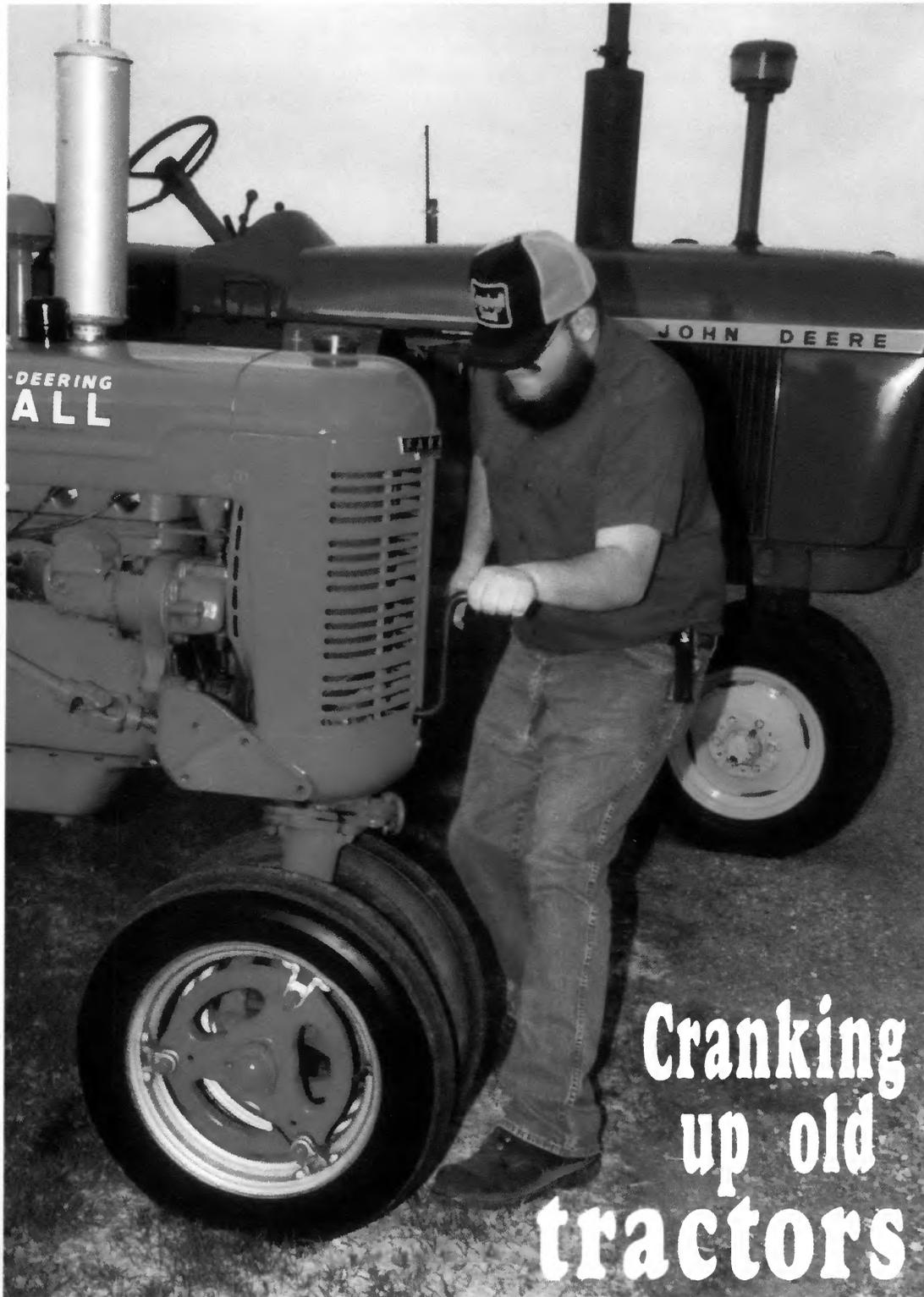


ILLINOISTM

COUNTRY LIVING

June 1996



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Gardens**
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**Cranking
up old
tractors**

Who Knew Vinegar Could Do ALL That?

CHICAGO (Special) - Research from centers around the world report what ancient healers knew thousands of years ago -- *that vinegar is the wonder elixir for a healthier life.*

Since ancient times a daily dose of apple cider vinegar has been taken to control appetite and maintain well-being.

Even Japan's feared Samurai warriors of years ago relied on a vinegar tonic for strength and power. A tonic you can make in your kitchen.

Today, countless reports and scientific studies praise the curative and preventive powers of vinegar as part of our daily diet.

And now after long research, for the first time, over 300 vinegar super-healing home remedies and recipes have been gathered by noted natural health author Emily Thacker in her exclusive new book, *"The Vinegar Book."*

It's the most complete collection since the discovery of vinegar 10,000 years ago.

You'll learn how to control your appetite to lose weight with a meal-time vinegar cocktail.

Find trusted home remedies to beat colds, ease painful arthritis, and other joint diseases.

Vinegar is nature's own drug-free anti-inflammatory.

Scientific tests show organic vinegar is a natural storehouse of vitamins and minerals, including beta carotene -- over 93 different components -- to fight what ails you.

More than 70 different research studies have verified that *beta carotene lowers the risk of getting cancer and it boosts the body's immune system.*

When fresh apples are allowed to ferment organically, the result is a vinegar that contains natural sediment with pectin, trace minerals, beneficial bacteria and enzymes.

And pectin helps your body reduce cholesterol levels to lower the risk of cardiovascular disease.

"The Vinegar Book" will amaze and delight you with 308 natural ways to enrich your personal life and home. Time-honored folk remedies that show step by step how to mix vinegar with other kitchen staples to:

- Improve your metabolism
- Aid digestion
- Help lower cholesterol
- Uses for middle ear problems
- Condition problem skin
- Fight age and liver spots
- Gain soft, radiant skin
- Amazing hair treatments
- Relieve nighttime leg cramps
- Soothe sprained muscles
- Fight osteoporosis with calcium
- Help headaches fade away
- Corn and callus relief
- Aid to maintain health
- Skin rashes, athlete's foot
- Relieve insect bites
- Remedy for urinary problems
- Use for coughs, colds
- Destroy bacteria in foods
- Heart and circulatory problems
- Fight high blood pressure

And the above is only a brief sample of the 308 uses for vinegar you'll learn about.

You'll know how grandma's recipe for her famous pie crust depends on a spoonful of apple cider vinegar.

How a combination of vinegar and fruit juices relieves arthritis symptoms and other aches and pains.

Try a delicious low calorie, calcium-and-iron rich chicken soup and vinegar recipe.

Combine your favorite herbs with vinegar to create tenderizers, mild laxatives, mouth washes, tension relievers, and mouthwatering tasty salad dressings and more.

Of course, we all know the cleaning power of vinegar. But Emily Thacker's research has uncovered a host of new moneysaving ways to keep your home, laundry, clothing, brass, copper and other possessions sparkling clean. And with less effort.

You'll also delight in making and bottling your own special vinegars. It's so simple to follow Emily's recipes. Homemade vinegars make such wonderful gifts. You could even end up selling your creations to food and gift shops.

And get ready for many compliments when the family and friends bite into those delicious pickle treats you make.

Yes, 308 remedies and recipes are yours to enjoy on a no-risk trial basis for 90 life-improving days. Imagine, three full months without obligation to keep this exclusive, one-of-its kind book.

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To get your trial copy direct from the publisher at the special introductory price of \$12.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling simply do this:

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ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING



About the cover:

To keep abandoned farm tractors from going to waste, John Barnett and his parents, Jim and Martha, began adopting them. Nearly a dozen are restored or in the process at their rural Gifford home.

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Illinois COMMENTARY

By Donna Shaw, Illinois State Travel Director

When I speak to travel and tourism groups around Illinois, I sometimes like to start with a guessing game: Where do you think Illinois ranks among the 50 states in terms of revenue from travel and tourism? The answer surprises a lot of people. We are fifth in the nation, exceeded only by California, Florida, New York and Texas.



Donna Shaw

And we do it without the benefits of seacoasts or mountain ranges. For the communities of Illinois, that accomplishment means a lot more than just civic pride. Tourism, now the world's largest industry, added \$15.9 billion to the Illinois economy in 1994 (the latest available federally compiled statistics) and provided employment for 241,500 people across the state. Every county in Illinois, from Rockford to Cairo, from the Mississippi to the Ohio, has a piece of this huge economic pie. Travelers generated \$995 million in state and local taxes—almost a billion dollars for our schools, parks and neighborhoods, and all the other things that make our state and our nation a great place to visit and a wonderful place to live.

Tourism is uniquely suited to boost the economic development of communities because it can develop wherever imagination thrives and appreciation of our heritage is alive and healthy. But it doesn't happen automatically. Tourism today is a fiercely competitive arena. We compete not only with other states and destinations, but with television, long

work weeks and other modern realities that vie for our customers' precious leisure time. At the Illinois Bureau of Tourism, our job is to partner with our industry to spread the word about the unique diversity and richness of Illinois, where you can reconnect with our heritage in our small towns or experience big-city excitement in one of the world's great urban environments. In addition, our state has 4,300 miles of scenic shoreline, 1,100 historic sites and nearly half a million acres of state parks to enjoy.

You have probably seen our award-winning "Million Miles from Monday" advertising campaign. It is doing an astonishing job of getting the word out that Illinois has a great weekend getaway for every interest, every budget, every schedule. And it's now easier than ever to find the getaway that's right for you. A toll-free call to 1-800-2-CONNECT puts you in touch with one of the knowledgeable travel counselors at the Illinois Travel Counseling System. They'll listen to your interests and plans, then use one of the largest tourism databases in the nation to help you plan the perfect trip in Illinois, customized just for you.

People have responded to this service in record-breaking numbers. Calls for April 1996, exceeded 1995 levels by 400 percent. With our ability to fax or e-mail custom itineraries to callers within 20 minutes, we've established a customer service that differentiates Illinois from its competition. Even more importantly, 65 percent of people who call 1-800-2-CONNECT actually take that trip to Illinois.

If you have computer access to the World Wide Web, you can connect to that same database to do your own trip planning. Just point your browser to <http://www.enjoyillinois.com> and follow the user-friendly menus. However you reach us, you'll find a wealth of history, shopping, entertainment, culture and events that will open new horizons even for lifelong residents of our state.

Travel and tourism has the power to deepen our knowledge and understanding of our world and our state while it provides economic opportunity to better all our communities. It works best when every one of us takes part. I urge each of you to decide to explore Illinois this year. Call 1-800-2-CONNECT for detailed getaway ideas and itineraries created just for you, and discover the treasures of our great state, guaranteed to take you a Million Miles from Monday in Illinois. Happy traveling.

Donna Shaw is deputy director, Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, Bureau of Tourism. She was recently named secretary/treasurer of the interim USA National Tourism Organization, a public/private sector partnership that will become the marketing agency for inbound international tourism to the U.S.

33 Everlasting Songs Of Faith

Andy Griffith

Sings For You In His
"Precious Memories"
Songs Of Faith Treasury



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I Hope You'll Let Me Share Them With You!"*

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For Today And Tomorrow!**

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AS SEEN ON
TV

I've always liked to sing. Don Knotts (Barney Fife) and I used to sing on the old "Andy Griffith Show"...often hymns.

I even sang on that lawyer show, "Matlock". But never like this...with some of the finest singers and musicians in the world. The first solo I ever sang in church was "Sweet Hour Of Prayer". I was fifteen years old. My family was proud and now I'm proud. I get a chance to sing again for you and your family. There are 33 beautiful old-time hymns on this album. They are Precious Memories...with hope and inspiration for today and tomorrow. These are songs I've known all my life. Yes, they are wonderful Precious Memories. I hope you'll let me and all of us on our album share them with you.

- Andy Griffith -

Read the wonderful list of titles at right. These are the enduring songs of faith that have brought hope and inspiration to generations. Every cherished favorite is sung in the sincere, heart-touching style that has made Andy Griffith one of America's most beloved stars. You and your family will play and enjoy this album more than any other. Be sure to order yours now.

Shiny new tractors not for this farmer

While many farmers cruise the farm equipment showroom floors kicking the tires on the technologically advanced and the newest, Jim Barnett is likely to be cruising, too. But instead of drooling over the offerings at the local dealership, he's



more likely to be looking longingly at some old tractor rusting away behind a barn somewhere.

"I love the old tractors," he says, "and I think they deserve preservation as a part of our heritage. And they have monetary value, too. I just hate to see them go to waste."

Thanks to Jim and others like him, antique tractors are not nearly as likely to go to waste as they used to be. There are restorers all over the place, in fact. "It used to be a shame to see a tractor sitting out and rusting away," he says, "but now it's getting to be a rarity. People have really started taking an interest in restoring old tractors."

Jim kind of "backed into" the hobby when his father died in 1966, leaving two older tractors as part of his estate. At about the same time, Jim and a friend were building a "hot" garden tractor, using various automotive components. It was a short shuffle from the fun of building a lawn tractor to the fun of rebuilding the farm kind.

While Jim, who works for a Rantoul auto dealership, was working on tractors, his son, John, was developing an affinity for them, too.

Before long, they had a collection growing in their machine shed, a membership in the Indiana-Illinois

Tractor Club, and a tractor or two that was ready to show off in parades and the like.

While their hobby was building, Mrs. Barnett—

Martha—was helping out when she could. "I used to drive them in parades," she says, "but I quit when I was right in the middle of a parade and the tractor died. I was never so embarrassed in my life. I quit that right then and there, although I help when I can.

I'll drive a tractor into town for a parade if someone wants to drive it in the actual parade, and things like that. I don't do

parades any more, though."

Jim and John divide up the work according to their abilities, with Jim doing a lot of the painting and body work, while John does more of the engine repairs. "Dad's really particular about how the body work's done," John says, "so I leave most of that to him. I do a lot of the engine work."

Not surprisingly, he's involved in engine work at school, too. He's taking ag mechanics classes and has been accepted for training in a John Deere mechanic's program at Lake Land College. He hopes that course, sponsored by area Deere dealers, will be a big step toward getting a job as a tractor mechanic.

Whatever happens in that regard, he has plenty of tractors to practice on. They have some 10 or

Above, a non-standard hood ornament graces a tractor. At right is a lineup of classics.





From left, Martha, Jim and John Barnett are pictured with one of their favorite tractors.

11 tractors in their shed in various stages of repair and disrepair, and the number fluctuates often.

"I'll get a tractor any way I can," Jim says with a smile, "and I'm always on the lookout. There's a nice one out in the shed now that I saw parked out in a church yard. I stopped by and put a note in the door, asking if they'd be interested in selling it. As time went by, I kind of forgot about it. Four years later, I got a call. It wound up costing more than most, but it turned out to be one of my nicer tractors. I have another one, a B International, that's a real joy. I traded a push mower for it."

Martha notes that she's not always included in the negotiations leading up to new purchases, and occasionally gets caught by surprise. "They'll see a tractor they like," she chuckles, "and they'll talk about it for a while without seeming to decide what to do. Next thing I

know, there'll be a new tractor in the flock."

Jim laughs, adding, "We'll talk about something, and when we make up our minds that we'd like to have a particular tractor, we set out to get it. We'll buy, trade, or whatever."

"They were talking about a new tractor," Martha says, "and one day I walked out and there was one sitting in the yard. Someone had dropped it off and hadn't said a word. It's a Deere, and it's the newest of our tractors."

Jim notes that his tractors are old or antique, but not really rare. "There are some really rare tractors around," he says, "and everyone hopes to find one, but they're really expensive any more. I've decided that 'old' is good enough for me."

"It's interesting to see what's happened in the antique tractor

market," he says, "because when I got started working with them, they didn't have hardly any value at all. Now, more and more people are getting interested, and they're getting more and more expensive."

"I'm glad to see that in a way, because I like to see the old machines saved, but that makes my hobby a little more expensive, too," he says.

The Barnetts are not really purists when it comes to restoration, they note. And even a cursory examination of their tractors will bear out that statement. One has the hood ornament from a classic car, while another has a wolf whistle. One has an air horn, and yet another boasts some non-standard pin striping. "We're in it for the fun," Jim says, "and the little unusual touches just make it a little more fun. That's good enough for us."

TECHNOLOGY AND YOU

Using wireless switches

Q: We waste electricity leaving our hall and basement stair lights on because we don't have three-way switches at each end. Is it possible to add three-way switches ourselves? We cannot afford an electrician.—T. S.

A: Adding three-way switches (to turn a light on at either end) in a hall or stairway not only lowers your electric bills and bulb replacement costs, but it improves safety.

Installing a wireless three-way switch (TWS) is the simplest method. It uses a transmitter switch at one end of the hall and a receiver switch at the other end. It takes about five minutes to install yourself.

The small transmitter switch is powered by a 9-volt battery. It is screwed to the wall surface (no cutting) and looks like any ordinary wall switch. When you flip the switch, it sends a signal to the receiver switch. Switching either switch turns the hall or basement light on or off.

The existing hall switch is replaced by the receiver switch. It is powered by standard 120-volt house power and is wired exactly the same as the old switch. A short antenna wire hangs down and is hidden inside the wall.

Wireless lamp wall outlets are also available. A battery-operated wall switch sends a signal to a wall outlet. These are ideal for adding a switch near your favorite TV chair, near your bed, etc. The new switch can be located up to 50 feet from the wall outlet.

If you have a dark closet, garage, utility room, etc. and have to fumble in the dark for a light switch or pull string, add a battery-operated wireless in-line switch at the door. It can control a light fixture mounted anywhere in the closet or the room. It can also control a vent fan.

The same type of simple wireless

James Dulley is a mechanical engineer who writes on a wide variety of energy and utility topics. His column appears in a large number of daily newspapers.

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technology can be used to install a back door or gate doorbell. Both the outdoor button and indoor chime (8 notes or musical tunes) are powered by long-lasting batteries. Plug-in (120-volt) chimes with a wireless outdoor switch have adjustable volume.

For more safety and security, install a do-it-yourself wireless doorbell/intercom kit. A microphone/speaker is built into the battery-operated outdoor unit so you can talk to visitors before opening the door.

Installing standard hard-wired TWS's is not difficult. Two single-pole/double-throw (SPDT) switches and three-wire cables are needed. Make sure the switches have adequate amperage ratings for the lighting load planned. Switch off circuit breakers first. NEVER work on a live circuit.

Q: I have always heard that you should keep a refrigerator and freezer reasonably full to make it operate most efficiently. How do I determine what "reasonably full" means? - J. S.

A: Reasonably full means having the shelves of the refrigerator portion almost completely covered with a typical array of various size containers, bottles and cans. It is important to allow space for air to circulate freely around inside the refrigerator portion.

Although the freezer portion needs some air flow through it too, you can pack more frozen foods in tighter. Keeping it full also helps keep the freezer portion cold if there is an extended power outage.

Write for Utility Bills Update No. 654 listing the manufacturers of wireless three-way switches, wall outlets, in-line switches and doorbell/intercom systems, specifications, installation instructions and a hard-wiring diagram for a TWS. Please include \$2.00 (with checks payable to Jim Dulley) and a business-size SASE, sent to Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708.



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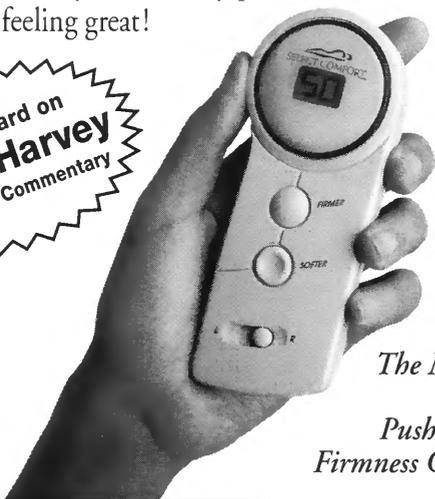
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As Heard on
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News & Commentary



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AROUND YOUR HOME

Prepare for summer heat



Bill Campbell

Summer is almost here! Remember last year? It started off cool and wet, but July and August were scorchers. Record temperatures for extended periods brought miserable conditions that strained the capacity of cooling systems. You can relieve some of the pressure on your cooling system this summer by installing a ceiling fan.

These fans come in a variety of styles, with prices to match. The main advantage they offer to your cooling and heating systems is that they stir the air. This prevents hot and cold zones from forming in the room where they are located and can help circulate air in adjoining rooms. Fans help your thermostat maintain even room temperatures.

Can you install a ceiling fan in your home? I would say "Yes" to everyone, but I should qualify that answer. I would say all homes can have fans installed, but not all people should do the installation. I look at the installation process as needing three levels of expertise.

Level one, no expertise. If you are more comfortable letting someone else do the installation for you, you should hire a qualified electrician or locate a handy but knowledgeable friend to do the installation for you. If this is the route you choose, make sure the requirements outlined below describing the other two levels are followed by your installer.

Level two is installation of the fan hardware. A spare set of hands and a couple of sturdy ladders or step stools make this procedure easier to complete.

Fan manufacturers provide easy-to-understand instructions for each model of fan they produce. Quality fans have installation tricks designed right into the hardware. One fan company even provides a hook on their fan ceiling plate for you to temporarily suspend the fan motor while making wiring connections. If you neglect to read the instructions, you may miss out on the benefits of these hardware design tricks. As always, follow proper ladder safety guidelines to prevent falls.

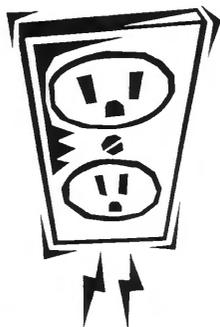
And last, the electricity level. This is the most advanced level, but it must be completed first for fan installation. Whether you do the wiring or you have a qualified electrician handle the job, please follow proper wiring procedures as outlined in the National Electric Code (NEC). All new wiring should meet current NEC requirements. Instructions accompanying fans give details for proper outlet box support, which is necessary since some fans may weigh up to 50 pounds or more when accessories such as lights are added. This is usually the toughest part of the installation, since it requires work above your ceiling in either the attic or between upper story floor joists to provide fan support.

Electricity safety procedures such as disconnecting circuits requiring work at the circuit breaker or fuse box should be followed to prevent electrocution. In addition, when working in attic spaces, provide sufficient lighting and support to prevent falls through ceilings.

Properly installed ceiling fans will increase the comfort, beauty and value of your home. They also increase the efficiency of your heating and cooling systems by redistributing the air in your rooms. This is especially important in homes with vaulted or high ceilings during heating season.

Just remember, whether you install the fan or have someone else do it, have it done right.

Bill Campbell is an Extension Educator, Farm Systems, at the Springfield Extension Center, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois. You can write to Campbell in care of Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708. Telephone: 217-782-6515. E-Mail: campbellw@idea.ag.uiuc.edu



Now, You Can Sleep Quietly Without Disturbing Others!

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My wife told me: "If a Genie gave me 3 wishes, my first wish would be for you to stop snoring so I could get a good night's sleep without all that noise you make every night."

Now, understand, that I have never heard myself snore. My wife has threatened to tape record the "noise" many times - but she ends up leaving the bedroom and sleeps in another room in the house.

I don't like my wife sleeping in another room so I've tried many different ways to stop snoring. I wore a gadget that gave me an electrical shock every time it heard the noise of snoring (or any other noise). I wore a sport bandages across my nose, it allowed me to snore louder than ever according to my wife. I took antihistamine pills at night thinking that they would help. I tried nose drops, special stop-snoring pillows, elastic chin bands - **Nothing helped.**

I finally went to my doctor and asked him to help me stop snoring.

My doctor wanted to do lazer surgery to shorten the uvula in my throat. I don't want to have the uvula burned away over a period of weeks. Who knows what would happen to my throat later on, not to mention the pain and healing time needed between each lazer surgery procedure.

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MHH - Conn.

"Thank God! I can now sleep through the night without "snoring noises" waking me up. I am relaxed and ready-to-go in the morning. **SNORE-BE-GONE** is the greatest! It made our bedroom a wonderful place to be and made our married life more relaxed and fulfilling."

SSH - Conn.

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Thousands of couples across America may soon be getting a good night's sleep thanks to the 100% Natural **SNORE-BE-GONE** tablets. Imagine, no longer getting elbowed in the side, punched in the arm or shoulder, or just yelled at when you are snoring in the middle of the night.

Snoring is one of wife's biggest complaints when discussing their husbands. More couples sleep in separate rooms because of the snoring "noise" than anyone would suspect...and yet, up till now, there really wasn't an easy, healthy, practical way to overcome snoring and the annoying sounds associated with it.

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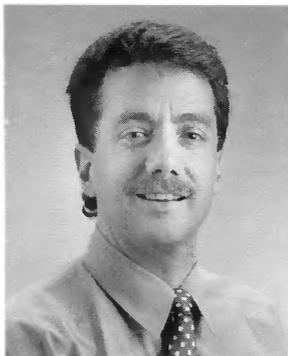
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Your YARD AND GARDEN

Keep the
evening hours
in mind



Dave Robson

Enjoying your garden in the evening should be a goal in any type of major landscaping. When the vast majority of people work during the day, the weekends tend to be the only time when gardens can be enjoyed. Nightlighting is one means of enjoying plants. Careful placement of lights to create highlights on plants, or used to provide interesting shadows and silhouettes can add drama and interest to the yard and garden.

Careful selection of plants, colors and supplemental lighting can give your garden some enjoyment as the sun sets and the moon and stars rise. Using plants is easier and often cheaper than installing lights.

One of the key points of enjoying a landscape in the evening is the judicious use of whites, grays, silvers and pale colors. These colors tend to be less obvious during the day but come into their own in the evening.

Reds, purples, blues and oranges tend to bleed into black shapes in the dark. Whites and yellows are more luminous. If you desire to have a red, purple, or blue become highlighted, you'll need to provide supplemental lights on the plants. However, the colors still won't be as dynamic as they will during the day.

Whites also define flower borders as well as structures. Edging white flowers along a sidewalk will help someone move unhindered in the dark. This might be advantageous in the fall, using white chrysanthemums, to provide identification as the sun sets earlier and earlier. A thin white line on a step also lets people know to pick up their feet.

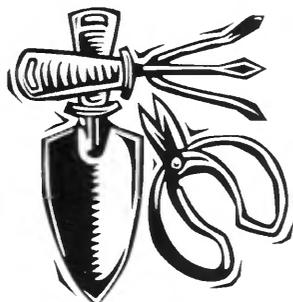
Using white flowering or foliage

David Robson is an Extension Educator, Horticulture, at the Springfield Extension Center, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois. You can write to Robson in care of Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708. Telephone: 217-782-6515. E-Mail: robsond@idea.ag.uiuc.edu

annual plants in pockets throughout the yard create a unifying effect during the twilight to evening hours. White ageratum, petunias, geraniums, vinca (particularly Pretty in White) coupled with dusty miller as a foliage plant can be pocketed in between shrubs, perennials or around trees. Foundation plantings mixing flowers with another singular color, such as yellow marigolds, will also provide 24-hour interest.

The following is a listing of white, silver and gray plants that stand out in the summer and fall. Those with more white tend to stand out more in the evening.

Whites/grays/silvers	Platycodon—
Achillea—Yarrow	Balloon Flower
Ageratum	Rose
Alyssum	Salvia
Artemisia—	Symphoricarpos—
Silver Mounds	Snowberry
Aruncus—Goat's Beard	Thalictrum—
Aster	Meadow Rue
Astilbe	Vinca 'Pretty in White'
Athemis	Zinnia
Campanula	Foliage and stems
Centranthus	Ajuga
Chrysanthemum—	Arum
Garden mums to	Betula—Birch
Shasta Daisies	Brunnera
Clethra—Summersweet	'Hadspen Cream'
Dianthus—Pinks	Buddleia davidii
Digitalis—Foxglove	'Harlequin'—
Galtonia—Summer	Butterfly bush
Hyacinth	Hedera helix 'Glorie de
Geranium	Marengo'—English Ivy
Gladiolus	Hosta
Gypsophila—	Lamium
Baby's Breath	Osmatnus—grass
Hosta	Populus alba—
Hydrangea	White poplar
Lathyrus	Phalaris—Ribbon Grass
Lily	Vinca major 'Variegata'—
Lychnis—Campion	Variegata Periwinkle
Nicotiana—	Herbs
Flowering Tobacco	Horehound
Nierembergia	Rosemary
Petunia	Sage
Phlox	Stachys—Lamb's Ear



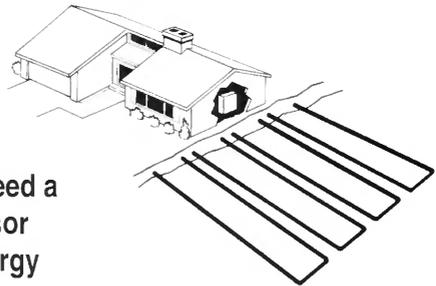
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Retail Competition:

A Concept in Search of a Definition

Discussions about coming competition in the electric utility industry have been much in the news lately in Illinois and across the nation. Some call it deregulation, some call it open access, while still others use the term retail wheeling. Whatever it's called, the concept means open competition for electric service. Most discussions leave the impression that in the near future consumers will buy their electricity much as they now buy gasoline for their cars and trucks or supplies for their homes, farms and businesses.

Some form of competition is coming in the electric utility industry . . . perhaps next year or the year after . . . perhaps in five to ten years. What shape that competition takes, and who benefits, will be the subject of many discussions over the coming months in the Illinois General Assembly, electric utility and other business offices, and in homes and coffee shops. Electric cooperative leaders will be in the middle of those discussions and are vitally concerned about how the outcome affects electric cooperative members.

Electric cooperatives have been involved in the question of competition in the electric utility industry since their beginning in the late 1930s and early 1940s. It was the total lack of competition in the rural countryside that led to the organization of electric cooperatives when investor-owned electric utilities refused to serve rural residents. Today many Illinois cooperatives serve prime growth

areas near growing cities. Other utilities, which refused to serve in earlier times, covet those areas. Other cooperative service areas are as remote today as they were in 1940, in electric utility terms. When the subject of competition comes up, electric cooperative leaders are concerned equally about rural and emerging urban areas within their service territories.

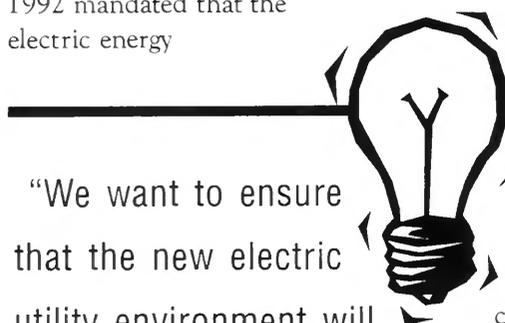
The Energy Policy Act approved by the U.S. Congress in 1992 mandated that the electric energy

necessary to govern the effects of open transmission of electric energy and bulk power competition at the wholesale level. One effect of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 has been to cause large businesses and manufacturers to pressure for open competition for electric energy supplies at the retail level.

Last year the Illinois General Assembly adopted Senate Joint Resolution 21 (SJR 21) which created the Joint Committee on Electric Utility Regulatory Reform and charged the committee with bringing to the General Assembly a proposal on electric utility deregulation in Illinois.

The resolution was approved in response to a legislative proposal by a coalition consisting of Illinois Power Company, the Illinois Manufacturers Association and others to allow complete open competition for large customers in Illinois. SJR 21 set up a Technical Advisory Group, made up of representatives of Illinois utilities and interested consumer groups, and mandated that the advisory group work with the Joint Committee to produce a legislative proposal on retail competition in Illinois by November 8, 1996.

Working through the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, cooperative members have had representation in the deliberations of the Technical Advisory Group and meetings of the Joint Committee on Electric Utility Regulatory Reform. Rural electric leaders see a number of areas of concern as



"We want to ensure that the new electric utility environment will provide benefits to all classes of consumers," Earl Struck, president of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, said.

transmission system be opened for movement (wheeling) of bulk power among electric energy suppliers. Electric cooperatives supported those new laws that would open wholesale bulk power supplies to competition. Although it has been law since 1992, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is only now dealing with the complex regulations

legislative proposals unfold:

- Universal Service—All rural consumers must continue to have access to basic electric service at reasonable rates.
- Uniform Rates—All consumers within a class must be treated equally in rate making.
- Benefits—Competition or direct access must provide benefits to all consumer classes.
- Service—Safety, service reliability and power availability must be assured for all consumers.

Electric cooperative leaders are concerned that deregulation legislation would allow large industrial electric consumers to leave their traditional electric supplier for a cheaper source of power with the result that homeowners, farmers and small business consumers will have to pay higher rates as a result. "We want to ensure that the new electric utility environment will provide benefits to all classes of consumers," Earl Struck, president of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, said. "Our focus has to remain on the member at the end of the line."

Electric cooperatives in Illinois serve only four consumers per mile of line while investor-owned electric utilities serve 41 consumers per mile of line. Only about five percent of the consumers served by electric cooperatives in Illinois are industrial or other large power

members. That five percent accounts for about 33 percent of the kilowatt-hour sales of electric cooperatives. In contrast, about 66 percent of the sales of investor-owned electric utilities are to large power customers. In other words, the effect of writing the rules to benefit large power customers will mean that losing even one large power customer will have a much greater effect on an electric cooperative than on an investor-owned utility.

Electric cooperatives were organized in rural areas in the late 1930s and early 1940s when other electric providers would not, or could not, extend their lines into the rural countryside to meet the growing needs of rural residents. Investor-owned utilities felt there would be no profit potential in serving scattered rural loads.

"Our focus has to remain on the member at the end of the line."



Electric cooperatives provide an essential

service to all consumers within their assigned service territories because no one else could, or would, and they do so on a not-for-profit basis. The not-for-profit operation status of electric cooperatives is another reason that any retail competition legislation

designed to benefit large loads at the expense of smaller loads will have a greater effect on electric cooperatives than on investor-owned electric utilities.

In order to meet the requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is expected to order utilities this year to "unbundle" their service components . . . generation, transmission and distribution. Generation or bulk wholesale power sales will be deregulated by commission order and transmission facilities will become basically a common carrier at regulated rates. This will mean open competition for energy supplies at the bulk power level. Federal deregulation will not extend, at least for now, into the distribution area. Few see any prospect of passage this year of federal legislation that would mandate retail wheeling. Generally, it is felt that individual states should be left to decide if and when retail competition is allowed within their borders, as well as the shape of that competition.

Illinois is one of a number of states that are responding to the pressure of large industrial and commercial electric consumers with various legislative proposals for electric competition at the retail level. Taking part in the discussions through the Technical Advisory Group are the four investor-owned electric utilities based in Illinois, as well as the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, the Illinois Manufacturers Association, the

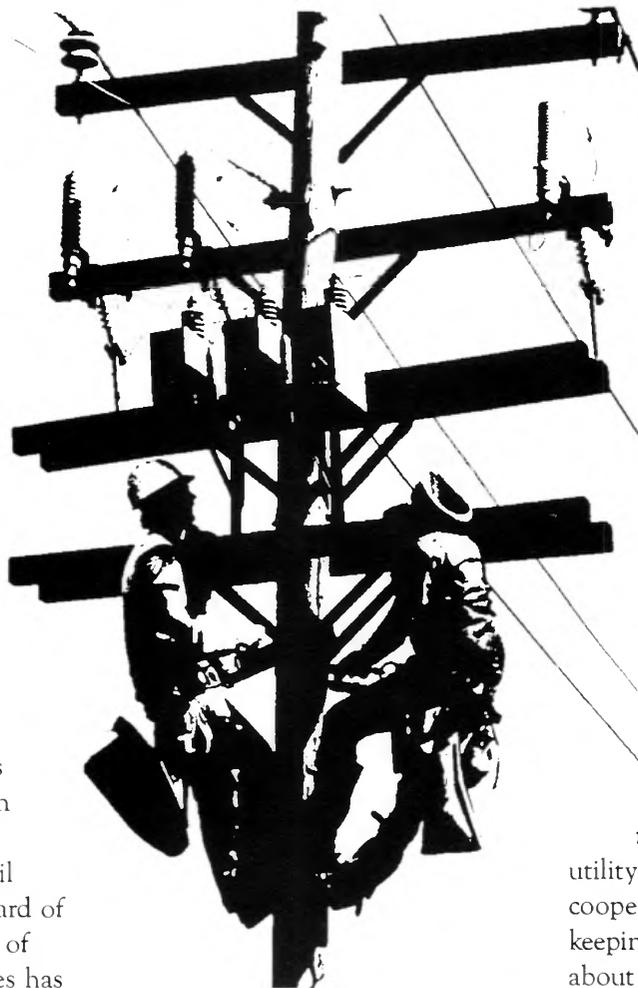
Illinois Municipal Electric Agency, the Citizens Utility Board, the Illinois Commerce Commission, members and staff of the General Assembly and others. Each interested stakeholder in the discussions has an interest to advocate or protect . . . the investor-owned utilities are primarily responding to the wants of their largest customers while protecting the interests of their stockholders; the municipal systems and electric cooperatives, as customer-owned utilities, seek to assure benefits equally to all classes.

At this point no one knows what shape electric competition will take in Illinois. Will competition be introduced suddenly and be open to all customers? Will competition be open only to large customers and be phased in over a number of years? How do utilities maintain high quality service and reliability in a competitive environment? Will the rural member have equal access to competitive energy? One thing is known . . . some form of electric utility competition is coming, probably sooner rather than later.

Recognizing that fact, Illinois electric cooperatives have not yet taken a position on any one of the many proposals to encourage retail competition. Rather the board of directors of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives has adopted a set of "Principles" to

guide later evaluation of specific proposals on electric utility competition. Each keeps the cooperative structure and the most remote member in mind. The principles are:

- Support deregulation/direct access in the electric utility industry so long as such action ensures benefits to all electric cooperatives and their members, and guarantees adequate and reliable service to all present and future members.
- Support participation in deregulation/retail



wheeling within the electric utility industry at the discretion of each individual electric cooperative.

- Support retention of the Electric Supplier Act, thereby ensuring no duplication of facilities, preventing unnecessary adverse environmental effects, avoiding unnecessary taking of farmland, and avoiding other unnecessary social costs.
- Support the continued regulation of the electric cooperatives by their member-owners.

With these principles as a guide, electric cooperative participants will be able to respond to retail wheeling or competition proposals likely to come before the Illinois General Assembly. Electric cooperatives do not want to stand in the way of meaningful deregulation proposals that will benefit their members. At the same time, they must ensure that whatever the shape of electric utility deregulation, all members benefit. Whatever the definition of electric energy competition and the

future shape of the electric utility industry in Illinois, electric cooperatives are committed to keeping their members informed about developments.

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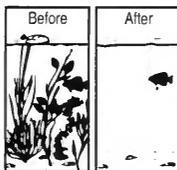
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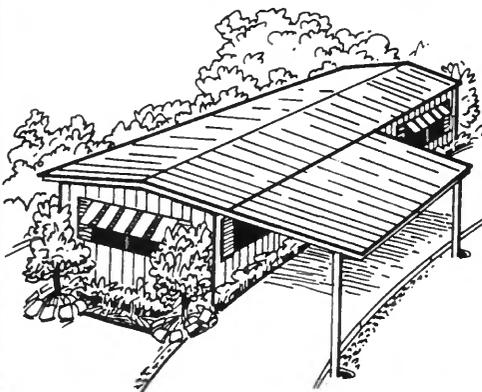
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FINEST COOKING



Our cookbooks this month are from the Colchester Business and Professional Women's organization in Colchester, and the Sumner United Methodist Church in Sumner. The 91-page Colchester offering costs \$6.00, which includes postage. You can order it from Kathleen Markey, 4850 N 450 Rd., Colchester, IL 62326. Her phone number is (309) 776-4809.

The 98-page Sumner book costs \$6.50, which also includes postage. Martha Lytle, RR 1, Box 995, Sumner, IL 62466, is the person to contact. Her phone number is (618) 936-2730.

Our style reflects the style of the books, as much as possible.

Colchester Business & Professional Women

Mustard Dip

Kathleen Myers-Labbe

1/2 c. sour cream
1/2 c. plain yogurt
1 T. finely chopped fresh parsley
1 tsp. onion powder
1/2 tsp. garlic salt
1 T. Dijon mustard

Mix all ingredients. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour. Serve with meatballs, cocktail sausages or fresh vegetables if desired. About 1 cup dip; 20 calories per tablespoon.

Chocolate Pudding Cake

Laura O'Harra

3/4 c. sugar
2 T. oleo
1 c. flour
2 tsp. baking powder
2 T. cocoa
1/4 tsp. salt
1/2 c. chopped nuts, opt.
1/2 c. milk

Cream sugar and oleo together. Sift dry ingredients together and add to the creamed sugar and oleo alternately with the milk. Mix until smooth and add nuts. Spread in a greased 9-inch square baking dish.

Topping:

1/2 c. sugar
1/2 c. brown sugar
1/3 c. cocoa

Mix and spread over the cake. Pour 1 1/2 cups boiling water over all and bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes.

Fruit Slush

Pat Nelson

1 lg. can frozen orange juice (middle size)
1 lg. can water

Dissolve together over heat:

1 c. sugar
1 c. water
1 lg. box frozen strawberries, quart size
5 bananas, sliced
1 lg. can crushed pineapple in own juice (2 cups)

Mix and freeze. Let soften some before serving. Easy make ahead dessert for large group.

Summer United Methodist Church

Grandma Linn's Rhubarb Jam

Martha Lytle

5 c. rhubarb, cut up fine
4 c. sugar
3-oz pkg. Jell-o

Mix rhubarb and sugar. Let it stand at least 2 hours till there is juice on it. Heat slowly and cook till rhubarb is soft (5 minutes maybe). Remove from heat and stir in 1 package Jell-o. Let cool and store in refrigerator.

Pineapple Upside Cake

Theresa Correll

2 beaten eggs
2 c. sugar
2 c. flour
1 tsp. soda
1 lg. can crushed pineapple (do not drain)

Mix dry ingredients all together. Bake at 350 degree in 13 x 9-inch pan. Do not grease. Bake 35 to 40 minutes.

1 stick oleo
1 c. sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
2/3 can Carnation evaporated milk

Boil all of this for 5 minutes. Pour over hot cake.

Chicken Tetrazzini

Laurie Beard

1/2 c. butter
1/2 c. chopped green pepper
1 sm. onion, chopped
2 oz. pimento
2 oz. mushrooms
2 c. cooked chicken
1 can cream of chicken
1 can cream of mushroom
1 c. milk
Salt to taste
3 c. cooked noodles (cooked in chicken broth)

Saute in butter; green pepper and onion. Add to that: pimento, mushrooms, chicken, cream of chicken, cream of mushroom, milk and salt. Drain noodles and add to mixture. Place in 9 x 13-inch baking dish and sprinkle with grated cheese. Bake at 350 degree for 20 minutes.



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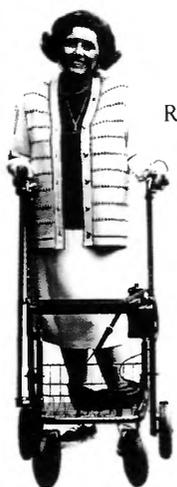
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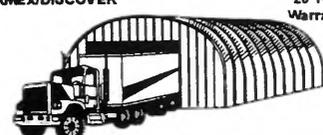
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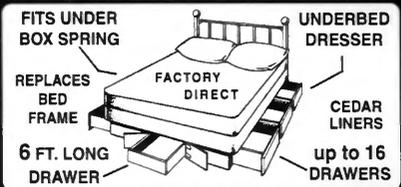
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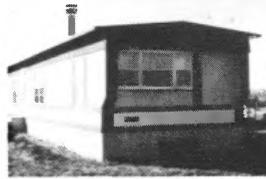
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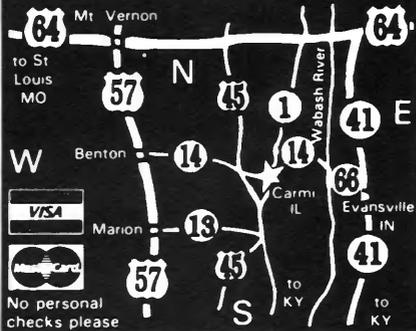
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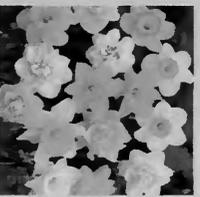
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	6	Alpine Rosy Bells if order totals \$7.00	FREE
	6	Sunny Twinkles (plus 6 Alpine Rosy Bells), if order totals \$10.00.	FREE
	8	Glory of the Snow (plus 6 Alpine Rosy Bells and 6 Sunny Twinkles) if order totals \$14.00.	FREE
		Subtotal	\$
		Postage & handling	1.90
		SALES TAX: MI add 6% TN add 8.25% MO add 5.725%	
		Grand Total	\$

Payment enclosed. Bill on my credit card below.

Exp. Date _____

MasterCard American Express Discover/NOVUS

VISA

Credit Card # _____

MAIL THIS MONEY-SAVING COUPON TODAY!