

June 29, 2006

## **Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas donate poles/labor to the Miracle League of Arkansas**

Little Rock, Ark. — June 29, 2006 — The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas donated and installed light poles for the Miracle League of Arkansas on Wednesday at the Little Rock Junior Deputy Baseball Complex.

“We are honored to be able to assist with such an awesome program in the Little Rock community,” said Doug White, vice president of systems services for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas. “Throughout Arkansas, the 17 distribution cooperatives provide assistance to community-oriented causes, like the Miracle League of Arkansas.”

Apprentice linemen assisting with the installation of the poles were: Aaron Anderson with First Electric Cooperative’s Stuttgart district office; Brian Fiedler and Lloyd Scifres with First Electric Cooperative’s Benton district office; Shawn Hammonds and Clark Head with First Electric Cooperative’s Jacksonville district office; and Joey Rogers and Mark Rhodes with Southwest Arkansas Electric Cooperative in Texarkana. Doug Evans, interim manager of safety and loss control for Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., supervised the installation.

The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas will install the cross-arms and lights for the Miracle League later this summer, White said.

According to the Miracle League of Little Rock, once the field is open, the nonprofit organization will oversee the special baseball field and recruit players from local nonprofits serving children and adults with special needs. Children from neighboring communities will also be invited to play on the field.

Arkansas will be among 25 states with Miracle League baseball fields. The field will include special features such as cushioned synthetic turf to prevent injuries, wheelchair accessible dugouts and a completely flat surface to eliminate barriers to wheelchair bound or visually impaired players. Special rules include: every player bats once each inning, all base runners are safe, every player scores a run before the inning is over (last one up gets a home run), community children and volunteers serve as “buddies” to assist the players, and each team and each player wins every game.

The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas comprise 17 electric distribution cooperatives; Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Inc. (AECI), a Little Rock-based cooperative that provides various services to the distribution cooperatives; and Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. (AECC), a generation and transmission cooperative. The distribution cooperatives provide electricity to approximately 460,000 members, or customers, in Arkansas and surrounding states.

For additional information, contact:

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