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Now . . . get a year's worth of fresh, odor-free air—for just about 1/2¢ a day! This amazing new cake air freshener that hangs anywhere, works miraculously to clear the air and destroy odors from smoking, rest-rooms, cooking, garbage, pets, spilled foods, chemicals, perspiration, crowds, staleness, mustiness, sinks—anything.

Dazie Disk, deodorizer cake is not a cover-up; it gives off no odor of its own! Its special formula works to kill ALL unpleasant odors and does it so completely and so swiftly that even if a skunk were to spray your room, the smell would be gone.

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STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

Nineteen hundred, seventy-three is now history. It was a successful year for the cooperative and the rural electrification program. The year 1973 was one of pestilence and turmoil for our nation. There has been much concern about the credibility of our nations leaders. For the past several months all you have read about and heard on news casts was "Watergate." Now the energy crisis is the main news topic.

We do not want to dwell on the past but would like to point out areas where improvements to the cooperative system have been made along with the purchase of new equipment for field operation and new office equipment to further enable the cooperatives to provide a reliable continuity of service to its membership.

With the completion and energizing of the Poe Junction to Fults transmission line and the associated three phase under circuit along with the construction of a new 2500 kva substation in Fults, the reliability and quality of service in the Tipton, St. Joe and Fults service areas was greatly improved. This line and substation was energized in February 1973. Two new air brake switches also were installed. These switches allow for more versatility and can reduce the number of members involved in prolonged outages within these service areas.

On May 11, 1973, President Nixon signed into law the new revitalized REA lending program as outlined in Bill S-394 (The Denholm Bill) which created a revolving loan fund with unlimited borrowing authority for making insured rural electric loans. This was no doubt a major breakthrough for rural electrification.

This year for the first time, the cooperative used a helicopter spraying service to aid in right-of-way maintenance. Use of the helicopter spraying service is faster and more economical than spraying by hand as we have done in the past. Damages were minimal and this service will again be used in 1974.

In the office, a new Burroughs Accounting Computer was purchased. This computer is programmed to fit the cooperative bookkeeping system and performs the following duties: member billing, material posting, calculation of capital credits and payroll. The use of this machine increases the efficiency of our office personnel

therefore improving the services offered to the membership.

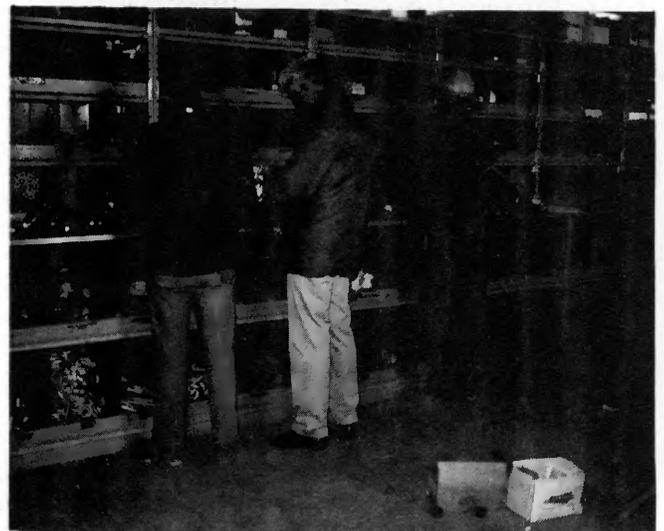
A Westinghouse Burglar Alarm has been put into service in the cooperative headquarters building. This unit is hooked up with the Sherrif's office. This alarm system offers further security in protecting the cooperative's property.

To offer increasing continuity of service and reduction in outage time, a new 5000 kva transformer and Hyster trailer is available for service in case of major damage to one of our substations. This portable transformer can be transported to the site of a substation and virtually replace the substation on a temporary basis in case of emergency.

Another preventive maintenance tool utilized was the Infrared Fault Detection Inspection Program that was performed in December. Basically the system detects "hot spots," caused by faulty hardware, or weak spots in our system. Be detecting these faults they can be corrected before they result in outages.

The cooperative's directors and management have dedicated themselves to providing the best possible service at the lowest possible cost to the cooperative membership. In the coming year this dedication will continue. Efforts will be made to improve the continuity and reliability of service offered.

From all of us at Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, we extend to you a prosperous and happy 1974.



*It's inventory time at the cooperative. Lineman Willy Juelfs, Operations Engineer Wylie Jones and Line Foreman Ermin Bruckmann taking inventory of hardware used in line maintenance and construction.*

## PLAN FOR TOTAL COMFORT

Today, within the four walls of your home, you can be pretty much in charge of your own indoor climate. You can have a system installed that will let you control *heating, air conditioning, humidity, air cleaning and odor.*

The control of these basic comfort factors makes it possible for you to have ideal indoor climate all year, even though you may live in an area with seasonal problems of heat, cold, humidity, pollen or dust.

Such complete indoor control is now commonly called "Total Home Comfort."

Capabilities for "Total Home Comfort" have advanced more in the last few years than in generations before. Today, most home planners agree that within a very short time, the majority of better new homes will include provisions for all five important factors: *Heating...for whole house comfort;*

*Cooling...automatically controlled throughout; Humidity Control...with moisture removal or addition as needed; Electronic Air Cleaning...with efficiencies of 95 percent; and Odor Control...with odor neutralization and fragrance addition as desired.*

The trend to "Total Home Comfort" calls for a new look at comfort possibilities for existing homes as well. Most homes have the potential for "Total Home Comfort" and require only minor changes and equipment additions to make them truly modern.

In reviewing comfort plans for your home, remember that the comfort refinements you will be able to enjoy in the years ahead will depend to a large extent on you—your knowledge of the new product features available, and your insistence on having the benefit of these modern comfort developments right now. Why wait?

## HUMIDIFIER CAN CUT FUEL BILLS

It goes without saying that we all feel better when there is a proper balance between humidity and temperature.

What you may not realize is that your home can become drier than the Sahara desert when heated under normal conditions during the winter months.

The average, heated home without humidification of any kind has a relative humidity of 13 percent. This is about nine percent drier than the desert, a scientific study by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers reveals.

Relative humidity is the amount of moisture or water vapor in the air compared to the total amount of moisture the air is capable of holding at any given temperature. Warm air is capable of holding more moisture than cool air, so when cold dry air seeps into a home and is heated, its capacity for holding water increases.

The heated air robs moisture from walls, causing plaster to crack; and from furniture causing it to come unglued. It also robs moisture from people, too making them feel dehydrated and surprisingly, cold despite high room temperatures.

According to the West Bend Company, a major manufacturer of portable humidifiers, a house heated at 72 degrees with a relative humidity of 50 percent feels as warm and comfortable as a house heated at 77 degrees with only 18 percent relative humidity.

It follows that maintaining proper levels of humidity can reduce heating costs because comfort can be maintained at a lower temperature. And this can reduce fuel bills by as much as 15 to 20 percent.

Over-humidification for a prolonged period of time is equally undesirable because it can cause structural damage to a house. If condensation forms on your windows, or in other areas of your home during periods of extreme cold, it is advisable to set the humidistat at a lower level West Bend recommends.

## For Comfort's Sake!

If feeling "dehydrated" doesn't tell you, there are several other ways to determine if your family could benefit from a room humidifier this winter. The West Bend Company reports. For example:

- \* House plants die more readily.
- \* Wooden furniture becomes unglued.
- \* You feel cold despite high room temperatures.
- \* Your piano is out of tune.

That's right, your piano is out of tune!

- \* Your nasal passages feel dried out.
- \* Wood trim pulls away from walls.
- \* Original paintings can actually crack.
- \* Excessive amounts of dust collect despite frequent cleaning.
- \* Wallpaper peels and cracks.

There is a direct relationship between the temperature outside and the amount of humidity that should be maintained indoors for maximum comfort. As a rule of thumb, you will want to have less humidity indoors when the temperature plunges to sub-zero levels outside.

Comfort levels prescribed by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers are as follows:

Outside Temperature	Recommended Indoor Humidity
20 degrees above	35%
10 degrees above	30%
0 degrees	25%
10 degrees below	20%
20 degrees below	15%

# what's new?

## Vinyl-Clad Freezer

Kelvinator offers a wood grain vinyl-clad food freezer. The 8.27 cubic-foot unit is especially suitable for use in apartments, mobile homes, family rooms or in other areas where space is at a premium. The freezer features Trimwall construction, a foam insulation that takes up less space. The unit has a capacity of 289 pounds of frozen foods, and is only 35 inches by 23 13/16 inches deep, including handles and hinges.



## Dial-A-Matic

The Hoover Automatic Power Drive Vacuum Cleaner is self-propelled by an "action grip." A light touch on the handle moves the unit forward or to the rear. Standard features include a lockout button for manual control, wide angle headlight, a power dial to regulate suction, a signal that lights up when the bag is full and the automatic floating rug adjustment adapts to shag, low pile or anything in between. The suggested retail price is \$169.95.

## Price Controls O Asked B

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS)—Three leaders of consumer groups asked in a press conference here for price controls on fuel supplies to prevent the poor from being left out and oil companies from getting excess profits.

Speaking in behalf of the consumer were Ralph Nader, the nation's best known consumer advocate; Lee White, chairman of the Energy Policy Task Force of the Consumer Federation of America, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, director of the Chicago-based PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).

Nader said that industry, which uses 70 percent of the fuel in the nation, could trim consumption by 30 to 40 percent simply by not being wasteful. He mentioned General Motors, International Telephone and Telegraph and Radio Corporation of America as examples of large industries which might save from 10 to 25 percent on fuel without spending a cent.

"They simply apply thrift factors—so as to not use unnecessary amounts of fuel," said Nader. He listed these as cutting down boilers when not needed, trimming electrical use and shutting off machinery when not in use, among other things.

All three charged that oil companies withhold large amounts of oil reserves from the market. They said oil companies could obtain vast amounts of oil through secondary and tertiary recovery methods. They charged that oil firms take only about one-third of the oil from a field because it's cheaper to do so. They then move on to other fields, including overseas, where the drilling costs are much lower than in the U.S. One estimate is that the drilling cost per barrel in the U.S. is \$2.40 compared to 6¢ a barrel in some Mideast nations.

Nader said he will ask the nation's top 100 firms what they are doing to save fuel and will ask teams of

**A FORMULA  
FOR LOVE**

# A Happy Home Recipe

**Full Color  
Linen WALL  
HANGING  
Makes  
Charming  
Decoration**

**only**

**\$ 1<sup>99</sup>**



Mix 4 cups of love, 2 cups of loyalty, 3 cups of forgiveness . . . Here's a recipe for everyone in the family . . . a recipe that anyone can try and is guaranteed to come out beautifully as long as you follow the instructions! It's a recipe for happiness . . . it's a recipe that will make your life deeper and more profound. Yet it's told so simply and directly, no one can fail to appreciate its message. In fact it's all the wisdom you'll ever need to keep your home full of joy . . . help you over the rough spots . . . and remind you of the contributions you must make to keep love alive and make it grow.

But this piece is more than a message, it's a beautiful decorator piece printed in full color on fine linen and finished with hardwood rods top and bottom. Just to look at it will lift your spirits. An ideal gift . . . a homey reminder that all life expects is for you to put in as much as you'd like to take out. A full 14" x 17" it's yours for only \$1.99, and since it has such universal appeal, why not order another as a thoughtful gift, two for just \$3.50 (please add 50c postage and handling with each order).

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SAVE More! Order TWELVE for \$18.00  
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(N.Y. residents add sales tax.)

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© Jay Norris Corp., 1973

# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

The American farm has a future that no one with memories of the Depression, dust bowls and poverty level incomes would have dreamed possible a few years ago. Fewer in number, but operated by highly efficient managers who utilize some of the world's most modern equipment, the American farm is the most productive in the world. Farm productivity has risen nearly 500 percent since 1945 and 27 percent in the last five years alone. The American farm and farmer are the envy of European and Russian farmers, who are plagued with perennial agriculture problems.

Agriculture, in fact, could be one of the nations greatest growth industries in the 1970's. The management efficiency, the land, equipment and capital investment are all there, ready to be exploited to the fullest.

The demand for farm output is at its highest. The farmer must gear his production to ensure that America continues to benefit from a plentiful supply of wholesome food. Food is not only our basic human need, but one of our country's most effective weapons in efforts to achieve a favorable balance of trade.

Agriculture is now a growth industry. Although electricity helped make agriculture the most efficient food production industry in the world, farmers continue to be concerned about improving productivity, because they are engaged in one of the most fiercely competitive segments of our economy. Experience has taught them they must make the best use of the energy that is available. New ways to improve production procedures on the farm and cost-saving methods, through the use of electricity, are still being developed. Farmers should be receptive to money-saving, energy-managing programs that tend to level energy loads over 24 hours and seven days a week. This is an area where the electrical industry needs development and research in providing means to conserve energy and to spread its peaks to where it is most economical and productive for both the agriculture and electrical industries.

I do not want to imply that the future of the farmer is one of optimism only. With costs of supplies and materials increasing, shortages of fuel and equipment and the farm labor situation becoming more acute, profits are harder to come by. Subsidy market controls and acreage restrictions,

aimed at keeping farm income high, are problems built into the agriculture industry.

However, agriculture experts, government officials, economists and some farmers see signs pointing to a bright future. There is growing world demand for U. S. farm production. Farm production is at an all time peak. Farm prices are reaching record levels. All of these are indications of a brighter future.

Efficiency is the key to survival. The efficient farmer is as hard-nosed as any businessman and operates on percentages and margins. For the most part, farms in the U. S. which are suitably equipped two-man operations, have proven to be most efficient. The real measure of efficiency output is per unit of input, and this seems most attainable within the capability of a well equipped two-man operation.

We at Monroe County Electric Co-Operative take our hats off to area farmers, and to the agriculture industry, for their ability to react to the changes in the agriculture industry and their capability to produce a plentiful supply of food for our nation, with a profit for themselves and at a cost the consumer can afford.

## Youth to Washington Contest Underway

Two area young people will be awarded an all-expense, one-week tour of Washington, D. C., June 8-15, 1974, by Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

The format of this year's program has been changed to encourage more participation from high school sophomores and juniors in area high schools. Students from Columbia, Dupo, Freeburg, Gibault, New Athens, Red Bud, Waterloo and Valmeyer High Schools are eligible to enter into competition.

This year a questionnaire will be attached to the entry forms. This questionnaire must be completed and returned to the cooperative office by March 15, 1974. The students with the five highest scores on the questionnaire will qualify as finalists. The five finalists then must submit a one page essay on the "Energy Crisis." Two winners will be chosen for the Washington tour.

An added attraction to this year's contest is that the five finalists will participate in a one-day tour of Springfield, including the State Capital and other points of interest.

Sophomores and juniors, all you have to do is pick up an entry form and answer the attached questionnaire and return it to the cooperative office by March 15, 1974.

Entry forms are available at your high school or may be picked up at the cooperative office at Waterloo.

## MATERIAL HANDLING SHOW SCHEDULED

A varied program of exhibits and demonstrations of farm mechanization and automating equipment, a garden tractor pull and a home show will be features of the 13th annual three-day Farm Materials Handling Show in Nashville, March 5-7.

Dealers and manufacturers of a wide variety of feed mixing, grinding, handling and storing equipment; machinery and set-ups for feeding, watering and handling livestock; electric equipment and controls; home heating, lighting and appliance equipment and ideas; and many other things for saving labor and increasing efficiency on the farm and in the home, have shown early desire to have displays at the show and to meet with the thousands of visitors expected for the event.

The annual Home Show, highly popular with homemakers and home economics groups, will have an expanded role in this year's Farm Materials Handling Show. An evening style show by homemakers will be an added attraction.

Highlighting the Wednesday (March 6) program will be a garden tractor pulling contest.

Most exhibits and activities will be in heated buildings at the Washington County Fairgrounds at the south end of Nashville, on Illinois Route 127. Larger farm equipment will be on adjacent outside display areas.

The show will be open without charge to all visitors from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m., March 5; 9 a.m. until 9 p.m., March 6 and 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., March 7. Lunch will be available on the grounds. High School FFA and Home Economics groups as well as 4-H club members throughout the region will be invited to the show.

The show has been sponsored throughout its 12-year history by electric power suppliers of the region, the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, and the Southern Illinois University School of Agriculture. It has had continual support from many exhibitors. More than 6,000 visitors attended the 1973 show last March.

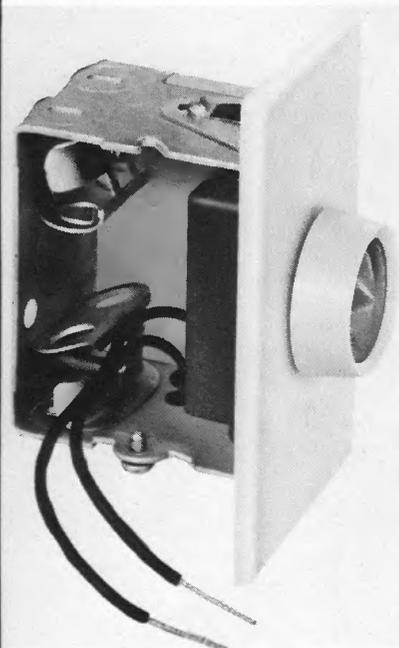


*A portion of the outside display area at the Washington County Fairgrounds, Nashville. Inside displays are contained in heated buildings.*

**? Did You Know**

**. . . that one U. S. farmer now supplies food and fiber for 45 persons as compared to only 23 persons just 10 years ago? The American farmer-rancher is truly a modern miracle worker!**

# what's new?



## Trimatron

Trimatron™, a new compact dimmer device is available from the Leviton Manufacturing Company. The compactness of the switch allows for maximum space inside switch boxes, making installation faster and easier and thin enough for any wall system including mobile/modular structures. Trimatron™ features a full dimming range with clockwise rotary action for reliable switch action. The 600-watt dimmer is backed by a full-year factory warranty.

## Microwave Oven

A new "dual-power" microwave oven that allows greater cooking flexibility, as well as improved browning and defrosting, has been introduced by Sears, Roebuck and Co. The unit uses two energy levels, the "high" setting is perfect for fast cooking and the "low" level permits defrosting. There are no temperature controls to set because the oven cooks by time, not temperature. To operate the unit, only the power buttons and the timer is needed. The oven automatically shuts itself off and a bell signals the end of the cooking time. The unit operates on a standard 120-volt household current; no special wiring is needed.



## Hard Work And Long Hours

(continued from page 14)

Schewe pointed out that it is important for the consumer to understand the dairymen's side.

"There are other risks to which the dairyman is subjected, such as medical care," Schewe said. "Any cow receiving medical treatment which is necessary to maintain a quality herd, is essentially out of production. Medicine affects the milk and it can't be sold. So, for several days a dairyman is losing money."

Schewe does see a future in dairy farming, particularly, on a larger scale. But the investment for such an operation is complex, too.

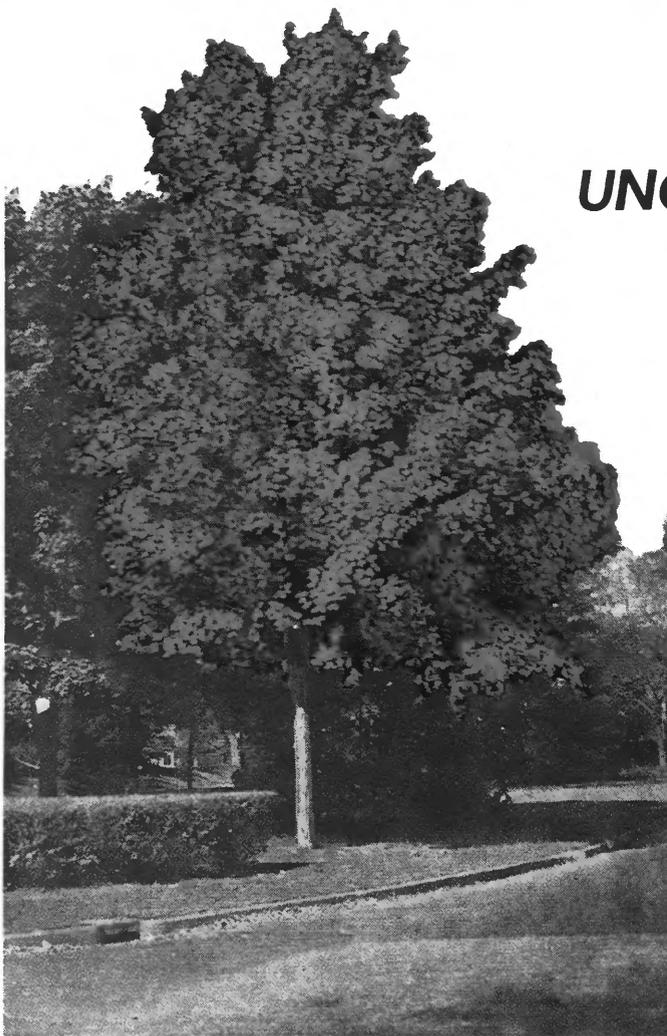
"Eventually I'd like to have a facility which would handle a 125-cow milking herd," Schewe said. "And to comply with new ideas in environmental protection, it would be a deodorized unit so the wind wouldn't carry the scent of the barnyard. But to set up such an operation, it would require an additional investment in equipment, buildings and an extra silo, which would cost about \$95,000."

Schewe's wife, Joy, was raised in St. Louis. But since her marriage, she has adapted to the dairy life quite well.

"I love the farm," she said. "At first it was hard to get used to getting up at 5 a.m. every morning, but now I don't mind at all. We milk twice a day but the only time I'm on duty is in the mornings. It takes us from about 5:30 to 9 a.m. to get the cows fed and milked, even with three of us working full time, Ron, myself and a helper."

Joy doesn't work during the evening's milking. A part-time employee joins with Ron and the full-time helper. It's not an easy job, although it may be enjoyable. It's also a seven-day-a-week, 52-weeks a year job, which doesn't leave much time for a vacation.

But thanks to the use of modern, electrically operated milking parlor, the Schewes do find their time to take a break from the yearly work.



Actual unretouched photograph of a five year scarlet maple.

**Beauty** — This beautiful shade tree blazes a brilliant red color in the fall and an olive green color in the springtime. Yes, recognized tree experts agree it is the one tree that delivers beauty throughout the year.

**Height** — This magnificent tree grows approximately 25 to 30 feet over a five year period (see photograph) and eventually soars to a height of eighty feet or more.

**Hardiness** — This tree is very hardy as the wood from maple trees is recognized as one of the hardiest.

**Adaptability** — "The scarlet maple has one of the widest ranges of our native trees, growing from eastern central Canada to Florida, and because of its ease of transplanting it adapts to any type of soil." (From All About Trees by E. Johnson). The one tree experts agree will grow anywhere in the U.S.A.

**TO BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME NOW ORDER TODAY ON A TWO WAY GUARANTEE**

Imagine! This beautiful tree shading your front yard and the looks of admiration and words of praise it will bring to your house and home. You'll agree it lends lovely contrasts to its surroundings. Now the retail price of this tree is \$4.98, but during this spring planting season our price is only \$4.49. Yes, just a mere \$4.49 for this beautiful shade tree. **ORDER TODAY—YOU WILL BE PLEASED.**

**TWO WAY GUARANTEE**

We are so sure that this is the most incredible shade tree that you've ever seen, here is our 2-way, ironclad guarantee: (1) If, upon arrival, you are not completely satisfied, then return for a full refund; (2) Free replacement, for any reason, up to one full year. When have you ever seen a stronger guarantee?

**UNQUESTIONABLY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FAST GROWING SHADE TREE IN AMERICA TODAY**

- This gorgeous tree is known as the scarlet maple, the red maple, or the **EVER CHANGING MAPLE**.
- Beautiful Red Scarlet leaves in the fall of the year, and beautiful deep dark green leaves in the spring of the year.
- Grows approximately 25-30 feet over a five year period, which makes it one of the fastest growing shade trees in America today.
- Many landscape architects, nursery men, and gardening experts refer to this tree as the "2 in 1" tree, because of its dual qualities of beauty and speed.
- Now is the ideal time to plant this tree.
- Shipped at 4 to 6 feet — all shipping cost paid.
- Due to the tremendous demand for this tree please allow two weeks for delivery.

**OUR CHALLENGE TO YOU**

It's almost too good to be true, but we feel so sure that these native collected trees are some of nature's most prized possessions that we are making you an outstanding offer. Our knowledge and experience of many years and our own research about this tree gives us confidence in the following challenge. If you can find just one negative comment by an expert printed in any magazine, periodical, or gardening book, we will give you any item from our catalogue of over 400 varieties absolutely free of charge. We send a catalogue with every order. This offer is hard to beat! We are sure that anything you read anywhere about this beautiful scarlet maple will have nothing but praise and acclaim.

**NURSERY BARN**

P.O. Box 712-C

McMinnville, Tenn. 37110

Please send us these beautiful shade trees, on a two-way guarantee, the trees indicated below.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Shade Tree ..... \$ 4.49             | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Shade Trees (Save \$6) ..... \$11.98   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Shade Trees (Save \$2) ..... \$ 6.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Shade Trees (Save \$12) ..... \$21.98  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Shade Trees (Save \$16) ..... \$39.98 |

I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in  cash  check  money order

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# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

Education is a tool of economic development. Although the vital role of education in the economic development process seems to be well recognized, what is not recognized or understood is that the type of career education needed is a proper mixture of college and vocational-technical education. Our growing technologically oriented nation naturally needs a growing college educated work force. But our economy also needs highly skilled and well trained craftsmen, tradesmen and technicians. However, our society has long overstressed the importance and need for college educated individuals and has underestimated the need and importance of a vocational-technical education.

An owner of a heating and plumbing business once said "College graduates are a dime a dozen, but what I need is a good plumber!" This is true of most any craft or trade. There is a declining number of adequately trained skilled craftsmen.

The Office of Education estimates that in the '70's, 50 percent of the job openings will require training beyond high school, but less than four years of college. In addition, 30 percent of the job openings will require some type of vocational training.

Our nation is growing at the fastest rate of technical change in economic history. Drastic changes already have and will continue to take place in the composition of the labor force. For example, it is forecast that 60 percent of the products to be manufactured and sold in the next decade have not yet been invented. By the year 2000 two-thirds of today's kindergarten students will fill jobs not yet in existence today.

On the local level, there is a definite need for well trained, capable tradesmen. I am sure you have, in the past, had need for an electrician, plumber, mechanic or some other type craftsman for emergency repairs and services. Television and appliance repairmen, maybe I should call them technicians, are always in demand. Here at the cooperative, few days go by without at least one call coming in requesting us to recommend someone for appliance or electrical repairs on farms and homes.

Today's modern farm relies more and more on electricity as a silent hired hand to perform daily farm chores. The more mechanical devices used, the more break-downs and emergency repairs can be expected. Trained

people are needed in these areas to provide consumers with better service in meeting such emergency repairs.

We see a growing demand for skilled technicians in various fields such as aviation, data processing, construction trade, dental health and automotive, among others.

Since the need for vocational-technical education is so great, then why is there such a gap between the number of students needing vocational training and the number of students actually receiving such training?

Through surveys it has been concluded vocational-technical programs, and facilities to implement such programs, need to be expanded on local, state and national levels. Students, parents, teachers and the business community need to be aware of the increasing job opportunities in these areas and should become familiar with the existing vocational and trade schools.

The Beck Vocational Center, near Hecker, is an excellent example of what can be done through cooperation. The cooperative board of directors and I commend the area school districts that were instrumental in its conception and are responsible for its operation.

## 36th Annual Meeting

The cooperative's 36th Annual Meeting will be held Monday, April 8, 1974 at 7:30 p. m. Registration will begin at 6:45 p. m. at the Waterloo Grade School gymnasium. This year the early bird prize, drawn promptly at 7:30, will be an electric portable kitchen outside barbeque grill. Attendance and door prizes will be awarded. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Mark your calendar—April 8, 1974 Monroe County Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting.

**ELECTRIFY**  
Conserve fuels in short supply

## NEWS FROM YOUR ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT



Wylie C. Jones  
Operation Eng.

As a part of a program to provide a continuing reliable service to its membership, Monroe County Electric Cooperative recently hired the service of the Davey Tree Service and its infrared detection vehicle to locate potential faults on the cooperative system.

The camera, mounted on the roof of the vehicle, measures and records the temperature differential between ambient temperature (air temperature) and that of a particular component of the line or substation measured. The higher the difference, the greater the fault potential. Extreme temperature differential indicates a problem exists and, if not repaired, will ultimately cause an interruption of electrical service.

In one day, the unit scanned 50 miles of multiphase feeder and transmission lines. All seven of the cooperative's substations were also checked for "hot spots." Of the portion of the system checked, there were only five faults detected. All potential faults detected were of a minor nature. The hottest was 36 degrees above ambient.

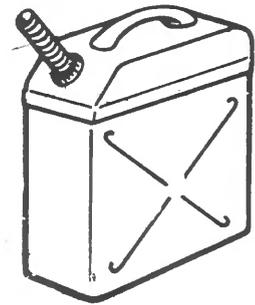
Since discovering these problem areas, all potential faults have been corrected. Finding so few "hot spots" or faults indicates the excellent condition of the cooperative's system. It also is indicative of the pride of workmanship of the linemen and supervisors of the cooperative. Very few times do these individuals get the recognition they are due. Too many times we take for granted the reliability of electric service received, without giving thought to those who provide and maintain this service. Congratulations to line foreman, Ermin Brinkman, and his line crew.

The use of this infrared equipment is one of the ways in which we strive to achieve and maintain our system so we can continue to provide reliable low cost electric service to our membership.



## *extra can of gas can kill you*

Properly used, gasoline supplies power for your lawn mower, outboard motor, farm tractor and, of course, your family car. But it is dynamite to carry an extra can with you in your car.



On a warm day, two safety experts placed a safety can full of gasoline in the trunk of a car, moved to a safe distance, left the

car's engine running and waited. Within 20 minutes the entire back of the car exploded. Why?

The safety container is designed to breathe and as the trunk of the car became warmer, the gasoline generated enough pressure to force vapors out past the cap. In the closed car trunk, the vapors ultimately reached explosive proportions which needed only some ignition source—a defect in the ignition or a short in the tail light circuit, for example—to touch off an explosion.

If you carry extra gasoline in your car, use only a container listed by a recognized testing authority. Put it inside the car, and keep the car windows open. Keep the can in the car as short a time as possible.

## FEEL TIRED?

If you are an adult of average weight, here is what you accomplish in 24 hours:

- \* Your heart beats 103,689 times.
- \* Your blood travels 168,000,000 miles.
- \* You breathe 23,040 times.
- \* You inhale 438 cubic feet of air.

- \* You eat 3¼ pounds of food.
- \* You drink 2.9 quarts of liquid.
- \* You lose 7/8 of a pound of waste.
- \* You speak 4,800 words, including some unnecessary ones.
- \* You move 750 muscles.
- \* Your nails grow .000046 inch.
- \* Your hair grows .01714 inch.



**\* Over \$17,000.00  
total protection  
for less than \$15.00/month**

In an insurance plan, Dad needs the most protection. But Mom should be protected, too, especially while the children are young. And the kids need some insurance to start with . . . protection they can always be sure of having, regardless of later health problems.

All of these are combined in Congressional's Life Plan -- an excellent, low-cost, starting plan for any family, and an equally good supplement for the family who needs added protection.

The total amount of coverage and the monthly premium will depend, of course, on Dad and Mom's age and the number of children in your family. Just send us the information on the form below and we'll tell you exactly how much protection your family would have and what it would cost.

Remember, you're not buying a thing. . . just getting the facts to make a decision. So clip the form below and mail now, while it's handy. Then, when you get the details, talk it over with your wife (or husband) and let us know if you're both interested. Fair enough?

*\*The above plan is based on family group of husband, age 30; wife, age 28; and four children. Similar coverage available at comparable rates for ages 21 to 55.*

Husband's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Wife's Age \_\_\_\_\_ No. of dependent children \_\_\_\_\_

**GR/C Congressional Life Insurance Company**  
GOLDEN RULE BUILDING • LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62439



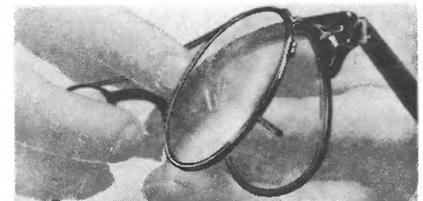
"You can't use it for a few minutes -- it's busy mixin' up a batch of biscuits."

## If Ruptured TRY THIS OUT

**Modern Protection Provides Great  
Comfort and Holding Security**

An "eye-opening" revelation in sensible and comfortable reducible rupture protection may be yours for the asking, without cost or obligation. Full details of the new and different Rice Support will be sent you Free. Here's a Support that has brought joy and comfort to thousands--by releasing them from Trusses that bind and cut. Designed to securely hold a rupture up and in where it belongs and yet give freedom of body and genuine comfort. For full information--write today! **WILLIAM S. RICE, Inc., ADAMS, N. Y., 13605 DEPT. 9P**

## Clip-On Magnifiers



Clip **MAGNIFIERS** on regular glasses. **SEE CLEARER INSTANTLY.** Read fine print. Do close work. Neat, metal frame. 10 day trial. **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.** Send age, sex. On arrival pay postman \$4.95 plus C.O.D. or send only \$4.95 and we pay postage. **PRECISION OPTICAL CO., Dept. 109-H Rochelle, Ill. 61068**

Get rid of all **ROACHES**  
and **WATERBUGS** with



**SURE KILL**

Or You Pay Nothing



Roaches eat Sure Kill greedily and return to their nests which they contaminate, starting a chain reaction that wipes out all other roaches and eggs.

Sure Kill never wears out, is absolutely odorless and safe to use. It contains no D.D.T. A single can cleans out six rooms and keeps them free of roaches and waterbugs for years. Money back guarantee. Send just \$3.98 for one can, two for \$6.98 postpaid.

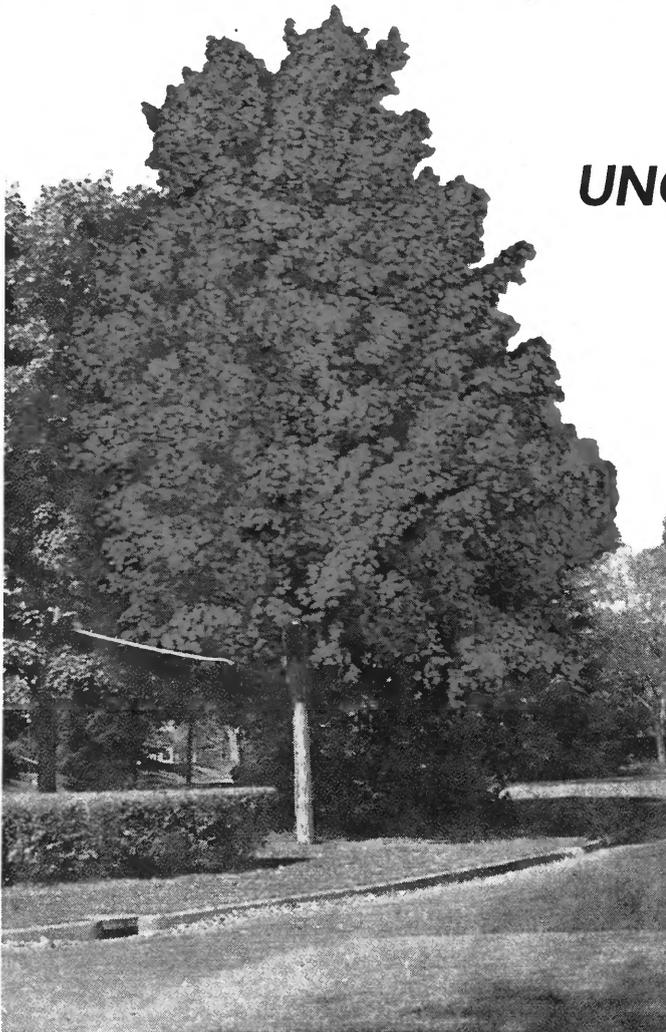
**FOX ENTERPRISES**

Box 211

**MARION, KY. 42064**

Mfr. and Distr.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



Actual unretouched photograph of a five year scarlet maple.

# UNQUESTIONABLY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FAST GROWING SHADE TREE IN AMERICA TODAY

- This gorgeous tree is known as the scarlet maple, the red maple, or the EVER CHANGING MAPLE.
- Beautiful Red Scarlet leaves in the fall of the year, and beautiful deep dark green leaves in the spring of the year.
- Grows approximately 25-30 feet over a five year period, which makes it one of the fastest growing shade trees in America today.
- Many landscape architects, nursery men, and gardening experts refer to this tree as the "2 in 1" tree, because of its dual qualities of beauty and speed.
- Now is the ideal time to plant this tree.
- Shipped at 4 to 6 feet — all shipping cost paid.
- Due to the tremendous demand for this tree please allow two weeks for delivery.

**Beauty** — This beautiful shade tree blazes a brilliant red color in the fall and an olive green color in the springtime. Yes, recognized tree experts agree it is the one tree that delivers beauty throughout the year.

**Height** — This magnificent tree grows approximately 25 to 30 feet over a five year period (see photograph) and eventually soars to a height of eighty feet or more.

**Hardiness** — This tree is very hardy as the wood from maple trees is recognized as one of the hardiest.

**Adaptability** — "The scarlet maple has one of the widest ranges of our native trees, growing from eastern central Canada to Florida, and because of its ease of transplanting it adapts to any type of soil." (From *All About Trees* by E. Johnson). The one tree experts agree will grow anywhere in the U.S.A.

## TO BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME NOW ORDER TODAY ON A TWO WAY GUARANTEE

Imagine! This beautiful tree shading your front yard and the looks of admiration and words of praise it will bring to your house and home. You'll agree it lends lovely contrasts to its surroundings. Now the retail price of this tree is \$4.98, but during this spring planting season our price is only \$4.49. Yes, just a mere \$4.49 for this beautiful shade tree. **ORDER TODAY—YOU WILL BE PLEASED.**

### TWO WAY GUARANTEE

We are so sure that this is the most incredible shade tree that you've ever seen, here is our 2-way, ironclad guarantee: (1) If, upon arrival, you are not completely satisfied, then return for a full refund; (2) Free replacement, for any reason, up to one full year. When have you ever seen a stronger guarantee?

## OUR CHALLENGE TO YOU

It's almost too good to be true, but we feel so sure that these native collected trees are some of nature's most prized possessions that we are making you an outstanding offer. Our knowledge and experience of many years and our own research about this tree gives us confidence in the following challenge. If you can find just one negative comment by an expert printed in any magazine, periodical, or gardening book, we will give you any item from our catalogue of over 400 varieties absolutely free of charge. We send a catalogue with every order. This offer is hard to beat! We are sure that anything you read anywhere about this beautiful scarlet maple will have nothing but praise and acclaim.

## NURSERY BARN

P.O. Box 712-C

McMinnville, Tenn. 37110

Please send us these beautiful shade trees, on a two-way guarantee, the trees indicated below.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Shade Tree ..... \$ 4.49             | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Shade Trees (Save \$6) ..... \$11.98   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Shade Trees (Save \$2) ..... \$ 6.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Shade Trees (Save \$12) ..... \$21.98  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Shade Trees (Save \$16) ..... \$39.98 |

I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in  cash  check  money order

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, since its inception in 1938, has been dedicated to providing a reliable continuity of service to its membership at the lowest possible cost. This philosophy of low cost reliable service is still being practiced by the board of directors and management of the cooperative.

There are several factors that are taken into consideration by the management of the cooperative concerning member assessments.

An important concern is how to maintain reliable electric service without injuring our environment. Ecology advocates and conservation groups have put strong pressure on legislators to the point where the Federal Government and the State of Illinois have enacted legislation that greatly affects the electrical industry in the area of air and thermal pollution from power plants, denaturalization of the landscape and right-of-way clearance for transmission and distribution lines. The industries and Monroe County Electric Co-Operative's goal is to ensure an adequate supply of dependable low cost power in such a manner as to protect our environment. But it cost money to meet the demands of the ecologists and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Inflation, one of the most widely discussed topics, has hit your cooperative the same as it has every other industry and individual in the U.S. The rising cost of inflation has affected every piece of equipment and material the cooperative purchases. The shortage of available materials is becoming acute. The economic axiom of "supply versus demand controls price" seems very appropriate at this time. For example, 1/0 Triplex conductor, used for service drips, has increased in price from \$170.00 per 1,000 feet in January 1973 to \$311.00 per 1,000 feet in January 1974, an increase of 83 percent. Thirty Class 3 & 4 poles have increased from \$26.79 each to \$61.15 each, an increase of 128 percent and in this same time period. Eight foot wood crossarms have increased from \$8.33 to \$15.95 each, a 91 percent increase and 10 foot crossarms have increased by 48 percent from \$13.56 to \$20.03 since January 1, 1973. These are just a few examples of the increased cost of materials. All other materials and supplies purchased have increased accordingly. In order to remain competitive in the

labor market and keep our employees from seeking employment with other utilities it was necessary to readjust our wage scale in 1973. The cooperative cannot afford to be a training ground for other utilities, thus we must meet the union wage scale paid by our competition. Wages paid by the cooperative over the past three years have increased a minimum of 18 percent.

In addition, the fuel adjustment clause, a part of our wholesale power contract with Illinois Power Company, has played an important role in determining the cost of power purchased by the cooperative. The cost of purchased KWH has increased by 18.2 percent since January 1, 1972, a total of \$106,409.20. Since power cost is 45.1 percent of the cooperative's total expense, you can readily see this is a substantial segment of the total cost of electric service. •

The above factors, some unanticipated, cost of materials due to shortage and inflation, the industries commitment to ecology and clean environment, increased labor cost and the fuel adjustment clause in our wholesale power contract have caused the cost of providing dependable reliable service to the membership to rise astronomically.

The board of directors and management after serious thought and deliberation have made the decision to absorb the increased cost of material and labor at this time as a part of our operating expense. However, effective with the July 15, 1974 billing, the increased cost of the power will be passed on by the cooperative to the membership and will be reflected in the new rate charts. There will not be an increase in the basic rate structure but the new books will reflect an estimated 2.5 mills power cost adjustment and the charge will be shown as a separate entry on the rate charts.

We ask your cooperation and understanding in this and other matters affecting the cooperative.

## NOTICE

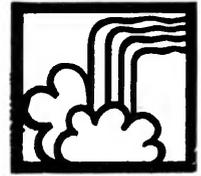
*In the past we have on occasion supplied materials to cooperative members as an accommodation. However, due to the shortage of supplies and material, Monroe County Electric Co-Operative must curtail providing material and labor for wiring beyond the members meter.*

# News Notes from Member Services



Willard P. Wiggers  
Member Services  
Director

## The Energy Situation



**WATER**

Only about 4 per cent of the nation's energy comes from water power. And we've already harnessed our best sources.



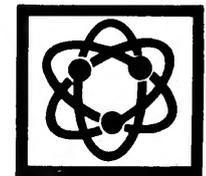
**GEO THERMAL**

Heat from the interior of the earth has been tapped in a small way at demonstration sites. Interesting but impractical for now.



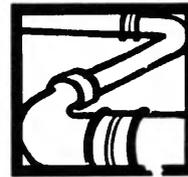
**COAL**

There's enough U.S. coal to last an estimated 400 years. Based on BTU values, coal makes up 88 per cent of the nation's energy reserves. Greater utilization of coal can keep our lights burning and our industry humming both now and for centuries ahead.



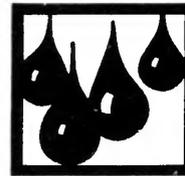
**NUCLEAR**

Promising but slow in developing. Atomic power *may be* our best bet in years to come. Now? No. Nuclear power today contributes less than one per cent of U.S. energy.



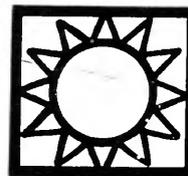
**GAS**

Our known gas reserves are dwindling fast. Within 15 years, demand may exceed existing domestic supply.



**OIL**

Known U.S. oil reserves may be depleted within 15 years. New discoveries are lagging. We are importing more and more foreign oil.



**SOLAR**

We would need perpetual sunlight. As yet, there's no practical way to store energy from the sun.



**WIND**

Too primitive. Windmills still work in some areas, but they're unreliable and inefficient.

## PLAN NOW FOR NEXT FALL'S ELECTRIC HEATING AND GRAIN DRYING NEEDS

Yes, that's right! Now is the time for making plans and arrangements for your electric heating and grain drying needs for this fall.

As far as grain drying is concerned, we may have good weather with a perfect drying season and have no need for drying equipment. On the other hand, it is more likely that we will have a slow drying season, one with a lot of rain or high humidity. These elements are not conducive to grain drying. With the large capacity of the picker-shellers and combine operation over most of our corn growing area, the problems of grain drying can become acute. Most grain elevators have problems of handling the great number of bushels of grain coming to them and do not have the facilities to dry the grain. Thus, it is up to the individual area farmer to see the moisture content of the grain is lowered to an acceptable market level.

Due to the shortage of materials and supplies, now is the time for you to make a decision on your grain drying needs. Grain bins, electric heating equipment and fans are not always available on demand. So, if you plan now and place an order with your supplier you may be able to get delivery for this fall's crop.

Electric heating equipment for the home is becoming harder to obtain. With the shortage of fuels for home heating, more and more home owners are installing electric heat in their new homes or are converting their older homes to electric heat. This has caused a great demand for electric heating equipment. Electric heating equipment that once had normal delivery time of 10 days to two weeks now takes three to four months in some cases and usually comes a piece or two at a time.

The same situation exists with the materials to up-date your wiring service. More than likely, if you are planning to increase the electrical load on your farmstead, the wiring and electrical service will need to be changed to carry the increased load. Please notify the cooperative of your plans so we can schedule this work and plan to have material available. The shortage of material, wire, poles, crossarms and hardware is becoming acute and at this time we cannot guarantee supplying your needs. But if we have advance notice we will be in a better position to meet the needs of the membership.

It is important, more so this year than others, to plan now for your grain drying and home heating needs. Your member service and engineering department at the cooperative stand ready to assist and aid you in preparing plans for your needs in these areas. We will be happy to determine heat losses and estimate annual costs for electric

heat, and assist you in sizing equipment for grain drying and handling.

Call us at the cooperative office, 939-7171, for assistance in these two areas.

Will they go on to college . . .



if you aren't around  
to help pay the costs?

In less time than you think, your grade-schoolers will be ready for college. But college costs come high these days...even higher in the future.

So if you have college plans for your son or daughter, let Congressional show you how life insurance can help.

Life insurance can GUARANTEE the financial help you'd provide...even if you aren't around to pay tuition and monthly costs yourself.

Life insurance can GUARANTEE cash values in a program that will help both you and your children meet the financial costs of a college education.

Congressional Life offers a handy, 48-page booklet of current, up-to-date costs at over 1,200 colleges throughout the nation. It's free, yours for the asking. Just complete and clip the form below, then tape or paste to a postcard, or insert in an envelope. Mail it to "College Costs Booklet", Congressional Life Insurance Company, Golden Rule Building, Lawrenceville, Illinois, 62439.

Yes, I'd like to have a free copy of the  
"College Costs Booklet"

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**Congressional Life Insurance Company**

GOLDEN RULE BUILDING • LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62439

Whittling away on his retirement

(continued from page 8)

gether, not put together after the links are made.

"A lot of people are always wondering how I make them," Day said. "It really isn't that hard after you make the first one. One boy who saw them kept looking at them and wondering where the cuts were to glue them together."

None of Day's work is for sale, because as he puts it, "I really can't put a value on it, so I don't sell my work. I just like making them."

There are a lot of people who have heard about Day's craftsmanship in making wooden objects. A local teacher has made tapes explaining Day's hobby for members of the United States Army overseas.

Day doesn't advocate whittling for everyone who retires. It takes a lot of time and a good deal of ability. If you are as good at it as he is, however, it might be worth the effort.

Get rid of all ROACHES  
and WATERBUGS with



**SURE KILL**

Or You Pay Nothing



Roaches eat Sure Kill greedily and return to their nests which they contaminate, starting a chain reaction that wipes out all other roaches and eggs.

Sure Kill never wears out, is absolutely odorless and safe to use. It contains no D.D.T. A single can cleans out six rooms and keeps them free of roaches and waterbugs for years. Money back guarantee. Send just \$3.98 for one can, two for \$6.98 postpaid.

**FOX ENTERPRISES**

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Mr. and Distr.

## If Ruptured TRY THIS OUT

Modern Protection Provides Great  
Comfort and Holding Security

An "eye-opening" revelation in sensible and comfortable reducible rupture protection may be yours for the asking, without cost or obligation. Full details of the new and different Rice Support will be sent you Free. Here's a Support that has brought joy and comfort to thousands—by releasing them from Trusses that bind and cut. Designed to securely hold a rupture up and in where it belongs and yet give freedom of body and genuine comfort. For full information—write today! WILLIAM S. RICE, Inc., ADAMS, N. Y., 13605 DEPT. 9P

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



# friends

A farm sale is a little bit of Americana reminiscent of quilting bees and roof-raising parties a century ago. It is a time for people getting together in rural areas, which is perhaps more important than the actual sale of goods.

A farm and household goods sale is a sad time also. Another man who tilled the soil and raised beef for others is leaving for the city or retiring to enjoy his later years. For the people at the sale who know him, it's almost a way of saying goodbye; we are glad to have known you.

Few farmers go through life without collecting a lot of household goods, antiques and assorted memorabilia, in addition to farm machinery and equipment. James Monti and his wife of rural Carlinville were no exceptions.

Monti, a member of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., Carlinville, held a sale recently to divest himself of articles he no longer needed and to accumulate some cash for his retirement.

You could see the site of the sale a couple of miles away. Cars and trucks lined the county road several hundred yards in either direction. Easily 200 people walked the grounds looking over the items for sale, deciding how much they would bid for a choice article and wondering if their bid would take home the prize.

Inside one of the sheds, area ladies started brewing the coffee, making the sandwiches and slicing the pie. Farm sales are all-day affairs and bidding tends to make one hungry.

Roy Weller, an auctioneer from Carlinville, started the sale with small household items such as clothes,

kitchenware and lamps. The bids didn't range too high, but they weren't expected to. The larger, more expensive items would come later. An antique wall telephone brought over \$50—a set of pictures only \$1.

Bidding itself is an art. For the uninitiated it often looks like no bid has been made, yet the auctioneer goes higher in his asking. A raised finger, a muffled voice from deep in the crowd and another item has been sold.

A sale moves quickly. The auctioneer seems never to cease his chatter. A pair of wine presses, wooden barrels, two antique stoves, a rifle and other items move quickly. Later in the day, the farm machinery—tractors, truck, plows and a combine—all go up for sale.

Underneath the exterior of the sale is a current of rural friendliness, where everyone is a neighbor and everyone wants to have a good time. People form in little groups around the yard, talking about the crops, the weather or maybe just about the people they've seen at the sale.

A farm sale isn't limited to farmers, nor to men or those over 40. Half the people are women, some coming to help with the food, others to bid. People you would automatically label "city" blend in and are made to feel welcome. Ages of the people range from babies in their mother's arms through teenagers to older people.

Late in the afternoon the last item goes up for bid and is sold. The auctioneer lays down his microphone, the ladies pick up their baked goods, the crowd trickles slowly home and the line of vehicles disappears.

For Jim Monti the sale was a successful venture. For his neighbors, it was a good way of saying goodbye.

# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

A lot of time and effort go into an annual meeting, from arranging for a speaker and prizes to preparing refreshments and allotting enough time for the program.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who put in some long hours and gave freely of their time to make our 36th annual meeting the success we feel that it was. To our employees, their families and just to our many friends who came by to lend a hand, we thank you! Without you, the meeting would have been far less than it was.

As for the meeting itself, it came off without a hitch. We were very pleased with the turnout and the participation. We think this proves why the cooperative system is so strong today—our members care.

There isn't space to show every aspect of the meeting, but here are some scenes:



President Robert W. Rippelmeyer of Valmeyer praised cooperative members for their farsighted approach to new challenges and reviewed several recent system improvements which will enable the cooperative to continue providing the best service possible.



Member Service Director Willard Wiggers got a little help from a friend, Candice Liefer, in picking out prize winners.



Republican cooperative member

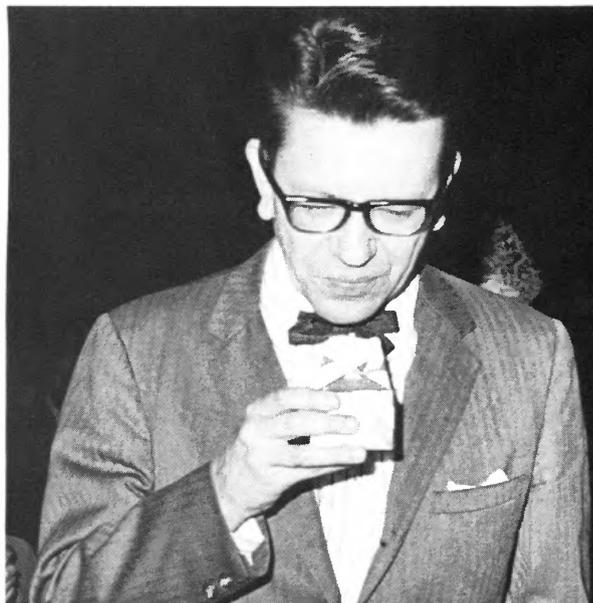


Jim Andrews, Employer's Insurance of Warsaw, left, presented a safety accreditation award.

# VIEWS FROM MONROE'S 36th ANNUAL MEETING



ate for U. S. Congress Val Oshel of Harrisburg took time out to talk to two after the meeting.



Former Lt. Governor and Democratic candidate for the U. S. Congress Paul Simon enjoyed a carton of milk and conversations with cooperative members during the meeting.



LeRoy V. Hard with



Manager LeRoy V. Hard told the members that, although they faced the gravest energy crisis in 30 years, he was confident that the cooperative system would survive it and prosper.



Over 600 members attending the annual meeting were treated to refreshments and heard optimistic reports by cooperative officers.

# what's new?



(continued from page 5)

sulphur made at the meeting.

"This fixation with sulphur," Bagge claimed, "is impeding the coal industry's expansion and hurting the nation's chances of ever attaining energy self-sufficiency."

Bagge also warned against putting too much faith in the development of synthetic fuels from coal.

"If coal is to contribute to meeting short to mid-term energy needs, its largest contribution will have to come from coal burned as coal," Bagge said. "Illinois coal can be burned in many locations in this state without damage to public health, property or state air standards."

Charles Schulze, senior fellow with the Brookings Institution in Washington, said the public should not be locked into paying "artificially high" prices for energy. He said the idea that higher energy prices should be welcomed is "just nonsense."

"The American consumer is paying \$19 or \$20-million more for his energy and getting less," Schulze said. "Forty percent of that went abroad and 50 percent goes into the domestic profits of the oil companies."

Attending the two-day conference from the Illinois electric cooperatives were: John Adkisson, Norris Electric Cooperative, Newton; Roy E. Horton and M. M. Jontz, Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative, Princeton; Maurice Johnson, Edgar Electric Co-operative, Paris; Wayne Laning, Adams Electric Co-Operative, Camp Point; Stanley Otten, Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative, Auburn; Arthur Peyton, McDonough Power Cooperative, Macomb; Dale Smith and James Holloway, Egyptian Electric Cooperative, Steepleville; Charles Witt, M. J. M. Electric Cooperative, Carlinville, and William Dean, Joe Spivey and Jim Pottorf, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield.

## Electric Range

A new 30 inch eye-level Connoisseur electric range is now available from the Whirlpool Corporation. The smooth-top is designed to provide heat distribution through the ceramic glass top. It features continuous cleaning ovens, controls under glass fluorescent light illuminate work areas and a digital clock controls the automatic oven and appliance outlet.



## Energy Saver Decals

Whirlpool Corporation is offering free energy saver decals with consumer tips for conserving energy on major home appliances. Included in the set are energy stickers for ranges, dishwashers, washers, dryers, refrigerators and room air conditioners. Interested homemakers can get a set of the six energy saver stickers by writing: Whirlpool Corporation, Energy, Benton Harbor, Mich., 49022.

Governor Dan Walker thought it important enough to proclaim a special day for it to be held . . . Lt. Governor Neil Hartigan took time from his busy schedule to talk about it . . . and Illinois electric cooperatives were extremely pleased to sponsor it.

IT was the first "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" and the second year of the "Youth to Springfield" tour. Over 110 essay finalists and chaperones from 10 Illinois electric cooperatives met in Springfield on May 8 to participate.

Cooperatives sponsoring the youth tour were Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point; Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc., Breese; Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon; Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, Paxton; Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, Steeleville; Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester; Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc., Waterloo; Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc., Greenville; Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, Fairfield and Western Illinois Electrical Coop., Carthage.

This year, 19 electric cooperatives in Illinois sponsored an essay contest in their area to select rural students to represent the cooperative in the annual "Youth to Washington" tour. This is the second year where finalists from many of the cooperatives have been honored and rewarded for their participation with an all-expense, full-day trip to the State Capital.

IT was the VIP's tour, too.

Governor Walker, although personally unable to attend, welcomed the students with

a proclamation which praised the young people for "their interest and achievements in rural electric youth activities, for taking advantage of the educational experience they are offered and for the responsible leadership they are developing." The Governor also wished them a most enjoyable and profitable visit.

After assembling at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield, for a tour of the state-wide facilities, the students boarded three buses and were whisked away for a tour of the Illinois House and Senate Chambers at the State Capitol Building.

While at the Capitol, the delegation was recognized on the floor of the Senate and given a round of applause by their legislators.

One of the day's highlights was an address from Lt. Governor Hartigan at a noon luncheon held in the students' honor at the Ramada Inn Forum XXX, Springfield's newest hotel and banquet center.

The Lt. Governor praised the students for their "outstanding achievements" as leaders in their respective

schools and for their willingness to participate when others have shrank from responsibilities and duty.

"You are the people who will lead this state and this country in future years," Hartigan said. "It is never too early to start thinking about what you want to do with your life. Take part. Participate. Get involved in the running of your state government. I have been in government for the past 12 years and I believe it is one of the most responsible and rewarding things one can do with their life."

During the luncheon, Miss Kathy Harriss of Fairfield, who is presently reigning as "Miss Illinois Electric Cooperative" and "Miss Rural Electrification, 1974" was presented a \$1,500 scholarship check by W. J. Shields, District Manager, Apparatus Distribution Sales Division, General Electric Co., St. Louis, Missouri. The check was presented to Miss Harriss on behalf of the General Electric Company for having been selected "Miss Rural Electrification" at the NRECA Annual Meeting held in February.

Other activities during the day included a tour of the Illinois State Museum, the Old State Capitol Building and the Lincoln Home and Tomb.

While students from seven of the cooperatives returned home in the late afternoon, more was in store for essay finalists from Adams, Illinois Rural and Western Illinois electric cooperatives. The group had the singular opportunity to meet with nine legislators, representing the 47th, 48th and 49th Legislative Dis-  
*(continued on page 15)*

## Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day



# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

The Board of Directors, management and employees of Monroe County Electric Cooperative are concerned about the continuity and reliability of service to the membership of the cooperative. We are constantly striving to reduce outage time per individual member.

Outage time is the average number of hours electric service is interrupted per member for one year. Outages are the results of power failure due to many reasons—high winds, electrical and rain storms, accidents involving cars and trucks, birds, snakes, squirrels and other animals shorting out equipment and lines. Outages are usually unplanned and uncontrollable.

On the other hand, outages are sometimes planned to allow the change-over of equipment and line maintenance. Planned outages most usually are scheduled late at night so as to involve as few members as possible. Other than your electric clocks being slow, many of you don't realize the power has been off.

The employees and management take pride in the low number of outage hours per member on the cooperative system. It is indicative of the condition the lines and equipment are in. Management is responsible to have available the latest and most reliable supplies and materials for maintenance and new construction in order to maintain a reliable continuity of service of the lowest possible cost.

The line crew takes pride in their skills and workmanship to properly install and maintain the cooperative lines and equipment in a good working order to assure you will have electric service when you want and need it. Poor and sloppy workmanship would show up like a sore thumb. You would not have the reliability and continuity of service if management and the employees were not responsive to your needs and did not take pride in their work and responsibility to the membership.

Speaking of outages, in 1973 our power supplier accounted for 38 percent of the total. One major accident in which a tractor trailer truck broke off one of the transmission poles along Route 3 accounted for 18 percent of the year's total outage time.

As you can see, two uncontrollable and unpredictable causes for outages accounted for 55 percent of the total outage time for 1973.

To aid in alleviating outage time and increasing our service to the membership, the Monroe County Answering Service has been in use almost two years now. Sherry Norton, who operates the answering service, now has gained valuable experience and knowledge of the cooperative system and is doing, we feel, an excellent job of handling outages during the off duty hours. Our hats off to Sherry for a job well done!

In case of an outage, it is necessary to call only our number day or night, weekends and holidays. The number is 939-7171.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THINGS certainly do change. When I was a kid we ate indoors and the bathroom was way out back. Nowadays, we eat out back and the plumbing is in the house.

NO MAN gives his wife as big an allowance as she makes for him.

WHAT the heart has once owned and had, it shall never lose.

—H. W. Beecher

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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## The Burn That Scars A Life

Denver plastic surgeon Didney E. Blandford repairs faces—faces that have been disfigured by accidents.

Perhaps the most tragic of all accident victims treated by Dr. Blandford are the young children who have suffered electrical burns of the mouth from extension cords.

The common household extension cord, so useful and seemingly so harmless, has burned and disfigured for life hundreds of young children who placed the receptacles in their mouths. Everything goes into the mouth of a small child, especially one who is teething.

Dr. Blandford says that the triple outlet extension is the chief offender. "Seldom are more than one or two of the outlets utilized. The outlet end is on the floor and a child between one and two is attracted to it." He puts the outlet into his mouth, and saliva conducts the current through a moist membrane that offers little resistance.

What occurs, in the words of Dr. Blandford, is a "tragic, disfiguring disaster." Apart from the initial pain, healing is slow and scarring is great. Severe cases defy all efforts of reconstruction by skilled surgeons and some disfigurement usually remains.

"The injury is apparent to all," says Dr. Blandford, "and particularly to the parents who are greatly upset by

feelings of guilt in allowing this 'unnecessary' accident to happen."

Wherever possible, it is best not to use extension cords, but even new homes usually don't have enough wall outlets. So the extension becomes a necessity. When it does, certain precautions should be followed.

To begin with, purchase a good one, not a cut-rate "cheapie." If there are small children in the house, it is probably best to use extension cords with self-closing outlets or one with plastic safety caps. On any extension it is important that the receptacle be made so that the prongs of the lamp or appliance cord fit securely.

Two studies, made in Boston and Denver, involving 20 electrical burns of the mouth, pinpointed poor plug fit as a key problem. In only two cases was there a snug connection between service cord and extension. In many cases it was impossible to close the gap so that a portion of the prongs was not exposed.

Similar conditions were noted when a random selection of extension cords was taken from a store's supply and tried with appliance service cords taken from the same store. The lesson here is: don't use an extension that doesn't fit tightly with your service cord.

An extension cord that is disconnected from the appliance cord should never be left plugged into the wall, especially where young children are present. Get into the habit of unplugging the cord at the wall outlet; then remove the appliance cord if necessary.

Despite all precautions, there may still be accidents if children don't know the hazards of electricity. Until a child is old enough to understand, the only solution is to keep him under a watchful eye. But by the time a child is four years old, he should have learned from you the basic rules of safety with electricity, including extension cords.

Electrical shock and burns can be prevented. Precaution is a small price to pay for a child's smiling face.

Reprinted from National Safety Council's Family Safety Magazine.

WHILE EXPERIMENTING, Greek mathematicians found one number which behaves very strangely when it is multiplied. It is the six-figure number 142,857. When it is multiplied by 2 the result is 285,714, the same figures differently arranged. The same phenomenon is repeated when it is multiplied by 3. The result is 428,571. Multiplying it by 4, we find 571,428; and multiplying it by 5 we have 714,285. When it is multiplied by 6, the groups of figures in the basic number merely change places, become 857,142. Continue this multiplication, and at 7 times, the number suddenly equals 999,999.

What if your  
**INCOME**  
 should suddenly



## Could you live **WITHOUT** your income?

Income is your biggest asset - - - worth more than all the property you have now - - - the source of all the property that you may have in the future. But income can be stopped by accident or illness. What then? Costs of medical care increase your monthly expenses. Will you be forced to spend your savings? Go into debt? Become dependent on others?

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For full details, or for other information, check the appropriate box below, complete the form, and mail today.

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(in addition to your present plan)

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(available to age 55)
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(mutual funds plus life insurance)
- EDUCATION PLAN  
(assures funds for a college education)

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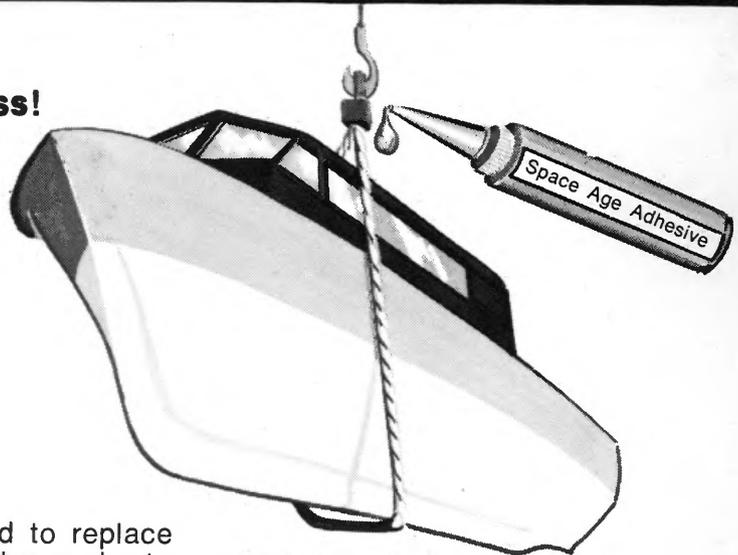
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# ONE DROP HOLDS 2 TONS!

- Set In Seconds!
- No Mixing. No Clamping, No Mess!
- Bonds rubber, plastic, metal, ceramic, glass, porcelain!
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- 132 Bonds to the Tube!
- One Square Inch Will Stand 5,000 lbs. pull!



New Space Age Adhesive was developed to replace nuts and bolts in American industry. It is used everyday to hold parts of planes, cars, tractors, derricks *together!* Now *you* can use it to hold almost everything and anything!

Imagine just one drop of Space Age Adhesive holds with up to 2 tons of tensile strength holding power. Not an ordinary epoxy, it can be used instantly without compounding—NO WAITING . . . NO CLAMPING or TIEING . . . NO MESSY MIXING! Dries to an invisible bond in seconds.

### Proven In Industry—Use It 1,000 Ways In Your Home

Your Space Age Adhesive applicator tube dispenses clear, colorless formula drop by drop. Use it everywhere. It's non-toxic. Resists chemicals, weather, moisture . . . indefinitely. The repair will be many times stronger than the original piece.

### Now In Handy Drop-by-Drop Applicator For Home Use!

Now for the first time Space Age Adhesive is available for home use in a Single-Drop Tube Dispenser. (132 bonds) for only \$2.50. It is ideal for use in your home or shop. You'll find it useful in 1,000 ways. It must bond *anything* stronger, tighter, neater instantly or your money refunded immediately.

### LOOK WHAT YOU CAN REPAIR INSTANTLY:

- Repair a bike.
- Permanently seal garden hose.
- Join cracked floor tiles.
- Repair broken dentures.
- Fix pots, pans, mixers, appliances.
- Make broken china and porcelain new again.
- Mend furniture.
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- Splice film, audio tapes.
- Bond a broken golf club, baseball bat.

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SAVE! Order TWO for only \$4.50 plus 50c  
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Enclosed is  check or  money order for  
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# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

During the past 12 to 18 months or longer, you have heard much about the energy crisis. We have written several articles in this column relating to the topic and our beliefs and understanding of its seriousness.

Although somewhat eased, we must face the fact that the energy crisis is here. As a nation, we no longer have the luxury of competition among fuel resources, coal versus gas or oil, or nuclear versus fossil fuels. All sources of energy are needed and must be developed.

While meeting the day-to-day problems of growing costs, accelerating demand and declining fuel reserves, the nation's electric industry must seek ways to better utilize existing fuels, and also develop new sources of energy. While doing this, we must take into consideration the conservation of fuels and environmental goals set by our country.

In this spirit, industry and government have joined together on an unprecedented level to carry out this country's top-priority energy research and development effort, the Clinch River Breeder Reactor Project. The aim of this project is to build the nation's first large scale demonstration fast-breeder reactor nuclear power plant, and to demonstrate the practicality of the fast breeder concept as an economical and environmentally acceptable energy source to generate electricity.

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc. and some 380 other public, private, municipal and cooperative systems throughout the country are providing \$250-million in support of the project. This is the largest industry commitment ever for a single energy research and development project. The cooperative's contribution to this project is \$6,923.80. The amount contributed was based on the number of kilowatts sold. The first annual commitment was paid in August, 1973.

You may ask, what is "Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactor?" It is called a breeder because it produces more fuel than it consumes. When a uranium atom is induced to fission (broke apart) in a nuclear reactor, sub-atomic particles, called neutrons, are released along with the heat energy used to generate electricity. Some neutrons go on to split other uranium atoms, thus sustaining the nuclear chain reaction.

## Cost of Using Electric Appliances

Did you ever wonder how much it costs to operate some of your appliances? The following table lists the most popular appliances, their average annual KWH consumption and average annual operating cost under normal usage. (Source of usage: Electric Energy Association 1972 cost based on .02 cents per KWH) We have had several requests for this information.

	Annual KWH	Annual Operating Cost
Blender	5	\$ .30
Broiler	100	2.00
Carving Knife	8	.16
Coffee Maker	106	2.12
Deep Fryer	83	1.66
Dishwasher	365	7.30
Frying Pan	186	3.72
Mixer	13	.26
Oven (Microwave)	300	6.00
Oven (Self-Clean)	1,150	23.00
Range	1,175	25.50
Toaster	39	.78
Trash Compactor	50	1.00
Freezer 15 cu. ft.	1,200	24.00
Freezer 15 cu. ft. (Frostless)	1,761	35.2
Refrigerator-Freezer 14 cu. ft.	1,137	22.74
Refrigerator-Freezer 14 cu. ft. frostless	1,828	36.56
Clothes Dryer	1,000	20.00
Iron	145	2.90
Washing Machine	103	2.06
Water Heater	4,200	84.00
Air Conditioner (Room)	1,388	27.76
Dehumidifier	375	7.50
Fan Attic	290	5.80
Fan Window	175	3.50
Heater (Portable)	180	3.60
Humidifier	165	3.30
Hair Dryer	14	.28
Heat Lamp	13	.26
Shaver	2	.04
Sun Lamp	16	.32
Radio	86	1.72
TV (black and white)	362	7.24
TV (color)	502	10.04

The breeder will produce about five pounds of fuel for every four pounds it consumes.

The cooperative has a set of slides and script concerning the development of the Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactor. We would be happy to present this program to groups and organizations. For information contact the cooperative office. Phone 939-7171.

# INSULATION-

## Key to Energy Conservation

The remarkable growth of electrically heated homes in the past was due to several reasons—its cleanliness, the high degree of comfort it provided, ease of temperature control, low maintenance, quietness and economic operation. More recently, in addition to the above benefits, you can credit the energy crisis as a catalyst to the popularity of electric heat. The shortage of fuels such as gas and oil, not to mention the increase in price of these products, has incited the largest movement ever to electric heat. This, along with the development of the electric furnace and the heat pump, has revolutionized the electric heating industry.

Operating economy is achieved by the combination of efficient modern electric heating equipment and full insulation of a home. Proper insulation significantly reduces the amount of energy consumed in heating and cooling.

The primary purpose of home insulation is to provide resistance to the flow of heat—whether it's heat escaping from the house in the winter or entering the house in the summer.

Once, inches of insulation were used as a measure of insulation value. Today, insulation is measured by its R-Factor (resistance to heat flow). The R-Factor or value of an insulation shows the heat stopping ability of the product. R-Value labeling on all insulation products is required by Federal Specification HH-1-521D.

The R-Value takes into account the influencing factors of thickness and conductivity of an insulating material. The greater the R-number, the greater the insulating value.

We at Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc. recommend the following minimum R-Values of insulation for electric heated or air conditioned homes:

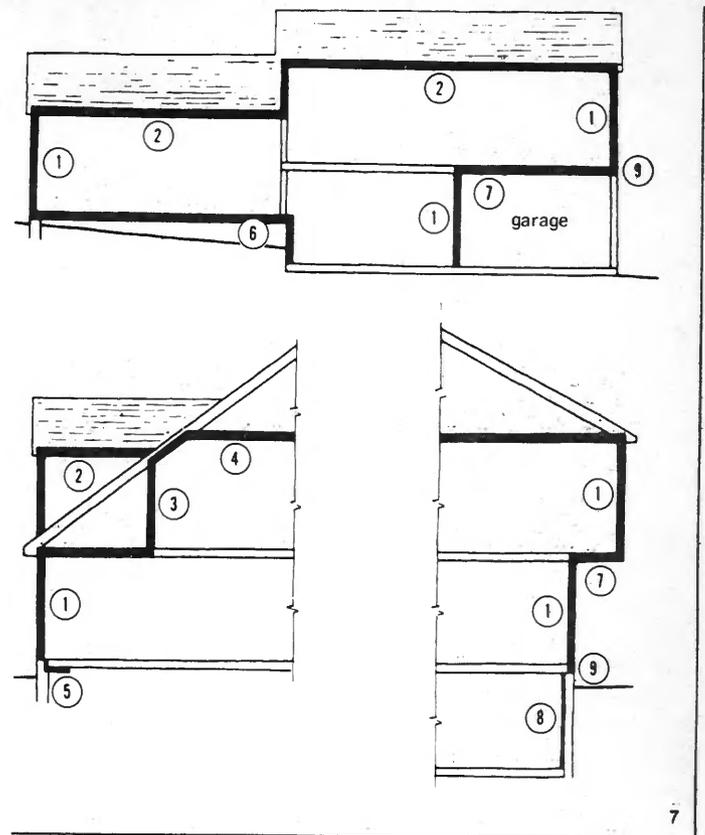
Ceilings . . . . .	R-22
Walls . . . . .	R-13
Floors over unheated spaces . . . . .	R-11

We recommend the use of a vapor barrier (polyethylene sheeting) three to four mils thick on the warm side of the walls. If you have sufficient attic ventilation, a vapor barrier on the ceilings is optional. Little or no ventilation requires a vapor barrier in the ceiling. (Recommended ventilation is generally agreed to be 1 sq. ft. inlet and 1 sq. ft. outlet for each 300 sq. ft. of ceiling area).

In lieu of insulating the floor over unheated crawl space, you may want to insulate the perimeter of the foundation to a depth below the frost level of the ground. This can be done by using rigid styrofoam or urethane foam boards.

Effective insulation properly installed is the key to successful and economic comfort conditioning. If you are planning on building a new home or remodeling your old home and need further information about proper insulation, contact the cooperative office at Waterloo. Phone 939-7171.

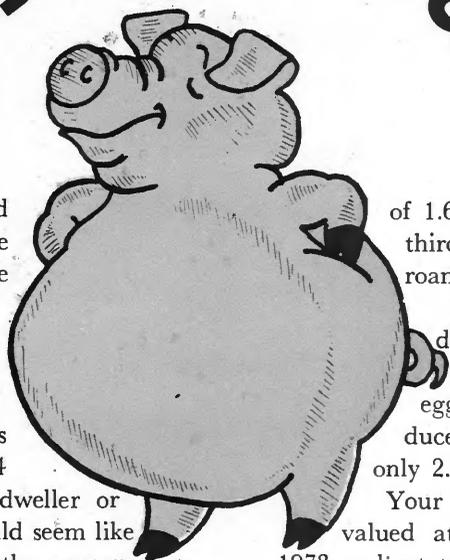
## LOCATIONS FOR INSULATION



## Where to Insulate a Home

1. Exterior walls. Sections sometimes overlooked are the wall between living space and an unheated garage or storage room, dormer walls, and the portion of wall above the ceiling of an adjacent section of a split-level home. Pack insulation in narrow spaces between jambs and framing.
2. Ceilings with cold spaces above and dormer ceilings. An attic access panel can be insulated by stapling a piece of mineral wool blanket to its top.
3. Knee walls when attic space is finished as living quarters.
4. Between collar beams, leaving open space above for ventilation.
5. Around the perimeter of a slab on grade.
6. Floors above vented crawl spaces. When a crawl space is used as a plenum, insulation is applied to crawl space walls instead of the floor above.
7. Floors over an unheated or open space such as over a garage or a porch. The cantilevered portion of a floor.
8. Basement walls when below-grade space is finished for living purposes. Mineral fiber sill sealer between sill and foundation provides an effective wind infiltration barrier.

# everybody's farm



If all the land used for farming in the United States were divided equally among U.S. families, what would be your family's share?

The answer is slightly less than 24 acres. To the city dweller or suburbanite this would seem like room to roam. But the average farmer, accustomed to 385 acres, might feel a bit cramped.

About 20 of your 24 acres would be actually in your farm. Nearly 7.5 acres of your farm would be cropland; 9.5 would be grassland or range. You also would have about three acres of woodland which you use for grazing, and less than an acre in farmstead, roads and non-farm uses.

In addition to land in your farm, you would run livestock on about four acres of land rented or leased from the Government. About half would be grassland, pasture and range, and the rest would be woodlands—mostly lands administered by the Forest Service.

Although your farm contains nearly 7.5 acres of cropland, you planted less than five acres to crops in 1973. The rest of it was in farrow used for pasture, held out of production under Government programs, or idled for one reason or another. You had over an acre in corn and in hay, and soybean and wheat fields of nine-tenths of an acre. Most other crops were on garden-sized plots.

Your herds and flocks present some puzzling biological problems. You had only one-fifth of a dairy cow, but she managed to produce 2,150 pounds or 250 gallons of milk in the year. The beef cattle herd of 2.0 head dropped nine-tenths of a calf, while your lone hog had a litter

of 1.6 pigs. Only one-third of a sheep roamed your pasture.

You had 5.6 hens during 1973. They laid 103 dozen eggs. You also produced 56 broilers, but only 2.5 turkeys.

Your family farm was valued at \$4,814 on the 1973 real estate market. As the year began, you had \$638 worth of livestock and poultry on hand and \$262 worth of crops. Investment in machinery and motor vehicles amounted to \$726.

If you are a city man, this farm may give you more elbow room than you are accustomed to, and perhaps something of the spirit of agrarian living. But, as every farmer knows, it won't make you rich.

Your 24 acres grossed \$1,684 in

1973. Production expenses took \$1,198 of that, leaving you a net income of only \$486.

## World's Fastest, Easiest Fencing!



## tep-POSTS 66" PLASTIC LINE POSTS

New 72" Line Posts, Heavier & Larger

- Strong, Durable, Attractive
- Non-Conductive, Non-Corrosive
- Drive-in Easily with Teppo Driver
- No Digging, Setting, Filling

Build your fences the easy way with TEPCO Line Posts—just like hundreds of ranchers and farmers throughout the nation are doing. Tep-Posts are strong, light weight and durable. Easy to carry in quantity. Weighted steel driver is necessary to drive in the Tepco posts. Wire clip fasteners and postdriver furnished at nominal costs.

Get literature on line fence posts and 48" electric posts

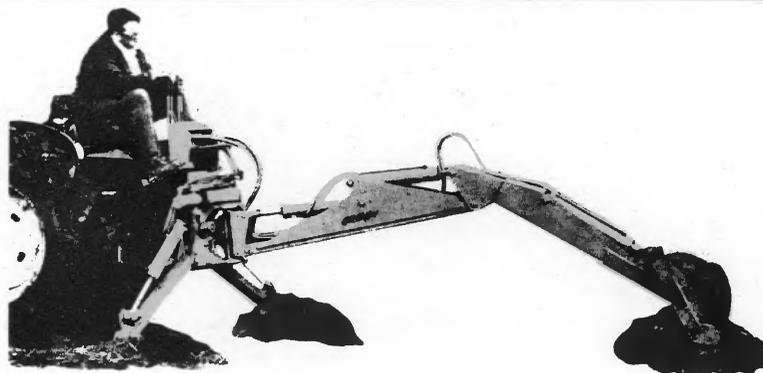
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# GRIZZLY

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A TRULY RUGGED AND DEPENDABLE  
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A NEW INNOVATION IN DIGGING WHICH UTILIZES YOUR PRESENT TRACTOR

The powerful GRIZZLY BACKHOE simply and quickly field mounts to three point hitch farm and industrial tractors and other prime movers, such as skid loaders. A built in compensating valve allows successful operation from either an open or closed center hydraulic system. An optional hydraulic pump kit is available for prime movers without center hydraulics.

Whatever your field of endeavor, be it contracting, farming, ranching, trenching, landscaping, irrigation work, cemetery openings, etc., the GRIZZLY BACKHOE allows FULL use of your tractor for hook up of a rear mounted or mid mounted tool after your digging and ditching chores are finished. Get the most from your investment with this detachable excavator.

For more information see your Grizzly (Impl.) dealer or contact the

Ill. rep., Bob Dickey — P. O. Box 826 — Chatham, Ill. 62629, Ph. 217-483-3324.

See the Grizzly at the  
Ill. State Fair

mission, the Federal Power Commission, the U.S. Justice Department or other governmental or regulatory agencies.

Cooperative leaders are resigned to paying a higher price for wholesale power but insist that such increases be reasonable and consistent with the actual cost of providing service to the cooperatives. Some increase, however is, as one official put it, "a sign of things yet to come."

Air pollution control facilities at power plants is a relatively new, but an increasingly expensive, factor in the cost of wholesale power cost which you, the consumer, must ultimately pay.

If a power company burns coal with more than one percent of sulfur content, current federal regulations require that the company remove the sulfur dioxide waste-product before it is emitted into the air.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) urges utilities to buy gigantic scrubber control systems to remove the sulfur dioxide.

The EPA estimates by 1980 one of every three plants burning coal will have to use scrubbers. Cost of these scrubbers is an estimated \$5.4

billion.

Furthermore, the EPA encourages state utility commissions, the agencies which decide if and when a private power company can increase its rates, to allow such costs to be passed on to consumers.

Increased wholesale power cost is only one of the reasons your electric bill is going up. The cost of electricity is rising for much the same reasons the cost of everything else we buy is rising—inflation.

Electric loads continue to grow and cooperatives must continually increase their plant by extending service to new customers and by replacing old worn out equipment with new.

In fact, many of the poles the cooperatives installed are now as much as 35 years old and nearing the end of their useful lives. The poles to replace the decaying ones will cost five to 10 times as much as the originals did 35 years ago. Maintaining service while the pole is being replaced is even more difficult than new construction and adds to the cost.

Poles are just one example.

Dean Searls, manager of Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point, recently presented a staggering

list of rising material cost figures to members at the cooperative's annual meeting.

Consider the following prices Adams Electrical, as well as other cooperatives, are now paying compared to prices paid at the end of 1972, just a year and a half ago:

—Crossarms to support the distribution lines have nearly tripled in price—from \$4.88 to \$14.88 each.

—Copper wire, used in transformers and in line construction, has jumped 50 to 75 percent.

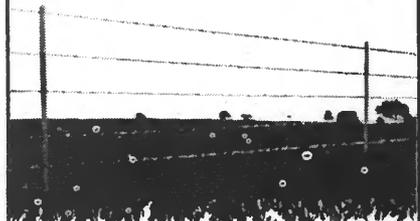
—Conductor used in the lines you see along the road has in some cases doubled and tripled in price since the end of 1972 and is often hard to find at any price.

"Construction costs have almost doubled during the past two years," Searls said. "The most serious question is—when will prices level off?"

If high prices for materials were not enough to contend with, cooperatives are also facing shortages of steel, aluminum, copper, timber and other construction material. If a

*(continued on page 28)*

## World's Fastest, Easiest Fencing!



## tep-POSTS 66" PLASTIC LINE POSTS

New 72" Line Posts, Heavier & Larger

- Strong, Durable, Attractive
- Non-Conductive, Non-Corrosive
- Drive-In Easily with Topco Driver
- No Digging, Setting, Filling

Build your fences the easy way with TEPCO Line Posts—just like hundreds of ranchers and farmers throughout the nation are doing. Tep-Posts are strong, light weight and durable. Easy to carry in quantity. Weighted steel driver is necessary to drive in the Tepco posts. Wire clip fasteners and postdriver furnished at nominal costs.

Get literature on line fence posts and 48" electric posts

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# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

Everyone's electric bill has been up over the past year throughout Illinois and the bi-state region. No matter who provides the service, the rising cost of fuel to generate electricity flows to the consumer.

For years, the commercial power companies have added fuel cost to their consumer billings. Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc. and other rural electric cooperatives have absorbed the fuel cost on wholesale power purchased from power suppliers until just recently, and nothing extra was added on cooperative billings to our membership.

The rate chart which you recently received along with your new billing cards reflects fuel cost adjustment of .0015 mils per kilowatt and is shown as a separate entry on your rate sheet. It was with much thought and deliberation the fuel cost, which the cooperative has been absorbing in cost of wholesale power, was passed on to the membership by your Board of Directors and management.

The energy crisis caused fuel prices to zoom upwards to the point the electric cooperatives could no longer absorb the cost. There simply was no alternative.

However, if fuel costs continue to escalate, the cost of generating electricity will continue to climb and could become a serious matter to consumers everywhere, regardless of their power supplier—municipal, investor-owned or a rural electric cooperative. We, therefore, urge the conservation of fuels to help keep fuel supplies at a low reasonable cost.

The matter of fuel cost and having to pass such costs to our membership is of great concern. Every effort is being made to serve our membership at the lowest possible cost, yet still maintain a reliable continuity of service to our member-consumers.

As a matter of interest, although it may be no consolation, I am going to quote an excerpt from a letter sent by Consolidated Edison of New York to its consumers: "Regarding fuel costs and your bills, the simple fact is that as of January 1, 1970, an electric heat customer using 4800 KWH (the average consumption in one winter month) paid a fuel adjustment charge of \$1.28 and an energy charge of \$67.89. As of February 21, 1974 for the same amount of electricity, that customer paid a fuel adjustment charge of

\$104.57 and an energy charge of \$91.78. Thus, of a total increase of \$127.18 in his fuel adjustment and energy charge, \$103.29 of the increase was in the fuel adjustment charge alone, and most of that was in the last few months. Only the remaining \$23.89 was the result of increased Consolidated Edison rates."

I am sure, we both are astonished by the tremendous increase in fuel adjustment cost listed above. We are not trying to alarm anyone but merely want to point out and make you, the member, aware the fuel crisis and costs are not a passing matter. They are a condition which needs our undivided attention and a problem which needs to be dealt with on national, as well as local, level.

## NOTICE

*In the past we have on occasion supplied materials to cooperative members as an accommodation. However, due to the shortage of supplies and material, Monroe County Electric Co-Operative must curtail providing material and labor for wiring beyond the members meter.*

## the "broken e"

★★★★☆



★★★★☆

The United States Department of Agriculture is using a star studded "broken e" symbol, indicating a break in energy in its energy conservation campaign. The education-information campaign is aimed at both consumer and farmer, alerting them to energy-conserving steps they can take. You will see the symbol appearing alone, in slogans, on publications and on auto stickers. It certifies that the user is aware of the energy problem and is cooperating in conservation activities which can range from car tuneups for more fuel efficiency to keeping the thermostat turned down.

## News Notes from Member Services



Willard P. Wiggers  
Member Services Director

# THE HEAT PUMP

With the rising cost of fuels, more and more people are turning to electricity as their primary source of heat. There are four basic types of electric heat available for residential heating: 1. Ceiling cable 2. Baseboard 3. Electric Furnace 4. Heat Pump.

Today's home builders are inquiring about the heat pump more than ever. I would like to explain the heat pump, its operation, performance and reliability.

Heat pumps perform the job of heating and cooling the home with a single piece of equipment. Heat pumps, as the name implies, pump or move heat from one area to another. Strange as it may seem, during the winter the heat pump takes heat from the outdoors and pumps it inside. During hot weather, the flow is reversed and the indoor heat is moved to the outdoors.

Contrary to common belief, heat pumps are not a new development. They were first commercially introduced in the 1940's. But now, for the first time, heat pumps are being accepted as a source of heat.

Two inherent advantages of the heat pumps are that it furnishes both heating and cooling from the same package and during most of the heating season it has a COP (Coefficient of Performance) of better than (1) one. COP is an engineering term that describes how much output is received from a certain amount of input. In the case of heating, this describes how much heat is given off in comparison to the power consumption in kilowatt hours. With conventional electric resistance heat (Baseboard for example), one (1) KW of electrical input will give about 3400 BTU/hour output or a COP of one (1). With the heat pump operating at 40 degrees Fahrenheit outside temperature, one KW input will equal about 6800 BTU/hour output or a COP of (2) two.

I want to point out the COP of any heat pump will vary with the outdoor temperature. In general, the COP of a heat pump will be close to (1) one, or about equal to that of resistance heating, at a temperature of zero degrees Fahrenheit.

Due to the higher COP of the heat pump, it is safe to reason operational cost will be less than resistance type electric heat. Field observation and testing show a savings up to 20 percent.

On the other hand, there are some disadvantages to the heat pump. They are generally more expensive to install. In the midwest, you need some type of auxiliary heat unit.

AUGUST 1974

Most commonly installed is the electric furnace. Another factor is the necessity for qualified heating and air conditioning contractors to install and maintain the unit.

In the past, the manufacturers of heat pumps were experiencing some compression problems. However, these shortcomings were to the consumers' advantage, because they have resulted in redesign of the compressor, and field tests are showing the heat pumps are performing at improved reliability.

These are some of the advantages and disadvantages of a heat pump. As an overview, I would suggest you know your contractor and purchase a heat pump with a good reputation and warranty. The heat pump is efficient and comes at a time when fuel and electric rates are rising and a time when the wise use of electricity is a nationwide goal.

If you have further questions concerning the heat pump, contact your heating and air conditioning contractor or the cooperative office.

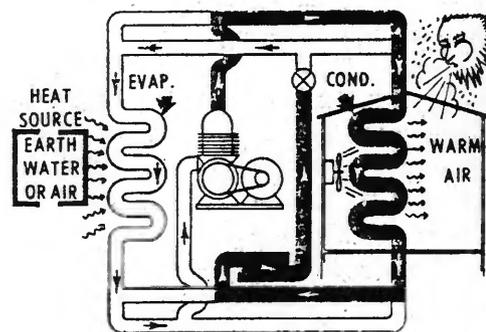


Figure 1: A heat pump works on the same principle as a refrigerator or air conditioning system except that the flow through part of the system is reversed for heating. This drawing shows the working parts of a heat pump and the flow through the unit when it is used for heating.

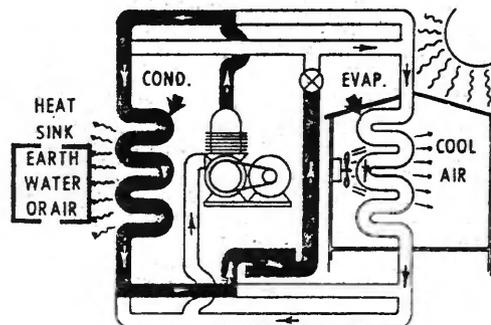


Figure 2: The flow through a heat pump when it is used for cooling.

THE PENTAGON in Washington, D.C., is the world's largest office building. The floor area is approximately 6,500,000 square feet. It covers 34 acres, is five stories high and consists of five rings of buildings connected by 10 corridors, with a four-acre pentagonal court in the center.

The daytime population is more than 28,000; 70 percent are civilians. There are over 45,000 phones and 200 switchboard operators. Meals are provided by two restaurants and six cafeterias. There is also a bank, a drug store, medical and dental clinics, and other facilities for the convenience of Pentagon personnel.

With its buggy and train rides, one might call it an amusement park. But Old Bagdad Town and the Amish community proclaim it a historic site and the floral and rock displays make it a flowery paradise.

Perhaps it's better just to call Rockome Gardens one of a kind.

The curious blend of amusement park, historical site and floral wonderland is what makes Rockome unique. It also makes it one of Illinois' most attractive and visited tourist spots.

Located five miles west of Arcola off I-57, Rockome is the product of two different designers—Arthur Martin and the present owner, Elvan Yoder—and one great ethnic influence, the Amish community which surrounds it. Electrical power for Rockome Gardens is supplied by Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon.

Martin, a wealthy industrialist from Arthur, started the floral design of the Gardens in 1939, during the latter days of the Depression.

When his business could no longer sustain his employees, Martin used them to work on his estate, rather than turn them out on the welfare roles. He bought tons of native Illinois rocks, which his workers broke by hand and inlaid into cement to form the rockwork and fences for which Rockome is noted for today.

In 1951, Martin donated the 208-acre farm to the Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities for use as a retirement haven for missionaries. Seven years later, the Board sold the farm and gardens to Yoder, himself a Mennonite who had been reared in the Amish faith.

"I bought the land originally to farm it," Yoder said. "My wife and I were raising three sons and a daughter and everyone helped plant and weed the flowers and keep the rock formation patched."

And when thousands of people drove by to view the gardens from the road, Yoder realized farming



# Cut off the electricity and your life can be drastically affected for several hours.



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Like electricity, good health is something we often take for granted. But just as lightning can suddenly cut off the electrical power, disability can just as quickly cut off your earnings. At a time when medical bills are added to the cost of everyday living, the loss of your income can be especially serious.

Your Disability Income Protection Plan can help see to it that you will have money to live on when you are unable to work because of a covered illness or injury. Underwritten by Mutual of Omaha, this plan can pay you from \$100 to \$800 a month depending upon the plan you choose and qualify for. These are tax-free benefits to help replace your paycheck. You use it on your family's needs as you see fit.

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# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

National Farm Safety Week was observed the week of July 25-31, 1974. The purpose of this week was to focus attention on accidents which afflict farm families, and suggest preventive measures to reduce them. Although Farm Safety Week is observed annually, we must be safety conscious 52 weeks a year.

With the harvest season approaching, I cannot think of a more opportune time for you to place emphasis on safety, particularly with grain harvesting equipment. Common sense and knowledge of the task you are performing is the key to accident prevention. Most farmers know the various rules of harvest safety. But sometimes—because of time pressures or fatigue—some of the rules are forgotten or ignored. Just one mistake or mental lapse can be crippling—perhaps even fatal. So think safety 52 weeks a year.

Speaking of safety, the cooperative is proud of its safety record. We are one of three cooperatives out of 27 in the State of Illinois, that has received safety accreditation by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Safety Accreditation Committee. At our annual meeting Employers of Wausau Insurance Company presented an award to the cooperative for 121,106 man hours of work without a disabling injury. This is for the period of May 26, 1970 through December 31, 1973.

The awards and safety accreditation are nice to have and hang on the walls. But most important is the fact both employees and management practice and think safety

at all times.

Here at the cooperative the linemen and outside personnel have been attending job training and safety meetings on a monthly basis for several years. Within the past few months a similar type of program has been instituted for the inside and office employees. These safety sessions are coordinated through the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives' Job Training and Safety Program available to all cooperatives throughout the State of Illinois.

You have noticed, I am sure, that we have now mentioned job training several times. We feel job training and knowledge of the task you are going to perform is the key to accident prevention. Just as it is important for our employees, particularly the linemen who are working with high voltage, to know their job and the equipment they work with, it is equally important for you to know the operation of and capability of the farm equipment you operate. If you are not familiar with a piece of equipment, a new self-propelled combine for example, it is best you not try to operate it until you become familiar with its operation.

As we mentioned earlier, pressure of time and fatigue are the two most prevalent causes of farm accidents. We urge you to take extra caution when you are in a hurry to get the job done or when you have been on the job 10 to 12 hours. These are the occasions when you throw caution to the wind.

Remember to "Take Time to be Safe" and "Think Safety 52 Weeks a Year."

## RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE

This year, for the second straight year, the cooperative used a helicopter service to aid in right-of-way maintenance. This annual spraying program has been set up to maintain the necessary right-of-way over a three year period. We spray approximately one third of the foliated right-of-way each year. (Foliated right-of-way is that which has brush and trees growing under the cooperative's transmission and distribution lines).

Now that we have had two years' experience in this method of right-of-way maintenance, we have found it to be successful with approximately 90 percent root kill. This will give longer control on vegetation. We have had very little damage as a result of using the helicopter spraying service.

The product used, LPL-21 Herbicide, has been approved by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for use on utility right-of-way maintenance. The helicopter spraying service and its pilot, Jim Shaw, is licensed by the State of Illinois and is also approved by the state EPA.

As stated previously, the use of the helicopter spraying service is successful. It saves man hours in performing right-of-way maintenance; therefore, it is more economical and faster than hand spraying as we have done in the past.

The cooperative's policies and goals are to provide low cost and reliable electric service to its membership. By implementing new, less expensive methods of operation such as the spraying service, we can maintain the reliability of service you are accustomed to.

\*\*\*\*\*

SIGN in a restaurant: "T-bone 25 cents, and in small letters below: "With meat, \$4.00."

\*\*\*\*\*

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

# Employee Identification Program Initiated

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative has announced a new employee identification program to provide instant identification to cooperative personnel and all members of the cooperative.

The I. D. card, which has a color photograph of the employee on the front, includes the name of the employee, name of the cooperative, the employee's social security number and date of birth. On the reverse side of the identification card is the signature of LeRoy V. Hard, manager of Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, along with instructions to the employees of the cooperative. The I. D. card is laminated in clear plastic to aid in prevention of wear and discoloration.

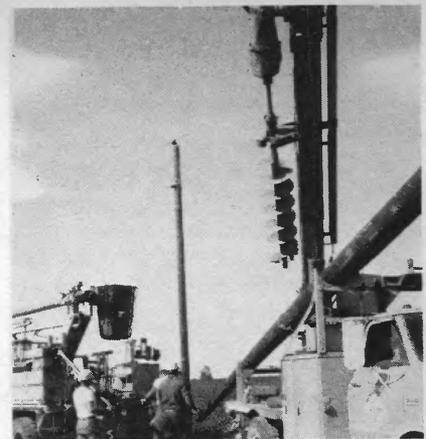
This new I. D. program is designed as a method to protect the cooperative membership from persons who may act as imposters pretending to be cooperative employees for the purpose of gaining entrance to your home or gain your confidence to sell you something. They may act under the guise of performing wiring inspections

or possibly to check room thermostats to see if you are complying with the 68 degrees energy conservation program. Numerous ruses have been reported across the state during the past several months. We have not had any reports of this type of activity locally, but this new I. D. program can prevent you from being a victim of this fraudulent activity.

Cooperative personnel involved in membership contact for the cooperative will carry a cooperative identification card. If you are in doubt or if a person seems questionable, ask him for his I. D. card. If he can not produce such a card, do not allow this person to inspect or perform any service of any nature on your premise.

If an individual identifies himself as a cooperative employee and will or can not produce his I. D. card, call the cooperative and/or the police immediately.

This is another service Monroe County Electric Co-Operative has utilized to provide outstanding service and protection to its membership.



*Cooperative linemen prepare to change a pole as part of the continuing maintenance program.*

## Summer Days

The summer months are extremely busy ones here at the cooperative. It is time for tree trimming, a large number of new homes are being built and people are moving mobile homes in place. Farmers want and need larger service for grain drying equipment, and in good weather we try to catch up on line and system maintenance. Couple the above with emergency work and it truly keeps cooperative personnel busy.

Even with the extra work load, it is our aim to continue to provide service to new accounts as soon as possible. Providing a new service involves several steps. Included are the applicant signing an application and making a deposit, the line into the new service must be staked (the operation engineer placing stakes where the poles and guy wires are to be placed) and then the actual building of the service. We must also determine, through conference with the member, the size of load and service drop (meter loop) to be installed.

These various steps all take time. Usually we are able to build new services two or three days after the new member signs an application.

We at the cooperative appreciate the cooperation we have received concerning new services, and also the cooperation received on service changes due to increased load by the membership.

It is the cooperative's policy to provide efficient, reliable service to both new and old members within a reasonable length of time. If you have any questions or comments concerning a new or change of service, please contact the cooperative office.

**FRONT**

	An Employee of <b>Monroe County</b>	
	Co-op Name Here <b>Electric Co-op.</b>	
Color Photo Here	Employee Name <b>John Doe</b>	
	Social Security No. <b>333-11-9999</b>	
Employee Signature <i>John Doe</i>	Birthdate <b>11/3/52</b>	

**BACK**

	This identification card is for the use and security of yourself and the Cooperative. You are required to carry this card at all times when visiting members premises.
	<i>LeRoy V. Hard</i> Manager

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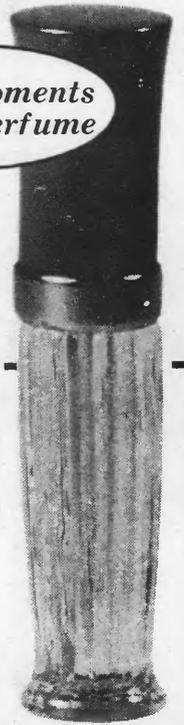
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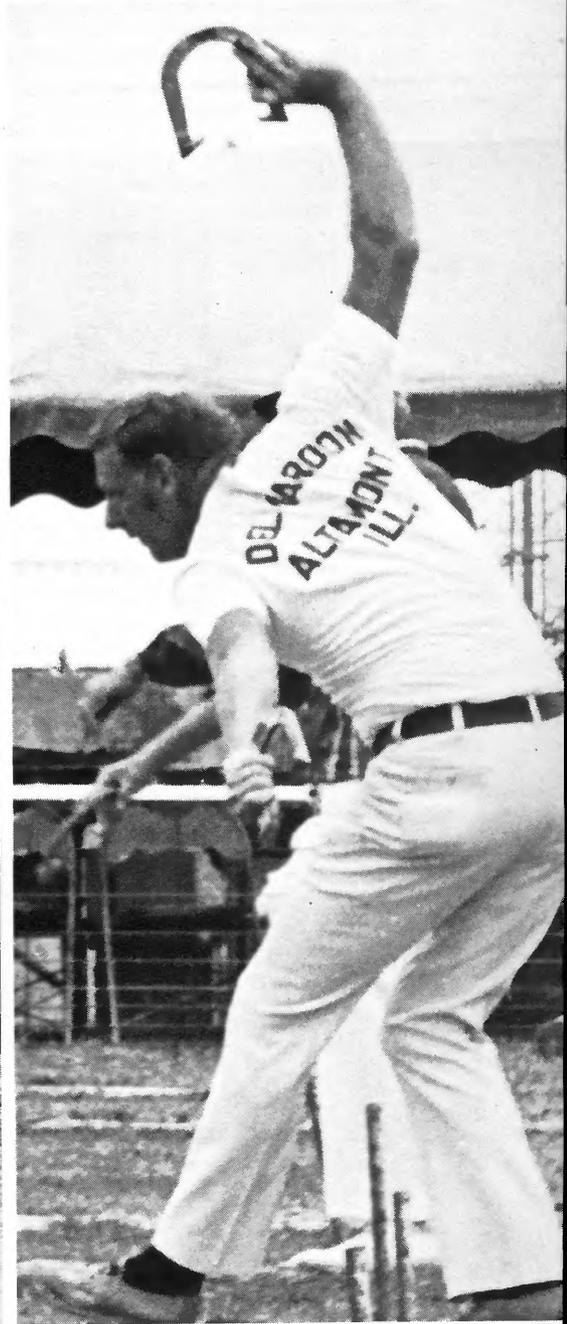
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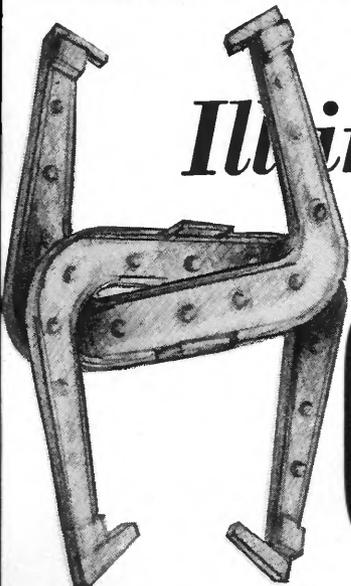
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*Illinois Style*



# Horseshoes

# Monroe County Electric News

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

Telephone 939-7171

Waterloo, Illinois

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

## October Is Cooperative Month

Traditionally, cooperatives in Illinois and across the nation observe October as cooperative month. The national theme for this year's observance is "Partners for Progress." It expresses the kinship and objectives of cooperative families throughout the nation, particularly rural electric cooperative members.

There will be rallies, conferences, speeches, store sales and all other things people do when a special day, week or month is set aside for such observance. In the case of cooperatives, it is a continuation of celebrations begun 50 years ago in Waukegan, Illinois, where a largely Finnish consumer cooperative paraded, rallied and listened to speakers extol cooperatives.

Many of the same reasons for cooperative month still apply today. The important thing about it all is that cooperative month gives the nation's cooperatives a chance to get together and reexamine their goals and objectives, and their roles in business, the local community and the nation. Though individual cooperatives are still small compared with ATT, General Motors, big oil and big utilities, they are an important part of the nation's economic scene.

Locally, your cooperative, Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc. was organized in 1938. As in the case of all other electric cooperatives across the nation, it was formed by farmers, rural residents and community leaders to bring electricity to rural Monroe County and parts of St. Clair and Randolph Counties. Your cooperative was formed because investor-owned utilities would not serve farms in the early days except at prohibitive cost. Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc. has continued to provide a reliable continuity of service to its membership at costs and margins lower than any investor-owned utility would dare attempt.

In order to maintain the high quality of service that you are accustomed to at reasonable cost, we must continually

update our knowledge and techniques to meet the changing needs of the changing times. We are concerned with meeting challenges presented by the energy crisis, environmental issues and community development.

The philosophy of your cooperative blends well with the national cooperative month theme, "Partners for Progress."

The management and employees have taken an active role in community and area development. They have accepted responsible roles within the local communities and contribute much toward the area's growth and development.

Because we are "Partners for Progress," we measure progress—not by miles of line—but by how much rural communities move forward and by the increased well-being of rural citizens.

## Cooperatives- Partners for Progress





*Cooperative Manager LeRoy V. Hard examines two insulators that have been shot by vandals. The two pieces Hard is holding were cracked by rifle fire and were burned from shorting out in rainy weather. The insulator in front of Hard's right hand was broken at the time of the act of vandalism.*

# Vandalism Causes Outages

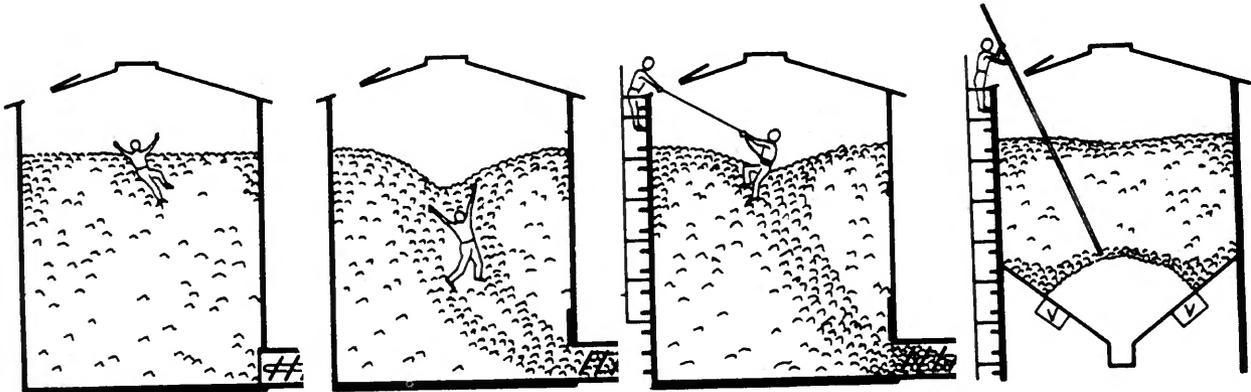
Most of us think of vandalism in terms of defacing public buildings, breaking windows, twisting off car antennas, knocking over mailboxes and other such senseless destructive acts. We generally blame it on kids who weren't properly reared.

Here at the cooperative we are faced with another form of vandalism. This act of vandalism is the result of teenagers and adults practicing their marksmanship on high-line insulators at the top of utility poles. They also occasionally shoot at, and hit, transformers.

What motivates a grown man to deliberately destroy someone else's property? Can he not understand the danger to himself, and the injustice and inconvenience to others? People today depend on uninterrupted electric service. This type of vandalism, which causes electrical outages, can be controlled.

With the advent of the hunting season upon us, let's all be a little more thoughtful. Let's inform our children and friends of the inconvenience and danger that can be caused by shooting at insulators, transformers, breakers and other electrical equipment.

## Don't Die In The Grain Bin



**Grains are dangerous as quicksand even when not unloading.**

**Flowing grain sucks you under suddenly when unloading starts.**

**If you must go into the bin, use a lifeline and have someone there.**

**Break bridges with a pole. Use vibrators to keep grain flowing.**

**A.** Leo Goleman of Divernon is a person who enjoys people, seeks to understand problems and, above all, likes to be involved. These are probably only a few of the attributes which led to his selection as president of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC).

How he became involved with the work of electric cooperatives, and the organization he now heads, is a different story. In the beginning, at least, it was due to embarrassment.

Goleman was selected as president by directors of the AIEC during the recent annual meeting of the organization. The AIEC is a state-wide organization which provides services to the 27 distribution cooperatives and two generation and transmission cooperatives in Illinois. Goleman is also vice president of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., Auburn.

"I guess I was like a lot of people who take their electrical service for granted," Goleman said. "I had never attended an annual meeting of our local cooperative or even went inside the office except maybe to pay a bill. When the board asked me to serve, I felt a certain amount of real embarrassment."

And because he is the type of person who doesn't like to settle for just a little knowledge, after he became a director, Goleman set about to learn all he could about the electric business. "We are able to respond as we understand," Goleman said.

That understanding, over a five-year period, led to his selection as only the 12th president of the AIEC. He succeeded Robert Zook of Athens.

At one time in his life, however, Goleman would have been an unlikely candidate to even belong to a rural-oriented organization, much less be its president. He was much more at home in the classroom or with his paintbrush and easel.



*ABOVE: Goleman farms 760 acres near Divernon and maintains an interest in the problems of the rural area. RIGHT: Goleman is married and has four children. Front, from left are: Anne, 19, and Goleman. Back row, from left are: John, 21; Andy, 12, Mrs. Goleman, and Melinda, 16.*

The son of a minister, Goleman was born in the small town of Oakland in Coles County. His first ambition was to become an athletic coach. When illness prevented the realization of that dream, he turned to his second love—art.

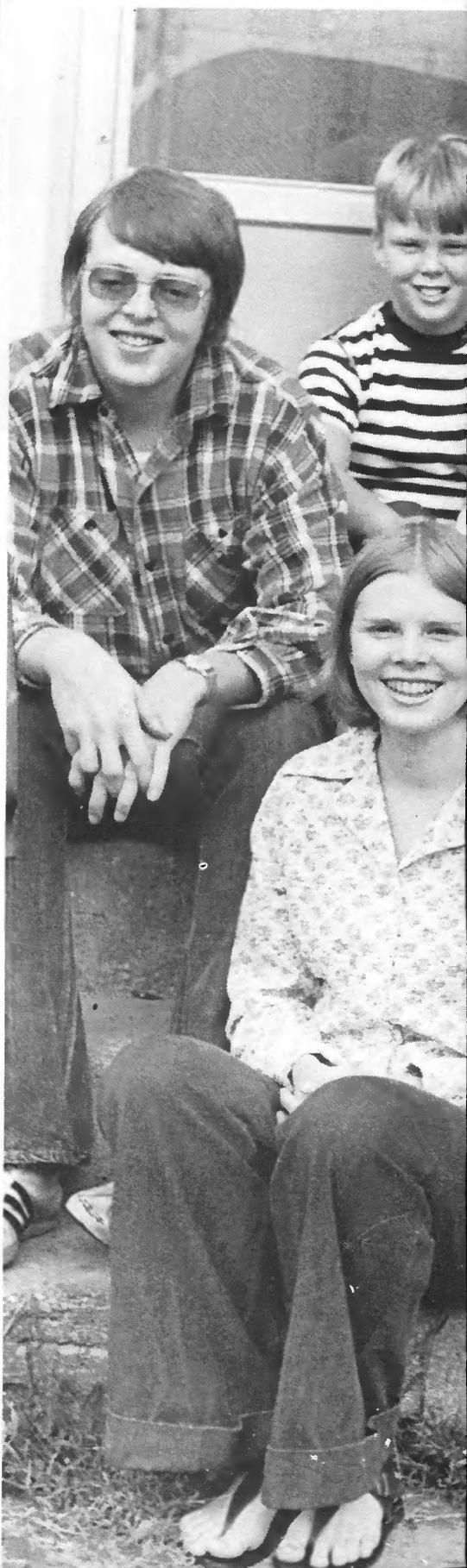
"I didn't take my first art course until I was in college, so it took me quite a while to develop my style," Goleman said. "I used to sit at the kitchen table and paint for hours working on my technique.

"I wanted to paint things that people could laugh at and understand . . . things people might enjoy," Goleman added. "I guess my paintings reflect my philosophy of life. They are my way of expressing what I feel."

After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Education and his Master's Degree in Fine Arts, Goleman taught art in the Springfield public school system for four years. He left teaching to become a farmer.

Goleman did not start farming until he was 27 years old. He and his wife, Dorothy, moved into a house near Divernon, owned by her father, and rented 120 acres to farm. Goleman, 21 years later, now farms

# aiec's new



# Festival

Thousands recently stepped back into yesteryear for a few hours and enjoyed the sights and sounds of their forefathers.

The scene was the Land of Lincoln Crafts Festival, held annually each fall at the New Salem Carriage Museum, one-half mile south of New Salem State Park. Because of the central location, the festival has become popular with visitors from all corners of Illinois and neighboring states.

More than 160 local people, many of them electric cooperative members, demonstrated 60 crafts which our ancestors took for granted in

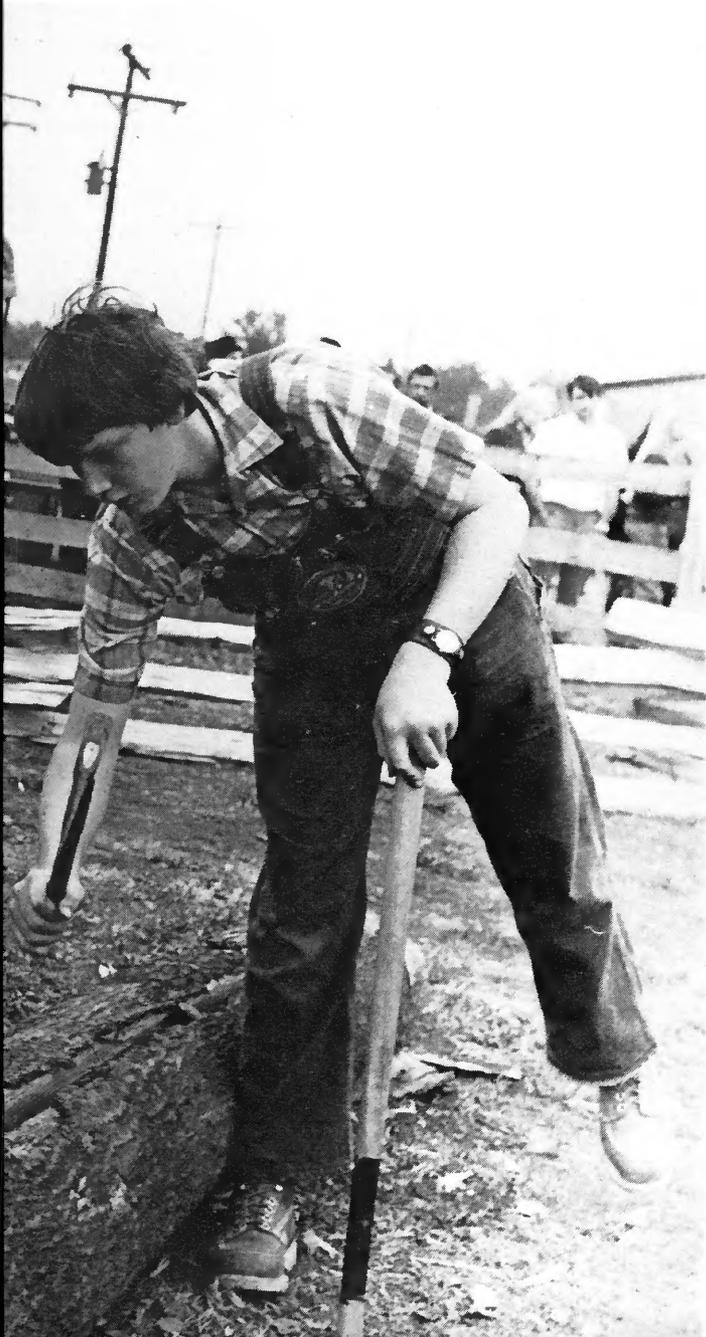
their everyday lives, but today have been forgotten by most people.

The annual event was sponsored by Petersburg Town and County Women's Club. Electric power for the site was provided by Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg.

Much of the festival was a gourmet's delight with fresh smoked ham, sassafras tea, bittersweet, paw-paws, pumpkin bread, cottage cheese, kraut, hominy, sorghum and sweet cider.

There was something for all ages. And although it only lasted a weekend, it brought back many fond memories of days gone by.

*BELOW: Chester Pettitt of Springfield (left) and Homer Lounsberry of Oakford, a member of Menard Electric Cooperative, set their team to work. BOTTOM: Dell Price of Petersburg, also a cooperative member, slowly stirs a fresh batch of sorghum. CENTER: The fine art of rail splitting was handled by several hearty young men. FAR LEFT, BELOW: Mary Hurie of Petersburg demonstrated chair caning. FAR LEFT, ABOVE: According to Mrs. Ernest Ayers of Pawnee, a member of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., Auburn, goose plucking really doesn't hurt the pluckee.*





MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

# Monroe Electric News

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

Remember the leather-jacketed, steely-eyed pilot, swinging lithely into the cockpit of the World War I biplane, giving his helmet a final tug, adjusting his goggles—and then heroically barking out “Contact”? That’s the way they always did it in “Dawn Patrol” and “Hell’s Angels.” All the risky glamour of the “wild blue yonder” was somehow captured in the two syllable command, “Contact!”

But we’re talking about a different “Contact”—the kind which, according to Webster, is “the junction of two electrical conductors through which a current passes.” There is plenty of risk in that type of contact, too, when it is accidental. Risk with no heroic purpose behind it—in fact, no purpose at all, and totally without glamour.

Too often accidental contact is made with power lines by a crane boom, a grain auger or elevator, or other equipment that has a skyward reach to it. When unexpected or accidental contact such as this is made, the equipment becomes the secondary conductor, and the result is usually either electrocution or drastic burns and permanent crippling.

Elevators or grain augers backed or towed into wires have resulted in many farm accidents. Some serious, and others, luckily, not quite as serious. Don’t count on the insulation of yard wires to protect you; it is easily worn or rubbed off.

The wires that bring power to your transformer carry much higher voltage than your yard wires, and they are not insulated. You should be extra cautious when operating equipment such as combines, grain unloading equipment, and any other equipment that could possibly reach these bare wires. If you see anyone working in or near power lines warn him of the potential danger. You may save his life.

Please do not build or construct buildings, grain bins, TV towers or any other structures that could come in contact with these wires. Conductors shall be at least eight

feet above the nearest building over which they pass, and at least three feet in distance from buildings which they pass. Where the roof is so pitched that it cannot be readily walked upon, the overhead clearance may be reduced to three feet.

Throughout farmsteads the following minimum clearances shall be maintained: 10 feet above finished grade or any projection, 12 feet over residential or commercial driveways not subjected to truck traffic, 15 feet over driveways subject to truck traffic and over roads in rural areas.

The Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act states that “Any overhead wire shall be considered to be energized unless and until the person owning such line or the electric utility authorities indicate that it is not an energized line.”

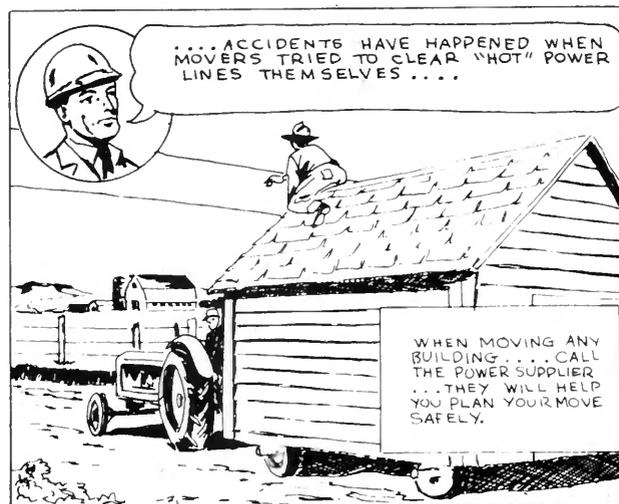
As a power supplier, we urge all contractors, equipment operators and farmers to work with us as closely and consistently as possible to prevent accidental and often fatal contacts. When you know you will be working in an area where there is any possibility of contact with an energized line, notify us of your plans. We will cooperate with you for your protection.

If you need help or advice in planning and placement of new structures on your premise that would be near or under our lines, please notify the cooperative office. We will be most happy to assist you.

*Happy Thanksgiving from the Board,*

*Manager and Staff at Monroe*

## Avoid These Situations



# When Safety Is Neglected

## . . . Electricity Can Be Deadly

Electric energy is the safest energy source, but it can be deadly when a person contacts it. Few people realize how little flow of electricity it takes to kill a person. This table, taken from a publication of the National Safety Council and given in milliamperes, shows that small amounts are dangerous.

Milliampere 1/1000th ampere. It takes about 830 milliamperes to light a 100 watt bulb.

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### Current values affecting Humans

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Readings	Effect
1 milliampere or less	Cannot be felt.
1 to 8 milliamperes	Sensation of shock, no danger or pain.
8–15 milliamperes	Painful shock, no real hazard.
15–50 milliamperes	Painful shock. Muscle control can be lost. Victim can't let go. Breathing might be difficult. Possibly a lethal current level.
15–200 milliamperes	Probable death.
200 and above	Severe burns. Probable death.

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Only an actual flow of electricity can kill and fortunately the human body has a rather high resistance to the flow of current. Conditions such as wet feet, wet hands, moist skin, wet clothing, massive contact to ground, weak heart or others can make the values and the effects change, making the victim more susceptible to death or injury. Another factor affecting the hazard is the part of the body through which the current flows. If it flows through the heart, lungs or brain, death could be more likely than if it flowed through some other part of the body.

Very few people are killed by electricity because we are in most cases adequately protected. Careless use of equipment or faulty appliances should certainly be avoided.

NOVEMBER 1974

Make sure the power is off before you tinker.



Wet limbs, loose wire or anything hanging or leaning against an energized power line could be dangerous. Situations like this should be reported to the power supplier so they can be repaired. Just because a loose wire appears to be dead is no reason for one to believe it is safe to touch. It can come alive by some contact miles away or by some switch being thrown.



# Illinois Coal '92

the challenge

Mines to Market:



**I**t's easy to get along with Harry Davidson—just don't make fun of his mules. According to him, you could do a lot worse than having a mule for a pet. You could have a horse for instance.

Davidson, who lives on a small farm south of Nashville, has one of the best team of mules in the state—maybe the nation, considering the declining mule population. At least, when he took his team to the National Mule and Donkey Jubilee in Indiana recently, they were good enough to win the half-mile chariot race and place fifth overall in the halter or show class from among 1,400 animals.

The mules' home is located 27 miles west of Mt. Vernon, headquarters of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc., which supplies electric power for the farm.

Davidson doesn't exaggerate about his mules' capabilities. In fact, he has a tendency to understate them—which often leads the interviewer to ask one question too many.

"I got a stallion out in the pasture," Davidson said, "but he hasn't got much of a bloodline."

The first mistake. "How far back can his bloodline be traced?"

"Well, he is a great-great grandson of General Ulysses S. Grant's horse, Leopard," Davidson said. "Guess he does go back a ways, doesn't he?"

Or, "Got me a mule across the road, but he can't jump very high and he's pretty slow, too."

Haven't you learned. "How high and how slow?"

"Well, he once cleared a four-foot fence and did a quarter mile in 26 seconds," Davidson said. "Never seen any other mule jump that high. And the speed is up to a quarterhorse's."

When Davidson talks about his mules in a serious vein though—listen. He probably knows as much about them as any self-proclaimed expert. He has been around mules most of his 58 years. Davidson's father spent his life breaking mules he had purchased and Davidson picked up his father's habit early.

"I had my first mule when I was six," Davidson said. "When I was 12, I traded a heifer for a mule and the mule for an old car. Been swapping ever since then."

Davidson now has only four mules. A heart attack in 1971 forced him to sell most of the 13 head he had. Eventually though, the heart attack

also forced him to give up his job as a railroad switchman in St. Louis, so he's back in the mule-raising business again—if on a much smaller scale.

"Before I had the heart problems, I used to do some serious swapping," Davidson said. "Figure I probably traded more than 300 in the years I been around them. Anymore though, it's just a hobby with me."

Davidson only recently has begun entering his mules in competitions. And they have done exceptionally well, even though his mules are considerably smaller than most of the mules and ponies they compete against.

"These are 'mini-mules,' Davidson said. "They are a cross between a donkey and a pony instead of a donkey and a regular-sized horse. The biggest one stands an inch under four-feet high, the smallest is only 45 inches tall."

In another era and area, the mules Davidson breeds would be called cotton mules, bred in the Old South to do work in cotton rows that a large horse could not negotiate.

Which brings us rather obliquely to the horse. In many ways, Davidson feels the mule is maligned when compared to his larger cousin, the horse. According to him, it should be the other way around.

"The mule is superior to the horse, intelligence-wise and most other ways," Davidson said. "For one thing, they are easier to train than a horse. I can train a mule to do things in one year it will take a horse three years to figure out.

"That's why you mostly see trick mules in rodeos instead of trick horses. Same thing with being used as a pack animal. Mules are just more surefooted going up a mountain slope, and they are about half-again as strong as a horse of the same size."

"Mules aren't stupid, but the people that own them can be," Davidson said. One story he uses to illustrate the point is about a mule pulling a load of hay.

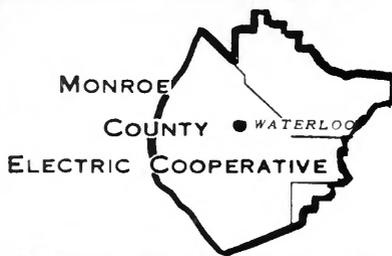
"The mule pulled until it couldn't pull anymore, which made the farmer mad. He lit a fire under the mule to get it going. Well, the mule moved alright. It moved until the fire was under the wagon and the hay was blazing.

"Same way with hurting a mule," Davidson added. "Besides showing how dumb some people are, it also proves how intelligent the

*(continued on page 16)*

HARRY DAVIDSON IS BASICALLY JUST AN . . .





# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

We are all undergoing trying times with inflation eating away at our spendable income and with grocery and food costs continually increasing. The electric utilities are facing the same dilemma you and I as individuals are facing—inflating general costs, spiraling fuel costs and rocketing wholesale power costs. All of these have contributed to the need for increases in retail rates.

We are not yet through with rate increases. You as consumers should be aware of this, and it is our responsibility to keep you informed of the situation as it exists and changes from time to time. The fuel market is still volatile and we can expect additional costs in meeting environmental and ecological standards. These are unavoidable expenses and the increased costs must be met.

Even if the inflationary trend is stemmed or reversed, we must still face the costs of higher capital. With the new loan program now in effect, the cooperative borrows money, in many cases, at the growing interest rate you and other businesses pay for your financial needs.

Operating and managing an electric cooperative system is interesting, challenging and complex. I accept these responsibilities and challenges, and I pledge my efforts to meet and solve the problems as they exist today and to apply foresight to anticipate the challenges of the future.

Solving today's complex problems and meeting future needs requires all

the assistance we can get. Understanding and acceptance of the problems and the future prospects of the cooperative's system by you, the member consumer, must be established by a high degree of credibility in the communications between you and the cooperative. We attempt to accomplish this by this monthly column and also the Monroe Co-op Echoes.

If every member knows the needs for adequate system revenues and is convinced that his rates are fair and reasonable, we will have unanimous support as far as rates are concerned.

## Humidifier Can Increase Indoor Winter Comfort

Adding a humidifier during the heating season can help increase your comfort. A humidifier also makes it possible to stay comfortable at a lower temperature, thus offering potential savings in heating costs.

In winter, your heating system warms up the air circulating in the house, drying it in the heating process. The drier air feels uncomfortable, making it necessary to raise the temperature a few degrees in order to remain comfortable.

By adding moisture to the air with a humidifier, you can feel comfortable at the same temperature. In winter the indoor humidity level should be between 30 and 40 percent.

A humidifier not only helps you

Our intent is to keep you informed on the rate of inflation, the spiraling fuel costs and wholesale power costs. You as a member of the cooperative have a right to expect straightforwardness, honesty and full knowledge of the facts as to the future economics of your cooperative. We will lay the facts on the line and expect to gain your confidence and support.

Your board of directors is reviewing and giving consideration to a change in the security light rental agreement to bring them more in line with today's costs of upkeep and maintenance. Replacement of parts, lamps, automatic eyes, etc., are increasing in price with continual regularity. If we are to continue efficient reliable service in maintaining these security lights, it appears an increase in rental is necessary.

The board of directors, management and employees of the cooperative extend their best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year.

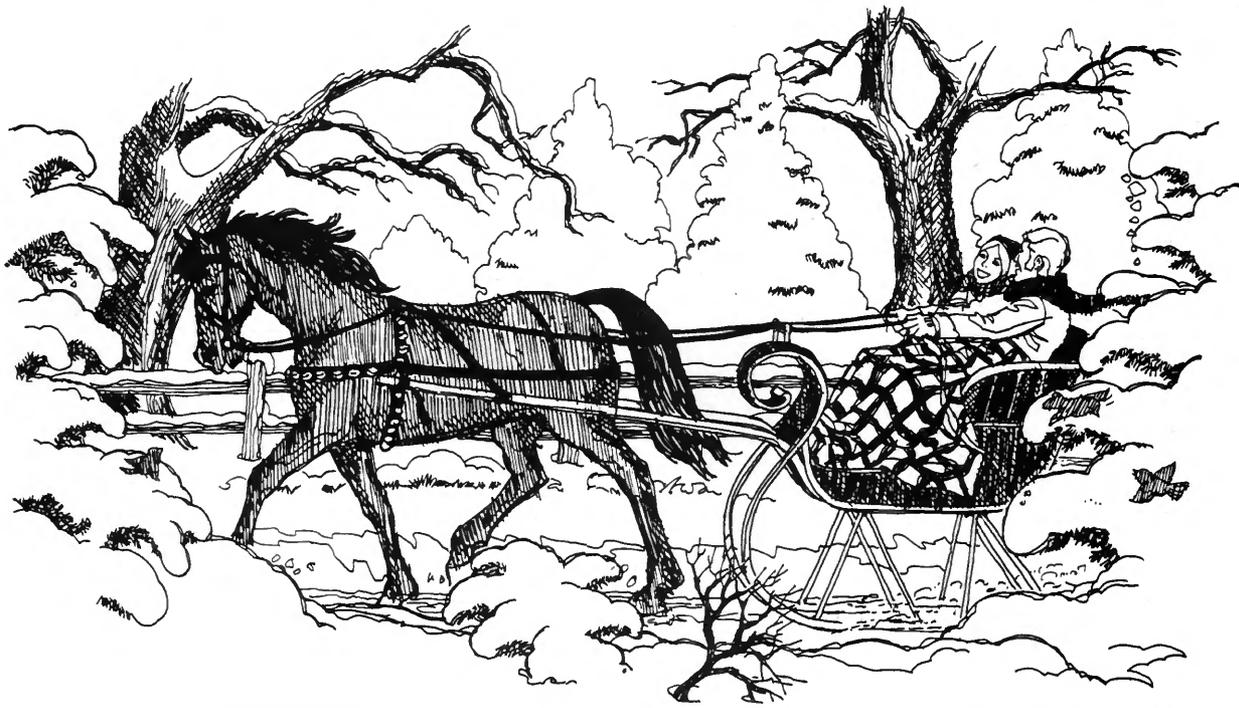
stay comfortable, it also helps prevent excessive dryness in the house, which can cause the glue in furniture to dry out, the nap of rugs to become brittle and plants to wither and die.

Other physical signs of discomfort associated with low moisture are dryness of lips, eyelids and membranes in the nose and throat; and dry, flaky skin.

The next time you feel uncomfortably cool and reach for the thermostat—stop. Instead, install a humidifier and stay comfortable at the lower temperature.

The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers has listed and certified a number of brands of humidifiers by their moisture output per 24 hours.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



# Season's Greetings

Christmas is a time of tradition. A time for family gatherings and conviviality among friends. A time to celebrate by observing the special traditions of Yuletide, such as the Christmas tree, carols, a cup of cheer and the giving of gifts.

Many of the centuries-old customs are taken for granted without realizing where or how they began. The most universal of all our holiday traditions is the Christmas tree. Although no one knows for sure just where it began, one old German legend makes St. Winfrid the originator of the custom.

Observing a small fir in the forest, he told his converts, "This little tree, a young child of the forest, shall be your holy tree tonight. It is the wood of peace, for your houses are built of fir. It's the sign of endless life for its branches are evergreen. Let this be

called the tree of the Christ child, gather around it, not in the wild wood, but in your own homes. There it will shelter no deeds of blood, but living gifts and rites of kindness."

Holiday travel has been a tradition since the Wise Men made their celebrated journey. Ukranian folklore has another traditional Christmas traveler.

An old crone named Baboushka was visited by the Wise Men on their way to Bethlehem. She declined their invitation to accompany them because she was too busy sweeping her house.

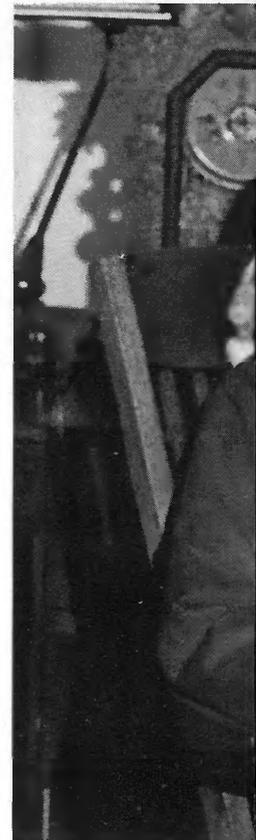
Later on she had second thoughts and set out on her own to find the child they had spoken of, taking along a bag of sweets for a gift. She never found him, but each Christmas she continues her search, peering in windows of sleeping children and

leaving behind a present of sweets.

Gifts have been a tradition since the first Christmas when the Wise Men presented their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Traditionally, the exchange of gifts is on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning.

In Great Britain gifts among the family are exchanged at those times too, but gifts to friends are presented on "Boxing Day" the day after Christmas. The custom began many years ago when on the day after Christmas, wealthy and titled Englishmen would present gifts or "boxes" to their household servants and poor villagers. The boxes were gaily and sometimes lavishly decorated by the children of the household. Hence—"Boxing Day."

"SKOAL"—"Prosit"—"To Your Health."



**I**s it true that Santa Claus lives on Bannon Hill near Grayville rather than the North Pole?

Not really, but one of his helpers who has portrayed the jolly old gent for the past 49 years does live there. And from time to time he receives mail addressed: Santa Claus, Route 1, Bannon Hill, Grayville, Illinois.

Santa's helper is Willard Bannon. And with almost a half century of ho-ho-hoing, one might say he has quite a bit of experience under his wide, black belt.

Bannon, a director of Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, started as Santa's Grayville area representative in 1925. He enjoyed it so much he hasn't been able to resist donning that fancy red suit since.

Bannon's interest in portraying Santa came after seeing an uninteresting portrayal by another of Santa's helpers.

"What bothered me," Bannon said, "was the person, not wanting to give away his identity, wouldn't speak. A Santa without a voice isn't worth a hoot—I felt I could do a better job so I gave it a try.

"I soon realized it wasn't an easy job to be an interesting Santa. I remember waiting to make one of my first appearances and I noticed an elderly couple walking out. Asking where they were going, they

replied 'Santa Claus is not for old folks.'

"Since then I've tried to make my program interesting to young and old alike. I've found out the red suit alone fascinates children, but the older people tend to listen to what you say."

Bannon works out a special program for every appearance. His repertoire includes stories, joke gifts and various types of letters to Santa.

"As far as Santa's concerned," Bannon said, "everyone's a child—men are boys and ladies are little girls. Just referring to an elderly lady as a little girl creates a jovial atmosphere.

"Whatever I do, I just try to keep the program interesting," Bannon said.

And interesting his programs must be, for he has played the role many times in an area from Fairfield to as far away as Evansville, Indiana.

He counted 10 churches and eight schools he has played many times. Sometimes he plays as many as three different engagements in one night.

"Santa, like a mailman, has to go rain, ice or snow," Bannon said. His wife does the driving when he is in costume and she keeps track of his engagements. She also makes, repairs and maintains his fancy red suit. He has worn out several over the years.

Bannon proudly says he has never missed a year in nearby Fortney. His endless list of other engagements include the Edwards County Fair, Grayville Christmas festivities, service organization parties and many private parties. Bannon has been Santa to five generations of one area family.

He is also proud of the times he has been able to bring Christmas to less fortunate families because of the generosity of many people in the Grayville area.

The years have provided many memorable experiences, some humorous. He recalled one school program where he was supposed to appear, and when dressing found the pants to his costume had been left at home. "Luckily, it was a short drive and I had enough time," Bannon said.

"Children can be mischievous at times," he said recalling an incident after another school program. "Three 12-year-old boys decided they would disrobe Santa and were waiting for

## *Grayville Area Resident*

# Nearly 50 Years of Ho