



Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC

Featured above: : Nolin RECC Line Technician  
Mitch Hunt, 28 years of service

*News you can use*

## Harry Hudgin goes to Washington

*Meet Nolin RECC's Touchstone Energy Honor Flight Recipient*

When he was 17 years of age, Harry Hudgin knew he wanted to join the United States Navy. He spent his 17th birthday at a local restaurant in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, with family and friends. He remembers the carefree day and his festive mood – it was a great day!

Just one year later, Harry would celebrate a birthday he would never forget. This one would prove to be more memorable than the last. In fact, his 18th birthday was nearly his last!

It was March 1945 and Harry was serving on the USS Birmingham. The cruiser was at sea near Iwo Jima. On this particular day, he was in sickbay when he heard the loud commotion on the ship. Harry wasted no time as he left sickbay and headed to the top deck. In an instant, he saw what was to become a day in his life he would never forget.

“My job on the USS Birmingham was to spot war planes,” says Harry. “I left sickbay and ran top deck and saw two suicides heading for the cruiser. Both planes went into a dive and one of them went down three decks with the bomb traveling down an additional deck – it exploded in sickbay. There were 160 casualties on this day and I would have made that number 161 if I had stayed in sickbay!”

As Harry reflects back to that tragic day, he remembers so many that lost their lives. “I was one of six men assigned to lookout,” says Harry. “The damage we took from the two suicide planes was isolated to the bow of the ship. The doors automatically locked so the flooding was contained. We were lucky – I was lucky.”

United States Navy Seaman, 2nd Class, Harry Hudgin served his country until April 1946 when he returned home to Hardin County, Kentucky, where he met and married his wife, Rozetta Frakes. The Hudgins have two children, Kevin Hudgin and Karen Wilson.



World War II veteran Harry Hudgin is overwhelmed as he thanks his grandson, Travis Wilson, for going on the Touchstone Energy Honor Flight with him. The two share a special bond as Travis follows in his granddad's footsteps by joining the U.S. Navy.

On September 21, 2013, Harry traveled to Washington, D.C., to tour the World War II Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and the Iwo Jima Monument. He was selected by

Nolin to represent his co-op on the Touchstone Energy Honor Flight. His 18-year-old grandson, Travis Wilson, served as Harry's guardian on the trip. Travis, the younger of two grandsons, spent a good deal of time as a young child with his granddad. The two would often talk about the war and Harry would tell him stories throughout the years. Travis recently joined the U.S. Navy and will soon start basic training. “I feel like I may have had some influence on my grandson's decision to join the Navy,” says Harry about young Travis.

“Thanks so much for the opportunity to go on this trip,” says Harry. “I've been waiting a long time to see the World War II Memorial, and it was amazing!”

*Visit [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) for more pictures of the Touchstone Energy Honor Flight.*

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# Final Chance to Register for \$100 Bill Credits

**N**olin members still have time to register for one of **20** electric bill credits! The Get Green contest is designed to honor National Co-op Month (October). Plus, one of the 20 members will be awarded a home energy makeover worth up to \$2,000! Nolin will be randomly drawing 20 names at the end of November and each of those members will automatically win a



\$100 bill credit!

If you have not registered, please call the Nolin RECC office at (270) 765-6153 or visit [www.nolinrecc.com/getgreen](http://www.nolinrecc.com/getgreen) to enter your name in the contest. Deadline for entry is November 30, 2013.



## Ceiling Fans Circulate Savings and Comfort

Ceiling fans are economical to operate and can help keep you comfortable during the winter. They circulate the heated air that has risen to the ceiling and redirect it back down toward the floor. Fans used during the winter should be operated at low speeds.

Most ceiling fans are designed to be reversible for winter operation. Make sure that the direction of airflow on your ceiling fan is upward in the winter for maximum effectiveness. This will force heat back down around the walls. Don't forget to reverse the switch when the weather warms up so that the air will help cool your room!

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## SAVING AT THE PHARMACY WAS JUST THE BEGINNING

I've used my Co-op Connections Card to save at my local pharmacy for a while. Now, with the free Healthy Savings benefit, I also save on vision, dental, hearing, lab imaging and chiropractic care.



To find out how your Co-op Connections Card can help you save on health items and services, visit [www.healthysavings.coop](http://www.healthysavings.coop).



[NOLINRECC.COM](http://NOLINRECC.COM)  
[HEALTHYSAVINGS.COOP](http://HEALTHYSAVINGS.COOP)

# Operation Round-Up Benefits Members and Recipients

## *One member at a time makes a big difference in community*

Elizabethtown resident and Nolin RECC member Laura Payne knows what it feels like to give back to her community. She also knows firsthand what it feels like to receive help from her community.

Laura, a long-time member of the co-op, joined Nolin's Operation Round-Up (ORU) soon after the program started in June 2006. Since that time, she has been making changes in her community little by little, month by month. ORU is designed to round up electric bills to the next highest dollar. The extra change in the form of quarters, nickels, dimes, and pennies goes into the ORU account.

So each month Laura's small change, along with more than 5,000 other Nolin members who belong to this self-funded

140 special needs athletes on our bowling teams this year," says Laura. According to Laura, ages range from 8 to 50 and most of the bowlers are from Hardin County.

In June 2012, Operation Round-Up funds were awarded to HCSCO so that the organization could buy softball equipment. Not having formed a softball team prior to this past summer, the boosters, which are mostly parents and special needs teachers, had to start from zero and build their inventory to accommodate the 18 eager ball players.

"This was our first summer playing softball and our team record was 13 wins with only three losses; plus, we finished third in our division at the state tournament," boasts Laura as she reflects on the team's achievements. "The players were ecstatic – but it's not always about winning, it's about participating."

ORU is voluntary and is open throughout the year. Although members can enroll at any time, the co-op periodically runs a campaign drive to inspire members to join ORU. In fact, any Nolin RECC member who signs up for the program before December 5, 2013, will earn a chance to win \$100, \$50, or \$25 in a cash drawing. Those who are already enrolled in ORU will automatically be eligible for the drawing. Members who have multiple accounts will be

entered in the contest for every account enrolled in ORU.

One hundred percent of the ORU funds are put back into the community to help fund charitable and worthy causes. More than \$100,000 has been donated back to community organizations since the inception of the program in 2006.



Nicholas Payne and his mother, Laura, are captured in this photo while attending a recent softball tournament in Bowling Green. Submitted photo.

program, is put into a special account that is used only to help much needed, worthy efforts in the community.

One of those worthy ORU recipients is the Hardin County Special Olympics (HCSCO). As it happens, Laura is a booster parent for this organization. She became familiar with Special Olympics seven years ago when her son, Nicholas (now 15), began showing an interest in sports.

The number of Hardin County Special Olympics participants will vary depending on which sport is in season. "We have



Special Olympics athlete Nicholas Payne, of Elizabethtown, takes a break during last year's regional track and field competition in Louisville. Submitted photo.

Laura Payne says she feels good about her participation in ORU: "I like giving because I know there are people less fortunate; and in my case, my son is a recipient. It warms my heart to see people giving to those who can't always help themselves. Plus, I'm a firm believer in what goes around, comes around."

Local citizens make up a nonprofit board of directors that governs the program. The board reviews applications for community projects and makes decisions on when, where, and how to utilize funds.

If you would like to help others in your community by donating under a dollar a month, check the appropriate box on the back of your electric bill that allows you to sign up for the program, or you can call the Nolin office at (270) 765-6153.

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# How power is restored after an outage

## Restoring an outage

Most members use electricity every day without giving much thought to how it arrives at their home. Many types of generating sources are used and several steps are needed to create and deliver electricity to your home or business. By the time electricity reaches your home, it has most likely traveled hundreds of miles and visited a substation.

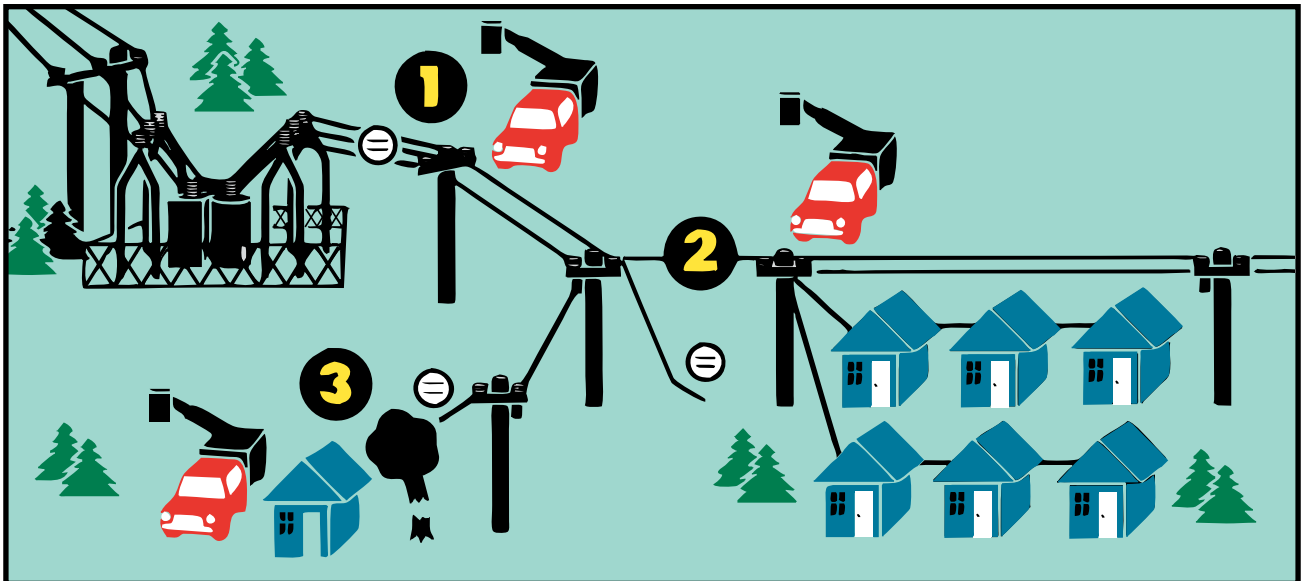
Nolin works hard to deliver the highest level of reliability to our members, but sometimes storms, animals, vehicular accidents, and other circumstances out of our control leave members without power. Having that in mind, we would like to share with you the sequence of how the cooperative restores power during outages.

## WARNING

Do not connect a generator directly to household wiring – the power from a generator can back-feed to power lines and injure or electrocute line workers making repairs. Call a licensed electrician to install all generators.

Make sure you report any outage to Nolin, even if you think a neighbor already has called. This will help line crews locate and repair the problem as soon as possible. To report an outage after normal business hours, call (270) 769-6396, or toll-free (800) 572-1147.

## Getting You Back Online



In any electrical outage, the first priority is to get the greatest number of people back online as quickly as possible. That's why electric co-ops follow a sequence of

repairs that restores power to large groups of consumers before tackling smaller groups and individual consumers. This fictitious example details a typical repair sequence.

- 1** The main distribution line from the substation must be repaired before anyone can have power.
- 2** Next, crews repair the lines that bring power to the greatest number of customers in a community.
- 3** After larger pockets of customers have power, crews repair service lines to individual homes.

# 50 Years and Counting

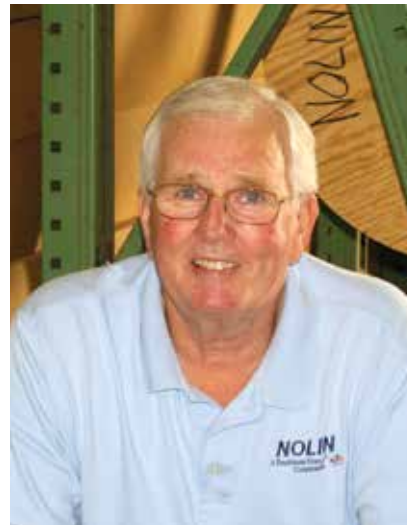
## Nolin's George Shackelford celebrates half a century at co-op

He was 24 years old when George Shackelford asked former Nolin RECC Assistant General Manager Jack Kargle for a job. George had been working for a utilities contractor out of Indiana for the past five years and was traveling from town to town trimming trees on a right-of-way crew.

He was ready to stay in one place for awhile and took a chance that Nolin might be hiring. The chance paid off as George celebrated his 50 year anniversary with Nolin RECC on October 3, 2013!

In 1995 George was promoted to construction superintendent at Nolin. But prior to the past 18 years, George did just about everything from trimming trees to line work to line crew leader. "I loved working on the line crew," says George. "Our days started early and we worked hard."

George has worked with some remarkable people throughout his past 50 years at the co-op, but he credits two with helping him develop his working skills. "Bob Jennings (former Nolin RECC line worker and maintenance superintendent) was one of the biggest influences in my career," says George. "He taught me how to do different things and really set me on the path for a successful career at Nolin. He was my crew leader for a long time, and Bob was great to work with. I remember



George Shackelford in his early days at Nolin RECC and today as he celebrates a milestone!

Bob would always take his time teaching me and showing me the safe and proper way to work with electricity – those lessons were priceless."

Shackelford says he can't look back on the past 50 years without giving credit to Vice President of System Operations Vince Heuser. "When former Construction Superintendent Ed Miller passed away in 1995, Heuser selected me to fill Miller's position. Vince has been great to work with and I couldn't ask for a more supportive supervisor."

Most days for George include assigning line crews various construction jobs. Each morning he collects work orders and assigns crews to complete the projects. Some involve new construction and some are related to changing damaged poles and transformers. "Our new construction has slowed down over the past few years, so Nolin is busy keeping our equipment up-to-date and in good maintenance," says Shackelford. "Nolin has a great group of hard-

working line workers and they are dedicated to keeping our co-op in top-notch condition."

When he's away from the co-op, George stays busy taking care of his four horses. When his oldest granddaughter, Kati, was 10 she asked him for a horse. Now at 23, Kati is a nurse, but occasionally the two enjoy taking the horses on trail rides. George also enjoys spending time with his other two granddaughters Ashley

(18) and Amanda (14).

In addition to his three granddaughters, George enjoys spending time with his daughter, Sherry, and son Alan. He and Alan belong to a bowling league and for the past 30 years, you could find George every Thursday evening at Dix-E-town lanes.

George turns 75 this month. "I feel great and I love my job," says George. "Nolin means everything to me. The co-op has an excellent reputation and it's a good place to work. It must be—I stayed here 50 years!"

George says he doesn't have any immediate plans to retire, but he thinks this spring may be a good time to call it quits after 50 years of service to the co-op!

This year Nolin RECC celebrates its 75th anniversary. It's fitting that one of Nolin's employees celebrates the longest running tenure in the history of the co-op.

## Stay Safe at a Dangerous Job



Farming is one of the most dangerous professions in the country, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Machinery and vehicles help on the job but also contribute to many farming accidents. Electricity is essential to the operation of a farm but, like so many other tools, can be dangerous. Safe Electricity encourages farmers to protect themselves from the hazards of electricity and to share electrical safety information with family and workers to help keep them safe this harvest season.

The family of Jim Flach knows the dangers of electricity on the farm all too well. Jim was working at a neighbor's farm when he parked the sprayer in the end row. Unknowingly, the sprayer's arms were in contact with overhead power lines. Jim stepped out of the vehicle and received a severe electric shock when he became the path to ground for electricity. A few months later, he died as a result of his injuries.

Jim's family is working with Safe Electricity to prevent accidents like this by sharing Jim's story. Safe Electricity recommends the following tips to help you stay safe on the farm:

- Keep yourself and equipment 10 feet away from overhead power lines in all directions, at all times.
- Conduct a survey before you begin work. Know where overhead power lines are, and have a plan to stay far from them.
- Use a spotter. When raising any equipment such as augers, grain trucks, and even ladders, it can be difficult to tell how close you are to overhead power lines. An extra pair of eyes

from a spotter can help you stay far away from power lines.

- Know what to do if you come in contact with an overhead power line. Do not leave the vehicle until utility workers have cut off electricity and confirmed that it is safe to exit the vehicle.
- Always lower portable augers or elevators to their lowest possible level—under 14 feet—before moving or transporting them. Variables like wind, uneven ground, shifting weight, or other conditions can make it difficult to control raised equipment.
- Never try to move a power line to clear a path. Power lines start to sag over time, bringing them closer to farmers and others who need to avoid them. Contact your utility to repair sagging power lines.

For more information on electrical safety on the farm, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

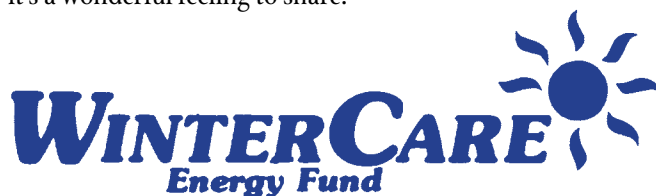


## HELP

This winter, thousands of people all over Kentucky will suffer from the cold, because they simply can't afford to heat their homes. Help! Add \$1.00, \$5.00, or more for WinterCare to your electric bill payment.

Every penny of your contribution will go toward keeping people warm.

Being cold is a terrible thing. Open your hands and your heart to warm others: it's a wonderful feeling to share.



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# Affording Energy

## Things you can do to prevent disconnection

Although Kentucky is fortunate to have one of the lowest electricity rates in the nation, energy costs can still impact a family's budget during the winter when usage is higher than usual.

We understand in these tough times that budget crunching may have you juggling bills. No employee at Nolin likes to disconnect a member's electric service for nonpayment. It's never pleasant, especially during the cold months.

If you receive a cutoff notice in the mail, don't wait until the final day to call the office for help. Members receive their cutoff notice in the mail around 10 days prior to the disconnect date. Often we can handle payment extensions over the phone, so it pays to call first and as soon as possible.

Once a member is disconnected for nonpayment, they are required to pay with credit/debit card, money order, or cash to reconnect electric service. Credit or debit payments can be made over the phone.

Payment assistance agencies in our area are listed on the Nolin RECC late notice statement. Members needing assistance are urged to contact these agencies for information and help:

**Cabinet for Health & Family Services (270-766-5099)**

**Community Action of Central Kentucky**

**(Hardin Co. 270-769-1927) (LaRue Co. 270-358-3937)**

**Helping Hand of Hope**

**Radcliff Office (270-351-4673)**

**Elizabethtown Office (270-769-3092)**

Please call Nolin at (270) 765-6153 before your bill is late so you can avoid unnecessary charges.

## Nonpayment Service Charges

**If service has been disconnected for nonpayment, the following charges apply:**

**Service Charge to Disconnect: \$20.00**

**Connection and Reconnection Charges**

**During business hours \$20.00**

**After business hours \$50.00**

**Accounts subject to disconnect may be required to pay a deposit or an additional deposit if the usage has increased.**



COMISTOCK/STOCKBYTE

## Budget your electric bill all year

Let us help you manage your dollars so that your electric bill stays in line with your budget. With the continuing increases in necessities like gasoline, food, and clothing, co-op members need all the help they can get these days. These daily increases account for the rapid popularity of Nolin's budget billing program.

Budget billing is simple...the program allows members to pay an average dollar amount each month based on the previous 12 months' usage. In other words, members no longer receive higher bills in the winter and summer due to increased HVAC usage.

During the winter months, Nolin enrolls about 75 members a month in budget billing. However, don't wait until you see high heating bills to enroll – today is the time to sign up – when the high bills arrive, it's too late!

You don't have to visit the Nolin RECC office to sign up for budget billing – you can enroll over the telephone by calling (270) 765-6153, or visit [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) and click on "Residential Bill Payment."

**We've Got Your  
\$75 Number! \$75  
WIN \$75 Worth of FREE Electricity**

*Nolin News* features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are 2 randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at 765-6153, and **win a \$75 CREDIT on your electric bill.** You must identify your number and call by the 15th day of the month's issue containing your number. Account numbers could be anywhere in your *Nolin News*!

**New Member Credits**

All members signing up for new service with Nolin receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Nolin are automatically eligible to win a \$20 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Nolin member receives a bill credit on their next statement. Congratulations to our latest winner, **Betty J. Tsuldin**, of **Elizabethtown.**

**Online payments**

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at **www.nolinrecc.com**. Click on "YourAccount" to check your consumption history and make payments by debit card, Visa, or MasterCard. To apply for budget billing and automatic draft online, click on "Residential Bill Payment."

**Walls  
family  
receives  
\$75 bill  
credit**

Johnny and Mildred Walls of Grayson County look for their Nolin RECC account number every month in the *Nolin News*. They have been looking especially close this year since the reward was increased to \$75 in honor of Nolin's 75th anniversary.



"When I saw our account number last month, I couldn't believe it," says Mildred. "I know my number because I've been looking for it to come up in the newsletter for a long time."

The Wallses have been members of Nolin since 1970 and say they are regulars at the annual meeting, but never win any prizes. "This makes up for all the times our name wasn't drawn for an annual meeting prize," says Mildred.

Mr. Walls commented about the years he has been making electric bill payments to Nolin saying, "That's a lot of money to Nolin over the past 43 years, but it has been well worth every penny." He added, "Nolin has treated us very good - I'm just glad we're members of the co-op."



**Thanksgiving Holiday Closing**  
The Nolin RECC office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday November 28 and 29.

**HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC**

**ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE**

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

**RADCLIFF OFFICE**

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 351-2199  
(Office closed from 12:30-1:30 daily)

**TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247**

**EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER — (270) 769-6396**

**EMERGENCY TOLL-FREE CALLS — 1-800-572-1147**

Web site: [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com)  
e-mail: [comments@nolinrecc.com](mailto:comments@nolinrecc.com)

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