

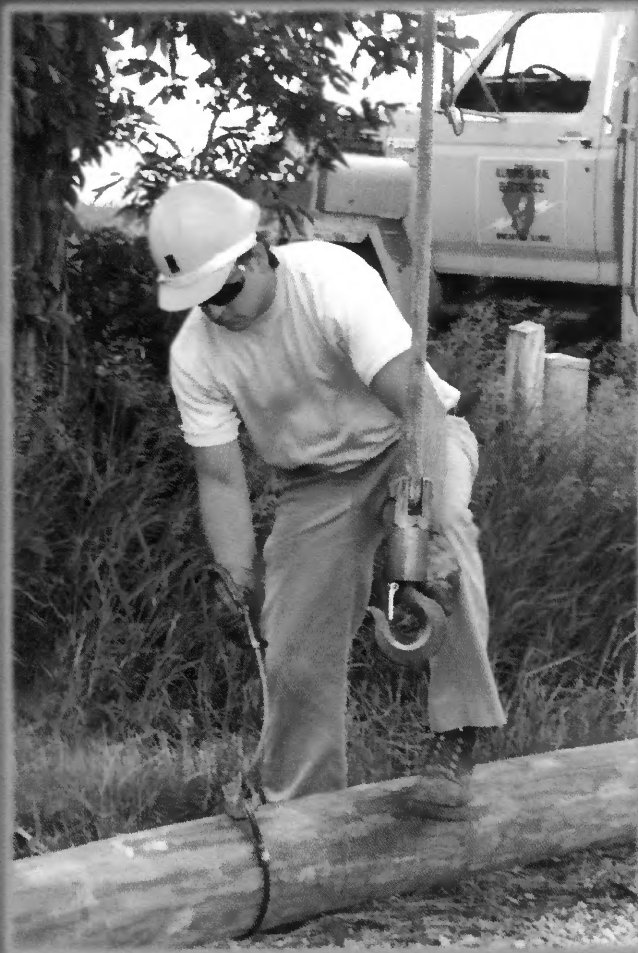
Take the sweat out of buying an air conditioner, page 18

ILLINOISTM

COUNTRY LIVING

AUGUST 1999

AFTER THE STORM



Rural electric cooperatives
help pick up the pieces

There are no substitutes

There's only one way to enjoy superior comfort and dramatically lower heating, cooling and hot water bills — with a WaterFurnace geothermal comfort system. At WaterFurnace, we've designed our products and selected our dealers with comfort, quality, efficiency and the environment in mind. In fact, our products are so efficient, you could save as much as 60% off your heating, cooling and hot water costs. So get on the road to savings. But remember, ask for it by name ... and don't accept substitutes. After all, there's only one WaterFurnace.

For more information or to locate your closest WaterFurnace dealer, call 1-800-Geo-Save or visit us at www.waterfurnace.com.

WaterFurnace

©1998 WaterFurnace International, Inc.



WaterFurnace



Ask for Heating and Cooling Equipment with the ENERGY STAR® logo, the symbol for Energy Efficiency.

#1 Residential Geothermal System installed in Illinois over the past ten years.

Call an authorized independent WaterFurnace Dealer near you for a *Free Energy Analysis* to see how much you can save.

Arnold Brothers Heating & Cooling
Macomb, IL, 309-833-2852

Boyce Electric
Cissna Park, IL, 815-457-2700

Burgess & Son, Inc.
Girard, IL, 217-627-2665

Charlie's Air Conditioning
Carterville, IL, 618-985-2502

Collins Plumbing & Heating
Springfield, IL, 217-793-8031
Petersburg, IL, 217-632-3670

Comfort Air Conditioning & Heating Inc.
Granite City, IL, 618-797-2100
Columbia, IL, 618-281-5444
Edwardville, IL, 618-656-1300

Comfort Mechanical
Gibson City, IL, 217-784-4422

Den-Son Inc. Cooling & Heating
Brighton, IL, 618-372-3875

DeRousse Heating & Air Conditioning
Red Bud, IL, 618-282-2224
Chester, IL, 618-826-4359

Design Air Heating & Air Conditioning
Decatur, IL, 217-429-1105
1-800-452-7845

Easley Mechanical
Canton, IL, 309-647-3450

Electro Electric
Flora, IL, 618-662-4520

Energy Specialists
Toluca, IL, 800-782-7491

G-M Specialists
Canton, IL, 309-647-5700

Holloway Heating & Air Conditioning
Mt. Vernon, IL, 618-242-5481

Hoveln Heating & Cooling
Thomasboro, IL, 217-643-2125

Jeckel Plumbing & Heating
Delavan, IL, 309-244-8265

Jansen's Heating & Air Conditioning
Effingham, IL, 217-347-5223

Kupferschmid, Inc.
Pontiac, IL, 815-842-3812
Forrest, IL, 815-657-8147

Macari Service Center
Shelbyville, IL, 217-774-4214
Pana, IL, 217-562-3631

McCords Heating and Air Conditioning
West Frankfort, IL 618-932-3745

Middleton Heating & Cooling Inc.
Cobden, IL, 618-893-2821

Mike's Heating & Air
Vienna, IL, 618-695-2756
Metropolis, IL 618-524-3270

Neuhaus Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc.
Litchfield, IL 1-888-324-2818

Peters Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
Quincy, IL, 217-222-1368
Pittfield, IL, 217-285-1600

R & M Electric
Watseka, IL, 815-432-4062

Stein Heating & Cooling
Hardin, IL, 618-576-2313

Toennies Service Co.
Damiansville, IL, 618-248-5130

Triangle Heating & Cooling
Tuscola, IL, 217-253-5400

Williams Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.
Murphysboro, IL, 618-684-3606
Steelville, IL, 618-965-2040

Yard Heating & Cooling
Taylorville, IL, 217-824-4737

Published by
Association of Illinois
Electric Cooperatives

John Lowrey

Editor

Jack D. Halstead

Senior Editor

Nancy R. Nixon

Catrina McCulley

Associate Editors

Charles Kurfman

Photographer

Sandy Wolske

Advertising Coordinator

Elayne Rhodes

Administrative Assistant

Kara Henning, Cheryl Howard

& Erin Weller

Graphic Designers

Derek Squires

Graphic Technician/Designer

Angie Bingenheimer

Circulation Coordinator

Illinois Country Living is a monthly publication serving the communications needs of 21 locally owned, not-for-profit Illinois electric cooperatives. More than 160,000 families receive the magazine as part of their electric cooperative membership. Monthly columns and stories provide information about topics and issues that affect the quality of their lives.

Illinois Country Living (USPS number 258-420) is published monthly and is the official publication of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, 6460 South Sixth Frontage Road, Springfield, IL 62707. The cost is \$2.40 plus postage per year for members of subscribing cooperatives and \$5 per year for all others. Periodical postage paid at Springfield, Illinois, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, Illinois 62708.

CO-OP MEMBERS: When requesting an address change, please include the name of your cooperative. Telephone: (217) 529-5561

Advertising and editorial inquiries should be directed to Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, Illinois 62708. National advertising representative: The Weiss Group, 13751 Lake City Way NE, Suite 102, Seattle, WA 98125. Acceptance of advertising by ICL does not imply endorsement by the publisher or the electric cooperatives of Illinois of the product or service advertised. Advertisers are screened by the publisher and every effort is made to protect the subscriber, but ICL is not responsible for the performance of the product or service advertised.

EDITORS: Articles appearing in Illinois Country Living may be reprinted upon consent of the editor. For permission phone (217) 529-5561 or write to John Lowrey, editor, Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708.

 Touchstone Energy

COVER STORY

10 Picking up the pieces

On the cover:
Illinois Rural
Electric

Cooperative

lineman, Brad
Kemper, works

to repair poles after they were knocked down by tornadoes that ripped through Shelby County on June first.



DEPARTMENTS

4 ILLINOIS COMMENTARY

Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative director and Association of Illinois Electric Cooperative director, Bill Griswold discusses the rights of electric consumers.

5 ILLINOIS CURRENTS

Find out which students from Shelbyville and Tuscola won \$1,000 scholarships from the Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial scholarship fund, learn 12 ways to childproof your home, find out how to keep cool for less and why your mom was right when she told you to eat your vegetables.

14 SAFETY AROUND YOUR HOME

AIEC's safety manager, Roger Stegeman, discusses the importance of using precautions around your home.

16 YOUR YARD AND GARDEN

Learn when to divide your spring bulbs.

18 TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY AND YOU

Find an efficient air conditioner without hurting your budget.

22 ILLINOIS' FINEST COOKING

Invite your friends over for an end of the summer party and include cranberry cocktail meatballs from the recipe collection of Jasper County HEA in Newton, or tempt your guests' taste buds with the world's best cookies from the First Christian Church in Quincy.

26 ILLINOIS MARKETPLACE

29 ILLINOIS DATEBOOK

As summer draws to a quick close, take your last few opportunities to be outside during the 1999 U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championships in Champaign or go back in time and visit Old Shawneetown for Living History Days.



Illinois COMMENTARY

Electric consumers' bill of rights

For the past few years the front in the battle to protect small business and residential consumers in electric utility restructuring has been waged in state capitals. Illinois' legislators recognized that cooperatives are structured differently than for-profit, investor-owned utilities, and the General Assembly insured that our co-ops would continue to have local control and local decision making authority on utility restructuring. As a second battle front opens in the

United States Congress, it is critical that state restructuring laws be recognized and allowed to work in any federal legislation that might be passed.

As I write this, your cooperative leaders are preparing to leave for Washington D.C. to talk with our representatives and senators. They will discuss the following issues:



Bill Griswold

Access to affordable, reliable and safe electric power

Rural electric systems should continue to have access to loans from USDA's Rural Utilities Service, and to the federal Power Marketing Administration's (PMAs) hydroelectric power programs. Both are important resources to ensure universal service — access to reliable power at affordable rates — for rural America.

Equal business opportunities - Cooperatives should be afforded the same or similar business opportunities as any other electric utility or energy service provider. Co-ops exist solely to provide necessary services to consumers and are owned by those consumers.

Bill Griswold is a director for Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative and the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. He also serves on the board of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. In 1998 he was honored as the Illinois Cooperative Council's member-director of the year. Griswold has also served his community as chairman of the Greene County Farmers Home Administration Board, Greene County Extension Council, Greene County National Birth Defects Foundation, and Illinois Valley Livestock Association.

New burdensome regulations - Restructuring legislation should not impose new, costly regulatory burdens on cooperatives. Rural electric cooperatives are regulated and governed by their consumer-owners. All electric cooperatives that own transmission are subject to the open access requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 1992. Electric cooperatives that borrow from the Rural Utilities Service are subject to wide-ranging regulations governing all aspects of their operations. Electric cooperatives that do not employ RUS financing are already subject to full Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regulation. No further regulation is required.

Market power - The Public Utility Holding Company Act (PUHCA) - PUHCA provides important consumer protections — under federal law -for electricity consumers and for investor-owned utility stockholders. If Congress repeals PUHCA, as is currently being considered, the consequences will include a concentration of market power and diminished competition. If Congress repeals PUHCA, new consumer protection measures must be enacted that allow consumers to guard against market power abuses and ensures that consumers are not denied the benefits of competition.

Federally mandated date of implementation - Electric cooperatives are deeply concerned that a federal mandate to implement retail wheeling will hurt the rights of states to craft customized solutions to meet their unique challenges. The federal government must give states enough latitude to judge when and if retail wheeling is beneficial for consumers in their state.

Real customer choice - All electric consumers must have the right to join together to establish and operate a consumer-owned electric system, if they so choose. In addition, consumers must retain the right to employ their cooperative in meeting their needs and expectations over time.

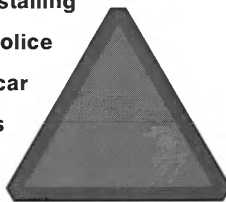
During a national meeting earlier this year, the directors of your electric cooperative and others from across the nation endorsed a resolution that reaffirms our cooperative's commitment to consumers.

We believe this *Electric Energy Consumer Bill of Rights* represents the standard against which electric

continued on page 5

Farmers reflect on their visibility

Farmers could give highway safety a jump-start by installing high-tech reflectors on farm equipment. Illinois State Police statistics report injury or death in 67 percent of farm-car collisions. Many of these accidents happen when cars traveling 50 to 60 miles per hour suddenly come up behind slow-moving, poorly lit farm equipment in the dark.



Following visibility standards issued by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers could make farm equipment less hazardous on the roads. Among other things, the guidelines require: reflectors both front and back on the outermost tips of machinery more than eight feet wide; alternating day and night reflectors all across the rear of implements wider than 12 feet; night reflectors at the back of trailing equipment longer than four feet; and side reflectors on equipment longer than 16 feet.

The recommended reflectors are adhesive strips in red and yellow (for night use) and fluorescent orange (for day). Made of retro-reflective material, they're about 10 times brighter than what is on most equipment now. Inexpensive kits are available at grain elevators, Farm Bureau offices, chemical and equipment dealers, and farm supply stores and through farm catalogs.

There are steps you can take now to avoid becoming a state police statistic. Clean your existing reflectors, check lights and blinkers, use back roads and avoid heavily traveled routes, pick times when those roads are less busy, drive defensively, and use both courtesy and caution.

Co-op scholarship winners

Students from Shelbyville and Tuscola have won \$1,000 scholarships from the Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial scholarship fund. Katherine Marie Brix, daughter of John and Sandra Brix, was selected in the competition for children of electric cooperative members. Her parents are members of Shelby Electric Cooperative. Tim Heyen, son of R. Joe Heyen, line foreman for Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative, won in competition for sons and daughters of electric cooperative employees or directors.

Katherine is senior at Shelbyville High School and is active in a wide variety of school and community activities. She plans to attend the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Tim, a senior at Tuscola High School, also is very active in school and community activities. He plans to attend Bradley University.

For information about the IEC scholarship, contact your local electric cooperative.

Illinois Commentary

(Continued from page 4)

utility restructuring should be measured. All consumers must be guaranteed;

1. The right to have access to reliable, affordable and safe electric power.
2. The right to join together to establish and operate a consumer-owned not-for-profit electric utility.
3. The right of consumer-owned not-for-profit systems to be treated fairly and recognized as a unique form of business.
4. The right to elect representatives to manage their consumer-owned form of business to best meet their needs.
5. The individual right to privacy that assures information about consumers will not be released without their prior express consent.
6. The right to determine the scope of energy services to be furnished through their consumer-owned not-for-profit utilities.

7. The right to use consumer-owned, not-for-profit utilities to provide additional services that meet the needs of their consumers and communities.
8. The right to work in cooperation with other consumer-owned entities with common goals.

As the debate over the future of how consumers purchase energy services continue, electric cooperatives will work hard to ensure that legislators understand that these rights must be a part of any federal legislation they consider if all consumers are going to be treated fairly. We must continue to deliver a clear and focused message that we believe consumers — no matter how large or small and no matter where they live — are entitled to expect certain rights in a restructured utility marketplace.

Electric cooperatives are unique and valuable. They are economic democracies and they depend on your support, your knowledge and your participation. Local control is priceless. Let's protect it for future generations.

When off doesn't mean totally off

You would think your TV, other electronics and small household appliances wouldn't use electricity when you turn them off. Wrong. TVs, VCRs, microwaves and other small appliances constantly draw electricity. Standby electricity powers clock displays, transformers for recharging portable devices, memory for programmable appliances, and remote control sensors that activate appliances at the touch of a button. Standby electricity often powers nothing more than integrated circuits that are not in use. This standby power demand is just one of the reasons your meter continues to spin even while you are away from home.

The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) released a report detailing how much energy is used to provide standby power. The report also covers alternative design options to reduce the waste, which is estimated to total between 37 and 45 billion kwh annually in the United States. Policy approaches have been adopted or are being considered in the United States, Europe, and Japan to stop this inefficiency.

Chance of serious Y2k power supply troubles slim

Electric industry officials report that it appears increasingly unlikely that U.S. and Canadian utility systems will have any significant operational problems associated with the rollover to the year 2000.

In a report to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) said it has tested more than half the industry's mission-critical components and believes that Y2K problems will have "minimal impact on electric system operators in North America."

"Our real expectation is that any problems we do have will be invisible to customers," said Gerry Cauley, NERC's Y2K reliability coordinator. Cauley added that "in the extreme worst-case scenario" outages would be measured in hours.

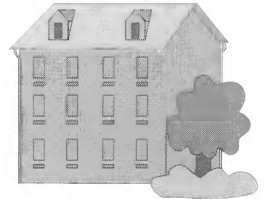
DOE last year asked NERC to coordinate industry efforts to resolve Y2K problems. The council is expected to submit its final report to DOE in June.

Most of the operating systems governing power generation, transmission and distribution are analogue-based and largely immune to Y2K problems, Cauley said. Of the digital systems in use, Cauley said they do not expect to encounter problems that would rise above the "nuisance" level.

Sources: North American Electric Reliability Council and Electric Power Daily

Historic home features geothermal heat pump

A historic home in St. Charles, the third oldest settlement in Missouri, is now using the latest in heat and cooling technology, a geothermal heat pump.



The home, built in 1890, is adjacent to an old brewery recently turned into a banquet center and winery called the Cavern Springs Winery. The brewery operated from 1851 to 1972 (even through prohibition with nonalcoholic brews). The winery has 5,000 to 7,000 square feet of cellars located 50 feet underground, which were used to store beer. Now the cellars are used for aging wine and wine tasting parties.

The historical 9,600 square-foot, three-story home, now features two WaterFurnace Premier units totaling 11 tons for heating and cooling and two Premier Plus units for domestic hot water. The units use an open loop system to pump water from a spring, which used to be the main water supply for early settlers.

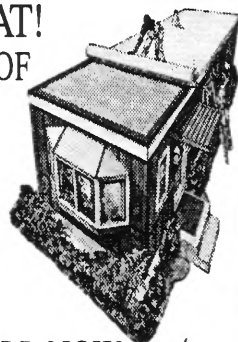
Since the system uses units located in the attic and the basement rather than noisy, outdoor units, the system preserves the integrity of the historical surroundings.

With a background in architecture, Jim Reid, owner of the home and winery, knew the value of geothermal systems. After talking to three contractors, he decided on Peters Heating & Air Conditioning because of the excellent reference they offered him. Peters Heating & Air Conditioning has been in business for 43 years and is the largest residential WaterFurnace dealer in the country, with headquarters in Quincy.

Benefits of geothermal heating and cooling include up to 60 percent lower operating costs than traditional HVAC systems. To learn more about geothermal technology, contact your local heat pump dealer or electric co-op.

MOBILE HOME OWNERS!!
DON'T SWEAT THE SUMMER HEAT!
STAY COOL WITH A NEW INSULATED ROOF

- Drops inside temperature 10°
- No more high A/C bills
- No noisy roof rumble
- No messy coating



BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT --- CALL NOW

1-800-990-9552

AMERICAN ROOFING SPECIALISTS, INC.



How to childproof your home

About 2.5 million children are injured or killed by hazards in the home each year. The good news is that using simple child safety devices on the market today can prevent many of these incidents. Remember that these devices are not completely childproof. Determined youngsters can disable them.

Twelve Safety Devices

1. Use safety latches and locks for cabinets and drawers in kitchens, bathrooms, and other areas. The cost is less than \$2 for a lock or latch.
2. Safety gates help prevent falls down stairs and to keep children away from dangerous areas for about \$13 to \$40.
3. Doorknob covers and door locks to help prevent children from entering rooms and other areas with possible dangers. A cover sells for about \$1 while a lock can be purchased for \$5 and up.
4. Install anti-scald devices on faucets and shower heads and set your water heater temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Cost: \$6 to \$30 each.
5. Smoke detectors can be installed on every level of your home and near bedrooms to alert you to fires for under \$10 apiece.
6. Window guards or safety netting to help prevent falls from windows, balconies, decks, and landings. Cost: \$8 to \$16.
7. Corner and edge bumpers can prevent injuries from falls against sharp edges of furniture and fireplaces. Cost \$1 and up.
8. Outlet covers and outlet plates can be installed at a cost of less than \$2 to help prevent electrocution.
9. Carbon monoxide detector should be installed outside bedrooms to help prevent CO poisoning. These devices sell for \$30 to \$70.
10. Cut window blind cords and use safety tassels to help prevent children from strangling in blind cord loops.
11. Use door stops and door holders to help prevent injuries to fingers and hands. The cost under \$4.
12. Use a cordless telephone to make it easier to continuously watch young children, especially when they're in bathtubs, swimming pools, or other potentially dangerous areas. Cordless phones cost as little as \$30.

For more information, contact the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission at 1-800-638-2772 or visit their Web site at www.cpsc.gov.

Sources: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission in conjunction with CNA Insurance



Co-op development thrives in U.S.

The United States is emerging as fertile ground for co-op development, with new energy co-ops taking root in many parts of the country with the help of some friends in the business.

This evolving cooperative development movement has been spurred by heightened consumer interest in the cooperative business model. As competition pervades the electric industry, more consumers are embracing the cooperative enterprise as an effective means to aggregate marketplace and political influence.

Ed Yaker who is a founding member of 1st Rochdale Cooperative in New York City credited several electric co-ops for helping to get the New York co-op off the ground, adding that it was cooperation among cooperatives that made its launch so successful.

For 1st Rochdale, the list of allies included NRECA, North Carolina EMC, ACES Power Marketing (Southern Illinois Power Cooperative, Marion, is a member of ACES), the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative, and the Cooperative Response Center.

Another friend in the business of co-op development is the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) and its affiliate, the National Cooperative Services Corporation. NCSC recently established a million-dollar Cooperative Development Grant Program to develop new co-ops that supply energy services or to help existing co-ops reach out to provide energy services to new customers. The initiative makes grants of up to \$100,000 to help form new co-ops or to assist existing electric co-ops seeking to provide energy services.

Electric co-ops serve 30 million consumers in the United States. With new cooperatives being developed because of deregulation that number could double in the next five to 10 years. Surveys show that if given a choice, consumers would choose a co-op.

Source Electric Co-op TODAY article by Robin T. Edwards

Illinois vehicle wins ethanol race

The University of Illinois took first place honors in the 1999 Ethanol Vehicle Challenge, an engineering competition designed to advance automotive technology using E85 (85% ethanol-15% gasoline). Fourteen other universities competed and the result was significant improvements in fuel economy and emissions. The event also provides real world answers on how ethanol can help meet society's future environmental goals.

This year's challenge was to convert a 1999 Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 Full-Size Pickup to operate on E85. Following the competition, the teams embarked on a two and a half day, 600-mile road rally through Michigan, Indiana and Illinois.

Sponsors of the Challenge include the U.S. Department of Energy, General Motors, Natural Resources Canada, Renewable Fuels Association, Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, State of Nebraska, National Corn Growers Association, Governors' Ethanol Coalition, Williams Ethanol Services, Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs and others.

Your electric co-op does not endorse insurance companies

Illinois Country Living readers recognize that this magazine occasionally carries advertising material from insurance companies. Several of these companies are longtime advertisers in the magazine.

The magazine staff makes every effort to determine the legitimacy of these companies, but none are endorsed by your local cooperative or the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), the organization that publishes this magazine.

We would like to inform *Illinois Country Living* readers about one insurance company that has confused some of our readers in the past. For many years, Reserve National Insurance has used direct mail, telephone and in person direct marketing to rural Illinoisans, many of them electric cooperative members. In past marketing efforts they imply that they have an affiliation with the electric cooperatives.

Their envelope return address says: A National Association of Rural Co-Operative Members, Oklahoma City, OK. The envelope also says: "ATTENTION - RURAL CO-OPERATIVE MEMBERS NOW QUALIFY FOR A GROUP HOSPITALIZATION PLAN THAT PAYS OUTPATIENT EXPENSES. IMMEDIATE REPLY REQUESTED." Inside there is a questionnaire form with the heading: "RURAL CO-OPERATIVE MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE." Only in the fine print at the bottom do they state: "This plan is independent of, and not affiliated, associated, or endorsed by any national electric association or any local Farmers, Electric, Telephone or other rural co-operative."

We want to make it perfectly clear that the Illinois electric cooperatives do not endorse Reserve National Insurance, nor is there any connection with the company and its insurance products.

Keeping your cool for less

The average air-conditioned American home uses around 2,000 kwh of electricity per year for cooling. But you can enjoy the comfort of air conditioning without paying a fortune for it. Here are a few ideas to help you keep your cool:

- Every two degrees you raise your thermostat setting saves up to five percent of your higher cooling costs. Try to keep your thermostat set at about 78 degrees. You can probably go to a higher setting if you also use ceiling fans or other types of fans. A programmable thermostat will let you set your thermostat even higher while you're away.
- Whenever possible, avoid using the range and oven, which add a lot of heat to the house. Opt for the microwave, which is more energy-efficient, cook on the outdoor grill, or serve a cold dinner for a nice treat on a hot night.
- Save chores that add humidity to the indoor air such as dishwashing, laundry, mopping and the like for cooler hours. The more moisture you put into the air, the harder your cooling system has to work.
- Make sure your system has been serviced by a qualified HVAC contractor.

New Web Site For Kids

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) unveiled a new and improved "Kid Safety" web site. The site is designed to educate children about safety issues that they encounter every day, from hazards around the home to preventing injuries while playing sports.

Located at www.cpsc.gov/kids/kidsafety/index.html, the CPSC kids web site is designed for children ages 8 to 12. Featured on the site are: a memory game, which is disguised as a virtual home full of safety tips; a hangman game, which provides clues to safety terms; an interactive safety game, which challenges the player to catch the safety items, but dodge unsafe items and a few puzzles, to test a child's overall safety knowledge.

CPSC protects the public from the unreasonable risk of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270.

To lose weight eat your vegetables

Feel hungry right after a big meal? Chances are you ate carbohydrate-containing foods that caused a rapid spike in your blood sugar. This musters extra insulin into the blood. But the high insulin makes blood sugar crash and suppresses the fat fuels as well, leading to that famished feeling that makes you overeat. That's what happened in a study by researchers at Children's Hospital in Boston and the USDA research center at Tufts. The study is the first solid evidence that carbohydrate foods with a high glycemic index (GI) — those which are rapidly digested and absorbed — contribute to obesity.

The researchers concluded that high-GI meals induce a sequence of hormonal and metabolic changes that promote overeating in obese people.

About one-fifth of U.S. children and one-third of adults are now overweight, despite a drop in fat intake over recent years. Most starchy foods commonly eaten in North America have a high GI. Also, many of the low-fat foods that have flooded grocery shelves are also high in calories.

Some starchy foods have GI's up to 50 percent higher than even table sugar. Sources of concentrated sugars, such as sodas and fruit juices, also have a high GI. By contrast, vegetables, legumes and fruits generally have a low GI.

CATCH THE DREAM...
TUCKER "48"

Just Released!

ONLY
\$29.99!



CRAFTED BY HAND OF
SOLID DIE-CAST METAL

COLLECTOR'S EDITION

1:18 Scale - Over 11 1/2" Long

Incredible Details!



Check out the tread on the spare tire and the matching luggage loaded in the trunk.

Truly Authentic!



The rear mounted 335 cid flat six could push the Tucker to a remarkable 120 mph!

TRUE VISION

Preston Tucker was both an inventor and a visionary. His dream was to create the most advanced car of its day. So he produced a car, bristling with aircraft technology and safety features that was far ahead of its time. Though only 51 were produced, America never forgot the Tucker. Introducing the Collector's Edition Tucker "48"!

TRUE VALUE - ONLY \$29.99

Your Tucker "48" arrives factory fresh in brilliant "Waltz Blue". Handmade in large 1:18 scale from over 90 precision parts, this die-cast metal replica authentically recreates Tucker's dream. Now available for only \$29.99!

All the ground-breaking features of the original are here for you to enjoy. From the center mounted

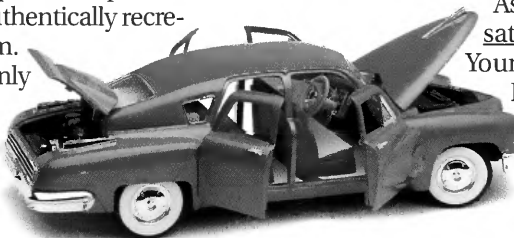
"swivel" headlight to the rear fender vents that cool the helicopter inspired flat six engine. Proudly displayed in your home or office, your replica is sure to spark memories of America's postwar optimism!

Visionary Design!



Your Tucker "48" features design touches like the "pop-out" safety windshield and swiveling center headlight to "see" around corners.

60 DAY NO RISK EVALUATION



All four doors, hood and trunk open smoothly. The steering wheel turns the front wheels. The aircraft inspired doors even open - just like the original!

As always, your complete satisfaction is guaranteed. Your opportunity to catch Preston Tucker's automotive dream is only available for a limited time from Fairfield Mint. Don't miss your chance to own this classic piece of history. Order today!

FAIRFIELD MINT
REPLICAS SO REAL,
YOU CAN ALMOST START THEM UP!

FAIRFIELD MINT • 20 Academy Street • Norwalk, CT • 06850-4032

Just Say Yes!

One replica for \$29.99 + \$5.90 S&H

SAVE!

Two or more for \$27.49 + \$4.90 S&H ea.

If I am not completely satisfied, I may return my replica(s) within 60 days of receipt for a full refund or replacement.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please enclose one of the following as payment:

Check or Money Order (Payable to Fairfield Mint) Qty. _____

MasterCard Visa Discover Signature _____

C.C. # _____ Exp. Date _____

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks after payment for shipment.

MCD23812 38

"I've been here 32 years, and I don't ever remember having this much damage from one storm."



Victims of the storm pick up the pieces. Many of the yards of the damaged homes were filled with cars, as friends and neighbors pitched in to help.

Picking up the pieces

Tornadoes clobber central Illinois

By Jack Halstead

First, it was the noise of thunder, then winds. Shortly after that, it was the buzzing of chain saws. When a string of small but vicious tornadoes swept through Illinois from southwest to northeast on the night of Tuesday, June 1, it brought out the chain saws in force.

Co-op linemen were using the saws to cut fallen limbs out of downed wires, and homeowners and neighbors were using theirs to cut up downed trees laying helter-skelter in their yards, on their roofs and across their cars.

Along with the sounds were the smells. Fallen trees lay everywhere, some broken and with their limbs torn off, others uprooted. The rich, pungent smell of sap was everywhere.

Homeowners, or rather owners of home wreckage, sifted through the debris, salvaging clothing, appliances, photos and all the other things with which homes are usually filled.

Sadly, much of the contents of those homes were strung out in a long line toward the northeast, or tangled in naked trees. To make matters worse, there was no power. Not only were the small, local lines down, but the major transmission lines that provide power

to substations that serve thousands of people were also down. Co-op crews were busy.

The storm, which began near Lake Pana at about 7 p.m., swept through in a series of paths that left utter destruction behind them.

Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelbyville, was directly in the path of the storm, and suffered the most damage. Bill Shoaff, construction superintendent, notes that the storm is the worst he can remember.

"I've been here 32 years," he says, "and I don't ever remember having this much damage from one storm. There were three different tornadoes that touched down, and they ran kind of side-by-side, with the middle one being the longest. It ran for 18 miles, from about Lake Pana up to a spot a couple miles northeast of Westervelt.

He added, "It took out a lot of distribution lines, but it damaged a lot of transmission lines, too. AmerenCIPS had a lot of damage to their transmission lines a few miles east of Pana."

Shoaff says Shelby Electric started to receive outage calls just before 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening. "We had some 1,200 members out during the

worst of it," he says, "and a lot of that was due to substation and transmission damage. Illinois Power's Taylorville substation suffered some lightning damage, and we got a lot of our members back on when that problem was solved."

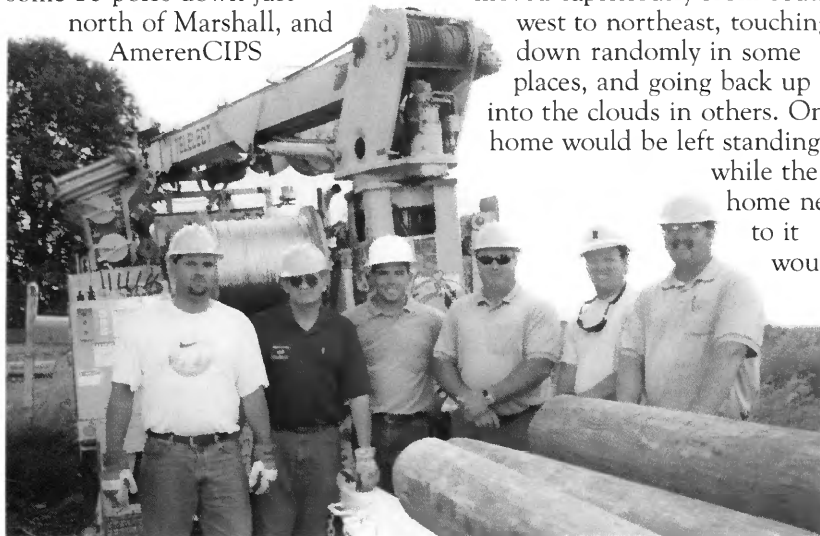
Shelby Electric was on the phone early on the morning of June 2, calling Rick Polley at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), to request activation of the Electric Cooperatives Emergency Work Plan (EWP).

The EWP provided backup crews for damaged co-ops by coordinating the dispatch of emergency crews to co-ops, which "dodged the bullet" this time. The nearest undamaged co-ops sent help first, and those from farther away were held in reserve.

During an emergency, co-op staff spell out the kind of problems they have, and the kind of supplies and equipment the reinforcement crews should bring.

"I got my first call at 7 a.m. on Wednesday," Polley says, "and I called other co-ops to see if they could spare crews. Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative in Winchester sent two crews to Shelby, and so did Tri-County Electric in Mt. Vernon. They were able to get a couple of contractor crews, too."

EnerStar Power Corp in Paris had some damage, but it wasn't anything the co-op couldn't deal with itself. EnerStar Power had some 10 poles down just north of Marshall, and AmerenCIPS



Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative, Winchester, sent two crews to help Shelby Electric. One is pictured here with the Shelby employees who served as guides. From left are Jason Nohren and Lynn Glick of Shelby Electric, and Nick Freeman, Gary Harbison, Brad Kemper and Kenny Roundcount of IREC.

had about a mile of transmission down, a major loss that affected many area residents.

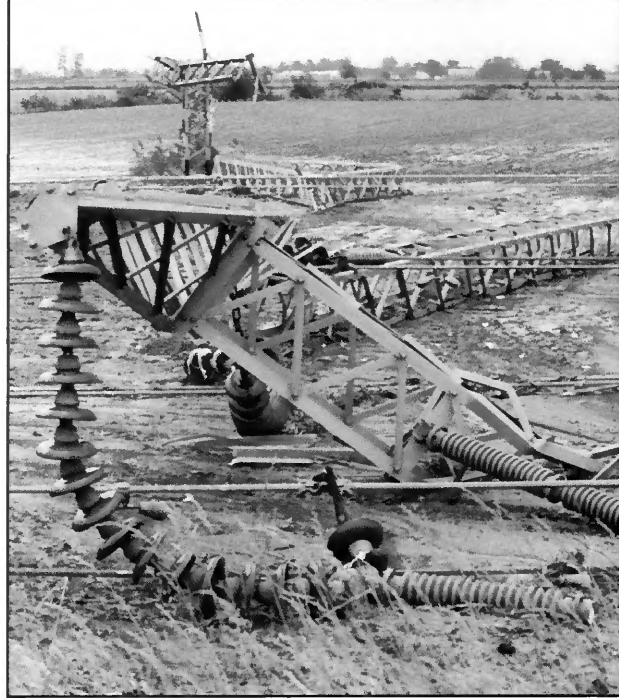
Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., Auburn, had damage in the Waggoner area, but RECC crews handled repairs on their own.

Corn Belt Energy Corp. in Bloomington had some damage in the Saybrook area, having lost nearly half a mile of line to the tornado. And, in a freak accident, the tornado caused a three-phase line to sag where it crossed a railroad track. A passing train tore out nearly half a mile of line — poles and all! Ironically, all those poles had been put in just a month before. Even so, Corn Belt Energy was fortunate that its Northern Region hadn't suffered any damage, so they could get help from their own crews.

Norris Electric Cooperative in Newton had significant damage all around Newton, but the co-op was able to take care of it with their own crew joined by those of a contractor.

In all, Polley dispatched some half-dozen trucks and crews from Illinois Rural and Tri-County to Shelby Electric.

This tornado, or series of tornadoes, was like many others. It moved capriciously from southwest to northeast, touching down randomly in some places, and going back up into the clouds in others. One home would be left standing, while the home next to it would



Damage to Shelby Electric's system was substantial, but damage to other systems affected the co-op, too. These AmerenCIPS transmission towers had carried power to several substations, and when they went down, so did service to hundreds of area consumers.

be gone, the only evidence of its passing being a bare foundation and a string of debris.

At some damaged homes, clusters of people stood talking quietly, reliving the awful moments when they realized that, this time, the storm was going to hit. Others chattered animatedly, arms and hands describing the motion of the winds as they came — and their belongings as they left.

As the curious drove by slowly to gawk, others helped. Nearly every yard was full of cars as friends, neighbors and family helped the victims sort through the debris and salvage what they could.

Some, with no power at home, went other places for companionship and whatever else people seek at such times. The Casey's convenience store in Tower Hill, its power knocked out by the storm, had shut down its gas pumps. The people there conducted business with a small battery-powered calculator, a coal-oil lamp and a few flashlights.

One man at the store noted that he had no storm damage, but without power, watching the comings and goings of the store's customers was about as exciting a pastime as he could find.

Things to ponder during tornado season

While the recent storms in central Illinois destroyed or damaged many homes and caused power outages, they left many of us unaffected.

With the storm still fresh in our minds, we need to think how we'd cope if such a storm hit us.

The recent storm wound up costing electric utilities and consumers millions of dollars. And the damage may or may not be covered by insurance or government disaster payments. So, now is the time to talk to your insurance agent, and make sure your coverage is up to date. Don't wait until it is too late.

While we tend to dwell on monetary things, there are sentimental things to worry about, as well as family documentation. If you have prized photos, have copies made, and keep them in a safety deposit box, along with birth certificates, social security numbers, diplomas and similar documents.

Storms tend to be disruptive, so you need to have some easy-to-prepare food items set aside, as well as some water. A battery-powered radio and some lanterns and flashlights might be handy, too.

For those who absolutely must have electric power, there's the option of a portable generator, and they require special care.

If you use a portable generator to provide electricity while service is being restored, be very careful. Before using your generator, you need to disconnect from your normal electrical supply by shutting off the main circuit breaker or pulling the main fuses in your electrical service panel.

Generators run on fossil fuels, which generate nox-

ious fumes, so you'll need to run them outside, downwind of structures, so carbon monoxide won't sneak up and add to your troubles.

There's always the tendency to rush when things are hectic, and that's really the time for caution. Avoid the temptation to refuel a hot generator, since a spill can cause a fire or explosion.

Be careful not to overload your generator. Somewhere on it there is a placard telling how many watts it puts out, and you need to remember what that number is. In all likelihood, you'll need to use your generator for a couple of appliances, and maybe a couple of lights, at one time. You'll be able to switch from a refrigerator to a freezer to a pump motor to other items as needed, without running them all at once.

Finally, there's the matter of a double-throw disconnect switch, which you should have. Do not connect a generator to your main power supply unless you have a double-throw switch installed by a competent electrician. Your generator may try to provide power to your entire neighborhood and burn up in the process, unless the switch is installed.

Remember that downed power lines can be dangerous. There's no way to tell, just by looking, if

they're hot or dead. Avoid them at all costs.

Your co-op appreciates your calls during times of widespread outages, and they don't leave their phones "off the hook" during those times. When a co-op the size of Shelby Electric has 1,200 members out of service and all are trying to call in at once, it's bound to overload the lines. Please be patient. They need the information. Don't assume that since a neighbor called the co-op that the co-op knows your power is off too. Please just grit your teeth and hold on. That's what they'll be doing, too.

Don't open your freezer. Food left in an unopened freezer will last a day or two without thawing.

Be especially careful if you have elderly or ill in your household. Your co-op has a life-support registry, and if you're on it, they'll do the best they can to get your power back on quickly. But if you absolutely must have power, it may be wise to invest in a standby generator.

And keep in mind the difference between a tornado watch and a tornado warning. A WATCH means that the weather conditions are favorable for a tornado. A WARNING means that a tornado has already been sighted, or that circular movement has been de-

ected on weather radar. A watch means that you shouldn't get too far away from shelter. A warning means that you should head for shelter immediately.

While it's not possible to completely avoid the danger of storms, there are some things you can do to lessen the damage if one hits. Now's the time to take some precautions.



This tree was one of many blown over or mangled by the storm. Often, when trees went down, they took power lines with them.



Affordable Storage Structures

- Energy Efficient
- Factory Warrantied
- Long Lasting Quality



Wick
Buildings

Call Today! 1-800-356-9682 • www.wickbuildings.com

MID-AMERICA HEARING CENTERS



Helps you hear
the little things!

FREE EXAM
SAME DAY SERVICE

Licensed Hearing Instrument Specialists

**CUSTOM FULL SHELL
HEARING AID
BASIC \$195**

*OUR BEST, FOR LESS,
IN A DAY*

**PROGRAMMABLE
FULL SHELL
\$750**

FREE RV HOOKUPS FOR PATIENTS
(MT. VERNON LOCATION ONLY)



Located at

MID-AMERICA HEARING CENTERS

I-44 • Exit 44 • 1050 W. Hayward Drive
Mt. Vernon, Missouri 65712

800-354-1905

WWW.MIDAMERICAHEARING.COM

574 State Hwy. 248

Branson, Missouri 65616

800-649-6242

Stark Brothers

"Growing for the Future Since 1816"

Offering Top-Quality Fruit Trees &
Landscaping Products

Send for your

FREE CATALOG

& \$5.00 coupon

— or —

Call 1-800-775-6415

ask for offer #AA 1038 A2

One-Year Promise of Satisfaction

Visit us on the web! www.starkbros.com



Stark Brothers NEW, full-color catalog offers many varieties of fruit, nut, shade and ornamental trees, grapes, berry plants, shrubs and growing aids. Everything you need to grow bushels of flavorful fruit.

Print Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

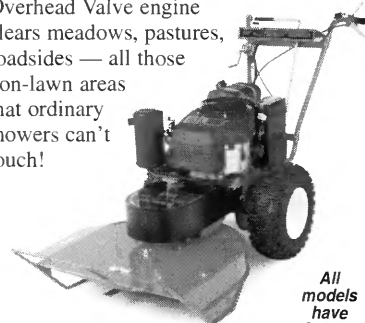
Home Phone (____) _____

Send to: Stark Brothers Nurseries, Box 10, Dept. AA 1038 A2, Louisiana MO 63353-0010

**Mow FIELDS, BRUSH,
even tough SAPLINGS
with the amazing DR®
ALL-TERRAIN™ FIELD
and BRUSH MOWER!**

New! 15.0 HP "PRO"

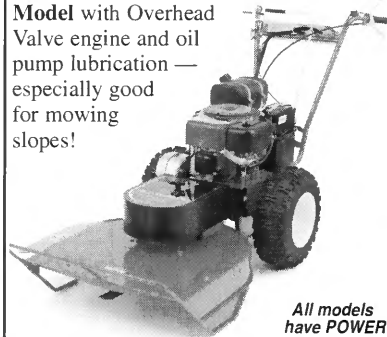
Model with V-Twin
Overhead Valve engine
clears meadows, pastures,
roadsides — all those
non-lawn areas
that ordinary
mowers can't
touch!



All
models
have
4-SPEEDS!

12.5 HP ENDURO

Model with Overhead
Valve engine and oil
pump lubrication —
especially good
for mowing
slopes!



All models
have POWER
REVERSE!

New! Even the
8.0 HP Standard
Model cuts head-
high weeds and
hardwood
saplings up
to 1" thick!



All models
accept optional
46" wide
Lawn Mower
Attachment!

Please write or
call for **FREE**
DETAILS of the
Amazing DR®
ALL-TERRAIN™
FIELD and BRUSH
MOWER!

**Toll
FREE
1(800)
852-7800**

YES! Please rush **FREE** DETAILS of the
Amazing DR® FIELD and BRUSH MOWERS,
including new smaller and larger models,
with and without Electric-Starting, and "Off-
Season" Savings now in effect.

Name _____

Address _____ WCG

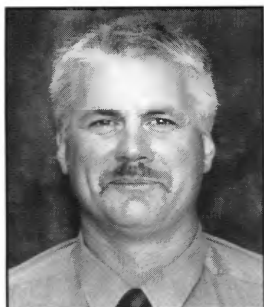
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

To: **COUNTRY HOME PRODUCTS®**, Dept. 5393F
Meigs Road, P.O. Box 25, Vergennes, VT 05491

© 1999 CHP, Inc.

AROUND YOUR HOME

No place like home — for accidents



Roger Stegeman

According to the National Safety Council, 28,400 people died in 1997 due to unintentional home injuries. During the same year, nearly seven million people were disabled by accidents at home. The total cost of home injuries was almost \$100 billion. This does not include motor-vehicle accidents.

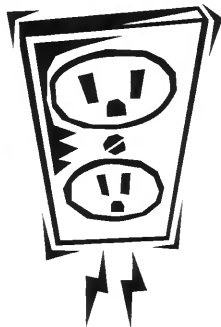
During the same period, there were only 5,100 deaths in the workplace.

Statistics alone can be overwhelming. Think of it this way. The \$100 billion for home injuries is equivalent to an \$88,100 rebate on each new single-family home built in 1997, or 48 cents of every dollar of property taxes paid in 1997. Taking the philosophy that a certain amount of accidents and fatalities will occur each year no matter what we do to try to prevent them is unacceptable. No dollar amount truly measures the human suffering accidents cause.

The deaths caused by accidents at home are almost three times as high as the same rate for the workplace. In many workplaces it is very easy to identify the potential for serious injury. Most employers have extensive safety programs with policies and procedures to make the workplace safe. In terms of accident indexes, what contributes to the numbers in successful safety programs?

According to the National Safety Council, four factors that contribute to the majority of accidents at work are — people, equipment, management and the environment. Although the surroundings of your home are quite different than that of your work, these four factors still apply. Knowing what safety attributes to look for will ensure your family's protection.

Roger Stegeman is manager of safety for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. You can write to him in care of Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708. Telephone: (217) 529-5561.



People

For any program to be successful, all parts of the system must be committed. We all like to think that we are taking every precaution to ensure safety at work. And being a part of the work force often requires us to take risks. In an organization, a safety supervisor may train 400 or more people about work safety. At home, you are the boss. It should not be a big job to sell yourself on safety because the person who will benefit is you.

Equipment

Checking equipment at home is just as important as checking equipment on the job. It is important to use the right tool for the job you are doing. Standing on a chair to reach something overhead is a dangerous substitute for a ladder.

Management

The only person to take control of safety training at home is you. On the other hand, workers have varying degrees of exposure to hazards on the job. They can complain about the lack of safety equipment and the perceived, or sometimes even real, double-standard that occurs when supervisors at work preach safety and then ignore unsafe situations that exist. At home you are the boss. The decisions that you make about the safety of your family are your own.

Environment

Environmental factors can be controlled by the homeowner. Falls are the number one cause of death in the home. Do you stack items on a staircase? If you use an extension ladder around the house, is there someone to stabilize it for you by holding it at the bottom?

Keeping safety at the forefront around your home can do a lot to ensure your families health and well-being.

Mobile Home Quality Roof Systems

Our patented mobile home insulated roof system offers:

- No more leaks
- Lower utility bills
- One Foot Overhang
- Polystyrene Insulation
- Super Strong White Steel Roofing

Call for free Information 1-800-633-8969



Southern Builders
SINCE 1983

FREE HEARING CATALOG!



- 45 DAY TRIAL
- \$199 & UP
- BETTER HEARING**



DEPT B34, Brookport, IL 62910
1-800-320-3300 EXT B34



HERITAGE BUILDING SYSTEMS

Established 1979

800-643-5555

BUILD IT YOURSELF AND SAVE

24 x 40 x 10	\$4,060
40 x 60 x 12	\$6,950
50 x 80 x 16	\$12,514
80 x 200 x 18m1	\$40,561
100 x 200 x 20m1	\$50,055

Commercial all steel buildings and component parts from America's largest distributor since 1979. Any size is available featuring easy bolt up rigid frame design for industry, office, mini-storage, shop, farm and all steel homes. Call us today for a free information package and quote on the best buildings made.

Mini Warehouse Sale
Any Shape Any Size
www.metallbldg.com

HUGE POOL LAYAWAY!!

\$100
HOLDS THIS POOL TILL SPRING!

3 DAY INSTALLATION!!

The DELRANDO



SIX GREAT REASONS TO BUY NOW!

- 1** Avoid "2000" PRICE INCREASES
- 2** Get the best deals we've offered in '99
- 3** Quality for special "end of the year" manufacturer's rebate
- 4** Enjoy your pool ALL season long!
- 5** Free pool vacuum and chemical set!
- 6** Small deposit holds your order* *deposit non-refundable

\$50

HOLDS The MARINER
15' x 24' Pool
19' x 31' O.D.

NOW ONLY

\$888

Includes Sundeck, Fence & Filter

100% FINANCING & INSTALLATION ARRANGED

HOMEOWNERS ONLY-CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS.-FREE HOME SURVEY

Limited area

1-800-852-7946

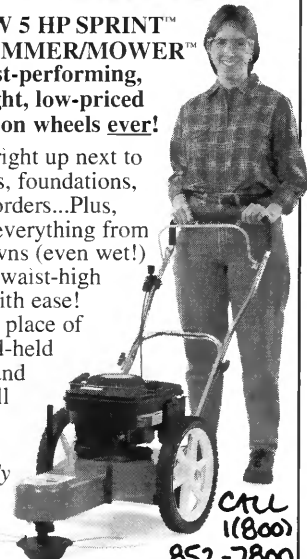
P. ANDERSON, INC.

New SPRINT™ DR® TRIMMER!

The NEW 5 HP SPRINT™ DR® TRIMMER/MOWER™ is the best-performing, lightweight, low-priced trimmer on wheels ever!

TRIMS right up next to fencelines, foundations, garden borders...Plus, MOWS everything from whole lawns (even wet!) to tough, waist-high growth with ease! Takes the place of your hand-held trimmer and your small wheels mower.

Wonderfully easy for anyone to use!



CALL 1(800) 852-7800

NEW Models! LOWER Prices!

Please mail coupon today for FREE DETAILS about the Revolutionary DR® TRIMMER/MOWER™ including prices of Manual and Electric-Starting Models and "Off-Season" Savings now in effect.

Name _____ WCC

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

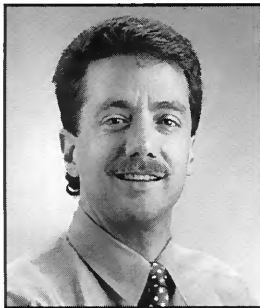
TO: COUNTRY HOME PRODUCTS®, Dept. 5393T
Meigs Road, P.O. Box 25, Vergennes, VT 05491

Visit us at: www.drtrimmers.com

© 1999 CHP, Inc.

Your YARD AND GARDEN

Divide iris, daylilies and spring bulbs now



David Robson

August is usually hot and dry. Most of us prefer not to be gardening but instead enjoying the fruits of our labor. Yet, if we want to enjoy plants next spring, August is the time to move away from the air conditioner and amble outside.

Typically the hottest and driest month of the year is the perfect time to divide perennials such as daylilies, iris and the spring flowering bulbs, like tulips and daffodils. By this time, most of the iris have already produced their new growth and can be lifted, separated and replanted.

Iris and daylilies can become crowded over the years and cease to produce new blooms. In fact, an iris fan tends to bloom only once, but may produce one or two new fans. These will bloom and produce new fans. However, if there is no room to produce new growth, the rhizomes won't. Thus, you end up with lots of great looking foliage, but few blooms.

The same thing can occur with daylilies, and to some extent, with daffodils and tulips.

Most iris should be dug and the old rhizomes and fans discarded. These include the bearded, Japanese, Louisiana-types, spuria and Siberia. Check the rhizomes or horizontal woody stems for any indication of rot or borers. Both of these problems will make the rhizomes soft and mushy. If present, throw the rhizomes away.

Take the remaining rhizomes and separate them out so you have a fan, a piece of the rhizome and some good roots. Plant these an inch deep and firm

the soil around the rhizomes. You can take a sharp pair of scissors and cut the tops back by half. They'll look funny, but it will help to limit wilting.

Now is the time to modify the soil. Add an ample amount of organic matter such as rotted manure or compost. Till it in deep then water thoroughly after planting.

Time will push the rhizome to the surface where it belongs. An inch of soil covering it now helps the plant establish. Do not mulch as that can lead to rot.

The same process can occur with the daylilies, though you don't need to be as careful with them. More than likely, you'll need to take a sharp knife to the rhizomes and separate the plants out. You want some roots with each piece, but you'll have to sacrifice some to the greater cause. Don't worry.

Daylilies can practically be divided anytime the ground isn't frozen. Typically, I divide after they're done flowering. Plant the clumps a couple inches beneath the soil line.

Spring bulbs are the hardest to dig, divide and replant, simply because they don't have any above-ground presence. The foliage has long since died and more than likely, something else is covering the plants.

Ideally, you should mark the bulbs in the spring for August digging. Of course, few of us think that far ahead. My intentions are to do it each year, then I forget. So, I order new bulbs instead with the thought that it keeps the economy going.

If you have a general idea of where the bulbs are, wet the area, wait a day and take a potato fork to the area. It's better to go out past the bulbs than to spade directly on top of them. Work the soil off the bulbs and dry them in the garage for a week or two. They can be planted immediately or in September.

If you transplant iris, daylilies or the bulbs later in the day, there's less of a stress on the plants and you.



David Robson is an Extension Educator, Horticulture, at the Springfield Extension Center, University of Illinois Extension. 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@mail.aces.uiuc.edu

Today's

TECHNOLOGY AND YOU

New air conditioners don't break a sweat or your wallet

Q: Dear Jim: Our noisy old central air conditioner is on its last legs and costs a lot to operate. I need a new one, but the sales hype is confusing. What is best for 1999 and is installing a new one a wise move? - Steve F.

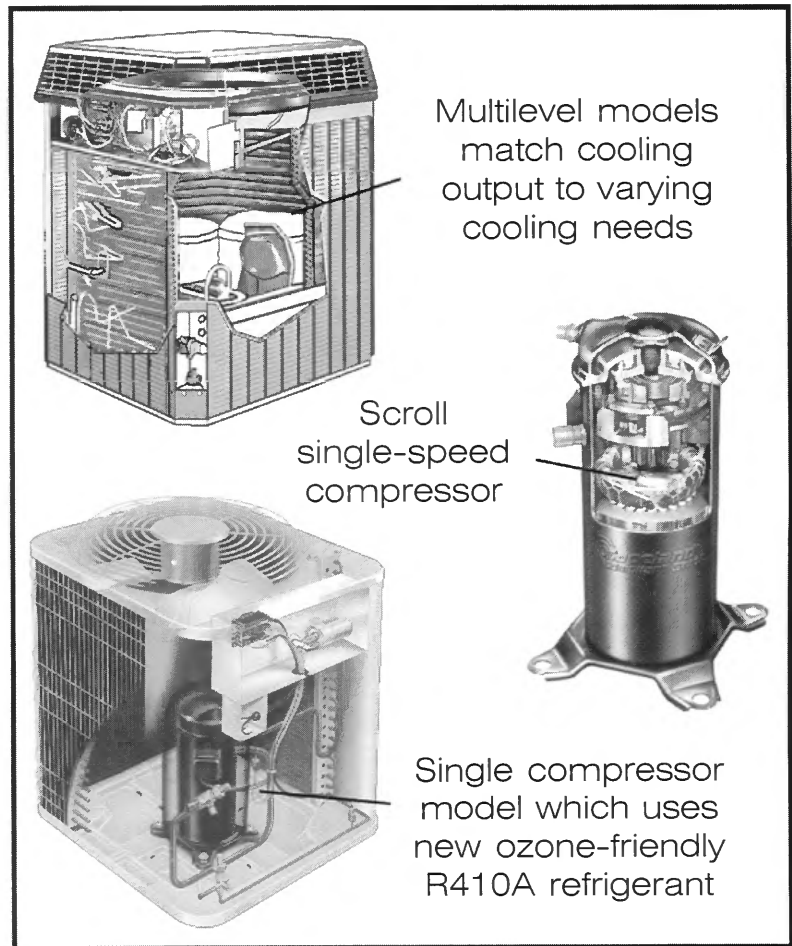
A: Dear Steve: There have been many significant changes and improvements in central air conditioners over just the past several years. Some changes will lower your utility bills, some improve your family's comfort level and still others improve the environment. By the way, don't feel bad. Even with an engineering degree, I find the sales hype confusing at times, too.

One of the most significant improvements is in the increase in efficiency levels. Some models have SEER's (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratios) as high as 18. If you replace your old air conditioner with a SEER of eight at best, your air conditioning cost will be cut by more than half. In most cases, installing a new air conditioner is a wise financial decision even if your old one still works.

The best new models, and most efficient, are actually a step back in complexity, but a step forward in reliability and comfort. Gone are the complicated totally variable speed compressors of the mid-90's. They worked well, but were extremely expensive to produce. With better, computerized controls now, simpler two-speed and two-compressor models are as effective.

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.

Copyright 1999 James Dulley



New air conditioners are quiet, efficient

For the best comfort, indoor air quality, lowest utility bills and indoor/outdoor noise levels, a new multilevel cooling output model is an excellent choice. These top-end models may cost as much as 20 percent to 30 percent more than a typical single-level model, so you must consider both the lower utility bills and evaluate the value of the extra comfort.

These multilevel output models operate at a super efficient lower-cooling output level the majority of the time. At this quiet low level, they run longer for better dehumidification and constant indoor temperatures. They only switch to the highest-output level on the hottest afternoons.

For people with allergies, like myself, the fact that

these models (many companies produce them) run at a lower output level is an advantage. With the central air conditioner and blower running longer, the central air cleaner operates longer and is more effective. Also, with reduced and more constant dehumidification, mold and dust mites can be better controlled.

All of these multilevel models use special, efficient (ICM or ECM) blower motors indoors. The speed of these motors can be varied by the electronic controls so that the air-flow is perfectly matched to the varying cooling needs of your house and compressor cooling output. Standard blower motors run at a single cooling speed no matter how hot or humid it is.

By the design of these blower motors, they also consume much less electricity. This makes them ideal for continuous air circulation

without driving up your electric bills too much. Another advantage is that these motors have soft-start controls. They slowly ramp up to full speed for quiet, no-draft (for winter heating also) air circulation too.

Many of the reasonably-priced, single-level models use scroll compressors without pistons and valves. It compresses the refrigerant in a constant process of rotating scroll-shaped members. There are very few moving parts inside and they actually wear in over time and operate better.

Models with scroll compressors are reliable and quiet with efficiencies up to a SEER of 14. Installing one of these will still cut your electric bills significantly.

Several models now use ozone-friendly R410A (called Puron by some manufacturers) refrigerant instead of freon. Current R-22 freon will eventually be phased out

of use by law. There were two new ozone-friendly refrigerants being considered, but it appears in 1999 that the R410A is the way that most manufacturers will go.

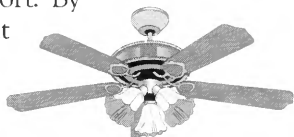
There are also other advantages of these new R410A-refrigerant models. They operate at higher pressures, requiring heavy, stronger tubing and compressors. This also makes them durable and quiet. With R410A, the overall size of the outdoor compressor unit can be smaller for a given SEER.

Write for (or instant download - www.dulley.com) Update Bulletin No. 908 - buyer's guide of the most efficient multi- and single-level central air conditioners, cooling outputs, SEER's, comfort features, warranties and a payback chart. Please include \$3.00 and a business-size SASE. Mail to: Jim Dulley, Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708.

Fantastic benefits of fans

#&\$@?! That's what many people say when they get their electric bill for August. Even when you are trying to be conservative, it's hard to keep from using the air conditioner when the temperature is in the upper 90's. Adding fans can help keep you cool and help lower your summer electric bill.

Most ceiling fan users find that they can raise their thermostat five to six degrees higher without giving up any comfort. By raising your thermostat five degrees, you can reduce your energy costs for cooling by 15 to 20 percent. A ceiling fan uses 150 watts or less each day while an average air-conditioner uses 3000 to 4000 watts. Add a ceiling fan to your bedroom and other high use areas of your home.



During the evening and early morning you may be able to turn your air conditioner completely off and use a whole-house ventilating fan. As long as the air outside is below 82 degrees, you can keep your home comfortably cool and cut your energy requirements by about two-thirds. This type of fan is usually placed in a hall somewhere near the center of the house. The only drawback is a whole-house ventilating fan will draw in pollen and dust from the outside.

For the best in cooling go underground

If you've ever wondered about the geothermal heat pump here are some of the answers. To see how much it could save you call us for an energy audit and load analysis. Just call your local electric cooperative or geothermal heat pump contractor.

Q. What is a geothermal heat pump?

A. A geothermal heat pump is just like an air conditioner except it uses the natural heat storage ability of the earth to heat and cool. It will even provide you with hot water.

Q. How does it work?

A. Like any heat pump, it simply moves heat energy from one place to another. Your refrigerator works in the same way, moving heat from inside to the outside.

Q. How is heat transferred between the earth and home?

A. The earth has the ability to absorb and store heat energy. Geothermal heat pumps simply take advantage of the earth's constant temperature, versus the wide swings in air temperature, to move heat. A loop of pipe is buried in the ground like a giant radiator to either absorb or dump heat.

Q. Can a geothermal heat pump also heat water for my home?

A. Yes, using what's called a desuper heater, a geothermal heat pump will save you about 60 percent on your water heating bill.



Touchstone Energy®

We're adding the finishing touches to the power of the future

There's a lot more to Touchstone Energy® than simply a new name and some window dressing to repackage your electric cooperative. It's more than 530 electric co-ops from across the country joining together to provide member/owners with state of the art service they'll need in the new millennium. We're ready to paint the town.

Illinois Touchstone Energy® Partners

Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon
Corn Belt Energy Corp., Bloomington
Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative, Paxton
EnerStar Power Corp., Paris
Egyptian Electric Cooperative Assoc., Steeleville
Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative, Winchester
Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Elizabeth
McDonough Power Cooperative, Macomb
Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg
Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Waterloo
Norris Electric Cooperative, Newton
Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative, Auburn

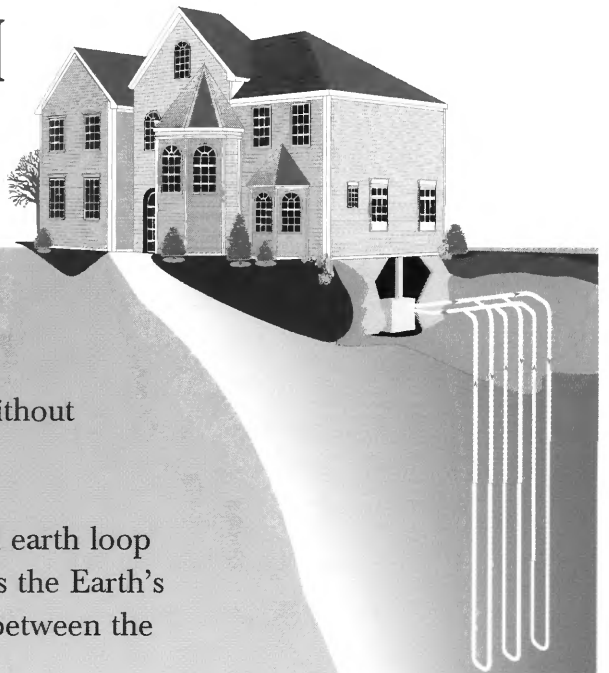
Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelbyville
SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Eldorado
Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola
Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Mt. Vernon
Southern Illinois Power Cooperative, Marion
Soyland Power Cooperative, Decatur



Touchstone Energy®
The power of human connections

UNEARTH GREAT SAVINGS

Geothermal Systems by ClimateMaster



With a geothermal heating and cooling system from ClimateMaster, lowering your heating, cooling and hot water costs will be a snap . . . without sacrificing reliability or comfort.

Working with a specially designed underground earth loop system, a ClimateMaster geothermal unit utilizes the Earth's near constant temperature to exchange energy between the Earth and your home for heating and cooling.

ClimateMaster Geothermal Systems Designed by the Industry's Most Talented Team

Atteberry & Marshall
Charleston, IL, 217-348-8888
Sullivan, IL, 217-752-6867

**Basham Electric,
Geothermal Specialist**
Humbolt, IL, 217-234-9774

Bauer Comfort Center, Inc.
Cissna Park, IL, 815-457-2589

Bob's Plumbing & Heating
Macomb, IL, 309-833-2315

Bosco Mechanical
Belleville, IL, 618-235-7463

**Bratcher Heating &
Air Conditioning, Inc.**
Bloomington/Normal, IL,
309-454-1611

Bryan's Heating & A/C
Murphysboro, IL, 618-684-6002

Davis Electric
Rushville, IL 217-322-6677

Fowler Heating & Cooling
Marion, IL, 618-997-5288

**Garber Heating &
Air Conditioning**
Morton, IL, 309-266-9372

**Jesse Heating and
Air Conditioning**
Decatur, IL, 217-422-1744
Champaign, IL, 217-352-8511

Kuchefski Heating & A/C, Inc.
Danville, IL, 217-442-1454

New Air
Girard, IL, 217-965-5578

**Bob Nussbaum Plumbing
& Heating**
Fairbury, IL, 815-692-2042

**Read's Heating,
A/C & Refrigeration**
Olney, IL, 618-393-4102

**Sigman Heating &
Air Conditioning**
Belleville, IL, 618-234-4343

Snell's Plumbing & Heating
Virdeen, IL, 217-965-3911
Litchfield, IL, 217-324-4560

Steffen Heating & A/C
Effingham, IL, 217-342-2062

Steven's Electric
Quincy, IL, 217-222-5220

**Thomas Plumbing &
Heating Company**
Galesburg, IL, 309-343-1101

Town & Country Services
Tonica, IL, 815-442-3415

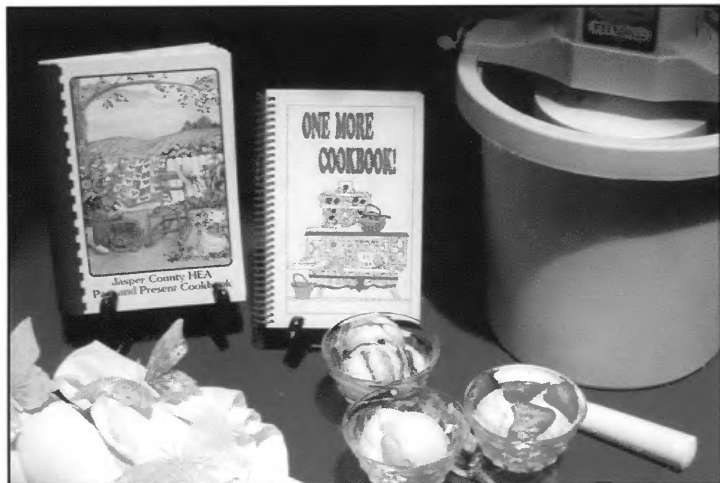
**Vinson & Sill Plumbing,
Heating, & Electric**
Lima, IL, 217-985-5100



CLIMATEMASTER®

Or Call 1-888-436-3783
for the Dealer Nearest You!

Illinois' FINEST COOKING



Jasper County HEA has compiled its cookbook from two very popular cookbooks from the past and added new recipes from 1996-97 HEA members. There are 323 pages of recipes and helpful hints. The cookbook is spiral-bound and soft-backed. Order from Evelyn Holsapple, c/o Jasper County Extension, P.O. Box 31, Newton, IL 62448 or phone (618) 783-2521. The cost of the cookbook is \$12 which includes postage.

The First Christian Church in Quincy, Illinois will celebrate its 150th birthday in September 2000. The Christian Women's Fellowship of the church shares its spiral-bound, soft-backed 1994 cookbook that has 166 pages of recipes and helpful hints. To

purchase contact Pat Wardlow, 18 Riverside Terrace, Quincy, IL 62301 or call (217) 222-7075. The cost of the cookbook is \$7 plus \$2 postage.

Jasper County HEA, Newton

CHURCH SALAD

Flossie Morr

1 (No. 2) can crushed pineapple (juice and all)
1 (3 oz.) pkg. instant vanilla pudding

1 (8 oz.) Cool Whip
nuts, if desired

Stir dry pudding into pineapple, adding no milk. Add Cool Whip and nuts. Put in an 8x8-inch casserole and chill. Put nuts on top.

FRUIT DIP

Nancy Ginder

4 oz. soft cream cheese
1/2 C. brown sugar

1 T. white granulated sugar
1 tsp. vanilla

Mix all together. Chill. Dip apples, carrots, cauliflower, etc.

CALICO BEAN CASSEROLE

Alta Huddlestun

1 1/2 lb. ground beef
1/2 C. catsup
1/2 tsp. dry mustard
2 T. vinegar
3 T. dark brown sugar

1 small onion, minced
1 medium can green lima beans
1 can red kidney beans
1 can pork and beans
1 tsp. salt

Brown ground beef in skillet. Combine catsup, dry mustard, vinegar, sugar, onion, lima beans, red kidney beans, pork and beans, and salt. Bake for 30 minutes at 350°.

STUFFED SAVORY BURGERS

Annette Kirts

1 1/2 lb. ground beef
1/4 C. finely chopped onion,
or onion powder to taste
1 1/2 tsp. salt

Worcestershire sauce
5 to 6 slices American cheese
1/4 c. sweet pickle relish
5 to 6 hamburger buns

In a large bowl, lightly mix beef, onion, salt and 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce. Shape into 10 to 12 flat patties. Arrange a folded cheese slice and 2 tsp. sweet relish on half of the patties. Top with remaining patties; press edges lightly together to seal. Brush both sides with Worcester sauce. Arrange burgers on a grill over hot coals. Grill until cooked as desired, about 5 minutes on each side until medium done. Or place on a rack under a preheated hot broiler until cooked as desired, turning once. Serve on toasted buns.

CRANBERRY COCKTAIL MEATBALLS

Betty L. Pence

1 beaten egg
1/4 C. fine dry bread crumbs
1/4 C. milk
2 T. snipped parsley

1 tsp. dry mustard
1/4 tsp. salt
dash of pepper
1 lb. ground beef

In a bowl, combine egg, bread crumbs, milk, parsley, mustard, salt and pepper. Add beef; mix well. Shape into 1-inch meatballs. Place in a 15x10x1-inch baking pan. Bake in a 350° oven for 15 minutes or until done. Drain. Meanwhile, prepare sauce.

Sauce:

1 (8 oz.) can jellied cranberry sauce
1 T. brown sugar
2 T. steak sauce

In a saucepan, combine ingredients; heat, stirring occasionally. Pour sauce over meatballs and serve.

*Shaping meatloaf into a ring eliminates undercooked center.
A glass set in the center of a dish can serve as the mold.*

RED MARASCHINO CHERRY CAKE

Annita Ochs

- 2 3/4 C. sifted flour
- 1 3/4 C. sugar
- 4 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2/3 C. shortening
- 1/3 C. juice from cherries
- 2/3 C. milk
- 16 maraschino cherries, cut in eighths
- 2/3 C. egg whites

Sift dry ingredients in a bowl. Add remaining ingredients except the egg whites. Mix with mixer at medium speed for 2 minutes. Scrape sides and bottom of bowl often. Add 2/3 C. unbeaten egg whites (about 5). Continue beating 2 more minutes. Fold in 1/2 C. chopped nuts. Pour batter into 2 greased and floured round layer pans or a 9x13-inch pan. Bake layers 30 to 40 minutes in a 350° oven or until the top springs back when lightly touched. When cake is cool, frost with a cooked egg white icing using cherry juice in place of water or use your favorite icing. Decorate with red cherries.

DANISH PASTRY APPLE BARS

Judy Burnell

- 2 1/2 C. flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 C. margarine
- 1/2 C. shortening
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 C. corn flakes
- 8 to 10 apples, pared and sliced
- 1 C. sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 egg white
- 1 C. powdered sugar
- 3 to 4 tsp. milk

Combine flour and salt. Cut in margarine and shortening. Beat egg yolk in cup and add enough milk to make 2/3 C. of liquid. Mix and stir into flour mixture. Roll half of dough into a 17x12-inch rectangle. Fit into 1x15 1/2x10 1/2-inch pan. Sprinkle corn flakes on dough. Top with apples. Combine sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle on top. Roll out rest of dough and place on top. Seal edges and cut slits in dough. Beat egg whites until frothy; brush on top of crust. Bake at 375° for 50 minutes. Combine powdered sugar and milk. Drizzle on warm pastry.

First Christian Church, Quincy

PRETZEL SALAD

Cindy Schulte

- 2 2/3 C. (8 oz.) pretzels, crushed
- 1/2 tsp. Knox gelatin
- 1 1/2 sticks butter (melted)
- 3 T. sugar
- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese
- 1 small pkg. Dream Whip, prepared as pkg. directions
- 1 C. sugar
- 2 small boxes strawberry Jell-O
- 1 box frozen strawberries

Mix first 4 ingredients together and put in a 9x13-inch pan. Save 3 T. for topping. Bake at 400° for 10 minutes; let cool. Mix cream cheese, Dream Whip and sugar; spread on pretzels. Dissolve 2 small boxes of strawberry Jell-O in 2 C. boiling water and 6 ice cubes. Fold in 1 large box of frozen strawberries. Let set and pour over cream cheese mixture. Top with remaining pretzels.

UN-FRIED FRENCH FRIES

Debra Seckman

- 5 large baking potatoes, about 2 3/4 lb. total
- Light vegetable spray
- 2 large egg whites
- 1 T. cajun spice

Preheat the oven to 400°. Slice each potato lengthwise into 1/4-inch ovals, then slice oval lengthwise into matchsticks. Coat a baking sheet with 3 sprays of vegetable oil. Combine the egg whites and cajun spice in a bowl. Add matchstick potatoes and mix to coat. Pour the coated potatoes onto the prepared baking sheet and spread out into a single layer, leaving a little space between. Place baking sheet on the bottom shelf of the oven. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes until the fries are crispy, turning them every 6 to 8 minutes with a spatula so that they brown evenly.

CHICKEN CASSEROLE

Dorothea Scott

- 1 box chicken flavor Rice-A-Roni
- 1 fryer, cooked & cut up
- 1 stick oleo
- 1/2 C. onion, chopped
- 1/2 C. bell pepper, chopped
- 1/2 C. celery, chopped
- 2 cans mushroom soup
- 1 can mushrooms, drained
- 1 can water chestnuts, drained
- 1 C. cheese, grated
- 6 Ritz crackers, crushed

Saute onion, pepper and celery in oleo. Cook Rice-A-Roni as directed on box. Mix all together in greased casserole. Top with 1 C. grated cheese mixed with 6 crushed Ritz crackers. Bake at 400° for 20 minutes. Cool. Serves 8 to 10.

FAMOUS DEPARTMENT STORE CAKE

Phyllis Widman

- 2 eggs
- 1 yellow cake mix
- 1 stick oleo
- 2 eggs
- 1 lb. powdered sugar
- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese

Part 1: Blend eggs into yellow cake mix. Press mixture into oblong cake pan.

Part 2: Blend oleo, eggs, powdered sugar and cream cheese. Pour this over Part 1. Bake at 325° for 40 to 45 minutes.

ZUCCHINI PATTIES

Dorothy Plank

- 2 C. zucchini squash, grated
- 2 T. onion, grated
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 tsp. favorite seasoning
- 1/4 C. Parmesan Cheese, grated
- 1/2 C. cracker crumbs
- 2 T. oil

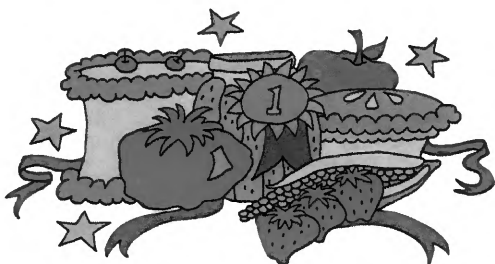
Mix all ingredients together. Form patties. Heat oil in skillet. Cook patties 2 minutes on each side. Makes 6 servings.

WORLD'S BEST COOKIES

Nona R. Moore

- 1 C. white sugar
- 1 C. brown sugar
- 1 C. oleo, melted
- 1 C. cooking oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 T. vanilla
- 1 T. cream of tartar
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 C. Rice Krispies
- 1 C. quick oatmeal
- 1 C. coconut
- 1 C. nuts
- 4 1/2 C. flour

Cream sugars, oleo, cooking oil, eggs and vanilla. Sift flour, soda and cream of tartar together; add flour mixture, Rice Krispies and oatmeal to creamed mixture; add nuts. Roll in balls, flatten on cookie sheet with fork. Bake in a 350° oven for 10 to 12 minutes or until done. Makes 8 to 10 dozen.



On Saturday, October 16, the public is invited to First Christian Church's Pumpkin Fest which features a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast, live entertainment and Old Country Store featuring homemade food and crafts.

If mom and dad say no Ask grandpa and grandma

by Susan Wildemuth

Parents sometimes have conversations and don't think the child in the back seat is listening. My mom and dad were having a conversation like that one Sunday afternoon on our way home from Grandpa and Grandma Parks' house. My dad was talking to my mother, trying to figure out why his parents were so strict when he was growing up, but let their grandchildren get away with murder.

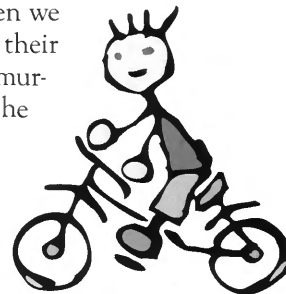
I can't speak for the boys, their grandsons, but Grandpa and Grandma Parks were especially tolerant of all five of their granddaughters. We could run around like little heathens and no one was allowed to say a harsh word to us. If they did, all we had to do

was hide behind grandpa. He'd champion our cause. Or we could dig in on grandma's lap. Grandpa or Grandma would fix the party who was harassing their most excellent grandchildren with a look that said, "You'll have to come through me first!" I think those were the times that used to get to my dad and



his siblings. They'd just shake their heads and say to their parents, "You'd never let us get away with that."

My brothers and I have given my parents grandchildren, whom they feel are most excellent in all ways, but we have a complaint. How come our parents were so strict when we were growing up and now let their grandchildren get away with murder? Did we get to walk into the house after playing outside in the mud without taking our shoes off first? I don't think so! Did we get to eat cookies, chips or pop right before dinner? Heaven forbid! Did we get to leave our toys strewn all over the living room floor and not have to pick them up? Not in this lifetime!



Wait, you haven't heard the best part yet. Just let us try to correct one of their most excellent grandchildren in front of them and they'll stop us with that look. My brothers and I just shake our heads and say to our parents, "You'd never let us get away with that."

And so it goes on.

Susan Wildemuth is a writer who lives in rural Illinois with her husband, son and Spud the Dog.

Illinois

FUNNYBONE

Old folks are worth a fortune with silver hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet and gas in their stomachs!

I have become a lot more social with the passing of years; some might even call me a frivolous old gal. I'm seeing five gentlemen every day — As soon as I awaken, Will Power helps me get out of bed. Then I go see John. Then Charley Horse comes along and when he is here, he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves, Arthur Rittus shows up and stays the rest of the day! He doesn't like to stay in one place, so he takes me from joint to joint!

After such a busy day, I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life!

The preacher came to call the other day. He said at my age, I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him, "I do all the time! No matter where I am — in the parlor, the kitchen or down in the basement, I ask myself, 'Now what am I here after?'"

Donna Wilson, Lincoln

A farmer was heard talking to himself across the fence. "Hey, why are you talking to yourself like that?" his neighbor asked.

The farmer replied, "For two reasons First, I like to hear a smart man talk, and second, I like to talk to a smart man."

Dairyland Power Cooperative

A Sunday School teacher was in the room at church with her Sunday School intermediate class. For several Sundays they had been studying different characters in the Bible. There was one boy in the class who had just recently joined the class. The Sunday School teacher asked which member of the class could tell something they knew about Job. The new member of the class raised his hand and said, "I know about Job — he was a doctor!"

The teacher asked how he had found that out, "Well," he replied, "I've heard so many people speak about the 'Patients of Job!'"

Esther Hall, Oakland

My grandson, age 10, went to the refrigerator/freezer to get some ice cubes to put in his water. When he opened the freezer door, a package of fish sticks came flying out and he turned to his mother and said, "Boy, Mom, that's what I'd call fast food!"

Paula Jenkins, Kewanee




Is there a joke in YOUR family (that's proper for a family magazine)? Illinois Country Living pays \$5.00 for each joke chosen for Illinois Funnybone. Send your humorous story to Illinois Funnybone, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708-3787.

The best sawmill value...ever.

9hp \$3795
13hp \$4120
20hp \$4695

FREE INFORMATION - USA & CANADA
1-800-661-7746

NORWOOD INDUSTRIES, INC.



Are You Prepared?
www.YamahaGenerators.com
The lowest prices in the country
800-900-8856

Church Pew Padding

Add comfort and beauty to your church pews
FREE info & fabric samples
Midwest Church Furnishings
Call 1-800-827-1482



POND LINERS
Custom reinforced material *33sqft*
Recommended by USDA/NRCS. Pond & lake liners, manure lagoon liners, cistern liners, hay & truck tarps, top covers F.O.B. Bend, OR
800-280-0712

\$\$\$ Save On \$\$\$

- Chainsaw Bars • Lawnmower Parts
- Chain • Small Engine Parts
- Sprockets

Cutter's Choice
Call 1-888-288-8371

STEEL BUILDINGS
BUY FACTORY DIRECT/WE ARE THE MANUFACTURER




Commercial, Self Storage Buildings, Church Buildings
• All Steel Framing • Professional Construction •

American Steel Buildings
CALL NOW FREE QUOTES **1-800-400-5121**
www.americansteelmfg.com

16th Annual • S/CEA
Hydroponic Grower's Conference
Nov. 12-13, 1999
Kissimmee, Florida

Practical tips and innovative ideas for prospective and experienced growers!

- The ONLY conference specifically for Commercial Hydroponic Growers.
- For Growers:** Two days packed with valuable insights on growing and marketing hydroponic crops; Alternative Crop Choices; Integrated Pest Management; How to Increase Yields; Proven Marketing Ideas. Much more!
- For Prospective Growers:** Includes a comprehensive "Getting Started in Hydroponics" manual, with everything you need to know to get started: Which greenhouse? Start-up costs. Marketing. Financing. Growing methods. And more!
- Hear from industry leaders and professionals.
- Talk to successful growers from around the country.
- See hydroponic products and equipment. Talk with suppliers.
- Updates on controlled environment Exotic Mushroom Production and Aquaculture Systems.

8001 HI-WHEEL WEED & BRUSH CUTTER

Bachtold Bros.™ designed our original weed & brush cutter 50 years ago. Since then, we've been building mowers like the 8001 to handle everything from 6' tall weeds & brush to 1.25" saplings with ease. And we're so sure you'll be satisfied, all our mowers come with a 30-day satisfaction guarantee.



Variable ground speed and blade clutch controls located on handlebars.

Honda 8 H.P. (optional), Briggs & Stratton 8 H.P. Industrial PLUS engine is standard.

Innovative chain drive ensures positive traction on all terrain and great handling.

26" wheels have nickel-plated 3/8" welded spokes and puncture-proof tires.

Hardened steel 26" cutting blade.

All welded steel deck with heavy-duty runners.


Write to us: Bachtold Bros., 509 West First Street, Gibson City, IL 60936-0485 and we'll send you more info! Thanks!

Name: _____ P14

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____



Call 800-321-5656 or visit us at <http://www.cropking.com> for more information or to sign up today!

CropKing.com, Inc.
5050 Greenwich Rd., #WG/IL
Seville, OH 44273-9413
fax 330/769-2616 • e-mail: cropking@cropking.com

Send me FREE Greenhouse Farming Literature Pack, including Conference information!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ WG/IL699

Call **1-888-988-7001** to place an order or get our FREE catalog. Ask for Dept. P14.
(It's a toll-free call!)

Illinois MARKETPLACE

USED MEAT SAWS, slicers, grinders, tenderizers and other butchering equipment. 2615 South 1st, Springfield, Illinois. Phone (217) 522-3934.

INSULATION — 4 x 8 sheets, Foil backed foam — factory seconds — easy to install. Contact Ken Nichols at (800) 424-1256.

POST FRAME BUILDINGS—Farm, commercial, residential. Bill Parkinson, Hardin, IL 62047. Phone (618) 576-2287 or (800) 225-8070.

USED AND NEW restaurant and concession EQUIPMENT. Ice machines, grills, fryers, sinks, poppers, ice cream machines, etc. Erio Sales, 2615 So. 1st, Springfield, IL. (217) 522-3934.

WANTED: TO BUY standing timber of all species. Highest possible prices paid. Selective cutting optional. Minimal land disturbance. D&F Logging, Ava, IL. (618) 426-3065 or (618) 426-9001.

WATER CONDITIONER with no salt, no maintenance, no electricity, no replacement parts. Call (800) 500-3303, Tower Hill, IL. Ask for Bob.

BASKETWEAVING, CHAIRSEATING SUPPLIES, OAK Baskets, Books, Kits. Quality. Discounted. Retail, Wholesale. Catalog \$1. Ozark Basketry-REN, Box 599, Fayetteville, ARK 72702-0599.

WORK CLOTHES
GOOD CLEAN Rental-type work clothes, 6 pants and 6 shirts to match-\$29.95. Lined work jackets-\$9.95. Satisfaction Guaranteed! Send sizes with check or money order plus \$5-S&H to: **WALT'S WHOLESALE**, P.O. Box 208-E, Darlington, SC 29540. or MC/Visa orders (800) 233-1853.

LLAMAS ARE WONDERFUL! They do it all — guard livestock, carry your load, give you the wool off their backs, walk with you or pull you in a cart, and are just a joy to be around! Find YOUR ideal llama today at Tranquility Llamas, Bloomington, Illinois. (309) 963-4553.

MAGNETIC THERAPY is reported by many to give relief from: pain, migraine, headaches, allergies, arthritis, etc. (800) 500-3303, ask for Bob.

PLAY GOSPEL SONGS by EAR! Add Chords, Piano, Organ. 10 easy lessons \$7.50. Guaranteed. Davidsons, 6727R1 Metcalf, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66204.

TAYLOR SOFT SERVE MACHINES, single phase, double with twist, standby, guaranteed. Erio Sales, 2615 So. 1st, Springfield, IL 62704. (217) 522-3934.

CUSTOM SAWMILLING with Portable Woodmizer. Your place or mine. Call Jim Virkler, (815) 692-2890.

TAKE ACTION — MAKE MONEY — \$40,000 yearly! Homeworkers needed immediately for assembly, clerical, mail processing positions! For application, write: Charlin Corporation, Box 522-P, Marion, SC 29571.

SHAWNEE NATIONAL FOREST in beautiful Southern Illinois. Properties for hunting, fishing, retirement. Call Ocie Paxton Realty at (618) 683-4203.

WANTED: ALL SPECIES STANDING TIMBER. Free estimates, no obligation. Call Paul Jones, Ridgway, IL 62979. Phone (618) 272-3031.

PLANNING A FLORIDA VACATION? Fish Haven Lodge on beautiful Lake Juliana is the place for you. Located in central Florida, only 30 min. from Disney World. Lakefront housekeeping cottages, adult mobile home park and large RV lots are available. Some of Florida's most reasonable rates. Write Fish Haven Lodge, Box 1, Fish Haven Road, Auburndale, FL 33823. Phone (941) 984-1183.

FIBERGLASS, CORRUGATED, 26-inch wide. 8-10-12 foot long. 8 ft.-\$4. 12 ft.-\$6. Large supply, all colors. Dongola, IL. (618) 827-4737.

SWENEY'S LLAMAS: Registered, breedings, sales, fiber for spinning. **NEW BABIES** arriving soon, show quality for 4-H projects. Farm visits welcome. Avon, IL. (309) 465-3847.

WATKINS PRODUCTS since 1868. Rated among top 10 home-based businesses. Start under \$38. Free information, product catalog. Independent Directors. (888) 556-7235.

REGISTERED LLAMA MALES, \$175 and up. Females \$800 and up. Registered miniature donkey pair, Black Jack and Grey Jenny \$1,600. Black Jack weanling \$475. (618) 783-2169.

NEW SUBDIVISION - SHAWNEE MEADOWS, Pope County, IL. Close to Ohio River. Marina, golfing, fishing, hunting. Restrictions. Agent-owned. Ocie Paxton Realty. (618) 683-4203.


FILTER QUEEN/DEFENDER sales, service and supplies. Factory authorized. In home air filtration since 1928, offering more consistent, allergen-free indoor air quality with our total home care system. For free information, call (800) 753-5401 or write, SHE-N-I, Inc., RR 1 Box 341, Allendale, IL 62410.

Affordable
HEALTH INSURANCE for
"SELF-EMPLOYED"
MAJOR MEDICAL


- \$20 Doctor Visits!
- \$10 Prescriptions!
- \$20 Physicals!
- \$25 Mamograms!
- 25% Non-Smokers Discount!
- "Vanishing" Deductible

Health-Link PPO

Call
Paul Dunn
(888) 662-7788
TOLL FREE



GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES




OTHER SHAPES AVAILABLE

BUILD A BETTER BUILDING **FACTORY DIRECT**
1-800-668-5422

- Sizes 500-20,000 sq. ft.
- Strongest for Wind & Snow
- Heavy 24, 22, 20 & 18 ga. steel
- Maintenance Free

SALE PRICE
FOR EXAMPLE - 25' X 40'
\$3,844
FRONT END OPTIONAL

STEEL BUILDINGS
http://www.pioneersteel.com



Classified Ad Order Form

Enclosed is \$_____ for the ad copy below to run _____ times starting with the _____ issue. Charges for each month's insertion, co-op members: \$8 for the first 20 words or less and 30 cents per additional word. Non-members: \$1.20 per word with a \$24 minimum for 20 words or less.

- All ads must be in one paragraph form. No centered copy. Maximum of four all-capital words per ad.
- **Check/cash/money order payable to Illinois Country Living and member's address label must accompany order.**
- Please type or print your ad neatly. You may use a

separate sheet if needed. Include your name, address and phone number. I am a member of _____ electric cooperative.

- The publisher reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

Mail to: Illinois Marketplace, *Illinois Country Living*
P.O. Box 3787 • Springfield, IL 62708

Deadline for October issue: August 15

EZ MATIC® PET DOORS. Weather-tight (seals tight "All around!") Super quiet, safe. Easy to install and use, sizes for any dog/cat. Free brochure; call (715) 635-2644 or e-mail riverken@chibardun.net. Riverside Products, W7909, Green Valley Road, Spooner, WI 54801.

ATTN: CISTERN & WELL OWNERS. Gauge mounts in your home show how much water you have. Hellborn Innoventions, 8036 Blinds Hollow Road, Sparta, IL 62286. (888) 333-7194.

\$\$\$PAYING CASH for older Wurlitzer, Rockola, Seeburg, AMI jukeboxes, 1950s soda machines. Also Fender, Gibson, Martin, Gretsch GUITARS. Motorcycles. (314) 978-2788.

MCNESS PRODUCTS, Spices, Seasonings, (Famous) Vanilla, Extracts, Soup, Gravy Bases, Krestol Salve, Dessert Mixtures and Home Care Products. Call (217) 854-8500.

BENGAL and PIXIE-BOB KITTENS. New rare breeds. Champion bloodlines. Bengals – loving little leopards, glitter, glitz. Pixie-bobs with wild bobcat look. (217) 324-2678.

MIDWEST BIRD AND ANIMAL swap and sale. August 29 and September 26, at Monroe County Fairgrounds, Waterloo, IL. (618) 939-6809.

DISCOUNT WALLPAPER. Lowest prices guaranteed. 400,000 rolls and borders in stock!! Call with book name or pattern numbers. Marion, IL. (618) 997-6090 or www.dwdd2000.com.

BIRD PROBLEMS: We have solutions! Standish & Associates, Petersburg, IL. Call John at (800) 274-0105.

SICK CAMPER REFRIGERATOR? Specializing in rebuilding cooling units. New and used units available. Camper repair. Crutcher's RV, Cropsey, IL. (309) 377-3721.

TIMBERMARK FORESTRY CONSULTANT. To market timber at top selling price and ensure a well-managed forest for the future. (618) 252-4647 or mobile 528-6146.

WEIGHT LOSS PATCH. All natural, peel, stick and forget. Eighty-seven percent proven effective. Two-year clinical research. Distributors welcome. (800) 342-8460 or (618) 273-3435.

NEW HOMES – 400 different plans available, or your own. We complete project or "shell it in" for you. Huff Custom Builders, Landmark Homes, Clinton, IL. (217) 935-3766.

ATTN: SPORTS FANS. Sports collectibles, wall clocks, watches, sports card collector's kit, baseball cards (set of 500) and comic book collector's kit. Send #10 SASE to: K-H Knifty-Knacks, 14254 Townhouse Road, Newark, IL 60541-9397.

CREDIT CARD STRESS? Lower payment by 50 percent and eliminate interest. No FEE, non-profit. Member of BBB American Credit and Debt Management, Inc. (800) 442-9243.



PIANO FOR SALE: Cash or small monthly payments with good credit. Free delivery. Call for more details. (800) 346-1775.

CHRISTIAN BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY: Call (800) 585-5873 for free information packet. No sign up fee. Leave my ID# 23519 at end of message.

SAWMILLS, new and used, edgers, blades, sawteeth, cutoff saws, chippers, blowers, log skidders, pallet manufacturing equipment. WILLOW CREEK MANUFACTURING. (618) 569-3407.

REMOVE LIMESCALE while conditioning your water naturally. GMX saves money – no salt, chemicals, extra plumbing or maintenance ever! Money-back guarantee, lifetime warranty. Distributorships available. (888) 357-7792.

Simpson NOT A "ROUND TOP"! NOT A "POLE BARN"!
Steel Building Company 100% ALL STEEL
1-800-790-2117 PATENT #5577353
FAX 1-316-429-8421

MINI STORAGE
 30 x 100 x 8 - \$9,868
 ALL PRICES DELIVERED

24 x 30 x 9 - \$3,908
 30 x 40 x 10 - \$5,015
 40 X 60 X 12 - \$8,246
 40 X 100 X 16 - \$14,078

Garage/Shop • Boats/RV
 Hobby Shop • Horse Barns

Ask About Our
 Commercial Buildings

UNLIMITED SIZES TO
 CHOOSE FROM CALL TODAY FOR
 FREE INFORMATION

LOWEST COST Term Life Insurance

Issue ages through 90

AGE	\$100,000	\$250,000
45	10.71	18.92
55	16.71	34.15
65	27.93	61.99

Rates figured on monthly cost for female non-tobacco users.

RAMLET & ASSOC, INC.
(800) 933-6354

AGL Life Assurance Company Form No. TC-191

HOMEMADE HOSTESS-STYLE CUP-CAKES (cream filled). Send \$1 and SASE for recipe to RR 1 Box 50, Anchor, IL 61720.

EXPLORING THE BIBLE – Free home Bible study lessons. Write to: The Berean, P.O. Box 629, Smithton, IL 62285.

WANTED: 3-POINT CYLINDER for 1650 Massey-Ferguson garden tractor. Part #108107. Phone evenings at (309) 562-7588.

ARE YOU RECEIVING MORTGAGE payments? Cash for your note. Free quotations. (800) 269-9510.

WANTED TO BUY: Snow blower to fit John Deere 322. Call (217) 632-4355 after 7 p.m.

SALES AND ERECTORS and REPAIRS, steel and post frame building foundation work for grain bins. Chapa General Contractor. (815) 961-8238.

WANTED TO BUY: Record albums, LPs and 45s in good condition. Paying cash. Call (618) 724-9259.

BLEACHER RECLINER™. Superior quality portable bleacher seat. (800) 621-2605 or www.BleacherRecliner.com.

COLLOIDAL MINERALS – \$5.97 per quart, case of 12. Colloidal silver, \$5.97 per pint, case of 12. (800) 999-9345.

BECOME AN ORDAINED MINISTER by Correspondence study. The harvest truly is great, the laborers are few, Luke 10:2. Free information. Ministers for Christ Outreach, PMB 107, 6630 West Cactus, Suite B107, Glendale, AZ 85304. <http://www.ordination.org>.

TRAVEL TRAILER (34-FOOT) and 116'x58' LOT for sale – Spring Creek Campground, approximately 20 miles east of Kankekee River, near Crescent City. (708) 535-0240.

TWELVE TEAR DOWN BARNS and farm buildings. Ideal for barn boards, beams, lumber, rebuilding, crafts or paneling. Galena, IL area. (708) 562-3030.

OLDER TWO-STORY COUNTRY HOME – New roof, furnace, central air, fully remodeled. Unattached extended two-car garage. Approximately 3/4 acre, in Schuyler County. In Astoria School District. \$68,000. (309) 329-2785.

PROFESSIONAL PAINTING, metal buildings pressure washed, primed and sprayed to any color of choice. Mike S. Short, 303 Skyline Dr., Marion, IL 62959. Call (618) 993-9761.

WILL PAY CASH for real estate (homes, income property), farm land with or without buildings. Estate settlements. Quick and easy. No legal expense. After 7 p.m., call (618) 549-1652.

NEW CARADCO WINDOW. Double 24 white clad double-pane with dividers. Low E with screens R/O 39-1/2 x 51-1/2. Cost \$371, will sell for \$300. (618) 964-1348.

MOTEL FOR SALE – 43 units. Located in Marion, IL. Owners wish to retire. Good income property. Call (618) 993-8131.

FOR SALE – TOGGENBURG GOATS, 7 does, 1998 10 kids, papers. Dairy Delight & Paula Walker breeding. Don Meislahn, 481 Cr. 425 N. Sigel, IL 62462. Phone (217) 924-4121.

ATTN: BIRDERS. Three dimensional porcelain plates with wood stands. Cardinal, dove, bluebird, hummingbird and bald eagle. Send #10 SASE to: K-H Knifty-Knacks, 14254 Townhouse Road, Newark, IL 60541-9397.

FOR BARBECUE LOVERS ONLY. Lip smackin', finger lickin' good! Five tempting recipes you'll love. Send \$2 to Smith, Box 1, Wayne City, IL 62895.

FOR SALE: COOKBOOK – "Rays' Family Favorite". 137 recipes. \$7 plus \$1 postage to Donna Ray, 324 Goby Trail, Waggoner, IL 62572 or call (217) 227-4473.

SUMMER FUN: Attend Living History Day, Sunday, August 29, 1999 at Old Shawneetown, IL. Performances at 2 and 5 p.m. (618) 269-3396.

HASSLE FREE VACATION PLANNING. We pamper our clients before and after their trips. Great prices on cruises, Las Vegas, honeymoons, Florida destinations and weekend get-a-ways. Thunderbird Travel of Harrisburg. (800) 443-3506.

SUNROOM, SOLAR HEAT, greenhouse, hot tub, patio enclosure, commercial sliding doors. Gold aluminum 4-foot slider, safety glass, 12'6" linear foot. \$250. (618) 783-2344.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Lake of Egypt, southern Illinois. Owner relocating. Beautiful lakeview, two bedrooms, garage, deck, building site for dock. \$56,000. (618) 995-1388.

LET THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE your new or existing small business. Grants/loans to \$800,000.00. Free recorded message: (707) 449-8600. (HX7).

FIBROMYALGIA sufferers, chronic pain, fatigue, arthritis, migraines, depression, etc. All natural! Call for free information! (888) 884-2905.




\$Quality Steel Buildings\$
1-800-241-8339

40x60x12.....	\$ 8,772
50x75x10.....	\$10,457
60x100x12.....	\$17,589
60x75x12.....	\$13,368
50x100x12.....	\$13,934
100x100x12 w/column.....	\$23,987
100x150x14 w/column.....	\$36,535

*F.O.B. plant - All Sizes Available
Codes may affect prices*

**We will match any deal
with Quality Steel!**

3300 Holcomb Bridge Rd., Suite 201
Norcross, Georgia 30092

Visit us at our web site • www.arcosteel.com


**Alaska Cruise
+ Pacific Northwest**

PLAN NOW FOR 2000

Reservations are now being made for next year due to the limited space on this very unique & popular tour.

Fly to San Francisco, visit Fisherman's Wharf & more. Next motorcoach through Northern California, Oregon, & Scenic Washington, states spending 3 nights along the way. In Vancouver board HOLLAND AMERICA & CRUISE ALASKA'S INSIDE PASSAGE FOR A WEEK. Ketchikan, Juneau, Glacier Bay, & Skagway. Next tour Idaho, Montana, Yellowstone National Park, & Utah. Fly home from Salt Lake City. **IMAGINE THIS 14 DAY TOUR WITH INCLUDED ROUND TRIP AIR, HOTELS, MOTORCOACHING, & CRUISE FROM \$2057 PLUS \$170 PORT CHARGE.**

YMT VACATIONS Call for free brochure!
 Open Sunday • PPDO **1-800-888-8204**



FREE CATALOGUE
1-606-745-0606
www.kstbuild.com

**AMERICA'S
BEST
BUY**

since 1986

**FARM • CHURCH • SPORTS • HORSE • CAR • PLANE
ALL STEEL • ALL COLOR • 25/50 WARRANTY**

August DATEBOOK

1, Antique Car Exhibition at the David Davis Mansion in Bloomington. This is an Outdoor event with open-house tours, showing the early history of the automobile in America. Exhibits of early and mid-20th century automobiles, photographs and automobile-related artifacts will be shown. This event includes period costumes and entertainment, heritage foods, children's activities and automobile demonstrations. (309) 828-1084.

John Deere Pavilion in Moline. A celebration of agricultural history, of the heartland and of John Deere. Located near the Quad Cities, the Pavilion is one of the most popular visitor's sites in its area and attracts a global audience. (309) 765-1003.

4-7, Global Soy Forum '99 in Chicago. More than 500 soybean researchers representing 41 countries around the world have submitted abstracts to be presented at this World Soybean Research Conference. (217) 244-7384.

6, Sand Volleyball Weekend in Danville. (217) 443-3886.

6-7, Cruise Night and Car Show in Prophetstown. (815) 537-5139.



grown and feed a baby calf. (217) 335-2670.

6-8, The 31st Annual Western Illinois Threshers Bee in Hamilton. This year's event will feature Oliver Hart Parr Tractors and Maytag Gas Engines. Fill your day with many exciting events, including a craft show and flea market. Go back in history and see how things were done before electricity, as re-enactors dress up and portray a not so convenient time in the past. (217) 359-2149.

7-8, Peaches and Cream Festival at Apple Basket Farms in Barry. Just picked orchard fresh peaches join the Western Illinois Dairy Association with home-made peach pie and hand cranked peach ice cream. Learn how peaches are



6-9, The Inaugural State Games of America will be held in the St. Louis/Southwestern Illinois metropolitan area. State Games of America will bring together for the first time over 8,000 male and female amateur athletes of all ages and abilities to compete at this premier Olympic-style national event.

Athletes winning a medal (gold, silver or bronze) in their 1998 local State Games competition are eligible to enter. The athletes will compete in 15 different sports ranging from bowling to wrestling. (314) 827-2500 or (800) 442-1488.

7, 175th Birthday Party and Celebration of Pekin. (309) 353-3100.

6-15, The 1999 U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championships will be held in Rantoul. With sponsorship from an alliance of Illinois Touchstone Energy cooperatives, this event brings together the top 100 competitive hot air balloon pilots in the country vying for the chance to become the National Champion. The U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championship offers pilots the only ticket to qualify for the World Championships held every other year. A family venue tent will be hosted by Touchstone Energy, featuring a safety display by Kyle Finley and refreshments. (217) 378-7451 or www.balloonchamps.org.

13-15, The 10th Annual Centralia Balloonfest. Over 45 hot air balloons will race across the skies seeking the thrill of locating predetermined targets marked with an "X" on the ground. Along with the colorful display of sports balloons, several special shaped balloons will be in the line-up. Races are held at 6 p.m. on Friday and Sunday and 6 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

The weekend will be full of excitement with fireworks, craft fair, stage entertainment, cardboard boat races, car show, children's play area and delicious food and drinks. (618) 532-6789 or (888) 533-2600.

28-29, Lincoln Art and Balloon Fest in Lincoln. (217) 732-2929.



Copyright by Kimberly McCormick

7-8, **Adler Festival of the Arts and Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest** in Libertyville. (847) 680-0336.

12-14, **Dog Days of Summer** in Princeton. (815) 875-6246.

13-14, **Annual Bed Races and City-Wide Garage Sales** in Paxton. (217) 397-3388.

13-15, **Homecoming and Parade** in O'Fallon. (618) 624-4503.

13 and 27, **Blues in the District** in Quincy. (217) 228-8696.

14, **City-Wide Garage Sale** in Tuscola. (217) 253-2552.

14-15, **Sommarmarknad** at Bishop Hill State Historic Site in Bishop Hill. A summer market in village park plus quality crafts will be offered at this event. (217) 782-4836.

14-15, **Art Explosion and Caboose Train Days** in Monticello.

19, **Concert in the Courtyard** in Golconda. (618) 683-6246.

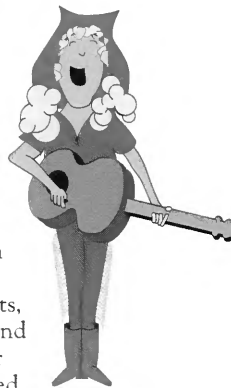
19-22, **The 40th Annual Steam, Gas and Threshing Show** at the fairgrounds in Pinckneyville. This even offers a demolition derby, a tractor pull and many other attractions. (618) 833-8946.

21-22. **The 32nd Annual Spassfest** in Germantown has grown to be one of the best-loved and longest-running festivals in Illinois. The Spassfest is two days of continuous music, entertainment, games, carnival rides and plenty of food and drink, all keeping with a German heritage. (618) 523-4202 or (800) 442-1488.



24-9/16, **Frances Oliver's Genealogy Art Series** at the Bicentennial Art Center Museum in Paris. Journey through a woman's family heritage by way of her art.

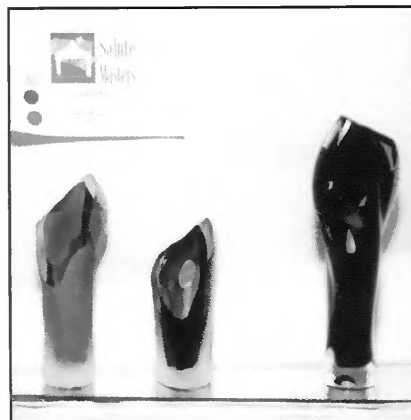
26-28, **Plymouth Old Settlers** in Plymouth. The 114th anniversary of this festival will be marked by three nights of free entertainment: Thursday; *Wagon Wheel Opry*, Friday; *Cheyenne* and Saturday; *Torpedoes*. A variety of food will be offered and available each evening. Craft stands, flea markets, a parade, games and an antique tractor show are scheduled.



27, **Main Street Nights Downtown** in O'Fallon. (618) 624-4503.

27-29, **Corn Fest** in Dekalb. (815) 748-7788.

27-29, **Second Annual National Scenic Byway Designation Celebration** in Golconda. (618) 683-6246.



28-29, **Midwest Salute to the Masters** in Fairview Heights. Whether your passion is paintings, sculptures, glass or jewelry, you'll find more than 100 international award-winning artists competing, displaying and selling their incredible creations from elegant gallery tents in a cool park setting.

More than just an art fair, there will be fabulous family fun with children's hands-on arts and crafts and workshops, stage performances, food and drink booths. (618) 394-5702.

28-29, **Olden Days Festival** in Schneider Park, Brighton. This two-day event is like a county fair, church social and a family reunion all rolled into one. It is a steam-gas-threshing show that has something for everyone. There will be plenty of good "old fashioned" food, country-style entertainment - including an "old time" fiddler, craft and flea market vendors and much more. There will be a Garden Tractor Pull on Saturday and an Antique Tractor Pull on Sunday. (618) 498-4192.

28-29, **Pioneer Days** in Genoa. (815) 784-5101.



29, **Living History Day** in Old Shawneetown. Meet historic people, see and hear glimpses of their lives in this eventful day. A cast of more than 80 characters will re-enact life as it was like before modern conveniences. (618) 269-3396 or (618) 272-7002.

25-28, **Town and Country Festival** in Bushnell. As summer winds down, this festival offers a Main Street carnival and car show, pie and cake auction, livestock auction, fireman's water fight and live entertainment.



Illinois Country Living publishes event listings as space allows, giving preference to events of regional or statewide interest. Event listings are provided by the event sponsors and the Illinois Bureau of Tourism. The magazine assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information submitted for publication and advises calling ahead to confirm dates and times. To be considered for inclusion, send listings and photographs (If sending photographs please include self-addressed stamped envelope) to Illinois Datebook, Illinois Country Living, PO Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708-3787. The deadline for submission is 45 days prior to the publication date.

Buy One - Get One FREE!

Our Best Values . . . All Products Guaranteed 100%!

This is one offer you won't want to miss! For a limited time only, you can order any of these garden products and get a second order of the same item FREE! So when you order 10 Mixed Daffodils for \$2.98, you get 10 more Mixed Daffodils FREE! Order 3 Black-eyed Susans for \$3.98 and get 3 more Black-eyed Susans FREE! Try any of the products on these two pages and we'll double your order FREE!

Are we crazy? Not at all. We're so sure you'll be thrilled with your order and come back for more that we're willing to let our best-sellers go at rock bottom prices. Plus, everything you order is GUARANTEED FOR LIFE! This offer is available only for a limited time . . . so HURRY!



10 FOR ONLY \$8.98
10 MORE FREE

Hardy Perennial Lilies

Hardy Perennial Lilies are surprisingly hardy and dependable. They return every year without lifting or replanting, producing bigger clumps and more flowers. They're great for naturalizing, too. Tall, elegant and easy to grow in full sun to partial shade. Bloom all summer long! 10-12cm. #05033 10/\$8.98



3 FOR ONLY \$3.98
3 MORE FREE

Black-eyed Susans

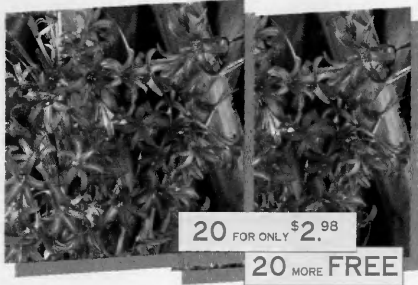
Highly prized for its clouds of sunny, daisy-like blooms and its fast-growing, easy care nature. Black-eyed Susan is the perfect companion to our other perennial favorites. The bright golden flowers are a wonderful addition to any cut-flower bouquet! Just plant in well-drained soil and a sunny to partly shady spot. Grows 2-3' tall and blooms profusely starting in mid-summer. 1-1/2" pot. #00349 3/\$3.98



10 FOR ONLY \$2.98
10 MORE FREE

Mixed Daffodils

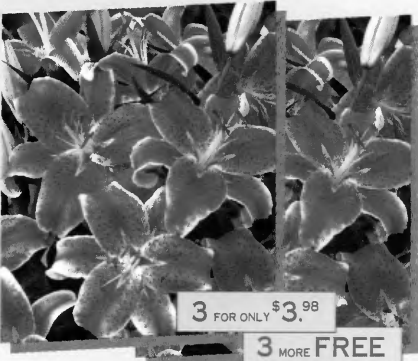
This money-saving assortment brings you a glorious mix of yellows, whites and bicolors. Plant Daffodils on hillsides, under trees and in rock gardens - anywhere you need a dash of early spring color. Best of all, hardy Daffodils return every year without lifting and replanting! 10-12cm. #06601 10/\$2.98



20 FOR ONLY \$2.98
20 MORE FREE

Lavender Mountain Lily

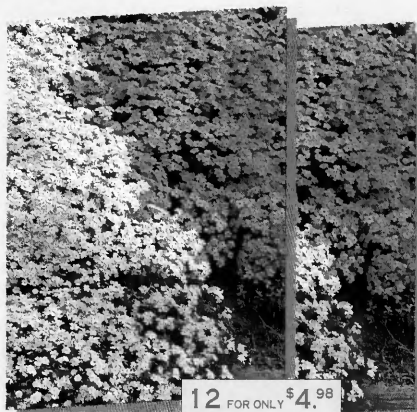
This popular variety is great for borders, rock gardens and beds. Lavender Mountain Lily multiplies every year, giving you more and more beautiful lavender-violet blooms each season! 3+cm. Pay for 20 and get 40. #08722 20/\$2.98



3 FOR ONLY \$3.98
3 MORE FREE

Stargazer Lily

Stargazer is one of the most popular Lilies in the world and the only upward-facing variety. It makes an outstanding garden accent and cut flower. Highly fragrant and easy to grow. 10-12cm. #03129 3/\$3.98



12 FOR ONLY \$4.98
12 MORE FREE

Creeping Phlox

Enjoy a rainbow of spring color with this gorgeous perennial ground cover. Creeping Phlox blankets your landscape with dense, evergreen foliage and bright red, pink, white or lavender blooms. Get 24 plants for the price of 12 when you order now. 1-year-old plants. #02717 12/\$4.98



3 FOR ONLY \$3.98
3 MORE FREE

Purple Coneflower

Colorful butterflies love these long-blooming daisy-like flowers with their purple petals and deep maroon centers. Purple Coneflower is easy to grow, fighting off heat and drought. Just plant in any sunny, well-drained spot and watch it shoot up 2-3' tall with little care. 1-1/2" pot. #08912 3/\$3.98



6 FOR ONLY \$3.98
6 MORE FREE

Mixed Pastel Tulips

Enjoy the world's most popular flowers in a soft, color-balanced mix. With little or no care, the 3-6" blooms appear in mid-spring each year. Reach 16-24" in full sun to partial shade. 10-11cm. #10769 6/\$3.98

More Great Bargains On Other Side!

