Halloween is the one of the oldest holidays still celebrated today. It’s one of the most popular holidays, second only to Christmas. While millions of people celebrate Halloween without knowing its origins and myths, the history and facts of Halloween make the holiday more fascinating.

Some people view Halloween as a time for fun, putting on costumes, trick-or-treating and having theme parties. Others view it as a time of superstitions, ghosts, goblins and evil spirits that should be avoided at all costs. Shelby Electric Cooperative employees hope to combine all things into their Spooktacular II.

“Spooktacular I exceeded our expectations so we decided to make an even bigger and better event for Spooktacular II,” said cooperative employee Vicki Blackwell who is organizing the event again this year.

“We wanted to create a fun, safe place for kids to come trick-or-treat and this year we’ve expanded the size of the haunted maze. It may be a little scarier but it will still be geared towards the younger kids. It is going to be better than last year,” continued Blackwell. “We want it to be scary, but not too scary.”

Several employees are getting items to use in the haunted maze, which includes the usual monsters and graveyards, but in a safe environment.

“This is a great way for the inside and outside cooperative employees to work together on a community project,” said cooperative spokesperson Kevin Bernson. “And that is one of the core principles of a cooperative, Commitment to Community,” continued Bernson.

Spooktacular II will be from 6 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the cooperative headquarters in Shelbyville. There will be better traffic control this year. For more information call the cooperative at 217-774-3986 or visit www.shelbyelectric.coop.

Editors note: The date for Spooktacular II will be held the same night as Shelbyville’s official trick-or-treat night still to be determined.
OUTAGE REPORT

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Crews & equipment from Shelby Electric Cooperative were among hundreds of other cooperative employees from several states responding to the Gulf Coast Region to help with restoring power in the wake of Hurricane Gustav. The crewmembers include (left to right) Foremen Steve Darnell and Kris Koehler, Linemen Roger Jones, Brad Wright and Brian Bunton, Mechanic Craig Atteberry, Lineman Blake Summers and (kneeling) Lineman Brian Chevalier. The men were initially being sent to Dixie Electric Membership Corporation in Greenwell Springs, LA. Crews returned home on September 12.
Dunaway Hired As Groundman

Nick Dunaway is now employed at Shelby Electric Cooperative as a Groundman. Dunaway has been working as part-time summer help since May 2005.

He graduated from Shelbyville High School in 2004 and then graduated from Eastern Illinois University with a degree in finance. He graduated this spring from Eastern and continued as part-time summer help at the cooperative this past summer.

“Nick is a smart, hard-working kid and despite his finance degree we are happy he wants to start his career working with the line crews,” said Operations Superintendent Terry Oldham. “Working the past four summers with us, as summer help, he already is familiar with the guys and how we operate and that is a big plus,” added Oldham.

In his spare time Nick enjoys anything outdoors and spending time with friends and family.

He started full time at the cooperative on August 21.

We welcome Nick to the cooperative family.

Tomblin Changes Positions Within Cooperative

Shelby Electric Cooperative welcomes Monica Tomblin, who used to work as a Customer Service Representative (CSR) for Shelby DirecTV, over to the electric side of the business.

Monica was married over the summer to Russ Tomblin, a teacher at Moulton School in Shelbyville. When she returned home from their honeymoon she changed positions within the cooperative.

Monica worked for approximately four years as a CSR for Shelby DirecTV before moving to the electric side of the business to work as an Administrative Assistant to Josh Shallenberger, the cooperative’s Chief Operating Officer.

Monica said she is looking forward to new challenges and opportunities this new position will bring.

Congratulations Monica on your wedding and your new position with the cooperative.

Are You Ready for High Speed Internet?

Tired of waiting for DSL and cable modems to reach you? Tired of slow Internet connections from your dial-up or enhanced dial-up? Ready to switch to a more competitively priced broadband solution? If you’ve answered yes to any of these questions then Shelby Electric Cooperative has your answer.

Through its subsidiary Shelby DirecTV, Shelby Electric is now offering its new wireless Internet product PWR-net.coop. As the cooperative builds out its system in phases, it will eventually cover most of the nine counties it serves with electricity. “We will grow and expand where the demand is,” said James Coleman, Cooperative President & CEO. “Much of the rural areas still do not have an affordable, viable broadband option and we feel PWR-net.coop will fill that void,” Coleman added.

For more information about PWR-net.coop call Shelby DirecTV today at (217) 774-2323 or log onto PWR-net.coop or email subscriberinterest@pwr-net.coop.
**Jobs.**

Cooperative businesses are run by those who live and work in the community. So we keep jobs at home.

Lots of businesses talk about growing their communities. For cooperatives, it’s not just talk. It’s what we’re all about.

We’re in it for the long haul … strengthening communities through jobs, service and community involvement.

Maybe that’s why we’re more trusted than businesses owned by Wall Street investors.

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**Cooperatives**

Owned by Our Members, Committed to Our Communities

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If the power goes out will you be ready?

No more worries of blackouts, brownouts or weather related outages. Just piece of mind that 24 hours a day, 7 days a week your home and family are protected against electrical failure.

- **24/7 BLACKOUT PROTECTION**
- **HANDS-FREE OPERATION**
- **NO MANUAL STARTING OR REFUELING**
- **PERMANENTLY INSTALLED**
- **RUNS ON NATURAL GAS OR LP GAS**
- **FINANCING NOW AVAILABLE**

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*GuARDIAN* by Generac Power Systems, Inc.

Shelby Electric Cooperative Members: Ask how you can save $200 off the price and save 15% per month off your energy bill!

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Call Shelby Energy today for more information.

Or contact Matt Figgins of Figgins Electric at 217-343-3169 or 217-682-3292.