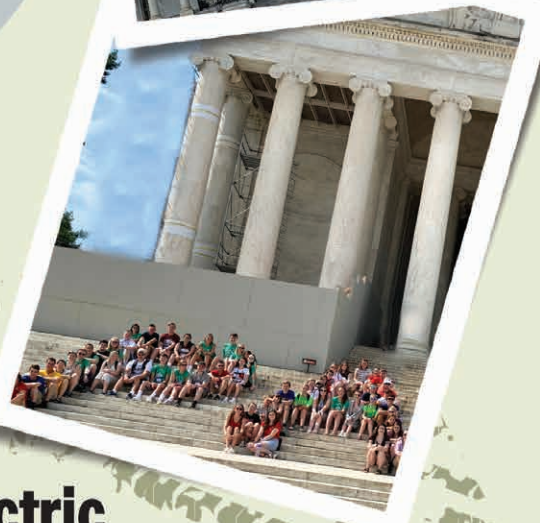


[www.unitedpa.com](http://www.unitedpa.com)



**United Electric**  
COOPERATIVE, INC.

A Touchstone Energy® Partner 





**DREAM.**  
**SHINE.**  
**ACHIEVE.**

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE SHINE THE LIGHT SCHOLARSHIP**

All Students  
Attending or  
Planning to Attend  
Higher Education\*

Application  
deadline is  
**April 15, 2025.**

**Contact Kristy Smith:**

888-581-8969, ext. 8507  
ksmith@unitedpa.com  
www.unitedpa.com

\*Must be a United Electric Cooperative member or dependent. Directors, employees and their families are ineligible to apply.



# HUNTING SAFETY

- Before you begin a hunt, note the location of power lines and other electrical equipment. Dense trees can make them hard to see.
- Obey all signs that advise electrical hazards, especially when placing a tree stand.
- Never use power poles to support a tree stand.
- Never shoot at power lines or electrical equipment.
- When setting up and taking down the stand, make sure you don't make contact with any overhead electrical equipment.
- If you're using a portable generator on your trip, don't run it in a confined area.

For more information visit:

