

THE *Southwestern*

A SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER MAGAZINE

MAY 2023 • VOLUME 75 • ISSUE 5

Youth Day

STUDENTS REPRESENT
CO-OPS AT STATE
CAPITOL

BOARD
CANDIDATE
NOMINATIONS

READER CONTEST

PAY-AS-YOU-GO

CO-OP KITCHEN

Flying High

DISC GOLF
GROWS IN
POPULARITY



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Cross country.

A pilot dusts crops south of Altamont.

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Southwestern Electric Cooperative reserves the right to re-print member comments and correspondence in its cooperative educational and promotional materials.

The Southwestern (USPS 612-500) is published monthly by Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. Periodical postage paid at Greenville, IL. Subscriptions cost \$9.67 per year. Comments or questions regarding material in this publication may be mailed to Joe Richardson, editor of The Southwestern, c/o Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc., 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246, or e-mailed to joe.richardson@sweci.com.

Postmaster: Send address corrections to The Southwestern, 525 U.S. Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246.

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ON THE COVER

More than 200 high school students representing 23 electric and telephone cooperatives traveled to Springfield, Ill., on March 29 to tour the Capitol and meet with legislators during Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day. Six area students (back cover) represented Southwestern Electric Cooperative at the event. Our story appears on page 8.



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CO-OP REMINDERS

May 8 Payment processing systems will be unavailable from midnight to 4 a.m., while we perform system maintenance. No payments will be processed during this time. We will resume processing payments at 4:01 a.m.

May 29 Offices closed for of Memorial Day.



E-BILLING PROVIDES QUICK, EASY WAY TO AVOID FEES ASSOCIATED WITH POSTAL DELAYS

Paperless billing — or e-billing — provides a simple, reliable solution to penalties associated with postal delays and late payments. An e-bill is an electronic billing statement delivered to your email address. Our e-bill looks like our paper bill. Since it's sent to your inbox instead of your mailbox, it always arrives on time.

In addition to our e-bill, we also offer electronic notifications you can use as reminders, or to confirm your payment has been made. You can receive our reminders, alerts and notifications by text, voice mail and email.

Maybe you'd prefer not to think about your bill from month to month. With our Auto-Pay service, you won't need to. Auto-Pay automatically deducts your monthly payment from your checking account, or debit card or credit card. It's safe, convenient and reliable. Like our e-billing options, Auto-Pay is free and simple to set up.

If you'd like to know more, please call Southwestern Electric's billing department at 800-637-8667, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Our team will be happy to help you.





Remember When?

Do you remember when the lights came on? When the poles went up and the lines came through?

If you weren't there, did you hear stories from your parents or grandparents about the days before electricity lit our way? We're interested in hearing about the early days of electrification. We'd like to know how electricity changed life in your home, on your farm, or at your school.

Please send your stories to Joe Richardson at joe.richardson@sweci.com or via traditional mail to: 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246.

Reader Contest

We've hidden an image in your magazine. Your job is to find it. This month's image resembles the flag pictured below.

The actual image may be larger or smaller than what you see here. Most months, we may change the color or reverse or alter the image we've hidden to make the contest more challenging.

This month we're flying the American flag, and while we've shifted its size to accommodate our page layout, we haven't otherwise altered a thread of Old Glory.

If you find the image, email us or send a postcard with your name, address, phone number, and the page number where you found the image.

Please email us at thesouthwestern@sweci.com or send your postcard to The Southwestern Magazine, Southwestern Electric Cooperative, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246.

Entries must be postmarked or in our thesouthwestern@sweci.com inbox by the first day of the month following the month of publication. For our May contest, we'll need your entries in our inbox or postmarked by June 1.

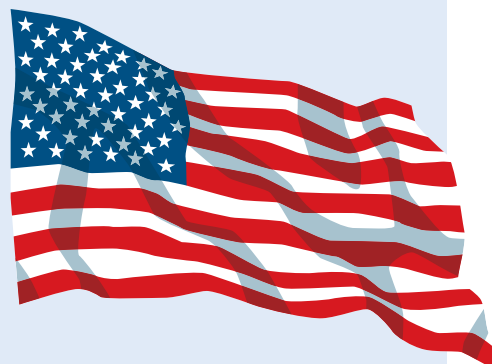
We'll choose one winner in a random drawing. Our winner will receive a \$25 credit on an upcoming electric bill. We'll publish the name of this month's contest winner in the July issue of The Southwestern.

MARCH WINNER

Congratulations to Michael Higgerson of Troy. As the winner of our March Hide & Seek contest drawing, Michael will receive a \$25 credit on an upcoming electric bill. Thanks to everyone who found the clover in our March issue. You'll find Hide & Seek rules and this month's image at right.

RULES TO PLAY BY

- One entry per membership per month.
- A membership can only win once per calendar year.
- No phone calls, texts, social media posts, walk-in traffic, carrier pigeons, singing telegrams or other clever means of communication that may occur to you.
- Please respond *only* by emailing us at thesouthwestern@sweci.com or by sending a postcard to The Southwestern Magazine, Southwestern Electric Cooperative, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246.
- Entries submitted by other methods will be disqualified.
- Entries emailed to other Southwestern Electric email addresses will be disqualified, deleted, then disqualified again, just to be safe.
- Entries mailed to other departments or included with other correspondence will likely never find their way to the editor. If they do, they'll be disqualified. Also, he'll add you to his list of people who can't follow instructions. It's a long list and not one you care to be part of.
- May contest entries must be in our inbox or postmarked by June 1.
- We'll never hide the image on the front or back cover or on the page where we list the rules.



Board Candidate Nominations

Filing Deadline: May 25

As a not-for-profit cooperative, Southwestern Electric is both owned and governed by its members — the consumers who receive their electricity from the co-op. A board of directors, consisting of nine members democratically elected by their peers, is responsible for overseeing the general direction and financial stability of the organization.

The cooperative's service territory is divided into three voting districts. Three of the nine board seats — one per voting district — are open for election each year. District I encompasses the co-op's territory in Macoupin, Madison and St. Clair counties; District II includes Bond, Clinton and Montgomery counties; and District III covers Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Marion and Shelby counties. The three directors whose terms expire in 2023 are Marvin Warner in District I, Sandy Nevinger in District II, and Annette Hartlieb in District III.

Potential board candidates are advised to begin their preparations for the 2023 election soon. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the 2023 Nominations Committee are printed below.

Any Southwestern Electric member interested in running for a seat on the board, or who would like to submit another member's name for consideration, must notify a Nominations Committee member from the appropriate district prior to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 25.

If the nomination deadline is missed, members may also file for candidacy by petition. Such a petition, bearing

Any Southwestern Electric member interested in running for a seat on the board, or who would like to submit another member's name for consideration, must notify a Nominations Committee member from the appropriate district prior to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 25.

the names, addresses and signatures of at least 15 Southwestern Electric Cooperative members, must be filed at the co-op's headquarters by Monday, June 26. Any candidate who doesn't file by June 26, 2023 will not be eligible to run for election until 2024.

All members 18 years of age or older and in good financial standing with the co-op are eligible to serve on the board of directors, so long as they meet the qualifications set forth in Section 5(B) of the bylaws. The relevant sections of the cooperative's bylaws are reprinted on the next page for your reference.

The results of the 2023 board election will be announced at Southwestern Electric's 85th Annual Meeting of Members, which will take place on Saturday, September 9. Each director will be elected to serve a three-year term beginning on September 9 and ending on the date of the 2026 Annual Meeting.

Questions about board service and the election process should be directed to Susan File, Southwestern Electric Cooperative's vice president of member services. She may be reached by telephone at (800) 637-8667, or by e-mail at susan.file@sweci.com.

2023 Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee will meet at the cooperative's headquarters to submit the names of qualified director candidates. Members interested in submitting a name for consideration, or who would like to run for a board seat themselves, must notify a Nominations Committee member from their district by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 25.

District I	Duane Meyer	6223 Staunton Rd	Edwardsville, IL 62025	(618) 520-9854
	Dan Joachimsthaler	88 Timberwood Lane	Collinsville, IL 62234	(618) 979-5690
	Dennis Petry	8201 West Kirsch Road	Troy, IL 62294	(618) 667-6868
District II	Rick Hilliard	1316 Spring Drive	Greenville, IL 62246	(618) 882-8360
	Brad Lurkins	1466 Airport Ave	Greenville, IL 62246	(618) 977-3464
	Clarence Zimmerman	857 RC Cardinal Lane	Greenville, IL 62246	(618) 530-5388
District III	Joe Lawson	274 E 1700 Ave	Vandalia, IL 62080	(618) 780-3731
	Tony Koberlein	2098 N 2200 St	St. Elmo, IL 62458	(618) 292-6952
	Gordon Moore	1946 N 725 St	Vandalia, IL 62471	(785) 375-7454

Candidates for the Board of Directors: Qualification & Nomination Guidelines

Section 5 (B): Qualifications

To be eligible to become or remain a Director of the Cooperative, such person:

1. Shall not be a Close Relative of an incumbent Director;
2. Shall not be an employee or agent of the Cooperative;
3. Shall not be, directly or indirectly, employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise, business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to, among others, the Members of the Cooperative;
4. Shall not be, directly or indirectly, interested in any contract, permit, franchise or other similar agreement or authorization to which the Cooperative is or may be a party;
5. Shall be a Member in good standing with the Cooperative and receiving energy or service from the Cooperative at his primary place of abode;
6. Shall be a Natural Person;
7. Shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age; provided, however, that a duly elected officer or duly appointed agent of any Member which is not a Natural Person shall be exempt from the qualifications stated in Section 5(B)(6) and Section 5(B)(7) if such Member is in good standing with the Cooperative and receiving energy or service from the Cooperative.

Section 4 (D): Election of Directors

At each annual meeting of the Members of the Cooperative, Directors shall be elected by secret written ballot cast (except as otherwise provided in this section) by the Members present at such annual meeting and qualified to vote under the terms and conditions of the Bylaws. Such election shall be conducted as follows:

1. Appointment of Nominations Committee: The Board of Directors shall appoint, not less than one hundred fifteen (115) nor more than one hundred forty-five (145) days prior to the date of the annual meeting of the Members of the Cooperative, a Nominations Committee which shall consist of nine (9) Natural Persons, three from each Directorate District. Members of the Nominations Committee shall not be employees, agents, officers, or Directors of the Cooperative, shall not be known candidates for Director, and shall not be Close Relatives of employees, agents, officers, Directors of the Cooperative, or known candidates for Director.
2. Candidates Nominated by Nominations Committee: On or before eighty-five (85) days prior to the annual meeting of the Members of the Cooperative, the Nominations Committee shall:
 - a. Nominate as many Natural Persons who meet the qualifications stated in Section 5B of these Bylaws as the Nominating Committee deems desirable to be candidates for election to the Board of Directors; and,

- b. Post a list of the names of such Natural Persons so nominated by the Nominations Committee at the principal place of business of the Cooperative.

3. Candidates Nominated by Petition: In addition to those candidates named by the Nominations Committee, any fifteen (15) or more Members of the Cooperative may nominate such other Natural Persons as candidates for election to the Board of Directors by filing with the Secretary of the Cooperative not less than seventy-five (75) days prior to the annual meeting of the Members of the Cooperative a written petition bearing the signatures, names and addresses of at least fifteen Members of the Cooperative nominating such other Natural Persons as candidates for election to the Board of Directors and listing the candidate's name, address, age, and telephone number. The Secretary of the Cooperative shall post such petition at the principal places of business of the Cooperative where the list of nominations made by the Nominations Committee was posted.
4. Notice to Members of Nomination of Candidates: The Secretary of the Cooperative shall mail or cause to be mailed to the Members notice of the annual meeting of the Members of the Cooperative at least fifteen (15) days but not more than sixty (60) days before the date of said annual meeting a statement of the names, addresses, ages, and telephone numbers of all candidates nominated for election to the Board of Directors. Such statement shall identify the Directorate District to which such candidate may be elected, and such statement shall identify which candidates were nominated by the Nominations Committee and which candidates were nominated by petition filed by Members of the Cooperative.

VOTING OPTIONS

Absentee: at the cooperative's headquarters (525 US Route 40, Greenville) Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., August 25-September 8. (excluding Labor Day).

In Person: Members may vote for board candidates during the co-op's annual meeting, Saturday, September 9. The time and site of Southwestern Electric Cooperative's 2023 Annual Meeting of Members has yet to be determined.

CATEGORIES OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Individual Residential: One name is listed on the account, and only this individual is entitled to voting rights.

Joint Residential: Two names are listed on the account, but only one of them may vote in a given election.

Commercial: The name of the business is listed on the account, and one duly appointed officer or agent may vote in a given election.

Students Represent Co-op on Illinois Youth Day Tour

Words by Joe Richardson | Photos by Joe Richardson & Mike Barns

Six high school students from Southwestern Illinois traveled to Springfield, Ill., on March 29 to tour the Capitol and meet with legislators during Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day. Hosted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), Springfield, Ill., and sponsored locally

by Southwestern Electric Cooperative, the program encouraged students to explore their interest in government.

“Our student-delegates learned about leadership from legislators, state officers and co-op employees who’ve dedicated their lives to public service,” said Southwestern CEO Bobby Williams.

“Concern for community and democratic

member control are core principles of every cooperative. They’re also pillars of sound government,” Williams said. “We want to do our part to instill those values in our future leaders.”

During the tour, legislators and officers discussed the rewards and responsibilities of public service, while representatives from AIEC, the



Six high school students representing Southwestern Electric Cooperative toured the Capitol and met with legislators during Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day, held March 29 in Springfield, Ill. More than 200 high school students representing 23 electric and telephone cooperatives participated in the event. Pictured are (front row, from left): Jordan Walk, daughter of Brian and Amanda Walk of Vandalia; Kate Turley, daughter of Amber and Boyd Turley of Greenville; Kylie Ketcham, daughter of Kerry and Jessica Ketcham of Alhambra; Shelby Bone, daughter of Anthony and Erica Bone of Greenville; (back row) Sen. Jason Plummer, Rep. Blaine Wilhour; Boston Hails, son of Kyle and Tiffany Hails of St. Peter; and Noah Vonder Haar, son of Kevin and Carla Vonder Haar of Greenville.

statewide trade association representing Illinois electric cooperatives, explored the role of grassroots organizations in government. “Most of our student-delegates are considering career options at this point,” Williams said. “Careers in public service can be personally fulfilling, professionally rewarding and contribute to the common good. The spring Youth Tour and summer Youth to Washington experience provide us with excellent opportunities to share that message.”

At the capital, Southwestern’s student-delegates met State Sen. Jason Plummer and Rep. Blaine Wilhour, and heard addresses from Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, Abigail Meyer, Illinois’ delegate to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Leadership Council, and Brooke Gross, member services manager and youth program coordinator for AIEC. Students also toured the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and the Lincoln Home National Historic Site.

Continued on next page ►

“Concern for community and democratic member control are core principles of every cooperative. They’re also pillars of sound government. We want to do our part to instill those values in our future leaders.”

—Bobby Williams, CEO

Southwestern’s student-delegates gather on a third-floor balcony at the Capitol during the Youth Day tour.





► *Continued from page 9*

More than 200 high school students representing 23 electric and telephone cooperatives participated in Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day. Candidates for the program were selected on the basis of school and community involvement, civic contributions, academic achievement, leadership experience and their interest in government.

Representing Southwestern Electric were Shelby Bone, daughter of Anthony and Erica Bone of Greenville; Boston Hails, son of Kyle and Tiffany Hails of St. Peter; Kylie Ketcham, daughter of Kerry and Jessica Ketcham of Alhambra; Kate Turley, daughter of Amber and

Boyd Turley of Greenville; Noah Vonder Haar, son of Kevin and Carla Vonder Haar of Greenville; and Jordan Walk, daughter of Brian and Amanda Walk of Vandalia.

Following the Springfield tour, an AIEC representative interviewed Southwestern's student-delegates to select representatives for the national Youth to Washington Tour. Boston Hails, a senior at South Central High School in Farina, and Kylie Ketcham, a senior at Highland High School, were chosen to represent Southwestern Electric Cooperative at the national rally.

As Southwestern's student-representatives in the Youth to Washington program, Hails and




Students learned about electric cooperatives from Brooke Gross (top), member services manager and youth program coordinator for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, toured Lincoln's home, and heard words of inspiration from State Treasurer Michael Frerichs (below).



The group watches simulated presidential election coverage at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.



Ketcham will join student-delegates from other Illinois cooperatives and travel nearly 2,000 miles by charter bus, leaving for Washington, D.C., on June 16 and returning June 23. While in Washington, Southwestern's representatives will meet with Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, then join U.S. representatives for a luncheon on Capitol Hill.

The national youth program, which draws more than 1,500 students from 44 states, includes tours of many institutions and memorials, including the Civil War battlefield at Gettysburg, Arlington National Cemetery, the National Cathedral, George Washington's home at Mount Vernon, the United States Supreme Court and several museums. Southwestern Electric Cooperative will sponsor the student-delegates, paying fees associated with transportation, meals, lodging and activities. 



Students strike a pose with the Lincoln family at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Below: In a gallery overlooking the House of Representatives, Sen. Jason Plummer (right) discusses architecture, history and government spending while leading students on a tour of the Capitol.



*Photos continued
on page 12 ►*

► Photos continued from page 11

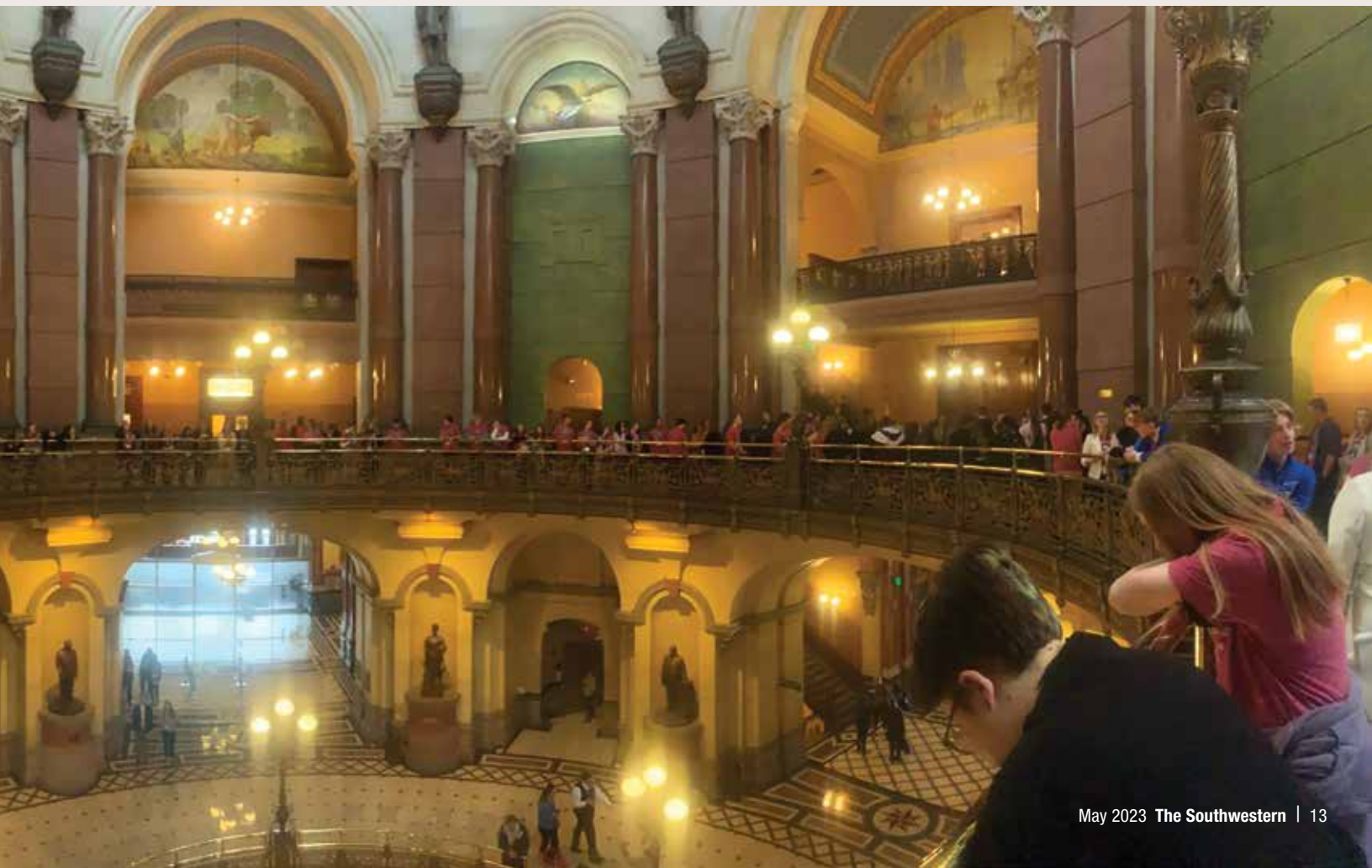


This page, clockwise from left: Noah Vonder Haar assists Elizabeth Keckley, dressmaker for Mary Todd Lincoln, in the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum's Blue Room. Southwestern's student-delegates pause for a photo before continuing their tour of the Capitol. Abigail Meyer, Illinois' delegate to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Leadership Council, speaks about her experience on the Washington Youth Tour. The co-op's student-delegates prepare to meet Sen. Jason Plummer and Rep. Blaine Wilhour.





Susan File (left), vice president of member services for Southwestern Electric Cooperative and the co-op's Youth Day coordinator, leads Southwestern's student-delegates on a tour of the neighborhood surrounding Lincoln's home.

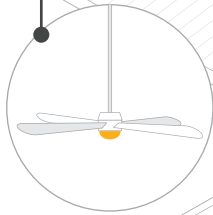


HEATING AND COOLING TIPS FOR MANUFACTURED HOMES

If you own a manufactured home, take measures to ensure you have an efficient heating and cooling system. You can also make simple improvements that save energy and make your home more comfortable.

\$ Install ceiling fans

Install ceiling fans throughout your manufactured home. Ceiling fans are energy efficient and can be used to keep warm or cool air moving throughout your home. Be sure to turn them off when you're away. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not rooms.

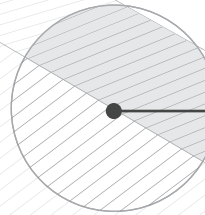


\$ Option for smaller budgets

\$\$ Option for flexible budgets

\$\$ Efficient roof color

Choose a light-colored roof if you live in the southern part of the U.S. and a dark-colored roof if you live in the northern U.S.



\$\$ Install a mini-split system

Eliminate unnecessary heating and cooling by installing a single zone strategy throughout your manufactured home. A zone system allows you to save energy by only heating or cooling rooms that are occupied.

ZONE 2

ZONE 1

\$ Install awnings

Install awnings over windows to keep sunlight from overheating your home during the summer.

\$\$ Add insulation

If you have a home that was manufactured before 1976, you could add insulation to your home's underbelly to reduce any heat loss.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

Purchase Power Day By Day With **Pay-As-You-Go** Option

Pay for the power you need as you need it — that's the idea behind Southwestern Electric Cooperative's Pay-As-You-Go program. "Most members are billed for power a month at a time. The power they've used during the last month is what they pay for," explained Susan File, vice president of member services for Southwestern Electric Cooperative. "With our Pay-As-You-Go program, you only pay for the power you need at the time, and you can add more money to the account whenever you want to."

File said the Pay-As-You-Go Program is perfect for families who want to control precisely how much of their budget they put toward electricity.

"Our main goal is to help our members use less power, and forego paying a deposit and reconnection fees," she pointed out. "Studies have shown that households typically experience a 12 percent drop in energy use after switching to this type of program."

Pay-As-You-Go allows the account-holder to purchase electricity at his or her convenience. Payments appear as credits on the member's account. The balance, which reflects energy used and payments made over the past 24-hours, is updated daily. There's no penalty for allowing funds to run out, but electric service becomes subject to disconnection when the account balance reaches \$0.00.

The cooperative doesn't mail a monthly bill to Pay-As-You-Go accounts. Rather, participating members monitor their account balance via the cooperative's online billing system, SWEC IL app or in-home display. In

addition to checking their account balance and payment history, the member will have access to an assortment of tools for tracking their energy consumption, including a breakdown of their kilowatt-hour usage and money spent on power each day.

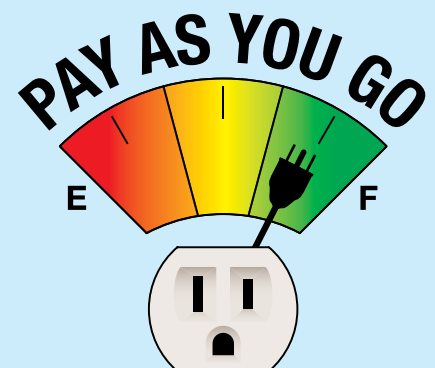
Southwestern also offers an in-home display unit (at no charge), particularly for members who don't have Internet access. The online billing system, app and in-home display allow the accountholder to view their present account balance and average daily usage.

"The member has to keep an eye on their remaining balance with this type of program, but we also have a couple of systems in place to let them know their account's status," said File. "The in-home display sounds an alarm when the account reaches a minimum dollar amount. We can also send the member a reminder message by telephone, text and e-mail if we have a valid phone number or e-mail address on file for their account."

Payments on a Pay-As-You-Go account can be made at the cooperative's Greenville office during regular business hours, at the Vandalia Farm Bureau, or deposited in the dropbox at Southwestern's St. Elmo and St. Jacob offices. Payments are also accepted 24/7 by phone, SWEC IL app and online at sweci.com. Most payments will post to the member's account within an hour. However, members should allow three day's processing time when payments are made at the St. Elmo or St. Jacob offices or Vandalia Farm Bureau.



- Take control of your energy usage.
- No credit checks or security deposits.
- No fees for late payment or reconnection of service.
- Say goodbye to paper bills.



For more information on our Pay-As-You-Go program, visit sweci.com or call (800) 637-8667 to speak to one of our member services representatives.

Do Your Homework

In March 2020, millions of Americans picked up their laptops, printers, planners and a few favorite pens and pencils, and left the office. We migrated from downtown buildings, courthouse complexes and commercial sectors to spare rooms, studies, attics, outbuildings and basements—and we plugged in.

Many of us have since moved back to our offices. But for a significant percentage of Americans, home *is* the new office.

While working from home may be convenient, it also presents heightened electrical safety concerns. Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI), a non-profit organization developed to promote electrical safety at home and in the workplace through education, awareness, and advocacy, created the infographic on the opposite page to highlight potential electrical safety hazards.

According to a September 2021 report published by the National Fire Protection Association, in 2020, there

were 356,000 home structure fires. Those fires resulted in 2,580 deaths, 11,500 injuries, and \$8.4 billion in property damage. The ESFI graphic highlights steps we can take to reduce fires, fatalities, injuries, and property loss. Please take a moment to review it.

In recent years, it's been common to hear people say, "Be safe out there." Be safe at home as well. The pointers on these pages will help you make working from home a healthy, safe experience.

ON SCHEDULE

Some of us are flexible and don't mind a change of venue. Others are more sensitive to disruptions in our daily routine. Are you maintaining the start and stop times you observed at the office? Try to keep your break schedule in place. At what times do you perform particular job tasks? Who do you speak with regularly? Maintain those habits and relationships. You can take steps to keep the *who*, *what* and *when* of your schedule in place, even though you're working from home.

FACE TIME

Some of us savor solitude. But for many, face-to-face contact is a key part of the workday. Our coworkers are important to us personally as well as professionally. We may also rely on visual cues to hone messages or make sure we're being understood.

If making a visual connection is important to you, propose a video call while you're keeping in contact with coworkers, clients and other members of your team.

If you're going to suggest a call that includes video, make the visual component optional. Not everyone is comfortable appearing on camera—and some of your colleagues may have adopted bandannas and pajamas as business casual.

HOME STRETCH

Those office interruptions that used to arise at inopportune moments? You may find you miss them. The coworker who pulls you off-task for a walk around the block to talk out a client issue may be providing you with a much-needed break.

Weave that downtime into the fabric of your day.

Set a break timer on your PC or phone. Get up, stretch, walk around the house or take a turn around your yard. Have a glass of water or cup of tea. Time away from your task can make on-task time more productive.

SHIFT OUT OF DRIVE

If you've eliminated an hour commute, treat that time as a gift. Use the extra minutes to rejuvenate your body, mind and spirit. Read, move, meditate. In these days of elevated angst and uncertainty, do what you can to nourish a healthy mindset.





ELECTRICAL SAFETY

While Working From Home



Do you have a **home office** or **work from home**? Follow these **electrical safety tips** to keep you and your home safe from electrical hazards.



1



Avoid **overloading** outlets.

2



Unplug appliances when not in use to save energy and minimize the risk of shock and fire.

3



Regularly inspect electrical cords and extension cords for damage.

4



Extension cords should only be used on a **temporary basis**.

5



Never plug a space heater or fan into an **extension cord** or **power strip**.

6



Never run cords under **rugs / carpets**, **doors**, or **windows**.

7



Plug in smartly. Make sure cords do not become tripping hazards.

8



Keep papers and other potential combustibles at least **three feet** away from space heaters and other heat sources.

9



Make sure you use **proper wattage** for lamps / lighting.

10



Make sure your home has **smoke alarms**. Test them monthly, change batteries yearly, and replace the unit every 10 years.

Wherever you work, it's always important to be **safe**.



www.facebook.com/ESFi.org



www.twitter.com/ESFIdotorg



www.youtube.com/ESFIdotorg

SOARING

Disc golf's popularity continues to grow, locally and everywhere

Words by Nathan Grimm | Photos by Mike Barns

Kelly Fornachon is trying to focus.

It's a windy but unseasonably warm afternoon in late March, and Gordon Moore Park is alive with activity. The public address announcer for a nearby high school baseball game periodically introduces the next hitter stepping to the plate. A bell rings somewhere in the distance. And just steps away from where his tee shot landed, a family is playing, tossing toys into the air to be blown this way or that by the strong gusts of air.

If Kelly was playing golf — the traditional game with expensive clubs hitting name-brand balls onto perfectly-manicured greens — these distractions might be upsetting, or at the least, unwelcome. He isn't carrying a club, though, and the vibrancy around him is more a feature than a bug.

It's in these moments that disc golf draws a distinction from its more popular neighbor. Unlike traditional golf, disc golf has few barriers to entry or unspoken rules to uphold. Smart polo shirts and slacks give way to jeans, t-shirts

and backwards hats. Talking, especially trash-talking, is encouraged on the tee box. And price point?

"It's a \$10 disc versus a \$200 club," Kelly's older brother, Bryan Fornachon, replies.

It all helps explain why the sport, while having been around for decades, is growing in popularity with every passing year.

A GROWING GAME

The history of the game is as open to interpretation as the game itself.



Elliott Clark aims for the pole on hole six while fellow Dog Teeth Disc Golf members Bryan Fornachon, left, and his brother Kelly Fornachon look on.

According to the Professional Disc Golf Association, there exists no definitive answer to the question of how, when and where the game was invented.

“Sorry, but this turns out to be impossible to answer,” Disc Golf Hall of Fame member Jim Palmeri wrote on the PDGA website. “There are many historical accounts of people playing golf with a flying disc, some of which pre-date the advent of the plastic flying discs by many years. Each account was an isolated instance of recreational disc golf play, and none of the participants knew of anyone else playing disc golf. Indeed, most of these instances were isolated not only geographically, but also isolated in time, so they couldn’t have known about each other.”

What’s clearer is the birth of the first organization related to disc golf, the Disc Golf Association, which was founded by Ed Headrick — considered the “Father of Disc Golf” — in 1976. His role in the expansion of disc golf also includes the patenting of two important inventions related to the game, the Frisbee in 1966 and the disc golf pole hole in 1975.

From its early days as a niche sport, the game has continued to grow — slowly at first, but more rapidly in recent years. In the year 2000, the PDGA had 6,230 active members; by 2015, that number had grown to 30,396. According to the PDGA website, more than 254,000 members have been registered through the organization since its inception.

Locally, the explosion of the game is noticeable. In recent years, disc golf courses have popped up in parks across the region, including Greenville’s Patriot’s Park, Highland’s Silver Lake Park, Effingham’s Community Park and Collinsville’s Woodland Park, among many others. The Fornachon brothers and their friend Elliott Clark — who together make up the Dog Teeth Disc Golf group — call Granite City’s Wilson Park their home track. All three recently registered with the PDGA as well.

“I’d say there’s got to be at least 20 or 30 courses within an hour’s drive,” Kelly says.

GROWING THE GAME

“When I first heard of frisbee golf, I thought it was on a beach throwing Frisbees,” Bryan says.

The trio is walking the 18-hole Alton course, having met up after work on a Thursday afternoon. That’s another perk of the game — holes are relatively short and in close succession, and as the days get longer it’s not hard to squeeze in a round before daylight runs out. It’s that accessibility and ease of use that initially drew all three to the game over time.

“I had a couple of friends who played, just something to do on the weekends,” Elliott says of his beginnings in the game. “I think a month in, I got a hole-in-one. And here I am seven years later.”

“He came to me and said, ‘Hey, you want to play disc golf?’” Kelly recounts.

“I was like, ‘Sure. What do I have to lose?’ I went out there with nothing, and someone let me use a disc. Another person in the group knew a guy and said, ‘Hey, let me buy a disc from you for \$5.’ He bought me a disc and was like, ‘There you go.’”

Now, the friends play almost year-round and try to be good stewards to the game in the same way they were once new players being welcomed to it by others. They regularly post where they’ll be playing on their Dog Teeth Disc Golf Facebook page along with messages like, “Don’t have a disc to use? Don’t worry, we have extra for you.”

A while back, they started the practice of turning discs they would find on courses — like golf balls, discs also sometimes fly to places that are hard to find in the moment — into traveling discs, writing messages on the discs and

Continued on page 25 ►



At left, Kelly Fornachon lines up a shot as his brother Bryan awaits his turn. Top, one of the many discs that comprise the disc golfers’ bags. Above, Elliott Clark tees off in search of his sixth hole-in-one.

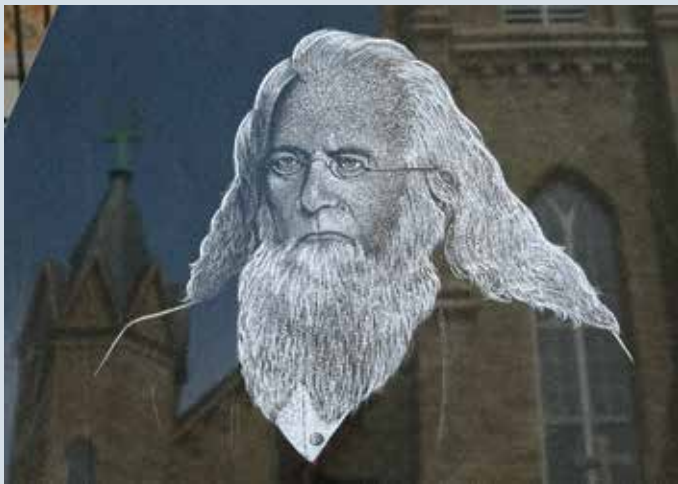
WHO • WHAT • WHERE

In our March magazine, we challenged you to identify a local historical figure. We offered these clues to help you find the solution:

- He was born in New York in 1800.
- He studied law in Kaskaskia, Ill.
- Gov. Shadrach Bond appointed him as state's attorney.
- President John Quincy Adams appointed him as the U.S. district attorney for Illinois. He held the position until President Andrew Jackson removed him.
- He was Speaker of the State House of Representatives.
- He served on the Illinois Supreme Court.
- He reportedly insulted Charles Dickens after the author requested a seat of honor in our historical figure's courtroom.
- A city in Clinton County is named in his honor.

Thanks to everyone who solved our March puzzle. We've printed a few of your solutions here. We hope to hear from you again this month. Meanwhile, does the train on the wall look familiar? Let us know where we found it. We'll share some of your solutions in our July magazine.

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Who-What-Where is a contest that challenges your knowledge of people, places and objects in and around Southwestern Electric Cooperative's service area. Here's how it works: Each month, we run a photo. Your job is to tell us who's pictured, what we've photographed, or where we shot the photo. You can email your response to joe.richardson@sweci.com or send it by mail to Joe Richardson, Southwestern Electric Cooperative, 525 U.S. Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246. Please include your name, mailing address, and hometown. If you have a story about our photo topic, include that as well—we love these! The puzzle solution—possibly accompanied by a few words from you—will appear in a future issue of The Southwestern.

Excellent clues you gave on the “Who Am I?” — I found Sidney Breese! All I can say is wow what a story...there were so many articles on him and all the things that he did in our area that were wonderful.

Normally I don't do these, but I decided to today and I'm so glad I did. I learned a lot and I truly enjoyed it.

Thank you and I look forward to more.

—Donna Blickenstaff, Troy

This month's “Who Am I?” is a little more challenging, but



with a little research, I've determined the person in question is Sidney Breese. Thanks for this segment. I enjoy it very much.
—Don Albrecht, Staunton

The answer to the March 2023 "Who Am I?" is Sidney Breese (1800-1878). Breese was a lawyer, soldier, author and jurist. The town of Breese, Illinois, in Clinton County is named in his honor.

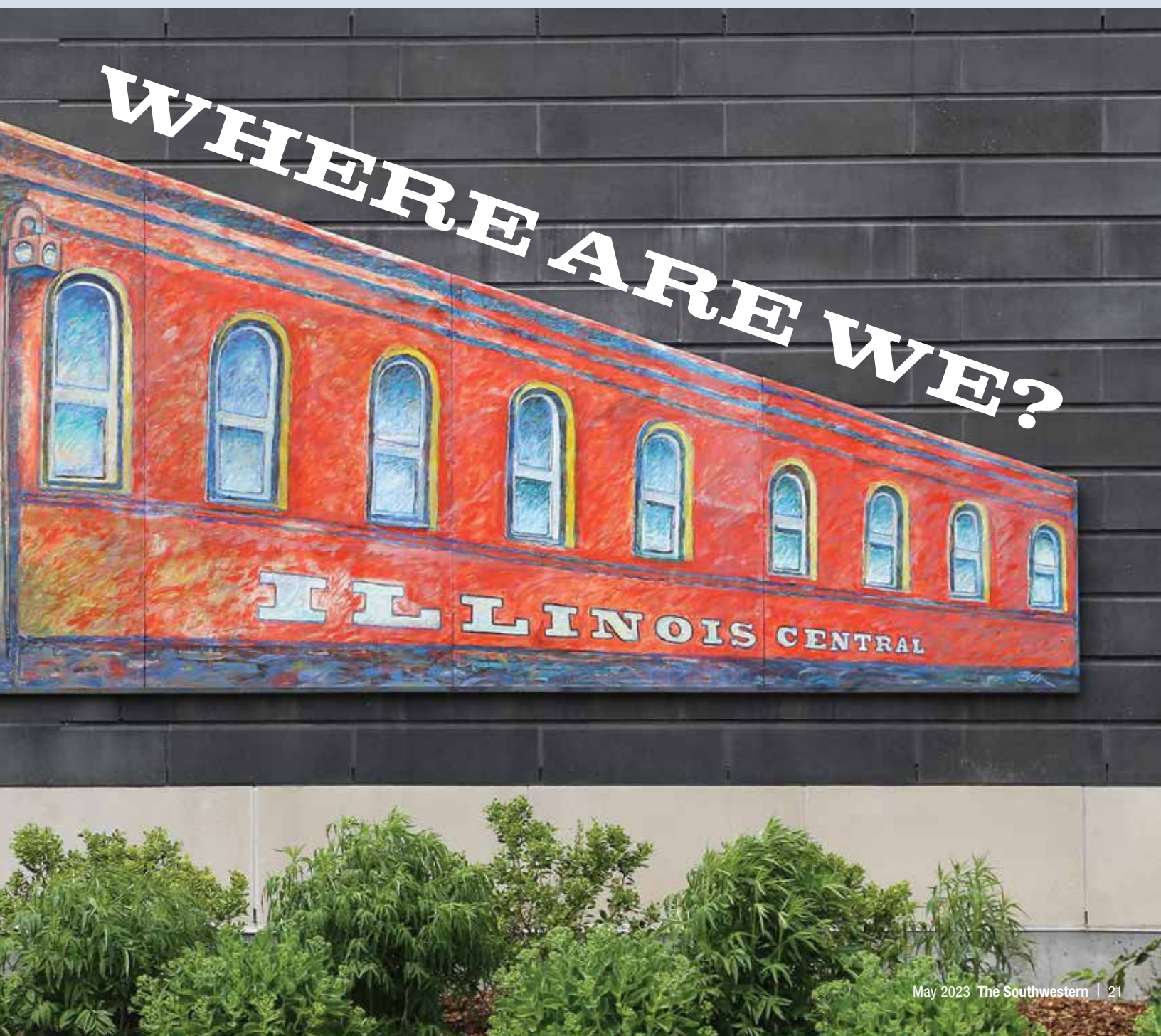
Breese was an enthusiastic supporter of railroads. He was an advocate for the transcontinental railroad, was known as the

"Father of the Illinois Central Railroad," and served as director of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad Company.

Breese published the "Origin and History of the Pacific Railroad" and a volume on Illinois history. During the Blackhawk War, he enlisted as a private and ended his Illinois militia service having been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

Breese died in Pinckneyville, Perry County, Illinois, on June 27, 1878. He was buried in the Carlyle (Illinois) Cemetery.

—Bill Malec, O'Fallon



CINCO DE MAYO

CHICKEN CHEESE ENCHILADAS

Ingredients

- 1 can nacho cheese soup
- ½ cup milk
- 2 cups cooked chicken diced
- 1 (4 ounce) can diced green chilies
- ½ cup salsa
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 8 (8 inch) flour tortillas

Directions

1. Combine soup and milk and set aside.
2. Mix together chicken, green chilies, salsa, chili powder, and 2 tablespoons of soup mixture.
3. Spread about ⅓ cup of chicken mixture along one side of each tortilla.
4. Roll up tortillas and place seam side down in greased 13 x 9 inch baking dish.
5. Spread remaining soup mixture over enchiladas.
6. Cover with aluminum foil and bake at 375° for 35 minutes or until bubbling.
7. Top with your favorite Mexican toppings and enjoy.

Chicken Cheese
Enchiladas

Prepared &
photographed by
Mike Barns



QUICK TACO BAKE

Ingredients

- 1 pound ground beef
- ½ cup onion chopped
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 1 can tomato sauce
- 1 can whole kernel corn drained
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 2 cups Bisquick
- 1 cup milk
- 2 eggs

Directions

1. Brown beef with onion and drain.
2. Spoon into ungreased 13 x 9 inch baking dish.
3. Stir in taco seasoning, tomato sauce, and corn.
4. Spread cheese over top.
5. Combine remaining ingredients until well blended and pour over beef mixture.
6. Bake at 350° for 35 minutes or until golden brown.
7. Cut into squares and serve with your favorite taco toppings.

AVOCADO TACO DIP

Ingredients

- 1 ripe avocado
- 4 tablespoons mayonnaise divided
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 3 tablespoons sour cream
- ¾ cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- ¾ cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 small onion chopped
- 1 tomato diced
- 1 small can sliced black olives drained
- 2 cups lettuce finely shredded
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Mash avocado with 2 tablespoons mayonnaise and spread onto serving plate in an approximately 10 inch circle. Salt and pepper to taste.
2. Mix taco seasoning with 2 tablespoons mayonnaise and sour cream and spread over avocado mixture like icing.
3. Sprinkle with cheeses and layer remaining ingredients in order listed.
4. Refrigerate 6 - 8 hours and serve with tortilla chips.

MEXICAN CORNBREAD

Ingredients

- 1 cup yellow cornmeal
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 16 ounce can creamed corn
- 1 cup milk
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ cup oil
- 1 pound breakfast sausage browned and drained

Directions

1. Mix together cornmeal, salt, eggs, corn, milk, baking soda, and oil.
2. Pour half of the cornmeal batter into 9 x 9 inch baking dish.
3. Spread sausage over top.
4. Pour remaining batter over sausage.
5. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes.

GUACAMOLE

Ingredients

- 3 ripe medium avocados peeled and pitted
- 1 medium tomato peeled, seeded, and chopped
- 1 small red onion chopped
- 4 cloves garlic finely chopped
- 2 Serrano (hot) peppers seeded and chopped
- ½ teaspoon white pepper
- ½ teaspoon salt
- juice of 1 lime
- 2 tablespoons cilantro chopped

Directions

1. Mash avocados and combine with remaining ingredients.
2. Serve with tortilla chips.

This month's recipes are courtesy of 4-H House Alumni Association's *Nurture the Future @ 805 4-H House Anniversary Cookbook* (avocado taco dip), Bond County *Habitat for Humanity Cookbook* (chicken cheese enchiladas, and Mexican cornbread), Fayette County Museum *35th Anniversary Cookbook* (Guacamole), and Greenville Regional Hospital Auxiliary's *Home Town Favorites* cookbook (quick taco bake).

CURRENT EVENTS

May 2 - October 24 FARMERS MARKET, East Alton. Seasonal vegetables, fruits, and flowers, as well as locally made honey, sauces, desserts, and breads will be available along with local artisan and crafted goods. Every Tuesday from 3 - 7 p.m. Eastgate Plaza, 625 Eastgate Plaza. Call (618) 530-1880

May 4, 18; June 1, 15, 29 FARMERS MARKET, Maryville. The market offers fresh produce, honey, locally made crafts, art, and a variety of products ranging from home décor to holiday wares, skin-care products, and more. 8 - 11 a.m. 300 North Donk Street. Call (618) 304-8335.

May 5-7, 10-14 DING DONG, Alton. A theatrical presentation by the Alton Little Theater Company. Thursday - Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. Adult \$20; age 17 years of age and younger \$15. Alton Little Theater, 2450 North Henry Street. For tickets, call (618) 462-3205 or visit altonlittletheater.org.

May 6; June 3 MARKET DAYS, Carlinville. Locally-made goods, crafts, antiques, vintage and new clothing, jewelry, tools, home décor, baked goods, and produce. This market is part farmer's market, part flea market, and part craft market. The first Saturday of the month through October. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. At the Downtown Square. Visit carlinville-marketdays.com.

May 6 MAY MARKET HOME & GARDEN SHOW, Lebanon. More than 60 vendors offer-

ing spring flowers and plants, crafts, antiques, original artwork, food and upcycled items. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. West St. Louis Street (the brick street). Visit maymarket.weebly.com.

May 6 SPRING FLING FESTIVAL, Greenville. Enjoy breakfast and lunch in the Lil' Red Barn from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Smok'n on the Farm BBQ Competition starts at 1 p.m. Taste each team's best eats with \$10 armband. Event also includes a flea market and swap meet, beer tent and live music. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (rain or shine). American Farm Heritage Museum, 1395 Museum Avenue. Call (618) 664-9733 or visit americanfarmheritagemuseum.org.

May 6 - September 16 FARMER'S MARKET, Hillsboro. A great selection of locally grown produce, plants, artisanal goods, and handmade crafts. The first and third Saturday of the month 9 a.m. - noon. Lincoln Plaza, South Main Street. Call (217) 556-2334 or visit imaginehillsboro.com.

May 6 - October 14 LAND OF GOSHEN COMMUNITY MARKET, Edwardsville. Dozens of vendors sell locally-grown fruits and vegetables, local, farm-raised meats, cheeses, eggs, baked goods, and numerous non-food items. Expect live music, demonstrations of different arts and crafts, and gardening tips. The market runs rain or shine and only cancels in extremely inclement weather. Every Saturday 8 a.m. - noon. Admission is free. Downtown Edwardsville, North Second

Street. Visit goshenmarket.org.

May 10, 24; June 7, 21 MUSIC IN THE PARK, Shiloh. Enjoy a summer of music featuring Short Mist, Vince K, Friends of Bluegrass, Little Known Facts, Frankie & Houseshakers, and Waterloo German Band. Bring your cooler, snacks and lawn chair. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Klucker Hall, 14 Park Drive. Call 618-632-1022, ext. 119.

May 11-14, 18-21 SPONGEBOB MUSICAL. A theatrical performance by the Looking Glass Playhouse. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m., except for Sunday shows, which begin at 2 p.m. \$10 on Thursday and \$12 Friday - Sunday for adults; \$9 on Thursday and \$11 Friday - Sunday for students, senior citizens and active military personnel (with valid identification). Looking Glass Playhouse, 301 West Saint Louis Street. Call (618) 537-4962 or visit lookingglass-playhouse.com.

May 13 REC FESTIVAL, East Alton. Festival will feature dozens of activity booths including outdoor games, recreational outfitters, wildlife education, a BB gun range, weather stations, and more. After visiting the activity booth area, venture into the museum and enjoy open tours of the Melvin Price Locks and Dam. Rain or shine event. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The National Great Rivers Museum, 2 Lock and Dam Way. Call (618) 462-6979 or visit mtrf.org.

May 13 - October 21 FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET, Alton. Shop a variety of local

produce and find home-grown fruits and vegetables, locally-raised hormone-free meats, baked goods, plants and flowers, and native honey. Artists and makers will offer crafts, homemade soaps and skin care products, jewelry, artwork, pottery, and art demonstrations. Every Saturday 8 a.m. - noon. Parking lot near Riverfront Park, corner Landmarks Boulevard and Henry Street. Visit downtownalton.com

May 13 - October 21 VINE STREET MARKET, O'Fallon. Farmers and food makers bring produce, meats, dairy, wine, baked goods and sweet treats. In addition to local food our market brings live music, food trucks, and talented artisans together from the area to feature their hand made arts. Every Saturday 8 a.m. - noon. O'Fallon Station, 212 East 1st Street. Visit ofallonstation.com.

May 13 & 14 DEPARTURE CELEBRATION, Hartford. Celebrate the departure of Lewis & Clark as they set out on an expedition of discovery. Reenactors, historic artisans, and more will celebrate this important date in Illinois and American history. Demonstrations will include artillery, muskets, candle making, fiber arts, cooking, and more. Volunteers will exhibit the replica of the White Pirogue the Expedition journeyed in. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, One Lewis & Clark Trail. Call (618) 251-5811 or visit campdubois.com.

May 14; June 11; July 9; August 13; September 10; October 8 PICKERS MARKET, Litchfield. All items sold at this market are prior to 1980 including antiques, collectibles, vintage items, up-cycled items, and refurbished items. Live music each week. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 400 North State Street

Continued on page 26 ►

Call to Confirm

Listings are provided by event organizers or taken from community websites. We recommend calling to confirm dates, times and details before you make plans. All are subject to change.

Submissions

To submit an event for consideration in our calendar, email your event information to joe.richardson@sweci.com. Please use our Current Events format (as seen on these pages) to write your submission. Include a contact number or email and submit your listing at least two months prior to your event.

► *Continued from page 19*

leaving them to be found by the next player. They recently got their first reply, a video from Altamont teenager Hayden Siebert showing him playing a hole with the disc they left behind.

“We even got our dad into playing,” Kelly says. “He decided to switch to playing left-handed — and he’s better! He’s better left-handed.”

‘WE’RE OUT THERE’

As far as what the future holds for the sport, Kelly thinks it’s just getting started.

“It’s pretty wide,” he says of the game’s reach. “You’ll get your 50-plus, 60-plus people out.”

“It’s really taken over retirement,” Elliott adds.

For the Dog Teeth group — a name as straightforward as it sounds, with Bryan saying they needed a team name for a tournament and “my dog was laying in my lap looking up at me, and I was like, ‘Your teeth are weird, perfect’” — the future they hope for includes, simply, more people playing more disc golf.

“I would like to see more players like us,” Bryan says. “We’re right in that middle ground where there’s either people that are incredibly good or people that are just starting out. Sometimes it feels like we’re getting better, but sometimes not. More people playing in tournaments sounds fun.”

“We don’t care if you’ve never played before, if you have played, if you’re really good,” Kelly summarizes. “If you just want to come out and play, we’re out there.” **S**



Clockwise from left: It’s not a tall bag full of heavy irons, but serious disc golfers still carry a load on their backs as they walk the course. Bryan Fornachon lets one sail. A marker in the ground tells the yardage and par for the second hole on Alton’s Gordon Moore Park course. Kelly Fornachon began playing disc golf by throwing backhanded, but his second time out he switched to sidearm throwing, with great results. “I was like, ‘You guys are done now. I’m coming for you.’”



► *Continued from page 24*
(intersection of Route 16/Union Avenue and State Street). Visit litchfield.com.

May 18 FREE MOVIE NIGHT, Litchfield. Watch the new *Secret Life of Pets 2* on this free movie night. Gates open at 7 p.m.; film starts at 8:15 p.m. Skyview Drive-In Theater, 1500 North Historic Route 66. Call (217) 324-4451 or visit litchfieldskyview.com.

May 19-21 ART ON THE SQUARE, Belleville. Featuring the original work of over 100 accomplished artists from around the world, musical and stage performances as well as local food and drink. The festival will also feature children's art activities, high school exhibits, live entertainment, a children's art garden, art demonstrations, food and wine. Friday 4 - 9 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is free. Call (800) 677-9255 or visit artonthesquare.com.

May 19; June 30; July 28; August 25; September 29 FARMERS MARKET. Carlyle. Fresh produce, meat, eggs,

and bread. Freshly cut flowers, plants, fudge, syrup... you never know what you'll find. Held rain or shine, only canceled for serious weather. 5 p.m. - dusk. Carlyle VFW, 1250 Franklin Street. Visit carlylelake.com.

May 20 RIVERBEND CENTERSTAGE TALENT SHOW, Alton. Let Alton's best talent, charm and mesmerize you on this special night. Join us for a combination of performance, judging and audience voting. 7 - 9 p.m. Admission is \$10. Jacoby Arts Center, 627 East Broadway. For tickets, visit jacobyartscenter.org.

May 25 - August 10 MUSIC IN THE PARK, Grafton. Bring your lawn chair or picnic blanket and listen to live bands and performers. Every Thursday 7 - 9 p.m. Admission is free. The Grove Memorial Park, corner of Market and Main Streets. Visit graftonilchamber.com.

May 27 BIKES, BIRDS, AND BREWS, West Alton. Local cyclists and Audubon staff will guide each session and make several stops throughout the sanctuary to view birds and other wildlife. After the biking portion (about two hours), enjoy a cold brew from Old Bakery Beer Company. Non-alcoholic beverages and light snacks also provided. 4 - 7 p.m. Admission is \$20. Pre-registration is required. Audubon Center at Riverlands, 301 Riverlands Way. For more information or to register, call (844) 428-3826 or visit riverlands.audubon.org.

June 1 - July 27 NIGHT MARKET, Alton. An awesome summer series where you can enjoy live music in an outdoor setting, plus artwork and other handmade/homegrown products, as well as vintage and hip thrift items. The event will be indoors in the Jacoby Arts Center gallery and outside in the neighboring pocket park. Every Thursday night from 7 - 10 p.m. Jacoby Arts Center, 627 E. Broadway. Visit downtownalton.com.

June 2 & 3 INTERNATIONAL HORSERADISH FESTIVAL, Collinsville. Summer festival featuring live music, food, and fun. Activities will include bloody Mary contest, cornhole tournament, root toss, Little Miss Horseradish pageant, 5K run, car show, crafts and kids activities. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Admission is free. Uptown at 221 West Main Collinsville. Call (618) 344-2884 or visit internationalhorseradishfestival.com.

June 3 BBQ COMPETITION, Altamont. Competition is \$100 per team; bags tournament \$20 per team with sign up at 12:30 p.m.; meal is free will donation from 5 - 7 p.m.; live band is \$10 cover and starts at 7:30 p.m. Altamont VFW Post 7676, 302 West Cumberland Road. For more information, call (217) 994-3800 or (618) 322-6987. Find us on Facebook @ AFPD BBQ fundraiser.

June 3 NATURE/CULTURE HIKE, Collinsville. Join Julie Zimmermann, PhD on this hike where you will learn about native plants and animals and how the Mississippian culture interacted with them and the environment. This 2-hour hike will take you along some of the less commonly traveled trails. Wear appropriate clothing, sturdy shoes, and bring water. Sunscreen, bug spray, and snacks are advised. 9 a.m. Event is free. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit cahokiamounds.org.

June 3 PADDLEFEST, West Alton. Try out your skills and learn how to safely paddle in a kayak or canoe, test your balance on a stand-up paddle board, or take a guided kayak tour. Kayaks, paddles and life jackets provided for all. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Activities vary from ½ - 1 hour and are \$10 each. Pre-registration is required. Audubon Center at Riverlands, 301 Riverlands Way. To register, call (844) 428-3826 or visit riverlands.audubon.org.

June 3 SUMMER BIRD WALK, Hillsboro. A guided, leisurely hike will offer the opportunity to see native Illinois species like white-tailed deer, cottontail rabbits, songbirds, and more. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes or boots, a hat, apply bug repellent, and bring a bottle of water. 7 - 9 a.m. Admission is free. H & B Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary, 194 Bremer Lane. Call (217) 532-2339.

June 3 & 4 SPRING FESTIVAL, Carlinville. Enjoy live entertainment, festival and country cooking, over fifty vendors, demonstrations from blacksmiths and a working sawmill. Take a tour of the John C. Anderson Home and see themed exhibits.. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free. Home tour is \$5. Macoupin County Historical Society, 920 W. Breckenridge Street. Visit mchssociety.org.

June 3 & 4 NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN MARKET, Collinsville. A Cahokia Mounds event. Over 35 Native American artists demonstrate and sell Native American Arts & Crafts including, jewelry, pottery, sculptures, paintings, beadwork, musical instruments, dreamcatchers, and more. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is free. Gateway Center, One Gateway Drive. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit cahokiamounds.org.

June 3, 17 MOVIES IN THE PARK, Maryville. Enjoy outdoor screenings of *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish* (June 3) and *Minions: The Rise of Gru* (June 17). Movies begin at dusk. Drost Park, East Division Street. For more information, call (618) 233-8965, email park-sandrec@maryville-il.us, or visit vil.maryville.il.us.

June 3 - September FARMERS' MARKET, Effingham. Offers locally-grown food, art, live music and quality artisan goods. Every Saturday from 8 a.m. - noon. Effingham County Courthouse Museum lawn, 100 East Jefferson Avenue. Visit facebook.com/effinghamfarmersmarket.



June 2 - July 3 PICK YOUR OWN LAVENDER, Edwardsville. Pick your own lavender at the Stahlhut family farm, shop an old barn full of handmade lavender products, wander the wildflowers and enjoy the walking paths. Guided tours available. Tenderloin Farms, 6368 St. James Drive. Call (618) 917-0188, follow us @Tenderloinfarms, or visit tflavender.com.



Sunlight turns
a field to gold
outside Arm
Prairie Christian
Church in
Fayette County.

THE FINAL FRAME



 **Southwestern**
Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative 