

THE *Southwestern*

A SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2019 • VOLUME 71 • ISSUE 11

Land of Lincoln

Abe Stands Tall in Springfield

BUDGET ASSURANCE

Co-op Partners With HomeServe to Offer Emergency Repair Solutions

AL MUSEUM

ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

ABE MAZING
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Each year, carbon monoxide kills more than 400 people in the United States. Protect your family from CO poisoning by following these tips.



ON THE COVER

More than 150 years after his death, Abraham Lincoln is still larger than life. You can view this 37,000-pound, 31-foot art installation outside the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, in Springfield, Ill., through September 2020. For more information, see our story on page 18.

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Fins are in.

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!

CO-OP REMINDERS

November 11

Offices closed in observance of Veterans Day.

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.

November 28-29

Offices closed for Thanksgiving.

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Phone: (800) 637-8667. Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Visit us on the Web at www.sweci.com.

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Sandy Grapperhaus, Vice President .. Collinsville
Annette Hartlieb, Secretary Vandalia
William "Bill" Jennings, Treasurer Alhambra
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Plug-in Pickups

We love our trucks. Cruise across the heartland and you'll find no shortage of pickups on parking lots, country roads and city streets. The makes and models may vary, but even from a distance, you know a pickup when you see one.

Until now.

Earlier this year, Tesla Motors founder Elon Musk said he'd unveil his company's version of the pickup in November. In an interview with *Ride the Lightning*, an independent, Tesla-oriented podcast produced by Ryan McCaffrey, Musk said the truck would look "pretty sci-fi."

No surprise that the entrepreneur would put his distinctive spin on an American classic. What did surprise *Lightning* listeners was the pickup's starting price. "You've got to be able to get a really great truck for \$49,000 or less. It's got to have incredible functionality," Musk said, and "look amazing."

What's behind the truck talk in a utility-produced magazine?

Electricity. Tesla's pickup is an all-electric vehicle.

Closer to home, Rivian Automotive, in Normal, Ill., shared its electric pickup last month during a public reception. Rivian and Tesla are emblematic of the growing number of automakers, old and new, introducing pickups to an ever-expanding line of electric vehicles. Ford, GM, Nissan, Bollinger, Atlys and Havelaar have electric pickups in production or on the drawing board.

Point of the story? Don't let your passion for pickups count you out of the EV community. Whether you're cutting-edge or traditional and true, there's plug-in pickup planned for you.

While we're on the topic, if you own an electric vehicle, we'd love to hear from you. Southwestern wants to structure EV charging rates that benefit you as an owner while serving the needs of the co-op overall. You can help by joining our EV Pilot Program. To learn more, contact Julie Lowe, energy manager, at julie.lowe@sweci.com or call her at (800) 637-8667.

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Co-op Board Elects Officers

During the board meeting held Thursday, Sept. 26, Southwestern Electric directors elected four members to serve as officers. The board of directors elected Ann Schwarm as president, Sandy Grapperhaus as vice president, Annette Hartlieb as secretary, and Bill Jennings as treasurer. The board conducts an annual election of officers during the first board meeting following the Annual Meeting of Members. This year's annual meeting was held Saturday, Sept. 7, in Greenville.



Ann Schwarm, President

Ann Schwarm has served as a director since 1993 and acted as vice president of the board from 2010-2016. September marked the beginning of her fourth year as president. Schwarm brings to her role on the board a diverse professional background, including positions in agricultural communications, program

development, education and small-business management.

Schwarm recently retired after 21 years with the Regional Office of Education. She's gained additional board experience by serving on the First National Bank of Vandalia board of directors for 21 years and for four years on the Brownstown Community Unit School District Board. Schwarm is a 1979 graduate of the University of Missouri-School of Journalism.

Ann and her husband, Gene, live in rural Loogootee.



Sandy Grapperhaus, Vice President

A lifelong local resident, Sandy Grapperhaus has been a member of Southwestern Electric for more than 30 years. She's served as a director since 2011 and acted as board secretary from 2013-2018. During her tenure, she's pursued an aggressive regimen of coursework, earning Credentialed

Cooperative Director designation from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Grapperhaus says an important part of Southwestern's mission is educating members on how to save money by using energy efficiently.

Sandy Grapperhaus is the executive assistant at Korte Construction Co. in Highland. She also helps her husband, Dan, with their small farm between Troy and Collinsville.



Annette Hartlieb, Secretary

For Annette Hartlieb, being involved in Southwestern Electric Cooperative is a family tradition. Hartlieb, who grew up on a farm north of New Douglas, was raised on Southwestern Electric lines and started attending co-op annual meetings as a child with her parents.

Hartlieb is the assistant regional superintendent of schools for the Regional Office of Education (ROE) #3, which serves Bond, Christian, Effingham, Fayette and Montgomery counties. Prior to serving as assistant regional superintendent, she was division administrator for ROE #3. Hartlieb was principal of Mulberry Grove Elementary School for six years and taught third grade at Mulberry for 11 years before accepting the principal's position.

She has served as a director since 2017.



William "Bill" Jennings, Treasurer

Bill Jennings spent close to 40 years applying his analytical skills to develop practical, cost-effective solutions to complex problems. Now he uses those skills to serve the members of Southwestern Electric.

Jennings was elected to the board in 2018. He completed training through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and was awarded Credentialed Cooperative Director designation in September 2019.

From 2007-2017, Jennings served on the board of directors for the Midwest Gateway Chapter of the International Council on Systems Engineering, an organization serving engineering companies in the Midwest.

Bill Jennings has been a Southwestern Electric member since 1993. He lives northwest of Alhambra with his wife, Patty. They have two children.

Co-op Offers New Rebates for High Efficiency Heat Pumps, Electric Water Heaters, Smart Thermostats

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 are available 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.



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

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

SOUTHWESTERN ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2020



CO-OP TO AWARD \$10,000 IN ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

Since 1995, Southwestern Electric Cooperative's Power For Progress Scholarship Program has provided more than \$256,000 in academic assistance to students pursuing a college degree or vocational school certificate. The tradition continues this year with Southwestern's pledge to award \$10,000 in scholarship money to 10 students in spring 2020 for use in the fall 2020 semester.

Scholarship recipients can apply the funding to tuition at any accredited university, college or technical school in the U.S.

Scholarship applications may be downloaded from Southwestern Electric's website at sweci.com or picked up from the co-op's office at 525 U.S. Route 40 in Greenville. You may also request an application by calling Susan File at (800) 637-8667.

Separate applications will be provided for high school seniors graduating in 2020 and students who graduated from high school in previous years.

The completed application and supplemental materials—including a cover letter, academic transcripts, attendance records and financial information—must be delivered to Southwestern Electric's headquarters (525 U.S. Route 40 in Greenville), in a single envelope, by 4:30 p.m. on **Friday, February 14, 2020.**

R FOR
Progress



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

TIPS FROM THE JUDGES

- 1) Follow the instructions carefully.
This includes selecting the appropriate application for your situation, gathering and properly assembling all of the required materials, minding the word count in the personal narrative and submitting everything in advance of the deadline.
- 2) Leave nothing blank. If any piece of required material is missing, or a single section is not completed, the application will receive a score of zero points. If a particular question is not applicable to your situation, you can mark it “N/A,” but do not skip the question entirely.
- 3) Focus the personal narrative. The topic of the personal narrative is not open-ended. Keep your narrative focused on answering the question at hand: How will you use your career/education to positively impact your community?
- 4) Leverage the cover letter. Let the judges know about your achievements, aspirations and what sets you apart from other candidates. If there’s something you want to say about yourself, and it doesn’t fit in the personal narrative, include it in the cover letter.
- 5) Allow ample time. Don’t wait until the last minute to start on your application. Each applicant will be asked to obtain several supplemental documents— including academic transcripts and attendance records— which take time to collect.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 1) The applicant (or the applicant’s parent/legal guardian) must be an active member of Southwestern Electric Cooperative. Southwestern Electric board members, employees, and their immediate families, are not eligible.
- 2) The applicant must meet all academic requirements for admission to an accredited university, college, or technical school, and be admitted to that institution as a full-time student in the fall of 2020.
- 3) The entire application must be completed in full, and received with the appropriate supplementary materials, in advance of the application deadline, February 14, 2020.

Since 1995, Southwestern Electric has provided more than \$256,000 in scholarship funding, assisting 396 students.

For more information on the Power for Progress Scholarship Program, please contact Susan File at susan.file@sweci.com or (800) 637-8667.

On Account: If your account number is 56230001, call us within 30 days to receive a \$25 credit on an upcoming electric bill.



Co-op & Community

Southwestern Meets Members at County Courthouse Cruise-In

Southwestern Electric Cooperative invited kids and classic car aficionados from Illinois and Missouri to explore a bucket truck during the Bond County Courthouse Cruise-In, held Saturday, Sept. 15, on the square in Greenville.

The event attracted hundreds of classic car enthusiasts from the bistate area, many of whom were sharing their appreciation for rare and vintage automobiles with their children and grandchildren. Proceeds from the Cruise-In supported the Bond County Shrine Club.

“It was a great opportunity to participate in a community event and meet members who couldn’t make it to our annual meeting the week before,” said Southwestern CEO Bobby Williams. “We handed out safety lights to the kids in preparation for Halloween, and explained how our crews use bucket trucks to restore power after a storm,” he said. “Conversations like that always mean more to a six-year-old when they’re standing next to a piece of large machinery, or sitting in the driver’s seat, and they can see how the levers and bucket work together to lift a lineman into the sky.”

Williams said the evening introduced co-op employees to many attendees who weren’t members. “Events like this allow us to explain the cooperative business model; we’re different from other businesses, because we’re owned by the people we serve,” he said. “While we’re looking to the future and reaching for new tools to keep the lights on and costs in check, we never forget our heritage. That’s the foundation we continue to build on.”



Top: The Bond County Courthouse Cruise-In drew scores of classic cars and hundreds of automobile enthusiasts. Above: Becky Jacobson (left), Southwestern’s chief financial officer, equips a young attendee with a hard hat and safety light.



1



2

1) Kids in Southwestern gear sounded the siren on Greenville Fire Protection District's firetruck. 2) Southwestern CEO Bobby Williams and his wife, Chandra (both in blue shirts), met members and helped kids find hats and safety lights. 3) One hard hat recipient brought a matching pacifier. 4) Susan File (in red), Southwestern's vice president of member services, greets event attendees. 5) A young car enthusiast figures out safety light settings. 6) Beautiful weather and brilliant automobiles attracted auto aficionados from a wide region.



3



6



5



4



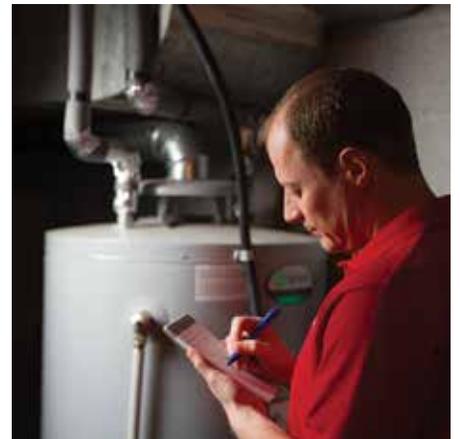
HomeServe®

Warranty Plans Provide Assurance, Quality and Convenience

We've yet to build an engine that runs forever. No matter how hearty the parts or well-made the machine, in time, it will fail. As homeowners, we've all experienced mechanical and system failures firsthand. Some are small and easily resolved: a broken bulb, dripping faucet or obstructed furnace filter. Other breakdowns—issues involving major components of HVAC, electrical and plumbing systems—are significant, irksome and expensive.

When those failures involve exterior home electrical lines, members sometimes call Southwestern to request repairs. "A lot of people understandably believe that if an electrical line is outside their home, it's owned by the cooperative," said Southwestern CEO Bobby Williams. "That's not always the case."

Components that connect a member's home to the cooperative's distribution system—elements like the weather head, insulator, riser, meter base or loop, and service entrance conductor—are owned by the member, Williams explained.



“We researched a lot of home warranty companies and the options they provide. HomeServe’s name came up time and again as a member-focused company that operates by its service ethic.”

Bobby Williams, CEO

“When those elements fail, you find yourself facing bills you hadn’t budgeted for, and those repairs can be expensive. If the issue is related to aging parts and normal wear and tear on the system, your homeowners insurance may not cover that cost,” Williams said. “That situation left our members in a difficult position, so we started searching for solutions. That’s how we discovered HomeServe and why we decided to partner with them. We saw a member need and found people to help us address it.”

WHO IS HOMESERVE?

HomeServe USA is an independent provider of home repair service solutions. They offer warranty plans that protect a homeowner’s budget from sudden, often significant expenses that come with water, sewer, electrical and heating and cooling home emergencies.

Over the last 16 years, the Norwalk, Connecticut-based company has saved

homeowners more than three-quarters of a billion dollars in repairs. HomeServe has partnered with more than 700 municipal agencies, investor-owned utilities and cooperatives—including Southwestern Electric—to provide consumers with home warranty options. Their partners range in size from 48 members to 5.6 million customers.

“We researched a lot of home warranty companies and the options they provide,” Williams said. “We talked to municipalities, cooperatives and service technicians, and looked at consumer reviews. HomeServe’s name came up time and again as a member-focused company that operates by its service ethic,” he said. “Months of research, conversations and meetings made it clear that HomeServe is a company that will help our members resolve issues promptly and professionally, and treat our people with care.”

While HomeServe offers a variety of

home warranty plans, Southwestern primarily was drawn to the idea of external electrical line protection. HomeServe’s external electrical line plan will pay for repair or replacement of items that your homeowners insurance may not cover when the components fail due to normal wear and tear, Williams said. “That’s the issue that started our exploration of warranty companies and focused our search.”

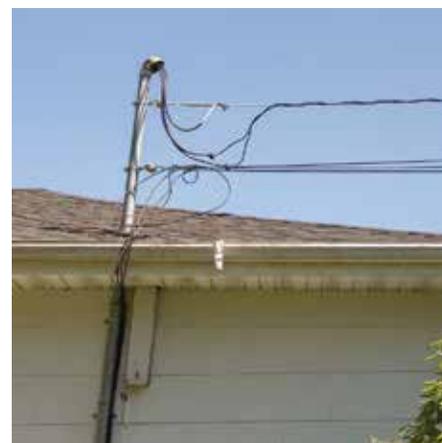
HOME ASSURANCE

Bob Bowen, HomeServe senior account manager, said the company meets a wide range of member warranty needs. Their plans range in price from \$5 to \$15 per month. “You can choose a plan that covers your entire home or focus on particular areas. You have choices,” Bowen said. “You’re not stuck with a one-size-fits-all option.”

Bowen, who staffed HomeServe’s booth during this year’s annual meeting,

Continued on next page >

HomeServe is available to take emergency repair calls around the clock, every day of the year. Technicians dispatched through HomeServe are local, licensed and insured.



pointed out that a home is made of many systems, including heating, cooling, plumbing, water and sewer, interior electrical wiring and external electrical lines, among others. “Any of those systems can fail,” Bowen said. “And your appliances—washer and dryer, refrigerator, dishwasher, oven, range and so on—can quit.

“If something goes wrong with a system or appliance covered by our warranty, you can call us anytime, 24/7, at (833) 334-1874. We’ll match you with a pre-screened, trusted, local repair technician. We’ll dispatch that technician to your home to diagnose the problem. The technician will fix the issue or replace the covered item as detailed in your plan,” Bowen said. “Being prepared for those breakdowns is a smart approach to budget planning.”

HOW HOMESERVE HELPS

There’s more to HomeServe than financial assurance, Bowen pointed out. “We don’t just mitigate your cost when a system breaks down—we coordinate the



“We don’t just mitigate your cost when a system breaks down—we coordinate the repair. You call us and we take care of the rest.”

Robert Bowen, HomeServe Senior Account Manager

repair,” he explained. “You call us and we take care of the rest.”

HomeServe is available to take emergency repair calls around the clock, every day of the year. Technicians dispatched through HomeServe are local, licensed and insured. Their work is covered by a one-year HomeServe guarantee. “We hire quality technicians to ensure best-in-class emergency repairs regardless of which system breaks down,” said Bowen.

“So we offset the financial burden of unexpected breakdowns by paying the bill on covered repairs up to the benefit amount. But we also ease the stress and inconvenience that comes with events like this. You don’t have to research repair bids or vet and hire a technician. We take care of that. It’s care and repair for your home,” said Bowen, “and convenience for you.”

And if the work doesn’t measure up to the member’s expectations? “If a client isn’t completely satisfied with the repair work, we will work to address the issue as quickly and comprehensively as possible,” Bowen said, noting that HomeServe has earned an A+ rating from the Better Business Bureau.

HELPING US HELP YOU

Williams said Southwestern is partnering with HomeServe to offer warranty plans as an optional member service. “No one should feel obligated to buy a plan,” he noted. “If you feel like a warranty would be in your best interest, HomeServe has an exceptional service record.”

He recommended that members interested in a plan speak with their insurance agent before buying. “Make sure the terms and conditions listed in the plan aren’t already addressed by your homeowners policy.”

HomeServe will return a portion of the proceeds from plan sales to Southwestern Electric. The funds will be dedicated to support programs and projects like Operation Round Up and the cooperative’s Power For Progress Scholarship Program.

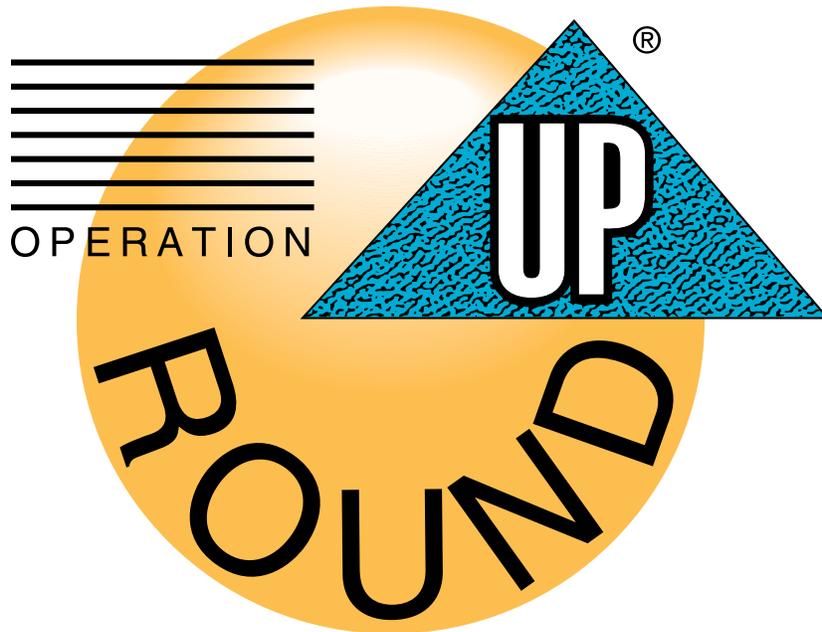
“If you’re interested in signing up for a HomeServe warranty plan, look for information in your mailbox next month,” said Williams. “We’re sending materials that explain your options in more detail. If you don’t want to wait, you can call HomeServe at (833) 334-1874.”

You can read more about HomeServe at www.HomeServe.com. 



THE HOMESERVE CUSTOMER PROMISE

1. Before a customer joins, we’ll make it clear what they’re buying and what it will do for them.
2. When a customer joins, we’ll tell them how much they’re paying, what that buys for them, and how to make a claim.
3. When a customer becomes a member, we’ll make life easy for them.
4. When a customer makes a claim, we’ll solve their problem quickly and easily—their emergency is our emergency.
5. If a customer is not happy, we’ll listen, apologize, and make things right wherever we can, as soon as we can.



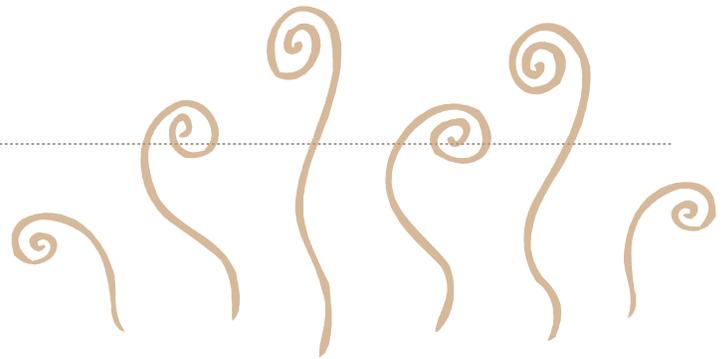
Your Spare Change Can Make a **Big Difference** Through Operation Round Up

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.



Now You're **Cookin'**

7 STEPS TO AN ENERGY CONSCIOUS KITCHEN

There's nothing quite like the aroma of a kitchen with a holiday dinner in the oven. If you've prepared a holiday meal, you know it takes a lot of energy to set the table with those savory dishes. In addition to taxing your personal reserves, holiday preparations take a toll on your household energy budget—and your kitchen consumes more than its usual share during the holidays.

But there are simple ways to keep energy in check during the holidays and throughout the year. These tips from Southwestern Electric and the Department of Energy will help you get the most out of your kitchen kilowatt-hours.

Keep Your Cool

Today's kitchen appliances use about half as much energy as their counterparts from a decade ago. Even so, your refrigerator has a healthy appetite, consuming up to 15 percent of your energy budget. Feed it less by keeping the door closed. The exception to this rule: When you're putting together ingredients for a big dinner you'll lose less cool air by leaving the door open. Repeatedly opening and closing the door will force cool air out. You want air to circulate around items in your refrigerator, but a full fridge is an efficient fridge—chilled food helps to maintain the internal environment.

Minute Meals

When it comes to quick and efficient heating, your microwave is your best friend. It uses about half the energy of a conventional oven. It's the go-to appliance for cooking vegetables and warming leftovers in the days to come.

Plot With Pans

When you're cooking on a stovetop, find a pan that fits your element. A 6-inch pan on an 8-inch burner will send more than 40 percent of your cooking energy up in smoke.

On an electric range, use flat-bottomed pans that make full contact with the element. You also want clean burners and reflectors. They direct heat more effectively.

Window Watcher

While it's tempting to open the oven door for a peek at your holiday dish, you'll save time and money if you don't. Opening your oven vents valuable heat into your kitchen. You're lowering your oven's internal temperature by as much as 25 degrees each time you open the door. Use your oven window. It may not leave you basking in the steam of a roasting ham, but you'll be able to eat a little sooner.

Smart Stacking

Your meal will cook more quickly and efficiently if air can circulate freely around the food. Avoid stretching sheets of foil over the oven racks. If you have room, stagger pans on the upper and lower racks to evenly distribute heat. When recipes permit, bake several batches of cookies at once. The same strategy works for pies.

True Blue

If you're cooking with a gas range-top burner, use moderate flame settings to conserve fuel. Your flame should be blue. A yellow-tinged flame suggests the gas is burning inefficiently and that your appliance needs an adjustment.

Clean-Up

A load of dishes cleaned in the dishwasher uses 37 percent less water than the same dishes done by hand. If you're a dish-towel and elbow grease advocate, the same load cleaned in a basin rather than under running water uses half as much water as the dishwasher.

If you opt for the dishwasher, overnight or air-dry settings can reduce your dishwashing energy costs by up to 10 percent.



Star Performance

You can cut down on energy expenditures by purchasing ENERGY STAR rated appliances. Appliances with an ENERGY STAR designation meet energy efficiency guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency and DOE. ENERGY STAR products perform just like other appliances on the market but trim dollars from your annual energy budget.

Heating Bill Payment Assistance

Available to Low-Income Families

The State of Illinois offers assistance to low-income families who struggle to pay their energy bills. Applications for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) are accepted on a first-come first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

Please review the income guidelines listed below to see if you qualify. The amount of the payment is determined by income, household size, fuel type, geographic location, and the amount of funding available.

Use the listing below to find the agency that serves the county you live in, then contact the agency and tell them you'd like to apply for assistance through LIHEAP. The customer service representative who takes your application will explain the requirements, the type of assistance available, and your rights under the program.

When you apply for assistance, please bring the following items:

- Proof of gross income from all household members for the 30-day period prior to application date.
- A copy of your current heat and electric bills issued within the last 30 days (if energy paid for directly).
- A copy of your rental agreement (if your heating costs are included in the rent) showing the monthly rental amount, landlord's contact information, and proof that utilities are included in the rent.
- Proof of Social Security numbers for all household members.
- Proof that the household receives TANF or other benefits—such as Medical Eligibility or SNAP—if you are receiving assistance from the Illinois Department of Human Services.

The agency will determine your eligibility based on information you provide and will notify you within 30 days of receiving a completed application.

If your application is accepted, the local agency will make the appropriate payment to your energy provider(s) on your behalf, or in some cases, directly to you. All client and vendor payments will be made by the local agency within 15 days of the application's approval. Electric cooperative members, if approved, will receive assistance in the form of a one-time payment.

Members using Pay-As-You-Go may also qualify for LIHEAP funds. Contact your local community action agency to find out if you qualify for energy assistance.

To apply for assistance through LIHEAP, please contact the community action agency serving your county.

County	Community Action Agency	Phone Number
Bond	BCMW Community Services, Inc.	(618) 664-3309
Clay	CEFS Economic Opportunity Corp.	(618) 662-4024
Clinton	BCMW Community Services, Inc.	(618) 526-7123
Effingham	CEFS Economic Opportunity Corp.	(217) 347-7514
Fayette	CEFS Economic Opportunity Corp.	(618) 283-2631
Macoupin	Illinois Valley Economic Development Corp.	(217) 839-4431
Madison	Madison County Community Development	(618) 296-6485
Marion	BCMW Community Services, Inc.	(618) 532-7388
Montgomery	CEFS Economic Opportunity Corp.	(217) 532-5971
Shelby	CEFS Economic Opportunity Corp.	(217) 774-4541
St. Clair	St. Clair Community Action Agency	(618) 277-6790



For more information on this program, visit IllinoisLIHEAP.com or call the toll-free hotline, (877) 411-WARM.

Income Guidelines

If your household's combined income for the 30 days prior to application is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level, as shown in the chart, you may be eligible to receive assistance. If you rent, and your heat and/or electric is included in the rent, your rent must be greater than 30% of your income in order to be eligible to receive assistance.

Family Size	30-Day Income	
1	\$1,561	Additional
2	\$2,114	\$553 per
3	\$2,666	person monthly
4	\$3,219	income above
5	\$3,771	8 people, or
6	\$4,324	\$6,630 annual.
7	\$4,876	(Note 30-
8	\$5,429	day income
		rounded up.)



Carbon Monoxide is a **KILLER!**

TAKE MEASURES TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

With winter just weeks away, many of us will be firing up our furnaces for the first time since last spring. Before you use any fossil-fuel appliance, make sure your carbon monoxide (CO) detector is in working order.

Carbon monoxide, a gas produced by an incomplete burning of carbon-containing fuels, is an undetected threat in many homes. It has no color, taste or smell—and it kills more than 400 people in the United States every year. Most deaths

occur during the winter heating season. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, each year about 20,000 Americans seek medical attention or lose a day of normal activity due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

Household appliances such as space heaters, gas ovens, dryers and furnaces emit carbon monoxide during regular use. Typically, vents safely channel carbon monoxide from an appliance or furnace to the outdoors. When an appliance vent leaks, carbon monoxide can seep into the home and pose a



serious poisoning risk.

Other common sources of carbon monoxide include generators, gasoline-powered vehicles, lawn mowers, weed-eaters, chain saws and snow blowers, as well as charcoal grills and gas lanterns.

What are the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning?

Because carbon monoxide is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable to your senses, you may not know you're being exposed. The initial symptoms of low to moderate carbon monoxide poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). They include:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness

High level CO poisoning results in progressively more severe symptoms, including:

- Mental confusion
- Vomiting
- Loss of muscular coordination
- Loss of consciousness
- Ultimately death

Symptom severity is related to both the carbon monoxide level and duration of exposure. If you think you're experiencing symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, step outside into fresh air

immediately. Then call emergency services using a cellular phone or from a neighbor's home to report your symptoms. You could lose consciousness and die if you stay in your home.

Prevention is key

While carbon monoxide detectors are a useful tool, they're a backup system—not the first line of defense against poisoning. Your first measure of prevention should always be proper use and maintenance of fuel-burning appliances.

Have your fuel-burning appliances — including oil and gas furnaces, gas water heaters, gas ranges and ovens, gas dryers, gas or kerosene space heaters, fireplaces, and wood stoves—inspected by a trained professional at the beginning of every heating season. Make certain that flues and chimneys are connected, in good condition, and not blocked.

Choose appliances that vent their fumes to the outside whenever possible, have them properly installed, and maintain them according to manufacturers' instructions.

Read and follow all of the instructions that accompany any fuel-burning device. If you can't avoid using an unvented gas or kerosene space heater, carefully follow the precautions that come with the device. Use the proper fuel and keep doors to the rest of the house open. Crack a window to ensure enough air for ventilation and proper fuel-burning.

PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

- Install carbon monoxide detectors on every floor of your home. You can buy carbon monoxide detectors at most discount and hardware stores.
- Have your furnace, vents and fireplace inspected each fall by a professional.
- Don't use an oven or gas stovetop to heat your home.
- Don't leave a space heater running or the stove or fireplace burning while you're sleeping.
- Never let your car run in the garage, even if the garage door is open.

WHAT'S A CONSUMER TO DO?

Don't let buying a carbon monoxide detector lull you into a false sense of security. Preventing carbon monoxide from becoming a problem in your home is better than relying on an alarm.

When you shop for a carbon monoxide detector, research your options and don't select a model solely on the basis of cost. Organizations such as Consumers Union (publisher of Consumer Reports), the American Gas Association, and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) can help you make an informed decision. Look for UL certification on any detector you purchase.

ARE CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS RELIABLE?

Carbon monoxide alarms are designed to alarm before potentially life-threatening levels of carbon monoxide are reached. Safety standards for carbon monoxide alarms have improved over the years, and current carbon monoxide alarms aren't as susceptible to nuisance alarms as earlier models.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WHEN THE CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM SOUNDS?

Never ignore a carbon monoxide alarm. If the alarm triggers, don't try to find the source of the carbon monoxide. Step outside immediately. Then using your cellular phone or from a neighbor's house, call emergency services, your fire department, or 911.

Verify everyone is accounted for. Don't reenter the house until emergency responders have given you permission. You could lose consciousness and die if you go in the home.

If the source of the CO is determined to be a malfunctioning appliance, don't operate the appliance until it's been properly serviced by a qualified technician.



Out & About

LARGER THAN Life



"Return Visit" will stand in Springfield until September 2020.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

ART INSTALLATION HONORS GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Abraham Lincoln may forever be associated with Springfield, Ill., but the 37,000-pound, 31-foot bronze statue of America's 16th president leaves town in September 2020. Between now and then, you can view the art installation outside Springfield's Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, at the intersection of Jefferson and Sixth Street.

Created by sculptor Seward Johnson, the statue, entitled "Return Visit," is an up-scaled version of his life-size sculpture which stands on Gettysburg Plaza in Pennsylvania. Both installations include a contemporary man holding a copy of the Gettysburg Address as he stands beside Lincoln.

The Gettysburg original places Lincoln outside the Wills House, where he finished writing the Gettysburg Address before delivering it at the

dedication of Soldiers National Cemetery, Nov. 19, 1863.

It's a resonant pairing of past and present.

"The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum is home to one of the five copies of the Gettysburg Address written in Lincoln's own hand," said Alan Lowe, executive director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

Lowe said the museum is dedicated to helping people understand Lincoln's extraordinary life and legacy. "I think that makes us the perfect place for a sculpture featuring both the speech and Lincoln talking to a citizen."

The Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum uses a combination of scholarship and high-tech showmanship to immerse visitors in the life of Lincoln. Visitors can see ghosts come to life on stage, watch TV coverage of the 1860 presidential election, roam through the Lincoln White House, experience booming cannons in a Civil War battle and come face to face with priceless original Lincoln artifacts.

The library holds an unparalleled collection of Lincoln books, documents, photographs, artifacts and art, as well as some 12 million items pertaining to all aspects of Illinois history.

For more information, visit www.PresidentLincoln.illinois.gov.



ALL ABOARD

Catch the Train at Springfield's Union Station

You have two months to catch the train. *All Aboard: America's Love of Railroads* leaves the station in December.

Hosted by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and housed in historic Union Station—a former train depot now part of the presidential library campus in downtown Springfield—*All Aboard* celebrates the history of railroads.

Developed in partnership with the Springfield Model Railroad Association, the exhibit features working scale models that depict advancements in United States railroad technology. Located on the first floor of Union Station, *All Aboard* includes toy trains for children to play with, learning stations that illustrate how the transcontinental railroad changed the nation, a model of the funeral train that carried Lincoln's body, and a place for visitors to share their own railroad memories.

The exhibit is included in the regular admission price for the Lincoln museum. For more information go to <https://www.alplm.org>.



Shoe size measured against an Apple iPhone 7.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum is open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily. The last ticket is sold at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors 62 and up, \$12 for students (ID required), \$10 for military personnel (ID required), and \$6 for kids 5-15. Children age 4 and under are admitted free. To help preserve documents and artifacts, the museum is kept cool. Dress accordingly. The Presidential Library is open 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and there's no admission charge.

PARKING

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum complex is, for the most part, housed in two buildings on opposite sides of Jefferson Street. The museum is located at 212 N. Sixth St., Springfield, IL 62701. The Presidential Library is located at 112 North Sixth Street. Parking is available in the public garage at Sixth and Madison Streets, a block north of the Library.

WHO

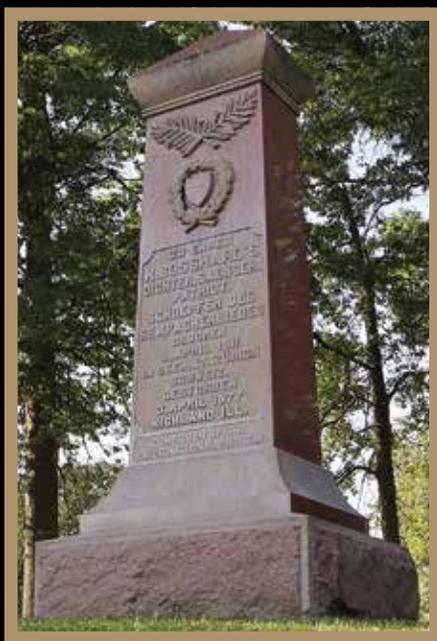


WHAT

Thanks to everyone who participated in last month's challenge! We hope you'll give this month's puzzle a go. The artifact on the opposite page was unearthed earlier this year in Madison County by a Southwestern member. Meanwhile, here are some of your responses to last month's mystery photo.

Googling "H Bosshard Dichter Saenger" resulted in another picture of the monument. It's in Lindendale Park in Highland. It was put there in 1909 to celebrate Swiss poet Heinrich Bosshard who was a Highland teacher and farmer. Thanks for posting one that I could finally solve!
—*Clifford Flath, Maryville*

As soon as I opened this month's magazine, I was excited to immediately recognize the Bosshard monument in Lindendale Park in Highland.



Mr. Bosshard wrote the words to "Semparcherlied" (which was later incorporated into the Swiss national anthem) in Highland in the 1850s. He lived in Highland from the 1850s until his death in 1877. The monument was erected by the Swiss Society in 1909. I guess most people around here know that Highland was settled by the Swiss in the 19th century. There are not many Swiss settlements in this country and Highland is extremely proud of its heritage.
—*Jane Dapkus, Pocahontas*

The October 2019 "Where Am I?" is a monument in tribute to Swiss Poet Heinrich Bosshard, who wrote Semparcherlied in the 1850s. The poem became the basis of the Swiss National Anthem. The Swiss Society of America erected a monument to him in 1909. The granite marker stands in Lindendale Park in Highland, Illinois.
—*Betty Svoboda, Edwardsville*

Another great puzzler! It turned out this monument is located near my neck of the woods.

The answer to the "Where Am I?" in your October 2019 magazine can be found in Highland, Illinois. The monument is a tribute to Heinrich Bosshard, known as "Highland's Swiss Poet." While in his home country of Switzerland, Bosshard wrote the poem "The Song of Sempach," later set to music and titled "Semparcherlied," which became one of many anthems of Switzerland.

In 1860 Bosshard and his family came to Highland (originally known as New Switzerland) and settled on 20 acres of land off Old Trenton Road. He built his home on a hill called Jura, named after

a mountain in Switzerland. He raised cattle, kept bees and grew grapes for wine, and other fruits.

Bosshard died at his home on April 3, 1877, just five days short of his 66th birthday. He was buried in his pear orchard that he loved so much.

In 1909 the Swiss Society of America, headquartered in St. Louis, unveiled the tall red granite monument that stands just east of the Highland community swimming pool in Lindendale Park. Over 1,000 Swiss and Swiss descendants from all across America were at the ceremony to honor Bosshard.

—*Bill Malec, O'Fallon*

The monument that is the subject of the October 2019 Who-What-Where challenge is that of Heinrich Bosshard, who many consider to be Highland's Swiss poet. His 1850s poem, "The Song of Sempach," of a battle fought 9th July 1386, was set to music by Ulrich Wehrli (1794-1839) and is now considered one of Switzerland's national anthems. The location of the monument is within yards of coordinates N 38° 43.932 W 089° 39.936, which happens to be Lindendale Park in Highland, Illinois, between the swimming pool and the race track.

Thanks again for another great challenge.

—*Tim Bennett, Holiday Shores*

SOLVE THE PUZZLE?

Send your solution to joe.richardson@sweci.com or mail it to him at Southwestern Electric Cooperative, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246. Please include your name, mailing address, and hometown with your reply. Your letter may appear in a future issue of *The Southwestern*.



WHERE



**WHAT
IS THIS?**





Traditions With a Twist

SQUASH & APPLE BAKE WITH SAUSAGE



Ingredients

2	pounds butternut squash	½	teaspoon mace
½	cup brown sugar packed	1	pound ground sausage
¼	cup butter melted		lightly browned
1	tablespoon flour	2	baking apples cored and
1	teaspoon salt		cut into ½ inch slices

Directions

1. Cut each squash in half, remove seeds and fiber, peel, and cut into ½ slices.
2. Mix together brown sugar, butter, flour, salt, mace, and sausage. Set aside.
3. Arrange squash in ungreased 11 x 7 inch baking dish.
4. Top with apple slices.
5. Sprinkle brown sugar mixture over the top and cover with foil.
6. Bake at 350° for 50 - 60 minutes or until squash is tender.

SPINACH SALAD



Salad Ingredients

- 1 pound fresh spinach
- 2 cups fresh or 16 ounce can of bean sprouts drained
- 8 ounce can water chestnuts drained and sliced
- 4 hard cooked eggs sliced
- ¼ cup green onions including tops sliced
- ½ pound bacon fried and crumbled
- 1 cup fresh mushrooms sliced

Dressing Ingredients

- ⅔ cup sugar
- ¼ cup vinegar
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- ⅓ cup catsup
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Directions

1. Tear spinach into a large salad bowl.
2. Add bean sprouts, water chestnuts, eggs, onion, bacon, and mushrooms to spinach and toss together.
3. Combine all dressing ingredients in a jar. Cover and shake well.
4. Pour dressing over salad and toss lightly until spinach leaves are well coated.
5. Serve immediately.

PUMPKIN CAKE BARS



Cake Ingredients

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 large eggs | 1 teaspoon soda |
| 1 cup cooking oil | ½ teaspoon salt |
| 1 16 ounce can pumpkin | 2 teaspoons cinnamon |
| 2 cups sugar | ½ teaspoon ginger |
| 2 cups flour sifted | ½ teaspoon cloves |
| 2 teaspoons baking powder | ½ teaspoon nutmeg |

Cake Directions

1. Stir together eggs, cooking oil, pumpkin, and sugar. Blend well.
2. Sift remaining ingredients together and gradually add to pumpkin mixture.
3. Beat until smooth.
4. Pour into greased and floured jelly roll pan (approximately 15 x 10 inches).
5. Bake on center shelf of oven at 375° for 20 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.
6. Let cake cool, add frosting, and cut into desired size bars.

Frosting Ingredients

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 3 ounce package cream cheese | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| 6 tablespoons butter or margarine | 1¾ cups powdered sugar |
| 1 tablespoon milk | |

Frosting Directions

1. Beat together cream cheese, butter, milk, and vanilla.
2. Add powdered sugar gradually and blend thoroughly. If frosting is runny gradually add additional powdered sugar to mixture until it thickens.

SWISS GREEN BEANS



Ingredients

- 1 medium onion chopped
- ¼ cup butter
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup sour cream
- 3 16 ounce cans french style green beans drained
- ½ cup grated Swiss cheese
- ½ cup Italian seasoned bread crumbs

Directions

1. Saute onions in butter until tender.
2. Add flour, salt, and pepper.
3. Add sour cream and mix well.
4. Toss with green beans and cheese.
5. Pour into casserole dish and sprinkle with bread crumbs.
6. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

SAVORY TURKEY LOAF



Ingredients

- 1 pound ground turkey
- ½ cup quick cooking oatmeal
- ⅔ cup tomato juice
- ⅔ cup tomato sauce
- 1 egg
- 3 tablespoons onion chopped
- 1 teaspoon celery salt
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- 1 teaspoon parsley flakes
- 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese
- 1 10 ounce can cream of mushroom soup

Directions

1. Mix all (except mushroom soup) ingredients well and place in greased loaf pan.
2. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.
3. Mix mushroom soup thoroughly, spread over loaf, and bake 30 more minutes.

This month's recipes are courtesy of 4-H House Alumni Association's *Nurture the Future* @ 805 4-H House Anniversary Cookbook.



Current Events

November 7-10, 14-17
RUMORS, 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 lookingglassplayhouse.com.

November 8 **VETERANS DAY CONCERT**, Granite City. Granite City Community Concert and Swing Band will perform. 7 - 9 p.m. Admission is free. Grace Baptist Church, 2600 Edwards Street. Visit graniteband.com.

November 9 **SAUSAGE SUPPER**, Grantfork. Family



November 29 & 30
CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOURS, Edwardsville. Experience an 1820s Christmas during this candlelight event. Historically garbed docents discuss the rich history of the house as guests take a self-guided tour through the festively adorned rooms. Enjoy a cup of hot was-sail, a sweet treat, a story or two, and a warm fire. 6 - 9 p.m. Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House, 409 S. Buchanan Street. Call (618) 692-1818 or visit stephen-sonhouse.org.

style meal with homemade pork sausage, mashed potatoes and gravy, sauerkraut, green beans, applesauce, bread and homemade pie. Serving 3 - 8 p.m. Adults \$11; children 6 - 12 years of age \$5; children 5 years of age and younger are free. Carry-outs available for adult price only. Grantfork United Church of Christ Educational Building, 206 South Locust Street. Call (618) 675-2595.

November 10 **HOMETOWN HEROES CELEBRATION**, Collinsville. Join us to celebrate and honor our local veteran heroes. Bring your children to educate them on the importance of respecting and supporting our troops. The ceremony will feature speakers, live music, and a recognition of our Hometown Heroes Banners. Display tables will showcase resources for veterans and their families. Doors open at 1 p.m.; ceremony 2 - 2 p.m. Gateway Center, One Gateway Drive. Call (800) 289-2388 or visit gatewaycenter.com.

November 16 **TURKEY TROT**, Maryville. 5K race and 1 mile walk/run. 9 a.m. Entry fee applies. Drost Park, #8 Schiber Court. Visit vil.maryville.il.us or call (618) 772-8555.

November 16 **WINTER FESTIVAL**, Grantfork. Food, music, crafters, cookie baking contest and games for kids. 2 - 8 p.m. Santa arrives at 5 p.m. Auction Center on Route 160. For more information, call Wendy at (618) 444-2520.

November 21 **TASTE OF DOWNTOWN**, Alton. Sample a variety of downtown's local flavors from your favorite downtown dining and drinking establishments. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$15. Argosy Casino Alton, #1 Piasa Street. Call (618) 463-1016.

November 22 **COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING**, Alton. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at 6 p.m. for free photos with Santa, candy, and prizes for children. Enjoy free cookies and hot chocolate, caroling, and the blessing and lighting of the Christmas tree. Free trolley rides between the RBCC (corner of 3rd and Belle) and L-D Square. Holiday open house at the Riverbender.com Community Center 7 - 10 p.m. Help create a castle of cans. Just bring your donation with you to the event. A castle of cans will be built during the tree lighting and the food will be donated to the Salvation Army. 5:30 - 8 p.m. Admission is free. Lincoln-Douglas Square, Broadway Street and Landmarks Blvd. Call (618) 463-1016.

November 22-29 **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**, Shelbyville. Come out and cruise through the park to enjoy the lights. New displays are added yearly. Sunday - Thursday 5:30 - 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 5:30 - 10 p.m. Donations are accepted at the end of the park. Forest Park, 325 East North 9th Street. For more information, visit lakeshelbyville.com.

November 22 - December 31 **WINTER WONDERLAND**, Lebanon. A drive-through display of holiday lights. Sunday - Thursday 5 - 9 p.m.; Friday - Saturday 5 - 10 p.m. Donations accepted. Horner Park, 11113 Widicus Road. Visit horner-parklights.com.

November 23 **NATURE FOR BEGINNERS**, Godfrey. A series developed for people of all ages who aren't quite comfortable spending time outdoors. Each program will present new topics in an accessible and inviting way. Come with an open mind to learn more about the natural world around. Please dress appropriately to spend part to all of the time outdoors

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, 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.

and don't forget to bring your reusable water bottle. Event will cover wildlife in your backyard. 10 - 11:30 a.m. The Nature Institute, 2213 South Levis Lane. Call (618) 466-9930 or visit thenatureinstitute.org.

November 23; December 7, 21; January 4 **TRAIN SHOWS**, Glen Carbon. The Metro East Model Railroad Club will host free open houses from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at their club house located at 180 Summit Street (the old Glen Carbon Firehouse/City Hall). Visitors are welcome to view the club's trains running on their 18 x 27 foot HO Scale model railroad. Admission is free. For more information, call Bob at (618) 476-9228 or Bill at (618) 531-1589, or visit trainweb.org/memrc.

November 27 - December 31 **FANTASY OF LIGHTS**, Centralia. A drive-through Christmas light display. 5 - 11 p.m. Santa who will be at his cottage at select times to visit with children and adults. Admission is free. Foundation Park, 600 North Pleasant Avenue. Call (618) 532-3214 or visit seecentralia.com.

November 29 - December 29 CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND, Alton. Drive through Rock Spring Park to see more than 2.5 million lights adorning trees and lighting displays throughout the park. Monday - Friday 6 - 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 5 - 9 p.m. Suggested donation of \$7 for cars and small vans; \$1 per person for 10 person or more passenger vehicles. Rock Spring Park, 2100 College Avenue. Call (800) 258-6645 or (618) 465-6676.

November 29 - December 31 CHRISTMAS LIGHT WONDERLAND, Greenville. Features Christmas lights and miniature display houses with animated holiday scenes. 5 - 9 p.m. Cookies and hot chocolate served free. On Friday and Saturday nights, Santa is in the Red Barn and Hills Fort is open to view Christmas in a log cabin. Take a ride on the North Pole Express Friday - Sunday nights (weather permitting); adults \$3, children two and under ride free. Donations accepted for admission to display. American Farm Heritage Museum, 1395 Museum Avenue. Call (618) 292-4376 or visit americanfarmheritagemuseum.com.



November 29 - December 1 FALL NATIVE AMERICAN HOLIDAY MARKET, Collinsville. Purchase holiday gift items made by Native American artists and craftspeople including jewelry, paintings, herbals, weaving, baskets, pottery, metal work, and sculpture. Friday noon - 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Event is free. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit cahokiamounds.org.

November 29 - January 1 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN THE PARK, Carlyle. Take a drive through the park to view the lights and tune your radio to 90.1 FM to hear the dancing trees music. 5 - 10:30 p.m. Admission is free. Carlyle City Park, 1090 Lake Road. For more information, visit carlyle-lake.com.

November 30 GREEN GIFT BAZAAR, Alton. Come to this free, unique and earth-friendly event. The event will feature all kinds of hand-crafted items, environmentally-friendly gift ideas, and a variety of work by local artists. We will also provide shoppers with sale info from other downtown retailers. Event will include interactive crafts for kids and a holiday light recycle drive. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free. YWCA of Alton, 304 East 3rd Street. Call (618) 463-1016 or visit altonmainstreet.org.

November 30 & December 1 GREAT TRAIN EXPO, Collinsville. This show is the nation's only coast-to-coast model train show and is designed for the general public, modelers, hobbyists, and families. Each show features hundreds of tables of trains and accessories for sale, huge operating exhibits, and activities for kids. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday admission is \$11 and is good for both days; Sunday is \$10; children 11 years of age and younger are free. Gateway Center, One Gateway Drive. For more information, visit train-show.com.

December 1-31 FANTASY OF LIGHTS, Centralia. A drive-through Christmas light display. 5 - 11 p.m. Santa will be at his cottage at select times to visit with children and adults. Admission is free. Foundation Park, 600 North Pleasant Avenue. Call (618) 532-3214 or visit seecentralia.com.

December 6 DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS STROLL, Centralia. Enjoy a stroll downtown including an ornament

hunt, horse-drawn carriage rides, store specials, train rides, an opportunity to meet with Santa, Carolers and other musical performances, Christmas music from the Carillon, hot cocoa and refreshments for purchase. Ornament hunt cards may be found in any participating business downtown and inside the Illinois Theatre. When you find all the ornaments and your card has been stamped, returned to Illinois Theatre for a drawing at 7:15 p.m. 3 - 7 p.m. Downtown at 100 South Locust Street. Admission is free. Call (618) 533-7623.

December 6 SNOWFLAKE FESTIVAL, Godfrey. The park will be lit up with twinkling lights to celebrate the holiday season. An old-fashioned festival complete with carolers, hot cocoa and pictures with Santa. Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive and will be available for pictures with a donation of a non-perishable food item for the Crisis Food Center. 6 - 8 p.m. Robert E. Glazebrook Community Park, 1401 Stamper Lane. Call (618) 466-1483.

December 6-8, 12-15 ALTON LITTLE THEATER: A TWISTED CHRISTMAS CAROL, Alton. A theatrical presentation by the Alton Little Theater Company. Thursday - Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. Adults \$20; children under 18 years of age \$12. Alton Little Theater, 2450 North Henry Street. For tickets, call (618) 462-3205 or visit altonlittletheater.org.

December 6-8, 13-15 AWAY IN THE BASEMENT: A CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES CHRISTMAS, Breese. A theatrical presentation by Clinton County Showcase. All 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.

December 7 HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS HOUSE TOUR, Elsah. Your ticket includes a self-guided house tour, musical entertainment at the two churches, and a ride in a horse drawn carriage. Noon - 4 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 the day of event (cash only). Village of Elsah Museum, 26 LaSalle Street. For more information, call (314) 308-0931. For tickets, visit historicelsah.org/tour.



December 7 BRONZE EXPRESSIONS HANDBELLS CHRISTMAS CONCERT, Centralia. Enjoy the Bronze Expressions Handbell group as they perform this Christmas concert in the gallery of the peaceful Centralia Cultural Society. 4 - 5:30 p.m. Community Arts Center, 1250 East Rexford Street. Call (618) 532-2951 or visit centraliaarts.org.

December 7 HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE, Albers. Join the St Louis Metro Polka Club as they celebrate the end of the year. Dinner includes fried chicken, roast beef, sides and home made desserts. The Duane Malinowski Orchestra is the featured entertainment. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance. Checks payable to St Louis Metro Polka Club. Include a self addressed stamped envelope and mail to: Shirley Langenhorst, 98 Birch Lane, Germantown, IL 62245-2002. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Dinner

starts at noon. Music from 2 - 6 p.m. Admission is \$25. Albers American Legion, 600 Bertha. Visit folkfire.org/polka.

December 7 MUSIC BOOSTERS HOLIDAY BAZAAR, Ramsey. Event will feature more than 30 vendors. There will be breakfast and lunch available, and a raffle with prizes from each vendor. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Ramsey Junior High/High School, 702 West Sixth Street. For more information, call (217) 820-1291 or e-mail ramseymusicboosters@gmail.com.

December 7 SANTA'S CHOCOLATE EXPRESS, Grafton. Hop on the shuttle and travel down Grafton's Main Street. Stop in local shops to sample chocolatey holiday treats and shop the sales. Enjoy the sounds of carolers on the street and meet Santa Claus at The Grove Memorial Park. Admission includes a bag of chocolates, a holiday wine glass, free shuttle service, and a free treat at each participating business. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$9 per person in advance; \$10 per person at the door. Downtown at 100 West Main Street. Visit graftonilchamber.com.

December 7 SPIRITED HOLIDAY PAST, Edwardsville. Experience an 1820s Christmas at the Stephenson House. The site will be decorated for the holiday season and offering tours of the home. Historically garbed docents discuss our rich history with visitors. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House, 409 S. Buchanan Street. Call (618) 692-1818 or visit stephensonhouse.org.

December 7 & 8 OLDE ALTON ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR, Alton. A variety of crafters display their wares at this event that benefits the instrumental music program in the Alton School District. Breakfast and lunch available. Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday admission \$2; Sunday admission \$1; children under 12 years of age are free. Alton

High School, 4200 Humbert Road. Call (618) 474-6996 or visit abob.net.

December 7 & 8, 14 & 15, 21 & 22 CHRISTMAS VILLAGE, Bethalto. Take a stroll through Central Park, with decorated, lighted Christmas-themed cottages, live music, food, a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, holiday vendors and crafters, live nativity scene, children's craft area, petting zoo, and barrel car rides. The 75 live trees used to provide a beautiful backdrop at the event will be given to families in need afterwards. 5 - 8 p.m. Admission is free. Bethalto Central Park 213 North Prairie Street. Call (618) 377-8051.

December 8 CHRISTMAS AT WILLOUGHBY FARM, Collinsville. Santa will be here along with cookies, hot chocolate, crafts and bell ringers. The barn will be decorated with a beautiful 20 foot tree. 1 - 3 p.m. \$3 per person; family \$10; age 2 and younger free. Willoughby Heritage Farm and Conservation Reserve, 631 Willoughby Lane. Call (618) 346-7529 or visit willoughbyfarm.org.

December 8 CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL, Grafton. Help us spread holiday cheer like never before with our first Lodge Christmas Festival. Sip hot

chocolate, gaze at our wondrous Christmas tree, enjoy live music, and cross off that Christmas shopping from your "to-do" list. We will have numerous vendors and the best holiday cheer in town. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center, 13653 Lodge Blvd. Call (618) 786-2331 or visit pmlodge.net.

December 12-15 A CHRISTMAS CAROL, Lebanon. A Looking Glass Playhouse yearly tradition. This is one of Charles Dickens' most beloved classics, and it's retold here. Thursday - Saturday shows at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. with an encore performance at 5 p.m. Doors open one hour before each show, and the house will open 30 minutes before the start of the show. Tickets are \$5 each starting December 2 at 1 a.m. online. Looking Glass Playhouse, 301 West Saint Louis Street. Call (618) 537-4962 or visit lookingglassplayhouse.com.

December 13 & 14 The Nutcracker, Lebanon. Holiday classic features local dance talent and principals from leading professional companies. Friday at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Adults \$25; seniors \$22; students and children \$10, McKendree University students free. The

Hett Center for the Arts, 400 North Alton Street. Call (618) 537-6863 or visit thehett.com.

December 14 & 15 ARRIVAL AT CAMP RIVER DUBOIS, Hartford. This annual event commemorates the day William Clark and the men of the detachment arrived at the confluence of the Riviere a Dubois, Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. Event will feature members of the detachment portraying military life, reenactors recreating the civilian population, and demonstrators. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Site admission is free; donations are appreciated. Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, One Lewis and Clark Trail. 3500 New Poag Road. Call (618) 251-5811 or visit campdubois.com.

December 14 & 15 GREAT RIVERS CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT, Alton. GRCS presents "A Soliloquy of Wintertide: Escapade," a selection of songs honoring Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the winter season. Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 3 p.m. Admission is free. St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 717 State Street. For more information, visit grcs-sing.org or call (618) 292-4742.

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization, and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes, have not changed during the preceding twelve months. Extent and nature of circulation: the 23,000+ members of SWECI. Issue date for circulation data below: September 2019.

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September sun
shines on a
Chevy Bel Air at
the Bond County
Courthouse
Cruise-In.

THE FINAL FRAME

