

IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

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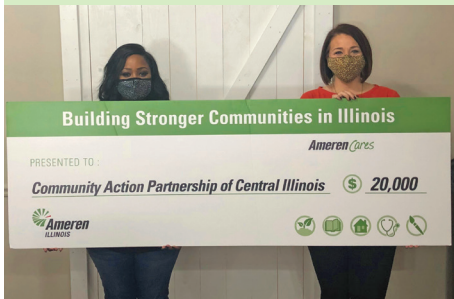


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BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES WITH HOME REPAIRS

A \$20,000 donation to Community Action Partnership of Central Illinois (CAPCIL) will help support Workcamp for Lincoln this summer. In partnership with Group Mission Trips, a national organization, the camp will bring youth from across the country to complete home repairs at no cost for income-qualified residents, veterans and disabled residents of Logan County. Funds from the Ameren Illinois grant will be used to purchase materials at local suppliers.



Breann Titus, right, director of Agency Development, CAPCIL, accepts a \$20,000 contribution on behalf of CAPCIL from Stacey Young, community relations manager, Ameren Illinois.



\$30,000 in AmerenCares Grants will Benefit McLean County Youth and Families

We are proud to partner with nonprofits who share our mission to power the quality of life in communities across Illinois. In March, three McLean County agencies – McLean County Boys and Girls Club, Children's Home and Aid Crisis Nursery, and Oakdale Elementary Promise Council – each received a \$10,000 AmerenCares grant to help local youth and families impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

AmerenCares

The three grants were made available through the AmerenCares program, which connects Ameren to the communities it serves through charitable giving and volunteering.

STAY IN THE KNOW WITH AMEREN ALERTS

Ameren Alerts make it easy to stay in the know when you're on the go. From bill reminders to power outage status, we'll automatically send timely updates on account activity via text or email when you enroll in our alert service.

Go to **AmerenIllinois.com/Alerts** to sign up today. You can also text **REG** to **AMEREN (263736)** to sign up for alerts.



NATIONAL LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK JUNE 20 - 26

'Tis the season for thunderstorms, and there is no safe place from lightning when you are outside. If you hear thunder, seek shelter indoors, bringing pets with you.

Even indoors, lightning can travel through pipes, wires and metal components in concrete walls or flooring. Follow these precautions while you wait for the storm to pass:

- **Stay off corded phones.**
- **Don't touch electrical equipment such as computers, televisions or cords.**
- **Avoid plumbing. Do not wash your hands, take a shower or wash dishes.**
- **Do not lie on concrete floors or lean against concrete walls.**

If someone has been struck by lightning, call 911 and care for the victim immediately. You are not in danger of being shocked by the victim.



Helicopters Take Line Work to New Heights

This spring, Ameren completed electric system upgrades in southern Illinois that took line work to new heights. Highly specialized contractor line crews, working on behalf of Ameren, worked from helicopters to make upgrades to the transmission grid to enhance energy reliability and resilience for Madison County and surrounding counties.

Crews spent three weeks flying around and working on the steel and wooden pole structures along a 6-mile stretch within residential and rural areas of East Alton, Wood River, and other nearby communities. Their work included adding ground wires with fiber optics capability to the structures to enable communications with modern automation devices and other equipment on the electric grid.



ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS HITS THE STREETS IN PEKIN

Ameren Illinois is proud to partner with school districts to expand the use of electric school buses in our service territory. In Pekin, we recently helped to install state-of-the-art charging infrastructure to support the city's new all-electric school bus. Learn more at AmerenIllinois.com/ElectricBus.

LEADING THE CHARGE FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

There are about 100,000 public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in service today. In the United States, an estimated 9.6 million charging stations will be needed by 2030. Ameren Illinois is proud to be among 10 energy companies that have joined forces to build an extensive network of EV charging stations across the Midwest. This network of stations will allow EV drivers to travel 1,200 miles from Detroit to Colorado – and points in between – with ample locations to recharge along the way. The group aims to have the charging infrastructure in place by the end of 2022.



\$65 Million Pipeline Upgrade in Belleville Moves to Phase 2

In early April, Ameren Illinois began phase 2 of a \$65 million project to modernize its natural gas energy delivery infrastructure in and around Belleville. Along a 6-mile stretch, crews are replacing vintage steel natural gas transmission pipeline dating back to the 1950s with new, 16-inch steel pipeline. Completion of the pipeline is expected by mid-September.

By strengthening the integrity and reliability of our natural gas system, this project positions Ameren Illinois to better meet the energy needs of local residents and businesses, while supporting economic development in St. Clair County.



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AMEREN EARNS 2021 GREAT PLACE TO WORK™ CERTIFICATION

For the fifth year in a row, Ameren Corporation has been Certified™ by Great Place to Work®. The prestigious award is based entirely on what current employees say about their experience working at Ameren. This year, 83% of employees said Ameren is a great place to work – 24 points higher than the average U.S.-based company.



**ILLINOIS RENTAL
PAYMENT PROGRAM**

On the Loose: Mylar Balloons Can Wreak Havoc on the Grid

From graduations to weddings, this time of year more people take their parties outdoors. If metallic Mylar balloons are part of your celebration, please handle and dispose of them properly to reduce the potential for power outages.

Mylar balloons are metallic and conduct electricity. If they come into contact with power lines or other energized equipment, they can cause surges that have the ability to knock out power, start fires and cause significant damage to the electric grid.

Be sure to keep Mylar balloons tethered and weighted while in use. After the party, puncture and properly dispose of them to ensure they do not get loose and end up in power lines and substations. With a little extra care, you can help us keep the lights on.

The popular party accessories also pose an unnecessary safety hazard for linemen who have to safely untangle and remove what's left of the balloons from energized high voltage lines.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR RENTERS

The Illinois Housing Development Authority may have COVID-19 emergency funds available to help with rental payments. Visit **IHDA.org** for more information.