

Who will map your future?

You can find out on the Youth to Washington trip

OK. So you aren't really into politics. As a junior in high school, you're thinking about college and where you're going to come up with more than \$100,000 to pay for higher education. You're also trying to decide what you want to work at the rest of your life to make that college experience pay off.

Oddly enough, the very people who may have answers to those questions are wearing the title of state legislator or seated in chambers of the U.S. Congress in Washington D.C.

Before you know it, you will be voting in your first election and the weight of the country's decisions will partially belong to you. Will you support a Congressman who wants to pass Cap & Trade? Will you be in favor of farm subsidies? As you approach what was once "draft-age," do you think we should send more troops to Iraq and Afghanistan or should the military be strengthening our borders? Oh, and when you get the opportunity to meet your Congressman, in addition to these questions will you ask: What has Congress done to make higher education more affordable and will I be able to find a job when I graduate?

Electric and telephone cooperatives in more than 40 states believe



that young people deserve a first-class opportunity to educate themselves in the government process. Each year, the cooperatives across the nation sponsor more than 1,500 high school students to make the trek to Washington to get that personal initiation, and they have a lot of fun in the process.

It all begins in Springfield on April 21, 2010 during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperative Youth Day where nearly 300 students will visit the State Capitol and spend much of the morning meeting with legislators. You will tour the Supreme Court and spend the afternoon touring local sites.

To be considered for this trip, see your guidance counselor for de-

tails as participation rules vary from co-op to co-op. This year marks the 51st trip to the nation's capital and promises to be as exciting as ever. Students learn the principles required to keep cooperative members working together for the cooperative's success by establishing their own "chip and pop" cooperative while on the bus trip.

While in Washington during the week of June 11-18, in addition to meeting with Congressman from Illinois, students are treated to tours of historic sites, given the opportunity to make life-long friends and receive information to help determine career paths.

Hopefully, at the conclusion of the tour, you will understand the only crystal ball in Washington is the one you help develop through your participation in government and public service. The future of the country depends on the youth of today getting involved.

To learn about this opportunity, contact your Guidance Counselor or Doug Hockman at Clay Electric Cooperative 618-662-2171. You may also check out the Youth Tour through the Association Of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) at www.aiec.coop for additional details.

Board meeting report

Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting
October 26, 2009

Trustees present were: Frank Czyzewski, Frank Herman, Kevin Logan, Bob Pierson, Howard Poehler, Richard Rudolphi, and Greg Smith. Also present were Executive Vice President/General Manager John Meng, and Cooperative Attorney Melanie Pearce. Absent was Bill Croy and Danny Schnepfer. The invocation was given by Trustee Herman.

Approved the minutes of the regular meeting held September 28, 2009.

Accepted 14 new members for service.

Canceled 10 members no longer receiving service.

Approved work orders in the amount of \$44,349.34.

Accepted the disbursement list for the month of September, 2009.

Approved the financial and maintenance reports for the month of September, 2009 as presented by Gen. Mgr. Meng.

Heard a report by Trustee Logan concerning the recent AIEC Board meeting.

Heard a report by Trustee Her-

man concerning the recent SIPC meeting.

Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. Meng regarding the SIPC Joint Use Agreement and installation of metering for Bible Grove and Iola.

Authorized Gen. Mgr. Meng to execute the Joint Use Agreement with SIPC once the other distribution Managers of SIPC approved the agreement.

Discussed the up-coming NRECA Annual Meeting.

Appointed Trustee Logan as the AIEC Director and Trustee Rudolphi as the Alternate for the AIEC.

Informed Re-pricing of loans would occur January 1, 2010 and were given the options that were available.

Disbursed CFC Portfolio Summary Packet reflecting the latest rates.

Informed of the rates that were locked in on October 7, 2009.

Discussed Bids and Approved the bid of Max Dye on a replacement pickup.

Reminded of the meeting

time change to 6:00 P.M. to reflect change due to Daylight Savings Time.

Heard and Approved a report by Gen. Mgr. Meng regarding one Purchase Power Agreement in the form as presented to this meeting.

Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. Meng regarding the retirement of Capital Credits to the estate of one deceased member.

Heard and Discussed articles from Don Wood of the AIEC "Very Brief Climate Update: New Harkin letter on emissions allocation formula; PSGC new entrant language" and NRECA publication "Fast Facts: Don't Tax Health Care Benefits."

Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. Meng regarding the installation of net metering for a member who recently installed solar panels.

Discussed article concerning Wind Power.

Discussed payment of NRECA dues.

Informed of the installation of a culvert on State of Illinois Right Of Way for a metering point access.

Adjournment.

Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc.

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582-9012

Office hours:
7:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Clay County Water Update

Clay County Water has been informed that a construction application to USDA Rural Development (RD) for Phase 2 has been funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The construction includes parts of the following townships; S.E. Songer, North Harter, and Stanford. We have also been invited for a funding application for the Phase 3 project, which includes South Stanford, South Harter, and South Clay City Townships.

We will now start the process of finalizing the map of where exactly the line will go. If you have not been contacted, or would like to sign up for water service to your location, please call. Do not put this off any longer.

Doug Hockman 662-6666, Sue Pettit 662-4305, Bob Pierson 662-7471, Kye Hemphill 662-4590, Bill Seelman 662-8479, Dwight Edgington 678-2782 or Kevin Henry 618-838-6123.

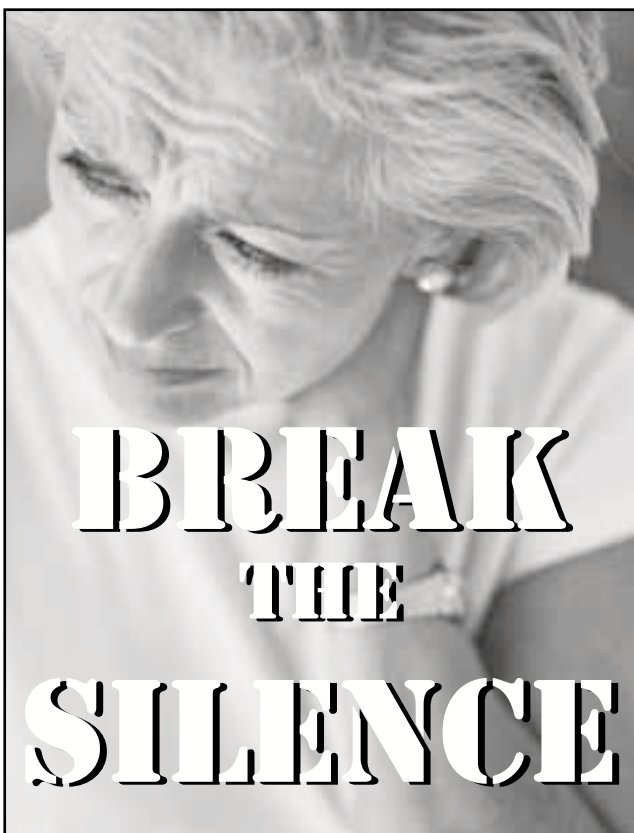
Check out our new Web site!

Our site has been completely redesigned and now offers information about the history of our cooperative, bill payment options, our youth programs (such as Youth to Washington and Youth Day), the Clay County Water, Inc. project, and more.

Visit us online today!



Report Elder Abuse



Were you the victim of a home repair scam?

Don't let it happen again!

- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Get estimates before doing home renovations.
- Do not pay for work in advance.
- Never do business without checking references.
- Don't be afraid to call the police and have them check out the credentials of someone who is working in your area.

Were you the victim of a telemarketing scam?

Don't let it happen again!

- Don't pay for any prize or send money to improve your chances of winning. It's illegal to ask you to pay to enter a contest.
- Don't be bullied into buying something "right now." If the caller persists, end the call.
- Don't give your credit card number to anyone over the phone unless you made the call.
- Don't give any caller your bank account number.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a scam, **Break the Silence**. Call the Department on Aging to talk confidentially with someone who will help you to alleviate the situation.

Illinois Department on Aging
Elder Abuse Hotline:
1-866-800-1409 (Voice)
1-888-206-1327 (TTY)



A Toasty Solution

The north wind may be blowing outside this winter, but installing a geothermal heat pump will keep Old Man Winter out, keep your family toasty warm, while reducing your heating bills.

For more information about geothermal heat pumps, contact Clay Electric Co-operative at 618-662-2171 or toll-free at 800-582-9012.



Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc.