

# THE *Southwestern*

A SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2019 • VOLUME 71 • ISSUE 9

## *Sky Lines*

Lewis & Clark  
Confluence  
Tower Offers  
Eagle's-Eye  
View of Muddy  
Mississippi

## 81st ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

*Join Us For Fellowship,  
Food & Fun*

## SMART MONEY

Co-op Offers New Rebates

## RECYCLING

St. Elmo & St. Jacob  
Autumn Drive Dates



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Absentee voting available  
(see page 4 for details).

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Offices closed for Labor Day.

**September 7**  
81st Annual Meeting of Members at Greenville Jr. High School, St. Jacob and St. Elmo facilities. Voting available 7 a.m. - 10 a.m.

**September 9**  
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.

**September 21**  
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**On Account:** We've hidden a member-account number in this issue (mailing label excluded). If the account number belongs to you, contact us within 30 days and we'll take \$25 off your electric bill. Good luck!

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# Car Talk

I grew up in the automobile industry. My dad made a living working for one of America's major automobile manufacturers. While the company didn't send home samples (surely they could have spared the odd four-door sedan after model change?), they did distribute promotional pieces from time to time. I still have one of them, a worn and well-travelled poster, stashed somewhere in my attic.

In hues of blue and blood-orange, it advertises a solar car race across the continent of Australia. Uluru, a kangaroo and a sign marked in kilometers added to the alien aesthetic of an event halfway 'round and upside down from the world I knew.

The car pictured on the poster was a prototype, the race a 3,000-kilometer proof of concept. If memory serves, the automobile moved to the front of the pack early on and held the lead from start to finish.

Step forward 30 years.

There aren't many solar cars on the road. But there are more than 1 million *electric* vehicles moving across America. Rather than traversing barren landscapes, you'll find them in cities and suburban neighborhoods and—with growing frequency—on roads crossing the rural farm fields of Southwestern Illinois.

You probably haven't noticed them.

And you probably won't.

Today's electric vehicles look like traditional gas-engine automobiles, with one telltale difference: There's no tailpipe or muffler. No exhaust system. There's no combustion, so they don't need it.

We're excited about the potential of electric vehicles, what they could mean in terms of savings and convenience for co-op members, and how they could serve rural America. You'll hear more about EVs at the annual meeting.

Gotta say, the electric car of today is quite a bit different from the vehicle I envisioned as a kid. It isn't nearly as sci-fi sleek as the canopied, Kevlar construction on my poster.

But it's affordable, practical and powerful.

And it's a whole lot closer to home.

Joe Richardson, editor  
[joe.richardson@sweci.com](mailto:joe.richardson@sweci.com)



# Annual Meeting Offers Food, Fun, and Opportunities to Participate in Your Cooperative

**M**ark Saturday, Sept. 7, on your calendar. That's the day of Southwestern Electric Cooperative's 81st Annual Meeting of Members. "We'll be offering the giveaways and prize drawings our members always look forward to at our annual event," said Susan File, the co-op's vice president of member services. "We'll also give a \$20 bill credit to members who register to vote at our St. Jacob, Greenville, or St. Elmo offices."

The meeting will offer many activities, including Bingo, a health fair, and a carnival for children and teenagers.

One member will win a year of free electricity from the cooperative (not to exceed \$1,760 in value).

"The meeting is an opportunity to participate in the business of your cooperative," File said. "We encourage members to talk to co-op employees and directors, to vote, attend the business meeting, and to ask questions."

The Annual Meeting will be held at Bond County Community Unit #2 Junior High School in Greenville. Doors will open at 7 a.m., and breakfast will be available from 7 to 9:30 a.m., followed by the business meeting at 10 a.m.

Questions or comments regarding the meeting may be directed to Susan File, vice president of member services at (800) 637-8667 or [susan.file@sweci.com](mailto:susan.file@sweci.com). We look forward to seeing you!



## VOTING OPTIONS

### Standard Voting

Standard voting will be available from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 7, at Bond County Community Unit #2 Jr. High School in Greenville, the site of Southwestern Electric's 81st Annual Meeting of Members.

### Absentee Voting

Absentee voting will be available at the cooperative's Greenville headquarters during normal business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., now - September 6, and at the cooperative's facilities in St. Jacob and St. Elmo, 4:30 - 7 p.m., September 4 and 5. To expedite registration and voting, members are strongly encouraged to bring the registration card found on the back cover of this publication.

### Alternate Site Voting

For members who do not attend the Annual Meeting, voting is also available at two alternate sites from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 7. You may cast your vote at one of two Southwestern Electric satellite facilities, which are located at 10031 Ellis Road in St. Jacob and at 2117 East 1850 Avenue in St. Elmo (the frontage road southwest of the I-70 St. Elmo exit).



## 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.

On Account: If your account number is 68633001, call us within 30 days to receive a \$25 credit on an upcoming electric bill.

# Annual Meeting Activities and Exhibits

**Bingo:** Bingo will be played in the gymnasium from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**Breakfast:** Available from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Pancakes, sausage, biscuits and gravy, eggs, and cheesy potatoes will be served.

**Child Identification Program (ChiP):** ChiP is a community service initiative dedicated to finding children who've been abducted or run away from home. The Child ID Kit allows parents to collect information by recording the physical characteristics and fingerprints of their children on identification cards kept at home. If needed, the Child ID Kit gives authorities vital information to assist search efforts.

**For Kids and Teens:** Youth are invited to participate in our Junior Lineman Challenge, bounce in the inflatable play areas and try their luck at various games. Every child and teenager who registers at the Kids' Carnival will receive a gift.

**For Your Health:** Representatives of the Bond County Health Department will perform blood pressure screenings and check pulse oximetry levels.

**Operation Round Up:** Every Southwestern Electric member who participates in Operation Round Up (ORU) will be entered in a drawing for a \$500 cash prize. Members who enroll in ORU at the meeting will be included in the drawing. For this drawing, the member need not be present to win.

## Recharge at Southwestern's Energy Booth

Stop by Southwestern's Energy Booth to learn about our energy efficiency-focused programs and services.

While you're there, you can add a little life to your mobile device! If your phone or tablet is running low on power, you can plug into our charging table and reenergize.



**Electric vehicles are changing the way America moves.**

*Find out why at our annual meeting.*



**Prizes:** Each active registered membership in attendance at the 2019 annual meeting, and/or voting in the board election, will receive a \$20 credit on their October electric bill.

Prize drawings, held throughout the business meeting, will include bill credits of various amounts. The member must be present at the time of the drawing to win.

When you register at this year's meeting, we'll enter your name in our drawing for a new Nest Learning Thermostat. Nest displays your daily and monthly energy use, so you can make choices to save money on your energy bill. The member must be present at the time of the drawing to win.

The name of one student will be drawn for a \$1,000 Southwestern Scholarship. The student must meet the cooperative's scholarship qualification guidelines and be present during the drawing to win.

One member will win a year of free electricity (not to exceed \$1,760 in value). The member must be present during the drawing to win.

## Southwestern Electric Cooperative's 81st Annual Meeting of Members

Saturday, September 7, 2019

Breakfast served 7 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Business meeting called to order 10 a.m.

Prize drawings throughout the morning.



## Why is this home happy?

Find out Saturday, Sept. 7, at Southwestern Electric Cooperative's 81st Annual Meeting of Members.

### *Feeling The Heat This Summer?* **Keep Cool With These Tips**

If you noticed a spike in your household energy use in July, you're not alone. Reports from Lambert International Airport in St. Louis show temperatures topping 90 degrees for most of the month, with highs reaching 97 on July 10 and 19, and 96 degrees on July 18 and 20.

With luck, the highest temperatures of 2019 are behind us. That said, September is no stranger to heat and humidity. Here are six ways to keep cool and save money on your energy bill until autumn arrives.



- 1. Keep blinds and curtains closed during the day.** Open your windows and turn off the A/C (if practical) during cooler evening hours.
- 2. Use ceiling fans to increase cooling efficiency.** Be sure to turn fans off when you leave the room. Remember, fans cool people—not rooms. When you shower, use your bathroom's fan to vent heat and humidity from your home.
- 3. Set your thermostat as high as is comfortable.** Use a smart thermostat to adjust the settings automatically so the temperature is higher when you are away from home. Program it to decrease the temperature just a few hours before you are due to get home. (Don't have a smart thermostat? See our rebate information on page 14).
- 4. Minimize indoor heat in the afternoon.** Run the dryer and dishwasher at night on hot days and let dishes air dry. Instead of using your oven on hot afternoons and evenings, choose dishes you can cook in your microwave.
- 5. Seal around interior doors and baseboards** with caulking and install weather-stripping around exterior doors and windows.
- 6. Consider adding insulation.** When it's hot outside, it's even hotter in your attic. Be sure your attic floor is well insulated to prevent hot air from heating your home. Also, your attic should be ventilated to expel the heat. Attic ventilation can come from soffit and gable vents, ridge vents, attic fans, roof fans, or any combination of these.

## Save With Southwestern!

### **CO-OP OFFERS REBATES FOR HEAT PUMPS, WATER HEATERS, SMART THERMOSTATS**

In response to member survey suggestions, Southwestern Electric is offering rebates on air source heat pumps, geothermal systems, electric water heaters and smart thermostats purchased after February 28, 2018.

Rebates will be applied as a bill credit upon receiving the completed rebate application and proof of purchase. Rebate forms will be available at the Energy Booth at our annual meeting on September 7th, and on our website at [sweci.com](http://sweci.com). You can email your completed application and proof of purchase to [julie.lowe@sweci.com](mailto:julie.lowe@sweci.com), or mail it to: Julie Lowe, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246. You're also welcome to drop off your materials at our Greenville office.

**For more information,  
see this month's Energy  
& Efficiency column on  
page 14.**



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

**P**ay 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.”

According to File, 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 accountholder 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, 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.

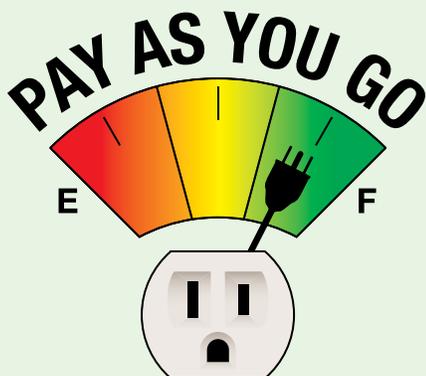
Southwestern also offers an in-home display unit (at no charge), particularly for members who don’t have Internet

access. The online billing system, app and in-home display allow the accountholder to view their present account balance and average daily usage.

“Obviously 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 and St. Jacob offices during regular business hours. Payments are also accepted 24/7 by phone, app, and online at [sweci.com](http://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 office, Holiday Shores facility, or Vandalia Farm Bureau.

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



- 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.

# Southwestern Leads Communications Workshop, Receives Recognition at National Conferences

Southwestern Electric’s communications department worked with writers and photographers from across the country this spring, leading professional development sessions in Houston, Texas, and Savannah, Ga., at two national cooperative conferences. The co-op communications team, staffed by Joe Richardson, editor of *The Southwestern*, and Mike Barns, art director, presented a writing workshop, fielded production questions, and received recognition from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) for their work on Southwestern Electric’s 2018 annual report.

In May, the co-op’s communications department attended the NRECA CONNECT conference in Houston, where Southwestern personnel participated in a community service project organized by Touchstone Energy. The department joined other co-op communicators to assemble hygiene kits and write letters of support and encouragement for veterans at Houston’s DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center. In total, CONNECT conference attendees prepared about 600 care packages for the center’s veterans.

During NRECA’s Spotlight on Excellence reception, the team received a Silver Award in its division (co-ops with 20,000-50,000 meters) for Best Annual Report to Members. An initiative of the Council of Rural Electric Communicators, Spotlight on Excellence recognizes projects and programs that embody the industry’s highest standards of quality and achievement in the field of communications. The evening ceremony honored writers, photographers and media development teams who consistently produce work with lasting impact, deliver exceptional results, and execute projects with a high level of professionalism.

Southwestern personnel also served as Spotlight on Excellence ambassadors in the CONNECT conference hall. “We shared our work and discussed our projects and practices



The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association recognized Southwestern’s communications team during a national conference held in Houston, Texas, in May. During the conference, Southwestern personnel joined co-op communicators from around the country to assemble hygiene kits and write letters of support and encouragement for veterans at Houston’s DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

with other electric co-op communicators,” Richardson said. “The impromptu conversations offered us a chance to exchange ideas, compare approaches, and network with co-ops from around the country.”

In June, the team presented a writing workshop in Savannah, Ga., during the Cooperative Communicators Association (CCA) Annual Institute. “We spent an afternoon examining Pulitzer Prize winning work, deconstructing those stories, and discussing how we could incorporate similar approaches into our own writing,” Richardson said. “It was a privilege to spend time with so many accomplished writers.”

CCA is a professional development organization for writers, photographers, videographers and members of management who represent co-ops in every sector of the economy. The association’s membership includes communicators from the U.S., U.K. and Canada. In 2017, CCA named Richardson the organization’s Writer of the Year.

Southwestern’s writing workshop drew about 50 communicators from electric, financial and agricultural cooperatives, and independent agencies. Richardson said the mix of new communicators, veteran co-op staffers, and freelance writers brought personality and perspective to the session, which was offered as a professional development module in the organization’s certification program.

“When you prepare to lead a session like this, you learn far more than you can possibly teach,” said Richardson. “But I think we all walked away with techniques that will help us produce stronger work moving forward.”



In June, the team presented a writing workshop in Savannah, Ga., during the national meeting of the Cooperative Communicators Association. Communicators from electric, financial and agricultural cooperatives attended the session.

# SOUTHWESTERN HOSTS ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DRIVE

We're a nation in love with electronics. According to a recent report by the Consumer Electronics Association, you probably have about 30 electronic devices in your home. While most of them play an important role in your daily activities, likely as not, you have an outdated TV, PC or mobile phone that's been collecting dust in your attic for years.

We can help you free up that space.

In late summer and early autumn, Southwestern Electric will host an electronics recycling drive. You're invited to bring your obsolete electronics to our collection sites on the dates listed below. A truck will be present to receive your items. All collections will begin at 9 a.m. and end at noon or when the truck is filled—whichever comes first.

Your electronics will be collected and recycled by a regional, EPA-approved recycling center. Electronics recycling—or e-cycling—is the process of refurbishing, redistributing and reusing electronic devices and components, rather than discarding them. It extends the life cycle of electronics and lowers their overall environmental impact.

## WE CAN HELP YOU RECYCLE A VARIETY OF ELECTRONICS, INCLUDING:

- Computers, monitors, printers, cables and peripherals (keyboards, mice, etc.)
- Fax machines, scanners, digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite receivers.
- Video game consoles, digital video disc player/recorders, portable digital music players.
- Networking equipment, server, telecommunications, phones, cell phones and clocks.
- VCRs, stereos, and audio/video equipment (including cable/satellite).
- Holiday lights and metal decorations.
- Electrical, cabling, communication machinery, and equipment.
- Home electronics, blenders, toasters, irons, etc.
- Rechargeable batteries (NIMH battery, li-ion battery and NICD battery)
- UPS battery backups

## PLEASE NOTE:

- CRT TVs, console TVs and projection TVs will be accepted for a fee ranging from \$5-\$30 depending on their size and model. Flat screen TVs may be recycled at no charge. Please bring cash or check for payment.
- DVDs, CDs, and VHS and cassette tapes will not be accepted.

## RECYCLING DRIVE LOCATIONS

- **St. Elmo / September 21**  
Southwestern Electric's warehouse on the frontage road southwest of the St. Elmo exit off Interstate 70.
- **St. Jacob / October 5**  
Southwestern Electric's office at 10031 Ellis Road.



View, Pay,  
Create,  
Update,  
Alert,  
Report,  
Send &  
Receive?



There's  
an app  
for that.

Look for SWEC IL on Google Play or the App Store.



# Scholarship Reception Celebrates Academic Achievement and Community Spirit

Cooperative directors and CEO Bobby Williams recognized seven scholarship recipients on May 31 during Southwestern Electric Cooperative's second annual scholarship reception. The reception celebrated the students' academic accomplishments, volunteerism and community spirit. Students brought friends and family to the evening reception, where they enjoyed a meal and spoke with the co-op's directors and employees.

Ann Schwarm, president of Southwestern Electric's board of directors, congratulated the students on their academic achievements and contributions to area communities. "Our

second scholarship banquet proved to be just as exciting as the first," she said. "As I glanced around the room, it was easy to see the pride reflected on the faces of moms and dads as they celebrated their students' achievements."

Schwarm said the students communicated a sense of purpose and optimism about the roles they'll play

in shaping the future of rural America. "Hearing about the students' plans for the future and listening to their words of appreciation was heartwarming," she said. "It was a pleasure meeting our 2019 scholarship winners and discussing their plans, goals and aspirations."

Historically, academic schedules have prevented scholarship recipients

*"It is my goal to make sure that each child receives the foundation they need to set them on a path for success in life."* —Miranda Fox



Southwestern directors and CEO Bobby Williams celebrated the academic accomplishments and community spirit of the cooperative's 2019 scholarship recipients during a reception in May. Attending were (front row) Kylea Dietz, Miranda Fox, Makayla Watson, Jacqueline Facer, (back row) President Ann Schwarm, Cole Wall, August Laatsch, Anthony Klitzing, videographer George Timmerman, and CEO Bobby Williams.



from appearing at the co-op's annual meeting in September, where they could be recognized by the membership. During the May reception, students recorded messages for members, which Southwestern will share Saturday, Sept. 7, during the co-op's 81st Annual Meeting of Members.

Since 1995, Southwestern has provided \$255,000 in financial assistance to a total of 395 students. This year the cooperative awarded \$1,000-scholarships to 10 students, including seven graduating seniors and three students who graduated prior to 2019.

Southwestern Electric will award an additional \$1,000-scholarship to a college-bound annual meeting attendee during this year's annual meeting of members.

Each year, dozens of applications are evaluated by Southwestern Electric Cooperative's Scholarship Committee. The committee is composed of nine judges. Each judge independently evaluates the merits of every application against an extensive list of criteria, including financial need, academic success, employment, and participation in extracurricular and volunteer activities.

Recipients may use their scholarship at any accredited university, college or vocational school in the U.S.



George Timmerman (left), explains the video production process to scholarship winners August Laatsch and Anthony Klitzing. A 2019 graduate of Greenville High School and Bond County CEO Program alumnus, Timmerman produced the scholarship video Southwestern will present at this year's annual meeting. Upper Left: Director Richard Gusewelle and his wife, Joyce, welcome the students and their families to the reception.

*“I hope to show others that just because they came from a small town or community, it does not mean they cannot do great things.”* —MaKayla Watson



Ann Schwarm, president of Southwestern Electric Cooperative, congratulates the co-op's 2019 scholarship recipients. Schwarm expressed optimism for a future shaped by community-minded students who will become tomorrow's leaders.

# The **EV** Advantage

## **ENERGIZE**

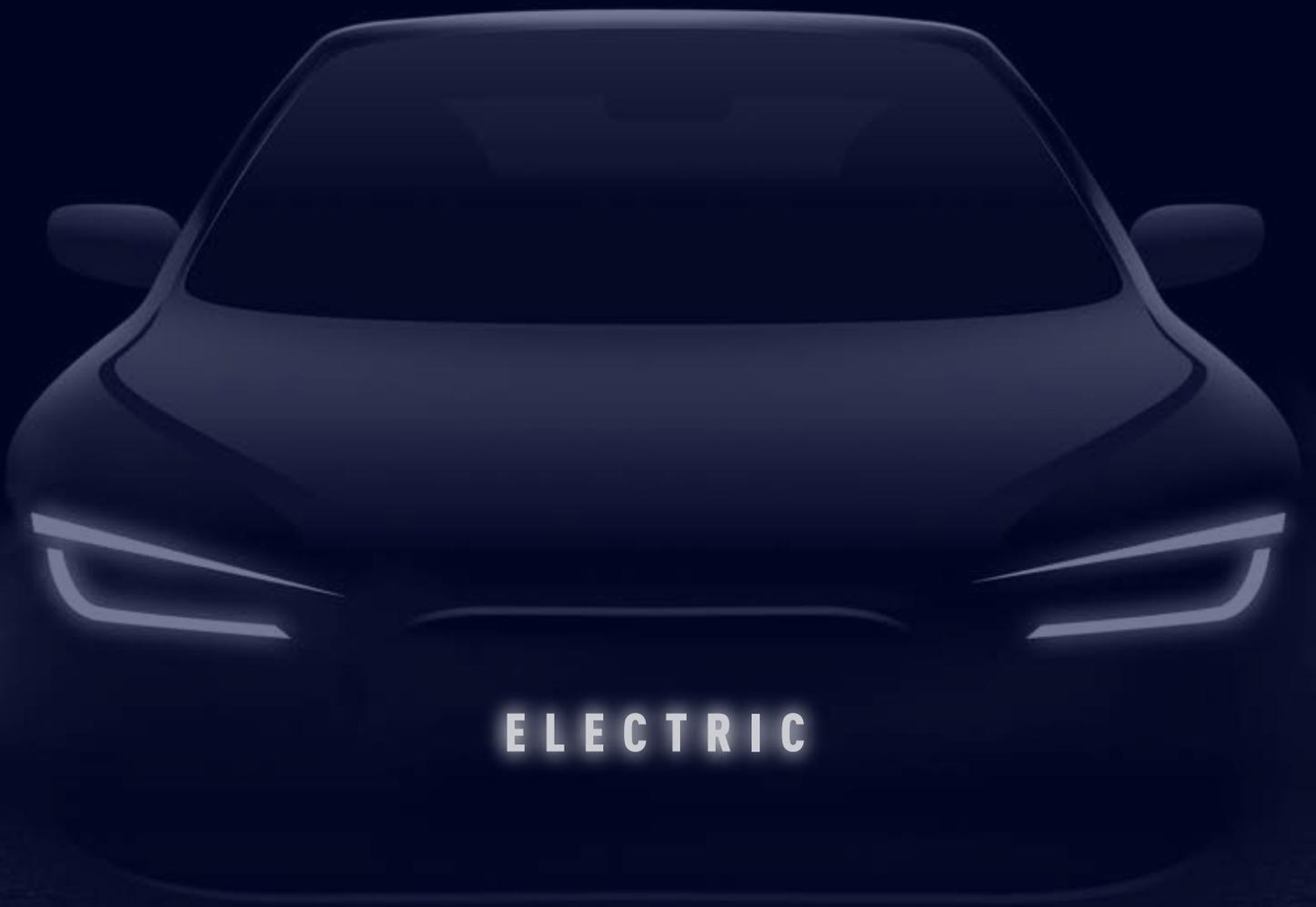
No more gas station stops. You can charge your electric vehicle at home. It's so easy, you can recharge your EV while you sleep.

## **INVIGORATE**

Electric vehicles are quick, clean and efficient. They emit no exhaust and require less maintenance than standard automobiles. That's good for the environment—and for you.

## **ACCELERATE**

With EVs covering more than 200 miles on a single overnight charge, you can make several trips between charges.



**PLUG IN**

Learn more about the EV Advantage Saturday, Sept. 7, at Southwestern Electric Cooperative's 81st Annual Meeting of Members.



# Your Spare Change Can Make a **Big Difference** through Operation Round Up

**Neighbors helping neighbors. That's what a co-op is about.** And that's the idea behind Operation Round Up (ORU), a charitable program governed, funded and supported by Southwestern Electric Cooperative members like you.

**Here's how it works:** After you sign up for ORU, Southwestern will round up the amount due on your monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar. Your donations are placed in the ORU account. Each quarter, an independent committee of Southwestern Electric members reviews ORU grant requests. ORU grants support various community projects across the co-op's service territory.

Since launching the program in 2005, **Southwestern Electric's Operation Round Up has assisted a wide variety of organizations**, including local food pantries, senior centers and fire departments.

**Ready to get started?** To join ORU today, just check the enrollment box on your electric bill or online, or contact Southwestern Electric Cooperative at (800) 637-8667. For more information about Operation Round Up, visit [sweci.com](http://sweci.com).



# CO-OP OFFERS NEW REBATES FOR HIGH EFFICIENCY HEAT PUMPS, ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS, SMART THERMOSTATS

by Julie Lowe, Energy Manager

**You spoke, we listened!** In response to survey comments collected earlier this year and at last year’s annual meeting, we’re offering a new rebate program. This program will honor the replacement or new installation of air source heat pumps, geothermal systems, electric water heaters and smart thermostats purchased after February 28, 2018.

All rebates will be applied as a bill credit upon receiving the completed rebate application and proof of purchase. Rebate forms will be available at the Energy Booth at our annual meeting on Sept. 7, and on our website at sweci.com. You can email your completed application and proof of purchase to julie.lowe@sweci.com, or mail it to: Julie Lowe, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246. You’re also welcome to drop off your materials at our Greenville office.

## HEATING AND COOLING

High efficiency heat pumps can significantly increase the comfort of your home while lowering your energy bills. If you’re thinking of upgrading to or installing a new air source or ground source heat pump, our rebate will help you offset some of the cost.

To qualify for our \$300 rebate, your heat pump may be installed in a newly constructed home, or replace electric resistance heat, propane or fuel oil heat. Installed backup heat must be electric, and the condenser and coil must be replaced and/or installed as a matched set.

Requirements for air source heat pumps include:

- At least 16 SEER
- 9 HSPF

Requirements for ground source (geothermal) heat pumps include:

- For closed systems—at least 17 SEER; COP 3.6
- For open systems – at least 21.1 SEER; COP 4.1

## WATER HEATERS

Water heating accounts for about 18 percent of your home’s energy use. Choosing an energy efficient water heater can help you reduce your monthly water heating bills.

To qualify for our \$250 water heater rebate, you can install an electric water heater as part of a newly constructed home, or replace an existing gas water heater with an electric model.

Your water heater must be at least 50 gallons and one rebate is allowed per home.

On-demand water heaters do not qualify for a rebate.

## SMART THERMOSTATS

A smart thermostat learns your lifestyle and adjusts the temperature of your home automatically, helping you use less energy and save money.

With a smart thermostat, you can control your home’s temperature settings, even when you’re at work or on the road. Connected to your Wi-Fi, your smart thermostat allows you to monitor and change your home’s temperature from your smart phone, tablet or PC.

You can install a smart thermostat as part of a newly constructed home, or replace an existing manual or programmable thermostat.

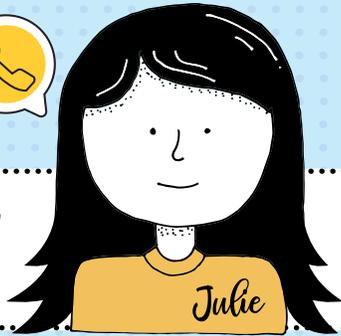
To qualify for our \$50 rebate, your smart thermostat must be:

- Energy Star certified
- Internet-enabled

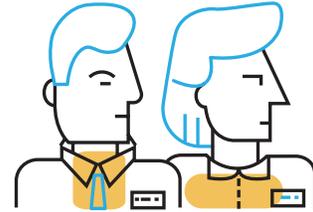
**Have questions? Call Julie Lowe at (800) 637-8667 or email her at julie.lowe@sweci.com.**

# Going Solar? Contact Southwestern

## STEPS TO SOLAR COMMISSIONING



Contact Julie Lowe, energy manager, at (800) 637-8667 or [julie.lowe@sweci.com](mailto:julie.lowe@sweci.com) for our information and commissioning packet.



Work with your system installer and insurance agent to complete the forms we send. Instruct your solar installer to draft a 1-line diagram and submit it to us. Have the hold harmless agreement notarized. Return your completed documentation to Julie Lowe at Southwestern Electric.



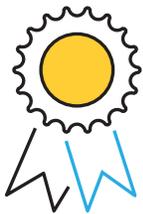
As your installation nears completion, call us. We'll discuss the commissioning timeline. You'll receive a \$500 invoice to cover the installation of your new dual register electric meter, a system inspection, and your array's interconnection to the grid.



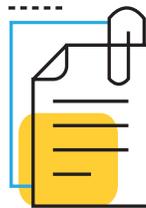
After installation is complete, contact us to schedule your system's on-site review and commissioning.



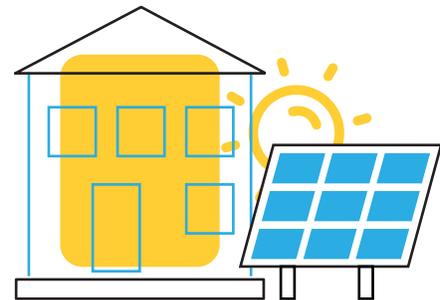
A Southwestern Electric engineer will inspect your system to verify it meets the cooperative's safety specifications. After your system passes inspection, you go live! Your array is connected to Southwestern Electric's distribution system.



We'll send you a certificate of completion, which you'll submit to your installer to receive your solar renewable energy credits, or certificates (SRECs).



Each year, you'll submit documentation to confirm you've renewed your insurance.



Every three years, we'll visit your system to confirm it's connected properly, well-maintained, and that your safety signs are in place.



# College Campus Fire Safety

College students living away from home should take a few minutes to make sure they're living in a fire-safe environment. Educating students on what they can do to stay safe during the school year is important and often overlooked.



## CANDLE CARE

Burn candles only if the school permits their use. A candle is an open flame and should be placed away from anything that can burn. Never leave a candle unattended. Blow it out when you leave the room or go to sleep.

## SMOKING SENSE

If you smoke, smoke outside and only where it is permitted. Use sturdy, deep, non-tip ashtrays. Don't smoke in bed or when you've been drinking or are drowsy.



## FACTS

- Fires in dormitories are more common during the evening hours, between 5–11 p.m., and on weekends.
- Roughly five out of six fires in dormitories are started by cooking.

## SAFETY TIPS

- Look for fully sprinklered housing when choosing a dorm or off-campus housing.
- Make sure you can hear the building alarm system when you are in your dorm room.
- If you live in a dormitory, make sure your sleeping room has a smoke alarm, or your dormitory suite has a smoke alarm in each living area as well as the sleeping room. For the best protection, all smoke alarms in the dormitory suite should be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound.
- If you live in an apartment or house, make sure smoke alarms are installed in each sleeping room, outside every sleeping area, and on each level of the apartment unit or house. For the best protection, all smoke alarms in the apartment unit or house should be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least monthly.
- Never remove batteries or disable the alarm.
- Learn your building's evacuation plan and practice all drills as if they were the real thing.
- If you live off campus, have a fire escape plan with two ways out of every room.
- When the smoke alarm or fire alarm sounds, get out of the building quickly and stay out.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking.
- Cook only when you are alert, not sleepy or drowsy from medicine or alcohol.
- Check with your local fire department for any restrictions before using a barbecue grill, fire pit, or chimenea.
- Check your school's rules before using electrical appliances in your room.

# Don't Wait — Check the Date!

Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years



**Fire Prevention Week  
Oct. 6-12, 2019**

Age matters when it comes to your smoke alarms.  
Check the manufacture dates on your smoke alarms today!

**1**

Remove the smoke alarm from the wall or ceiling.

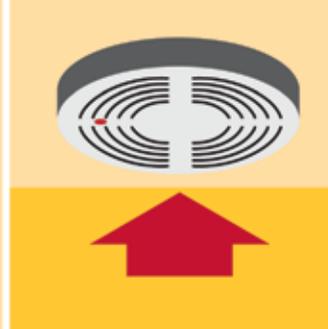


**2**

Look at the back of the alarm for the date of manufacture.

**3**

Smoke alarms should be replaced 10 years from the date of manufacture.



**4**

Put the alarm back on the ceiling or wall if it is less than 10 years old.



A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.



Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.



If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.



Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. For the best protection, make sure all smoke alarms are interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.



Call the fire department from a cellphone or a neighbor's phone. Stay outside until the fire department says it's safe to go back inside.

For more information about smoke alarms, visit [usfa.fema.gov](http://usfa.fema.gov) and [firepreventionweek.org](http://firepreventionweek.org).

U.S. Fire Administration



FEMA





# SKY LINES



**Y**ou might be tempted to skip this one. If bird's-eye views of treetops, stunning panoramas and highway traffic made ant-size by elevation don't appeal to you—as heights really aren't to your liking—you might opt out of an afternoon at the Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower.

You'd be making a mistake.

The marquee attraction may be the twin 180-foot concrete pillars supporting three viewing platforms that offer progressively impressive views of the Mississippi River, the industry surrounding the tower's home village of Hartford, and the St. Louis skyline, but there's plenty to see at ground level.

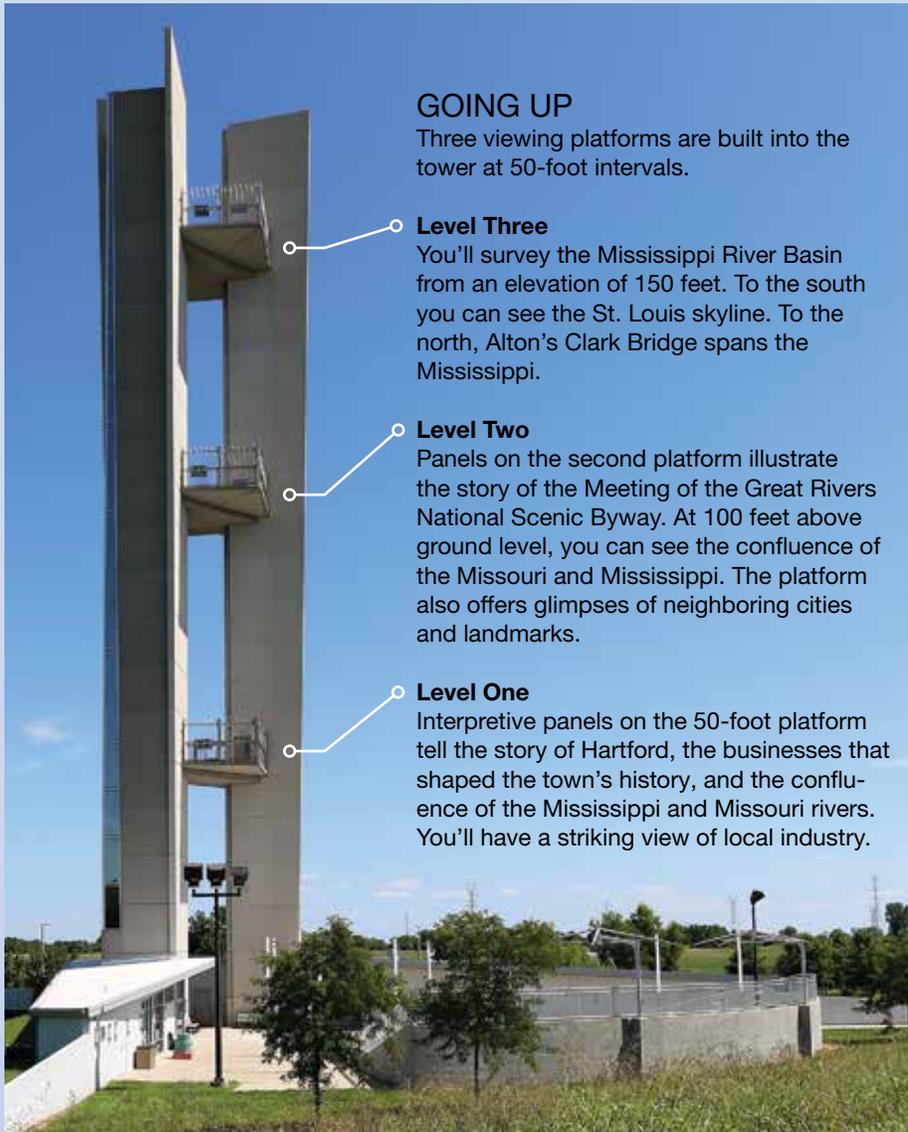
The tower is home to a compact and well-imagined interpretive center, offering interactive exhibits, videos, graphic panels and maps.

To the south you'll find a wheelchair-accessible trail flanked by a dozen interpretive panels. The interpretive trail connects to the larger, longer Confluence Trail. Follow the Confluence Trail a mile south and you'll find yourself at the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site. The site's interpretive center is well worth the walk.

But if heights don't make you twitchy, while you're in Hartford, don't miss the view.

An elevator takes visitors to viewing platforms stationed at 50, 100 and 150 feet above ground level. Or you can climb the tower's 263 stairs, stopping to catch your breath and admire the view through windows stationed along the way.





## GOING UP

Three viewing platforms are built into the tower at 50-foot intervals.

### Level Three

You'll survey the Mississippi River Basin from an elevation of 150 feet. To the south you can see the St. Louis skyline. To the north, Alton's Clark Bridge spans the Mississippi.

### Level Two

Panels on the second platform illustrate the story of the Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway. At 100 feet above ground level, you can see the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi. The platform also offers glimpses of neighboring cities and landmarks.

### Level One

Interpretive panels on the 50-foot platform tell the story of Hartford, the businesses that shaped the town's history, and the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. You'll have a striking view of local industry.



## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

During our late July visit, the air at ground level was still but a soft breeze moved across the viewing platforms. The wind was persistent but never strong, and there was no sense of motion in the platforms.

Metal bars rise from the base of the platforms and extend overhead. They're spaced closely enough to feel reassuring but allow an unobstructed view for your camera lens.

Hours are Wednesday-Friday: 1-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children 12 and under.

## GETTING THERE

The Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower is located on the Mississippi River south of Hartford, between Alton and Granite City. Follow I-270 W to Exit 3B. Merge onto IL-3 N/Lewis & Clark Blvd., toward Alton. Continue about 3.5 miles on IL-3 N/Lewis & Clark Blvd. Turn left at Piasa Lane. Turn left at Confluence Tower Drive.



# WHO



# WHAT

Each August we part from our traditional format of news, notes and features to bring you Southwestern's corporate report and annual meeting notice. We appreciate your patience as you waited for the solution to our July puzzle.

Special thanks to Don Bohley of Edwardsville for loaning us a tool well worn by the hands of time—and cigar aficionados—which served as our July challenge. Don's research uncovered an interesting point of origin for the item. The tool likely hailed from a riverside cigar manufacturer in St. Louis, Mo. The company was located on Olive Street, where the north leg of the Arch stands today.

Thanks, too, to the readers who responded with solutions to our challenge. We deeply appreciate your interest in our magazine, and the Who~What~Where department in particular.

We hope you'll give this month's puzzle a go and try to identify our mystery figure. We decided to make this month's challenge a bit more... challenging. In lieu of a portrait, we're sharing a few clues, an illustration of his homestead as it appeared *then*, and a photo of the home as it stands today.

Look for the solution in our October issue. Meanwhile, here's what you had to say about our July puzzle.

This appears to be a cigar box tool for cutting the end off a cigar (or opening the cigar box), tamping the cigar (the little hammer), and a bottle opener. They were given away with an order of cigars from maker Santo, still in operation, as advertising. Cool item!

—Anne Cicero, *St. Jacob*

I believe the object in the July *Southwestern* magazine is an antique cigar box opener knife, cigar tool, and bottle opener. I was never a cigar smoker, but my grandfather certainly was.

—Larry Rose, *Edwardsville*

I believe the latest puzzle is a cigar box opener tool with a bottle opener on the opposite end. Merchants selling cigars used them to open up a cigar box that was held shut by a little nail. They would wedge the opener under the lid (close to the nail head) and pry the lid open to expose the cigars.

This one also seems to have a little hammer that was part of the tool and used to hammer the lid closed after the patron bought a cigar. This helped to keep the product fresh.

Thanks again for this feature!

—Jane Dapkus, *Pocahontas*

The item pictured is a vintage cigar box opener. A typical cigar box opener comes with a tapered edge to pry the lid of the box open, a small nick to remove the nail from the lid, and a small hammer to nail the lid shut again. The one pictured also has a bottle opener at one end.

Cigar box openers were patented in the U.S. as early as 1864 and used by cigar manufacturers and merchants to advertise and merchandise their products. They were used like business cards and never thrown away.

In the early days they were made of steel and came in over 175 shapes and sizes. They ranged in design from simple devices to elaborate utility tools with many functions. They were the Leatherman or Swiss Army knife of their time!

The opener pictured may have been used by Providencia Cigars El Santo to advertise their cigars produced in Nicaragua.

—Bill Malec, *O'Fallon*

The item for July 2019 issue of your *Who-What-Where* challenge appears to be a multifunctional tool meant to be a promotional item for W. Santo Cigar Company products. Probably it is cast iron and includes a hammer, a nail puller, a bottle/container opener, and perhaps even a screwdriver.

I think it would be a great item for a collector of such tools. Thanks for the challenge!

—Tim Bennett, *Holiday Shores*





# WHERE



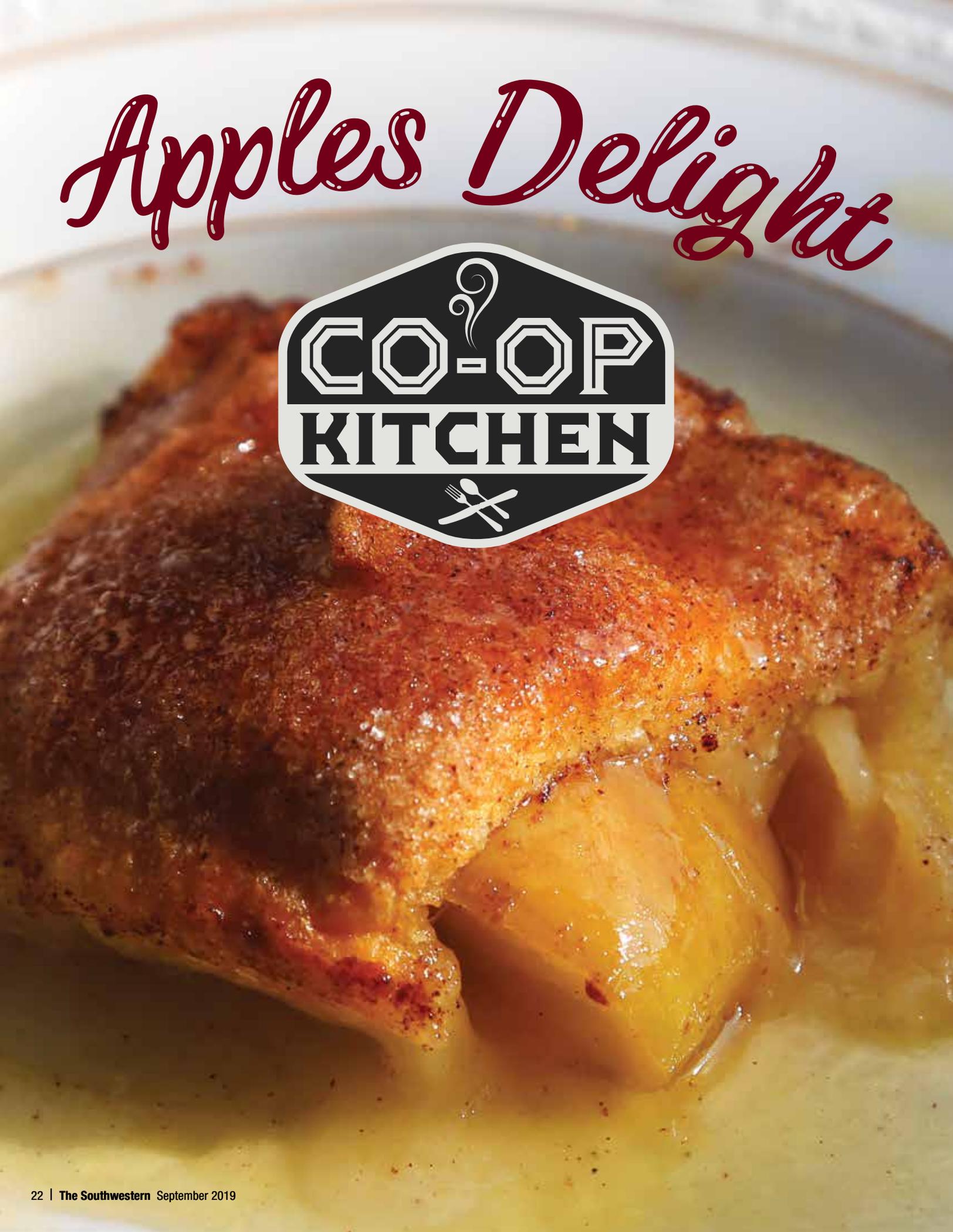
## WHO AM I?

- I was born in Massachusetts in 1794.
- I ran away from home and learned the shipping trade.
- In 1835, I established a seminary in Madison County. The site still serves students today.
- An editor died defending his press outside a building I co-owned.
- I'm buried in a cemetery that bears my name.



**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](mailto: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*.

# Apples Delight



## APPLE SALAD



### Ingredients

- 2 8 ounce packages cream cheese
- 8 ounces Cool Whip
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 Snickers bars, chopped
- 3 red apples
- 3 green apples

### Directions

1. Mix cream cheese, sugar, Cool Whip, and Snickers.
2. Wash, core and chop apples (do not peel).
3. Combine apples with cream cheese mixture.
4. Chill 1 hour before serving.

## APPLE CHEESECAKE



### Crust Ingredients

- 1 stick butter
- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla

### Filling Ingredients

- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 egg

### Topping Ingredients

- 4 cups apples peeled and thinly sliced
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans or walnuts (optional)

### Directions

1. Combine crust ingredients and press into greased 9 inch pie pan.
2. Combine filling ingredients and pour over crust.
3. Mix topping ingredients and lay on top of filling.
4. Bake at 450° for 10 minutes.
5. Then bake at 350° for 30 minutes.
6. Add chopped nuts (optional) to top last 5 -10 minutes.

## AWESOME APPLE DUMPLINGS



### Ingredients

- 1 cup butter melted
- 2 cans Pillsbury crescent rolls
- 2-3 Fuji or Granny Smith apples quartered
- 1 12 ounce can Mountain Dew
- 1 1/2 cup sugar (we used 3/4 cup of that)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

### Directions

1. Place melted butter in 9 x 13 inch baking dish.
2. Roll each apple slice in a crescent roll and place in dish on top of melted butter.
3. Pour can of Mountain Dew over rolls.
4. Mix together sugar and cinnamon and pour over rolls.
5. Bake at 350° for 40 - 45 minutes.

## APPLE BROWNIES



### Ingredients

- 3 eggs
- 1 1/4 cups sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups apples diced

### Directions

1. In large bowl beat eggs and sugar until fluffy and pale.
2. Add oil and vanilla, mix well.
3. Sift dry ingredients and mix into wet mixture until well blended.
4. Stir in apples.
5. Spread batter into greased 9 x 13 metal pan.
6. Bake at 350° for 40 - 50 minutes or until toothpick inserted into center comes out clean.
7. Dust with powdered sugar when thoroughly cooled.

## APPLE PUDDING



### Ingredients

- 2 cups chopped apples
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup oil
- 1 egg
- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1/4 cup cocoa
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 cup raisins
- whipped cream

### Directions

1. Mix together apples and sugar.
2. Combine oil and egg and add to apples.
3. Add the flour, soda, cocoa, and cinnamon. Stir until blended.
4. Stir in raisins.
5. Pour into greased and floured 8 x 8 inch baking dish.
6. Bake at 350° for 30 - 35 minutes. Serve topped with whipped cream.

This month's recipes are courtesy of Bond County Habitat for Humanity's *Bond County Habitat for Humanity Cookbook* (apple cheesecake), Edwardsville Garden Club's *Favorite Recipes* (apple brownies), and Greenville Regional Hospital Auxiliary's *Home Town Favorites* cookbook (awesome apple dumplings, apple salad, and apple pudding).



# Current Events

**September 6** HWY 55 CAR CRUISE-INS, Litchfield. Go back in time at this 50s throw-back diner. Enjoy visiting with the other car cruisers, listen to some great 50s music, and eat some great food. 6 - 8 p.m. Hwy 55 Burgers Shakes & Fries, 1403 West Ferdon Street, Suite 21. For more information, call (217) 324-3455 or e-mail [kdhwy55@outlook.com](mailto:kdhwy55@outlook.com).

**September 6-8** HOMESTEAD HARVEST DAYS, Highland. See demonstrations of threshing, shingle mill, stone crushing, corn shelling, gas and steam engines, antique tractors, silent auction, kids' activities, live entertainment, farm equipment auction, flea market and tours of the Louis Latzer home. Friday 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Informal Sunday worship 8 a.m. Admission on Friday is \$3; Saturday and Sunday is \$5.



**September 7** SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S 81st ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS, Greenville. Doors open at 7 a.m. Breakfast served 7 - 9:30 a.m. Voting available 7 - 10 a.m. Business meeting begins at 10 a.m. Each active membership in attendance will receive a \$20 bill credit. Bond County Community Unit #2 Junior High School, 1200 Junior High Drive. For more information call (800) 637-8667.

Louis Latzer Homestead, 1464 Old Trenton Road. Call (618) 654-7957 or visit [highlandilhistory.org](http://highlandilhistory.org).

**September 6-8** ROUTE 66 JET RALLY, Litchfield. Remote control (RC) jet rally. There will be approximately 30 contestants and 50 aircraft from all over the United States, scale models of military jets, and high performance sport jets. Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - noon. Adults \$5; children 15 years of age and younger are free. Food concessions are available or bring your own food. Limited bleacher seats are available so please bring your own lawn chairs. 1201 US Route 66 South. Call (217) 556-4299 or visit [litchfieldil.com/airport/](http://litchfieldil.com/airport/).

**September 7 & 8** ART IN THE PARK, Grafton. Enjoy live music, food vendors, art activities, demonstrations and artists presenting their handmade art, fine art, paintings, photography, glass and jewelry. Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is free. Grove Park, intersection of IL-3 and IL-100. For more information, call (618) 786-2823 or (618) 786-7000.

**September 8** MEMORIAL WALKWAY OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS 5K RUN/WALK, Belleville. T-shirts for first 200 registered participants. 9:11 start time. \$25 before race date; \$30 day of race. All proceeds benefit the local September 11 Memorial. Start and finish at Hough Park/Franklin School, North 3rd Street and West C Street. For more information, visit [wtcmemorials.us](http://wtcmemorials.us).

**September 8-29** CARILLON CONCERTS, Alton. Listen to the melodic songs of the bells ringing forth from the Carillon Tower in the Nan Elliot Rose Garden. Every Sunday during the summer, you can walk the

trails through the garden or spread out a blanket to listen as a talented local musician plays the bells. 5 - 5:30 p.m. Concerts are free. Gordon F. Moore Community Park, 4550 College Avenue (Illinois Rt. 140). Call (618) 465-6676.

**September 13** WALTON PARK CONCERTS, Litchfield. A free monthly concert series. Music starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. 10207 Niemanville Trail. Call (217) 324-9075 or e-mail [parkdistdirector@litchfieldil.com](mailto:parkdistdirector@litchfieldil.com).

**September 13-15** SUMMER SUNDOWN MUSIC FESTIVAL, Effingham. A celebration of our Central/Southern Illinois music scene, with two days of music from bands hailing from Champaign to Carbondale and everywhere in between. Larson's Landing, 8724 East Marine Road. For more information, visit [summersundownfest.com](http://summersundownfest.com).

**September 14** FFA ALUMNI MINIATURE GOLF SCRAMBLE, Highland. Cash prizes, free food, silent auction, gravity ball and spirit award contests. Must supply your own putters. Nine putting holes at various locations in the Grantfork area. Must be 21 to participate. Shotgun start. Registration 8 - 10 a.m. \$150 per four-man team. Rain or shine event. Start and end at Grantfork Fireman's Park, 109 Park Road. To register, call Judi (618) 791-8204, Rene (618) 521-8375, Marty (618) 593-6225 or Sheryl (618) 791-3154.

**September 14** HARVEST FESTIVAL, Farina. Vendors, kids' games, corn hole tournament, Little Miss pageant, chili cook off, and live music. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Farina City Park, south end of town on Highway 37. For more information, visit (618) 699-9357.

## 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](mailto:joe.richardson@sweci.com), or mail your info to *The Southwestern*, Southwestern Electric Cooperative, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246. Please include a contact number with your listing.

**September 14** WINE ON THE LAWN, Altamont. Enjoy fine Illinois wines, beer tasting and live music. For a small donation, guests receive a commemorative wine glass and samples of wine and beer. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Dr. Charles M. Wright House, 509 North Main Street. Call (618) 483-6178 or visit [wrightmansion.org](http://wrightmansion.org).

**September 19-22; 26-29** ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA THE MUSICAL, Lebanon. 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](http://lookingglass-playhouse.com).

**September 20 & 21** ITALIAN FEST, Collinsville. Annual street festival celebrates everything Italian. Events include a grape stomp, bocce tournament, wine garden, fest olympics, 5K run, live music, authentic Italian food, Italian cooking contest,

craft fair, wine making contest and a children's area. 11 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. both days. Admission is free. For more information, visit [italianfest.net](http://italianfest.net).

**September 20 & 21 OKTOBERFEST**, Belleville. Enjoy live entertainment, authentic German cuisine, German beer, cornhole tournament, classic car show, children's area, rides, wiener dog race and costume contest. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. both days. Downtown Public Square, Main Street and Illinois Street. Visit [bellevilleoktoberfest.com](http://bellevilleoktoberfest.com).

**September 20 & 21 PARTY IN THE PARK**, Litchfield. Event will include the Little Miss and Little Mister pageants and the Junior Miss and Miss Chamber of Commerce pageants. Additionally the event will host vendors in Library Park, live music and drinks, and a carnival. 400 North State Street. Admission is free. Call (217) 324-2533.

**September 21 ATLATL COMPETITION**, Collinsville. Visitors may observe this ancient spear



**September 13-15 HILL'S FORT RENDEZVOUS**, Greenville. Event will feature living history reenactors from the Colonial and War of 1812 era, traders and vendors, the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corp, the 2nd Regiment U.S. Artillery, cannon firing, blacksmith, and tours at the 1800s reconstructed Hill's Fort, modeled on a structure that stood south of Greenville. 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. American Farm Heritage Museum, 1395 Museum Avenue. Visit [fortsoffillinois.org](http://fortsoffillinois.org).

throwing competition, held in the plaza area. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit [cahokiamounds.org](http://cahokiamounds.org).

**September 21 CARNIVAL IN THE PARK**, Vandalia. Event will include food, bounce houses, carnival games, face painting, balloon art, craft items for children, and entertainment. Proceeds benefit Fayette County Cancer Fund. 1 - 6 p.m. Rogier Park, West Fillmore Street. Call Janet at (618) 347-2264 or (618) 704-9035.

**September 21 CHICKASAW NATION DANCE TROUPE**, Collinsville. Demonstrations of traditional stomp dancing, stickball game, storytelling and social games, and dancing for visitors. Will be held both inside and outside the interpretive center. Admission is free. 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit [cahokiamounds.org](http://cahokiamounds.org).

**September 21 MISSISSIPPI EARTHTONES FESTIVAL**, Alton. A celebration of the Mississippi River through art, music, and conservation. This free, sustainable festival offers live music, food and beverages, children's activities, arts and crafts, and an eco-village. Noon - 10 p.m. Downtown on Broadway. Parking available at 501 Landmarks Blvd. For more information, visit [altonmainstreet.org](http://altonmainstreet.org).

**September 21 STREET ART FEST & ART EXPO**, Highland. Watch as 30 talented artists create artwork of amazing color, depth and complexity—with chalk. Event will feature an art expo of local artists, food, live music, and kids activities. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Historic Downtown Square, 907 Main Street. Call (618) 654-3721 or visit [highlandartscouncil.org](http://highlandartscouncil.org).

**September 22 APPLE FESTIVAL**, Grafton. Warm apple pie, hand-dipped caramel apples,

**September 21 PAWS IN THE PARK FESTIVAL**, Greenville. Festival will include trophies and ribbons, giveaways, professional photos, nail trimming, cutest pet photo, Tennis Ball Drop raffle, SAR K9 CO-OP (a K9 based search and rescue team), silent auction (100 items/baskets), microchipping, and adoptable dogs. Event will be held rain or shine. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit Bond County Humane Society. Donations are tax deductible. Patriot's Park, northwest of Greenville at junction of Illinois Routes 127 and 140. For more information, call (618) 664-4068 or e-mail Rachel at [bcchs4pets@sbcglocal.net](mailto:bcchs4pets@sbcglocal.net). To pre-register (optional) for events, visit [bondcohs.petfinder.com](http://bondcohs.petfinder.com).



unique crafts, live music, and fresh produce are just a few of the offerings. An apple pie walk will be held at 12:30 p.m. with proceeds being donated to the Friends of Pere Marquette Foundation. Pumpkin roll and Johnny Appleseed look alike contest winners get a free night's stay at our historic lodge. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Admission is free. Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center, 13653 Lodge Blvd. Call (618) 786-2331 or visit [pmlodge.net](http://pmlodge.net).

**September 22 ARTIFACT IDENTIFICATION DAY**, Collinsville. Several archaeologists will identify Indian artifacts as to culture, time period, material and function. No monetary appraisals will be given. Free service to the public. Noon - 4 p.m. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit [cahokiamounds.org](http://cahokiamounds.org).

**September 22 FALL EQUINOX SUNRISE OBSERVANCE**, Collinsville. Meet at the Woodhenge by 6:30 a.m. to hear an explanation of the discovery, form and function of this ancient post circle monument used as a calendar by the Mississippians. Event is free. Located about 1/4 mile west of the Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center on Collinsville Road. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit [cahokiamounds.org](http://cahokiamounds.org).

**September 27 & 28 BALLOONS OVER MARINE FESTIVAL**, Marine. The event will feature launches on Friday and Saturday evening, a sunrise launch on Saturday morning, and a balloon glow on Saturday evening. Many aviation activities and displays will be available, as well as a bounce house, food and drinks. Village Park, 155 North Duncan Street. Visit [bomarine.org](http://bomarine.org).

**September 27-29 ART FAIR**, Edwardsville. A juried fine art show featuring the original works of approximately 100 accomplished artists. A three-day opportunity for the family see, make and buy art. Event features food and drink and live entertainment on the bandstand, including dance groups, choirs and other musicians. City Park, 101 South Buchanan. Friday: 6 - 10 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call (618) 655-0337 or visit [edwardsvilleartscenter.com](http://edwardsvilleartscenter.com).

**September 28 FALL CORN FESTIVAL**, Godfrey. Enjoy a full day of fun at the park, including music, petting zoo, pony rides, inflatables, games, arts and crafts, face painting, games, vendors and a corn eating contest. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is free. Robert E. Glazebrook Community Park, 1401 Stamper Lane. Call (618) 466-1483.

**September 28 HARVEST FESTIVAL**, Troy. A jam-packed day full of events for everyone. The day begins at 9 a.m. with fishing derby registration. Tri-Township Park, 410 Wickliffe Street. Call (618) 667-6887 or visit [troycoc.com](http://troycoc.com).

**September 28 MILES FOR MESO 5K RACE 3K FUN RUN/WALK**, Alton. The race begins at the Simmons Hanly Conrow Law Firm building at One Court Street across from Marquette High School, and winds through the historic, brick streets of downtown Alton. Cash prizes awarded. All registration fees benefit research for mesothelioma, one of the most aggressive types of cancer. Gates open at 7:30 a.m.; 9 a.m. - noon. To register, visit [milesformesothelioma.org](http://milesformesothelioma.org)

**September 28 & 29 AIRPORT OPEN HOUSE & FLY IN**, East Alton. On Saturday, take a close look at warbirds, antique aircraft, and automobiles on display. On Sunday, free flights will be offered for kids 8 - 17 years of age. Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Admission is free. St. Louis Regional Airport, 8 Terminal Drive. Call (618) 259-2531 or visit [stlouisregional.com](http://stlouisregional.com).

**October 1-13, 18-20 MAMA'S BOY**, Breese. A theatrical presentation by Clinton County Showcase. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.; performances begin at 8 p.m. except for the last Sunday showing, which is at 2 p.m. \$12 for adults; \$10 for students, senior citizens and active military personnel (with valid identification). Historic Avon Theatre, 535 North 2nd Street. For reservations, call (618) 526-2866 or visit [ccshowcase.com](http://ccshowcase.com).

**October 4 & 5 ART & HARVEST FESTIVAL**, Greenville. Friday 6 - 10 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. It will feature an art walk this year. For more information, call the Greenville Municipal Building at (618) 664-1644.

**October 5 & 6, 12 & 13 VINTAGE VOICES**, Alton. Guided gentle-walking tours. Tours will leave from the main gate of the cemetery every 20 minutes, visit 8 stops, and meet 11 actor/docents who portray notable persons from Alton's rich history. Noon - 3 p.m. Adults \$15; students with ID \$10. Alton Little Theater, 2450 North Henry Street. Alton City Cemetery, 5th and Vine Streets. For tickets, call (800) 258-6645 or visit [altonlittletheater.org](http://altonlittletheater.org).

**October 11 & 12 CHILI COOK-OFF**, Belleville. Event features the culinary creations of individuals, local organizations, and area businesses, as well as entertainment throughout the weekend. 11 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.



**October 26 LIBERTY APPLE ORCHARD APPLE HARVEST FESTIVAL 5K**, Edwardsville. This year the festival will benefit Friends of Kids with Cancer, a non-profit organization devoted to enriching the daily lives of children fighting cancer in the Metro-East and St. Louis areas. In addition to the 5k run and walk along country roads and MCT Trails, the event will include a bake sale, cider making demonstration, face painting, pumpkin decorating, children's games, apple cider donuts, and bluegrass music by the Red Haired Boys. Register for the 5k at [friendsofkids.com](http://friendsofkids.com). The 5k will begin at 9 a.m. and the festival will run throughout the morning with plenty of apples to pick. Visit [liberty-appleorchard.com](http://liberty-appleorchard.com) or call (618) 659-9217.

Admission is free. Downtown Belleville, Main Street and Illinois Street. Call (618) 233-2015 or visit [bellevillechili.com](http://bellevillechili.com).

**October 12 APPLE FESTIVAL**, Centralia. Enjoy a fun-filled day of activities for the kids including games, straw maze and face painting. Fresh baked goods, mums, pumpkins and apple cider will be available for purchase. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free. Schwartz Orchard, 1942 Copple Road. Call (618) 532-8058 or visit [schwartzfruitfarm.com](http://schwartzfruitfarm.com).

**October 12 ART, WINE, & MUSIC FESTIVAL**, Centralia. Local artisans, musicians, crafters, wineries, craft brewers, and food vendors fill downtown Broadway Street. Enjoy local food and drink at this festival around the Carillon. 4 - 10 p.m. Admission is free. Downtown Centralia, 300 East Broadway. (618) 533-7623.

**October 12 FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL**, Greenville. The tractor museum and Lil' Red Barn will be open. Event will include craft and food vendors. Children's activities include costume contest, pumpkin painting, games, train rides, and face painting all for \$6 per child. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. American Farm Heritage Museum, 1395 Museum Avenue. Call (618) 664-0696 or visit [americanfarmheritagemuseum.org](http://americanfarmheritagemuseum.org).

**October 12 FALL FEST ON THE FARM**, Greenville. We will have a number of our artisan cheeses available to sample and plenty of other treats available for purchase like our cheese-filled bratwursts, grilled cheese sandwiches, fried cheese curds and custard-style ice cream. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Admission is free. Marcoot Jersey Creamery, 526 Dudleyville Road. Call (618) 664-1110 or visit [marcootjerseycreamery.com](http://marcootjerseycreamery.com).

**October 12 GIVIN' IT ALL FOR GUTS 5K MARGARITA RUN/WALK**, Alton. Sign up today and help raise money

for Crohn's Disease and Colitis research. There will be chips and salsa after the race and margaritas for participants 21 and older. Starts at 3 p.m. Admission is \$30. Liberty Bank Alton Amphitheater, 1 Riverfront Drive. For more information, call (618) 806-2678 or visit [givingforallforguts.org](http://givingforallforguts.org).

**October 12 RAPTOR AWARENESS PROGRAM**, Collinsville. Presented by the World Bird Sanctuary in the Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center Auditorium. No one can be admitted after the show begins. 2 p.m. This is a free event and open to the public. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit [cahokiamounds.org](http://cahokiamounds.org).

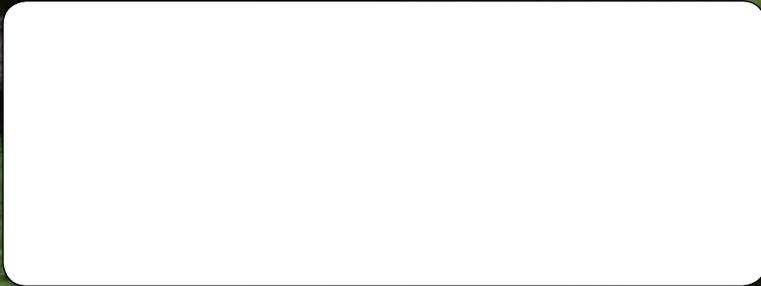
**October 12 & 13 ART IN THE PARK**, Highland. An outdoor juried exhibit and sale of works by professional artists in a wide variety of art mediums. The event features food, drinks, live music, art demonstrations, and activities for kids. The culinary arts are also featured in the popular Dueling Desserts competition held from Noon - 2 p.m. on Sunday. Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free. Lindendale Park, 2025 Park Hill Drive. For more information, call (618) 654-3721 or visit [highlandartscouncil.org](http://highlandartscouncil.org).

**October 12 & 13 GREAT RIVERS CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT**, Godfrey. GRCS presents "A Colloquium of One: LISTEN". The music in this concert will inspire, inform, and invoke dreams or memories of a better time, a better place, a better world. Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 3 p.m. Admission is free. Evangelical UCC, 1212 West Homer M. Adams Parkway. For more information, visit [grcs-sing.org](http://grcs-sing.org) or call (618) 292-4742.



Links in a linemen's tool belt see a rare moment of rest, and then, once again, are in motion.

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