

JANUARY 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## More Discounts Available to CBEC Members

The word is spreading to business owners that participating in the Co-op Connections Program is free, attracts new customers, and increases customer loyalty. That's good news for Corn Belt Energy's members, because this provides additional opportunities for savings.

If you don't see any participating businesses in your area, please be patient as more businesses are coming onboard every week. For a complete list of national offers, go to [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop).

Receive the following discounts at area businesses when you use your Co-op Connections card:

### Co-op Connections® Card



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



#### Abingdon

- **Bradshaw's TV & Appliance Sales & Service** – (309) 462-5703  
801 N. Monroe St.  
50% off all repair estimates

#### Bloomington

- **Aaron's Sales & Lease** – (309) 820-8700  
1724 RT Dunn Drive  
50% off 1st month's payment.
- **Baller Eye Care Center** – (309) 662-7715  
210 1/2 N. Williamsburg  
10% off first pair of glasses. Ask for current offers. Only 1 discount will apply.
- **Bard Optical** – (309) 663-1519  
1407 N Veterans Parkway  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Baymont Inn** – (309) 662-2800  
604 1/2 1AA Drive  
10% off.
- **Benchmark Home Loans** – (309) 665-0506  
2310 E. Oakland Ave., Suite 11A  
Free credit report consultation and \$200.00 off closing costs.
- **Bev Engerton, Realtor, Brady Weaver, GMAC Real Estate** – (309) 826-2101  
2203 Eastland Dr., Suite 1  
\$50.00 McLean County Cash Gift Certificate honored at over 150 local merchant members of Chamber of Commerce presented at completion of successful closing.
- **Bloomington-Normal YMCA** – (309) 827-6233  
602 S. Main St.  
1/2 off joiner fee for new members plus a double portion (6) of one-day guest passes.
- **Blue Fish Estate Sales** – (309) 828-9978  
1 Burgundy Ct.  
\$100 cash back bonus at the conclusion of an estate sale or household buyout.
- **Brad Barker Honda** – (309) 663-9591  
1602 General Electric Road  
10% off oil & filter change. Honda cars only. Not valid with other discounts.

- **BrokersDiscount.com** – (309) 664-4455  
2409 E. Washington St., Suite B  
Free market analysis on your home. Home must be located in McLean County.
- **Bussey Bank** – (309) 663-6345  
301 Fairway Dr.  
\$100 off closing costs of 1st mortgage loan and 25 basis point reduction of closed-end home equity loan rate. New originations only.
- **Bussy's Automotive** – (309) 664-5398  
1627 Commerce Parkway  
10% off brake repair over \$200/\$10 off any motor fuel system clean.
- **Carpet Weaver's Floor Care** – (309) 834-3602  
902 Eldorado Road  
10% off all services.
- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** – (309) 828-7562  
3 Turtleback Ct.  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties
- **Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.** – (309) 662-1648  
2027 Ireland Grove Rd  
10% off Harley-Davidson t-shirts, sweat-shirts, and leather jackets.
- **Cindy's Cinnamon Rolls** – (309) 663-9877  
1615 E Empire Suite 1190  
10% off any purchase.
- **Clay Dooley Tire** – (309) 827-5037, (309) 662-2886  
1507 East Vernon Avenue & 307 E. Grove  
\$25 off set of tires installed. No carry outs or wholesale/up to \$20 off auto repair. \$50 minimum purchase. Offer valid at time of purchase.
- **Comfort Inn** – (309) 828-6000  
505 Brock Dr.  
15% off room rates on conference room rental.

- **CTB, Inc.** – (309) 662-8243  
3006 Gill St., Suite E  
Receive a 10% discount on website hosting and programming services. May not be used in conjunction with other offers or sales.
- **Culver's** – (309) 827-3527, (309) 662-7070  
1807 W. Market St & 901 N. Hershey Rd.  
Free regular sundae with purchase of any dinner.
- **Davis Tire and Auto Service, Inc.** – (309) 663-6366  
1809 Eastland Drive  
Discounts up to 10% off retail price on all tires & mechanical parts & service/5% discount on sale items. Some restrictions apply. Ask for details.
- **Domino's Pizza** – (309) 665-0505  
2205 E. Oakland Ave.  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Glass Specialty Company** – (309) 664-1087  
3302 Gerig Dr.  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off Rhino Linings Spray where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Gloria Jean's Coffees** – (309) 662-2550  
1615 E Empire (Eastland Mall)  
50 cents off any medium or large drink or \$1 off 1 pound whole bean coffee.
- **Heavenly Ham** – (309) 661-1450  
1407 N. Veterans Parkway  
10% off a box lunch. Dine in only.
- **Mad Bean Painting & Design** – (309) 661-1166  
1004 1/2 North Lee St.  
\$50 off any customer painting job under \$400 and \$100 off any customer painting job over \$400.

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- **Mid-Illini Credit Union – (309) 825-8235**  
1811 Eastland Dr.,  
*Open checking account & get first box of checks free. \$200 off closing costs for home mortgage. Must show card for offers. Must work or reside in McLean County to become a member.*
- **Mole Hole of Eastland – (309) 663-2241**  
1615 East Empire Street  
*\$5 off any purchase of \$25 or more.*
- **Monster Pawn & Monster Deals – (309) 823-9115**  
1610 RT Dunn Drive  
*\$1 off all DVDs  
Must show card to clerk for discount.*
- **National City Mortgage – (309) 823-3014**  
202 E. Washington St.  
*\$200 off closing costs. Must identify yourself on application as Corn Belt Energy member. Keith Thompson specifically must be identified at application.*
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse – (309) 663-7100**  
1603 A. Morrissey  
*Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers*
- **Nybakke Vacuum Shop Inc. – (309) 662-7272**  
814 I.A.A. Drive  
*10% off disposal bags or filters  
Not valid with other discounts or offers.*
- **OSF St. Joseph Medical Center-Center For Healthy Lifestyles – (309) 661-5151**  
2200 E. Washington St.  
*10% off of any regularly priced merchandise at the Center for Healthy Lifestyles.*
- **Paint Depot – (309) 664-6733**  
2407 GE Road  
*20% off.*
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza – (309) 662-9000**  
2402 E. Oakland Ave.  
*\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.*
- **Peoples Bank – (309) 661-9993, (309) 828-8611**  
1 Brickyard Dr. Ste 301 & 1218 Towanda Ave.  
*\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.*
- **Performance Growth Partners, Inc. – (309) 664-7741**  
3 Mallard Ct.  
*\$100.00 off the cost of a customer service assessment, customer service standards development or customer service training for your business. One discount per business.*
- **Personal Touch Cleaning Company – (309) 661-0833**  
2412 E. Washington St., Ste. 7A  
*\$20 off 1st cleaning with ongoing service for new customers/\$15 off LX cleanings*
- **Pheasant Lanes Bowling and Miniature Golf – (309) 663-8556**  
804 N. Hershey Rd.  
*Buy 1 game of bowling and get 2nd free. Limit 1 per visit. During open bowling days only. Not valid with other discounts or offers.*
- **Red Wing Shoe Store & Adrian's Shoe Repair – (309) 827-6370**  
1210 Towanda Plaza  
*10% off regular priced merchandise  
Not valid with other offers or discounts.*
- **Ride The Nine Home of Shooters Lounge – (309) 662-1009**  
503 N. Prospect  
*15% off billiard time.*
- **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory – (309) 662-8610**  
101 N. Veterans Parkway  
*10% off purchase.*
- **Ryan Pharmacy – (309) 828-4813**  
1118 E. Oakland  
*\$10 off new prescription  
Medicare and some 3rd party insurers excluded.  
1 per family per year.*
- **Sam Leman Automotive Group – (309) 662-5000**  
1602 Commerce Pkwy  
*10% off maintenance services.*
- **Specs Around Town Optical Boutique – (309) 827-7327**  
317 N. Center St.  
*\$25 off any in-stock sunglasses  
Not valid with other offers.*
- **Stiles Automotive – (309) 828-6603**  
905 S. Morris Avenue  
*10% discount  
Excludes used cars.*
- **T.C. Buzz Coffee Co. – (309) 661-8229**  
2103 N. Veterans Parkway Suite #304  
*15% off all beverages.*
- **Tarvin's Culligan Water Conditioning – (309) 663-4400**  
#8 Gilmore Dr  
*Try a Culligan water softener for only \$9.95 a billing for 3 billings, or \$100 off purchase price of a Gold Series water softener. Free in-home water testing.*
- **Terry Winn Tire & Auto Service, Inc. – (309) 661-2886**  
909 N. Hershey Rd.  
*10% off all retail tire prices installed. 10% discount on repair parts and oil changes. We inflate tires with nitrogen! Discounts do not apply to sale items.*
- **The Chocolatier Inc – (309) 821-0277**  
514 N. Main St  
*5% off all assortment boxes  
Truffles not included.*
- **Union Auto Sales – (309) 820-7561**  
1201 S. Main St.  
*\$100 off purchase. Must present card at purchase.*
- **US Cellular – (309) 661-8181**  
115 Krispy Kreme Dr. Suite 2  
*20% off on all accessories.*
- **Wingate Inn – (309) 820-9990**  
1031 Wylia Drive  
*\$59 plus tax any standard room (King or Double). Based on availability. Book in advance through Sales Dept.*
- **Wm. Masters, Inc. Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & A/C – (309) 662-8481**  
401 Olympia Drive  
*Offer: \$100 off Guardian standby gen. system. \$50 off transfer switch wiring system for your portable gen. 10% off plbg serv call for new customers. Free energy analysis & system eval. of your current htg & a/c system. Offer contd in Bus. Description.  
Business Description: \$200 off new Trane hybrid htg/ac system. \$300 off new Waterfurnace geothermal hg/ac system. 5% off new security system or video surveillance system. Can't be used with other offers/discounts.*
- **YWCA of McLean County – (309) 662-0461**  
1201 N. Hershey Rd.  
*Buy 10 fitness classes for \$50 & get \$50 off annual Healthy Benefits Plus. Buy annual fitness membership & get 10% off. Offers apply only to new customers. Co-op Connections Card must be shown to receive offer.*

#### Canton

- **Bard Optical – (309) 647-0366**  
127 N. Main  
*20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.*

#### Champaign

- **Bard Optical – (217) 351-8622**  
907 Market View Dr., Unit 7  
*20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.*

#### Dahinda

- **Discount Wildlife Service – (877) 397-2287**  
250 Greenleaf Ct.  
*\$25 off the cost of service call/\$10 off the cost of chimney cap.*

#### Danvers

- **Lullaby Studios – (309) 963-6466**  
18682 N. Apache Path  
*Free 8 X 10 with order. Free proof book with \$200 order.*

#### Decatur

- **Bard Optical – (217) 422-3881**  
288 N. Park  
*20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.*
- **Glass Specialty Company – (217) 429-2371**  
505 E. William  
*\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.*

#### Downs

- **Bevande Café – (209) 663-4627**  
#1 Mike's Way  
*50 cents off any drink  
Not to be combined with other offers.*
- **Crowne Realty – (309) 824-9016**  
9336 Abbey Way  
*Free 2-3 night stay on Lake of the Ozarks at vacation hide-a-way condominiums or \$50 gift certificate to Lowe's, whichever your choose after completion of successful closing.*
- **Peoples Bank – (309) 662-1800**  
#1 Mike's Way  
*\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.*

#### East Peoria

- **Bard Optical – (309) 694-2273**  
416 Riverside Dr  
*20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.*

#### Forsyth

- **Bard Optical – (217) 875-3724**  
1351 Hickory Point Dr  
*20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.*

#### Galesburg

- **Appliance Parts & Service Depot – (309) 343-9923**  
99 S. Seminary St.  
*10% off appliances and parts in stock.*
- **Bard Optical – (309) 343-7799**  
1265 N Henderson  
*20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.*
- **Bunker Links Municipal Golf Course – (309) 344-1818**  
3535 Lincoln Park Drive  
*\$20 green fees for 18 holes with cart.*
- **Creations by Carolina – (309) 343-9998**  
54 S. Seminary St.  
*10% off alterations to clothing on up to \$50 of alterations. First visit only.*
- **Giardina Pontiac Cadillac GMC – (309) 344-2288**  
1621 N. Henderson St.  
*Purchase any in stock new vehicle at the GM supplier price which is several thousands of dollars savings. Must show proof of membership of Corn Belt Energy.*

## CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Geneseo

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 686-6491  
206 W First St  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Gridley

- **Peoples Bank** – (309) 747-2100  
325 Center St., PO Box 460  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

## Hudson

- **The Cruise Consultants** – (309) 726-2509  
23560 N. 1600 E. Rd.  
\$100 off cabin of 7-day cruise or longer.
- **Whitacre's Country Oak Shoppe** – (309) 726-1305  
704 S. Broadway  
10% off. Sale items excluded.

## Jacksonville

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 243-0506  
901 W Morton 10B  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Kewanee

- **O'Reilly Auto Parts**  
321 S. Main  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

## LaSalle

- **Coon's Grove Nursery, Inc** – (815) 223-9287  
359 N 35th Rd  
10% off the purchase of any evergreen 6-8ft or shade tree 2-2.5 inches in diameter. Planting & delivery excluded.

## Lincoln

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 735-1707  
1481 Woodlawn Rd  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Mendota

- **Prescott Brothers Inc.-Chrysler, Dodge & Jeep** – (866) 539-9388  
614 13th Ave.  
New cars & trucks: 1% below factory invoice (Family & Friends Program)/\$19.95 for oil change, 15 pt. inspection and choice of wash & wax or tire rotation/10% off MOPAR items.

## Minier

- **Sears Portrait Studio** – (309) 392-3209  
202 Darnall Drive  
10% off entire portraits purchase.

## Morton

- **Ashland House** – (309) 263-5116  
201 East Ashland  
10% off regular rack rate  
Special event dates.
- **Leisure Spas Inc** – (309) 263-0637  
911 W Jefferson  
15% off all spa chemicals.
- **Pete's Shoe Store** – (309) 266-9212  
109 W. Jefferson  
20% off Red Wing Work boots.
- **Wm. Masters, Inc. Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning** – (309) 263-9400  
933 Detroit Court  
\$100 off Guardian automatic backup generator system. \$50 off installation of a backup power transfer switch wiring system for portable generator. Free energy analysis & system evaluation of your current heating & a/c system. \$200

off purchase of new Trane hybrid heating & a/c system. \$300 off purchase of new Water-furnace geothermal heating & a/c system. 5% off new security system or video surveillance system. Can not be combined with any other offers or discounts.

## Mossville

- **Bill's Radiator** – (309) 691-3030  
10307 Wheaton Road  
10% off parts  
Any previously discount parts excluded.

## Normal

- **A-1 Security Locksmith** – (309) 454-5800  
310 Pine Street  
\$5 off service call or locks and deadbolts. Buy 5 keys and get 1 free.
- **Baird's Auto Care, Inc.** – (309) 452-9819  
804 W. Division St.  
\$1.50 off full service oil change/10% off repair parts. No discount on labor or warranty parts.
- **Best Western University Inn** – (309) 454-4070  
6 Traders Circle  
20% off rack rate. Not valid with other discounts. Advanced reservation recommended.
- **Body Dynamics Fitness Equipment** – (309) 268-9313  
406 Kays  
10% off any equipment or accessory purchase. Does not include weights or sale price items.
- **College Station Apartments** – (309) 454-5549  
9 Traders Circle  
\$30.00 application fee waived
- **Domino's Pizza** – (309) 454-5111  
305 W. Beaufort  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Mary Kay Cosmetics, Joan Garber** – (309) 838-1490  
1302 Kern St.  
At your complimentary facial, you will receive a free gift with a \$40.00 purchase. Void if serviced by another beauty consultant.
- **MidState Transmission Inc.** – (309) 452-5595  
1408 Fort Jesse Rd.  
\$25 off clutch replacement and automatic transmission rebuild  
Not valid with other discounts.
- **Midwest College of Cosmetology** – (309) 451-1373  
755 W. Raab Road  
15% off any service with member card  
Not valid with other discounts.
- **Obrien Mitsubishi** – (309) 454-1222  
1601 Ft. Jesse Rd  
Any new vehicle 5% over invoice price amount/Any used vehicle at employee pricing.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (309) 452-7575  
1531 E. College Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.
- **Signature Inn** – (309) 454-4044  
101 S. Veterans Parkway  
\$69 room rate on all standard rooms  
Offer not valid during special events. All discounts subject to availability.
- **Team Automotive Inc** – (309) 454-5454  
1223 S Adelaide St  
10% off all parts  
Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Washburn Flowers** – (309) 452-1113  
111 North St  
10% on floral products only-cash and carry only. Plants, giftware & month of February excluded.
- **Wild Birds Unlimited** – (309) 454-3455  
1520 East College Avenue  
20% off any in-stock bird feeder or birdhouse. 1 per family.

- **Wm. Marken Jewelers** – (309) 454-8855

1520 E. College  
20% off any merchandise purchase. 25% off Seiko watches. Discount does not apply to repair services.

## Pekin

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 353-9313  
3287 Court St  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Sud's Volkswagen, Audi, Mercedes Benz, Porsche** – (309) 676-1101  
2350 N. 8th St.  
15% off all parts and service.

## Peoria

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 353-9313, (309) 676-1101, (309) 693-9540, (309) 672-2273  
7720 N. Crestline Dr. & 1200 W. Main St., Suite 21 & 1800 N Knoxville #5 & 4620 N University  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Glass Specialty Company** – (309) 686-6491  
1000 SW Jefferson  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Jim's Autobody and Refinishing Inc.** – (309) 674-0113  
1330 NE Adams St.  
5% off repair cost up to \$100.00 discount.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (309) 685-1033  
4114 N. Brandywine  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

## Peoria Heights

- **A Sweet Arrangement** – (309) 681-8423  
4709 N. Prospect Road  
20% off any single bouquet of candy  
Consignment collectibles/Offer not valid for the following periods 12/15-12/25 and 2/1-2/14.
- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** – (309) 681-1744  
1507 Lake #12  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties.

## Peru

- **Glass Specialty Company** – (815) 223-1060  
4115 Progress Blvd  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **O'Reilly Auto Parts**  
941 Wenzel Rd.  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

## Pontiac

- **Peoples Bank** – (815) 844-3171  
223 N. Mill St.  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

## Princeton

- **Adler Chiropractic** – (815) 872-1800  
403 S. Main St.  
10% discount on new patient office visit.
- **Browning Ford Lincoln Mercury** – (815) 875-1150  
1502 W. Peru  
4 free oil changes and 1 complete detail (\$250 value) with purchase of any new car. All included services by appt. only. Offer must be presented at the time of sale.

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# CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

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- **Dunbar's Office Supply** - (815) 872-1907  
21 Park Ave. East  
10% off catalog items. Sale items excluded.
- **Hattie's Arts & Antiques** - (815) 875-9151  
24 W. Long  
10% discount on items over \$20 unless marked Net or Firm.
- **Heartland Printing & Publications** - (815) 875-4659  
21 Park Ave. East  
10% off printing orders.
- **Johnsons Carpet Shoppe Inc.** - (815) 875-3444  
1033 N. Main  
\$1 off per yard of carpet  
Not valid with other sales.
- **McCall Chiropractic Clinic** - (815) 879-0909  
105 S. Main, Suite 7  
\$10 off an initial examination/consultation. Must present card. Excludes medicare patients.
- **O'Reilly Auto Parts** - (815) 875-2474  
1504 N. Main St.  
\$9.99 for the following O'Reilly chemicals: ORC 72142 (fueling and carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). 1 per customer per visit.

- **Wyanet Carpet** - (815) 879-0005  
816-818 N. Main St.  
Say "Corn Belt" and receive up to 10% off. Not valid with other discounts.

#### Springfield

- **Bard Optical** - (217) 793-2273  
3141 S Veterans Pkwy  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Calhoun Carpet** - (217) 544-1826  
1701 S. Dirksen Pkwy  
10% off any carpet purchase.
- **George Alarm Company** - (309) 827-5707  
917 S. 9th St  
Switching monitoring systems and we'll beat your existing price by 15%. New system (lease/purchase) 15% discount and 15% off upgrades for existing customers.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** - (217) 793-6756  
3455 Freedom Dr.  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** - (217) 391-7272  
1712 Sangamon Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.

#### Stanford

- **Distinctive Affairs** - (309) 379-2514  
202 S. Division Street  
Free dessert with rehearsal dinner.

#### Sterling

- **Bard Optical** - (815) 626-6006  
3215 E Lincoln Way  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

#### Urbana

- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse-Urbana** - (217) 344-8201  
1601 N. Cunningham  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

#### Utica

- **Apple Tree Acres Alpacas** - (815) 667-4228  
3037 E 11th Road  
10% on all alpaca apparel.

#### Washington

- **Bard Optical** - (309) 444-2277  
#8 Cherry Tree Shopping Center  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers

## Save the Date!

Corn Belt Energy's Annual Meeting of Members will be held Saturday, March 11, 2006, at the Normal Community High School. More details will be available soon!



## We Wish You a Safe and Happy New Year!

Corn Belt Energy's office will be closed on January 2, 2006. In the event of an electrical emergency, please phone (800) 879-0339.

## OUTAGE REPORT

The following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.corn-beltenergy.com](http://www.corn-beltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
10/21/05	5:27 am - 7:00 am	103	Deland/Weldon area	Line fuse outage
11/05/05	10:05 pm - 1:30 am	727	Holder, East Bloomington, Downs, Ellsworth	AmerenIP transmission failure
11/05/05	10:05 pm - 1:30 am	411	Saybrook, Arrowsmith, Bellflower	AmerenIP transmission failure
11/05/05	10:05 pm - 1:30 am	319	Lexington, Chenoa, Gridley	AmerenIP transmission failure
11/05/05	10:05 pm - 1:30 am	511	Cooksville, Colfax	AmerenIP transmission failure
11/09/05	5:39 am - 7:15 am	123	Princeton area	Line fuse out from equipment failure
11/13/05	11:04 am - 3:55 pm	244	Weldon area	Line fuse outage
11/13/05	12:40 pm - 4:15 pm	105	Hawthorne Hills Subdivision, Bloomington	Car accident broke pole
11/16/05	11:55 am - 1:15 pm	536	Norway substation area	Tree in lines

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



Mailing address: P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816

E-mail address: [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com)

Web address: [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com)

PHONE NUMBERS

DAY OR NIGHT

(800) 879-0339

FAX: (309) 663-4516

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm –  
Monday thru Friday

**FEBRUARY 2006**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Ever Been to the Annual Meeting?

**C**onsider attending this year's Annual Meeting of Members at the Normal Community High School on Sat., March 11, 2006. Want a sneak preview of what happens at a cooperative annual meeting? Check it out!



Register to win prizes.



Meet face to face with Jeff Reeves, President/CEO (right) and board members. Pictured are James Adams (left) and Dennis Fredrickson (center).



Enjoy complimentary breakfast rolls and a hot lunch.



Learn about electric safety.

Watch for details in the Annual Meeting booklet that will be mailed to your home in late February. Reservations can be made via e-mail at [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com) or by calling (800) 879-0339. Hope to see you there!



Meet your local Corn Belt Energy linemen.

## CBEC Arborist Representing Illinois Utilities

**C**al Williams, Manager of Vegetation and Safety for Corn Belt Energy Corporation, was recently elected to the Illinois Arborist Association's Board of Directors. The announcement was made at the Illinois Arborist Association (IAA) Annual Meeting held in Chicago.

A total of nine directors serve on the board representing utility, commercial, industrial, municipal, and environmental interests. Cal will hold the utility chair representing Illinois utilities for the next two years.

The IAA is a chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). Their mission is: "Foster interest, establish standards, exchange professional ideas, and pursue scientific research in Arboriculture." Their duties include governing



and granting funds, setting up programs, and addressing areas of concern related to arboriculture within the state.

Cal is a Certified Arborist, Certified Utility Specialist and Certified Loss Control Professional, and a member of the ISA, IAA, and Indiana Arborist Association. He has worked at the cooperative for more than 33 years. During that time, he worked seven years in overhead

and underground construction and 26 years with utility arboriculture.

"Being elected to the IAA Board and representing the utilities in Illinois is a great honor for me," said Williams. "I hope this achievement will encourage other cooperative employees to run for similar positions."



## SEE YOU AT THE HOME SHOW 2006

Interstate Center in Bloomington  
March 10, 11, 12

Free tickets will be available at  
Corn Belt Energy's Annual Meeting!

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Government to Reward Homeowners

If you've been thinking about making some improvements to your home's energy efficiency, Corn Belt Energy recommends that you take a close look at the incentives that President Bush recently signed into law.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 is a 1,724-page document that addresses nearly every aspect of energy use in America. Deep within that legislation are a series of incentives that will reward homeowners for making smart energy decisions during 2006 and 2007.

You'll be able to take tax credits of up to \$500 total for installing new energy-efficient items in your home. Specific tax benefits for the home include:

- \$50 for purchasing an advanced main air circulating fan;
- \$150 for installing a highly efficient furnace or boiler;
- \$200 for installing energy efficient windows;
- \$300 for purchasing a highly efficient central air conditioner, heat pump or water heater;
- 30 percent, or up to \$2000, for the purchase of solar water-heating equipment (this does not apply to equipment used to heat swimming pools or hot tubs).

Contractors who construct homes using high energy-efficiency measures and manufacturers who produce highly efficient appliances will also be eligible for tax credits. The government hopes those credits will help keep prices for those homes and appliances lower.

The incentives also include tax credits on fuel-efficient vehicles (although availability may be limited):

- Up to \$3,400 for hybrid electric vehicles and those with advanced lean-burn diesel engines
- Up to \$4,000 for alternative fuel cars.

Businesses can receive even larger credits for energy-efficient buses and other large vehicles.

If you want to take advantage of these incentives, which will only be available for purchases made during the 2006 and 2007 tax years, you'll need to become familiar with the government's standards. That way, you'll be certain to choose items that qualify for the tax breaks.

Corn Belt Energy can provide more information and help you make the right choices. For more information about the tax credits go to [www.energytaxincentives.org](http://www.energytaxincentives.org).

## You Could Win \$100!

On March 1, 2006, some lucky member will win \$100! Call by February 28 and enroll in Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Your bill will automatically be deducted from your bank account each month, and your name will be entered into the \$100 drawing.

EFT is for you if....

- You're a busy person
- You frequently travel
- You want to make sure your bills are paid on time
- You like to save money
- You're looking for ways to simplify your life.

Thousands of Corn Belt Energy members pay their energy bills automatically each month. Maybe it's time for you to consider electronic payment for your Corn Belt Energy electric bill.

**How does it work?** We still send you a billing statement every month that shows the amount and

the date of the transfer. The transfer takes place on the billing due date, which is approximately 3 weeks from the date the bill is printed. If there are insufficient funds in your account, you may be charged a service fee by both your bank and Corn Belt Energy Corporation.

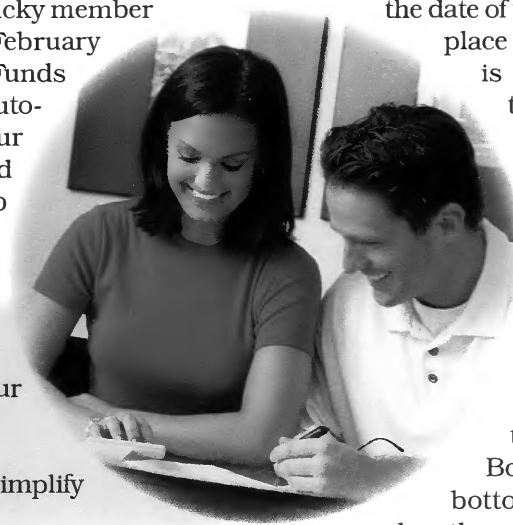
**How to apply?** You can apply for EFT by calling (800) 879-0339. Just have your bank account and bank transit number available.

Both numbers are listed on the bottom of your checks. Please allow

three to six weeks to process your

agreement. **Continue to pay your Corn Belt Energy electric bills until you see the words "Auto Pay" on your bill.**

*Note: Corn Belt Energy employees, directors, and their families are not eligible to participate in the contest drawing.*



**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Always-on Computers Drain Energy

**A** desktop computer and monitor can consume about 65 watts per hour, according to a fact sheet published by the Energy Department in reference to its conservation program, Energy Star®. Nationally, computers in home and business settings use 32 billion kwh of electricity each year. More than half of this energy could be saved by following simple guidelines:

- Enabling power standby modes can reduce consumption to 35 watts per hour.
- Turning off PCs and monitors after work can cut the annual energy costs from \$185 per computer to \$97 per computer.

The Energy Department noted that computer users are reluctant to turn off the power for fear of harming the circuits or the hard drive. The power switch on computers is designed to handle 40,000 cycles before failure.

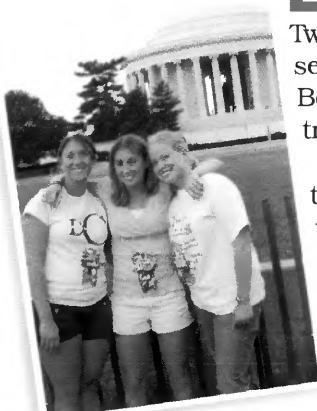


## Two Students Will Win *Free* Washington Trips

**E**ncourage your son or daughter to enter Corn Belt Energy's Youth to Washington competition. Two high school students (sophomores, juniors, or seniors), who are the sons or daughters of Corn Belt Energy members, will win all-expense paid trips to Washington D.C. in June 2006.

This is an outstanding opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. with other statewide contest winners! During their weeklong trip, they will visit numerous historical national sites, monuments, museums and government buildings and meet state legislators. They'll see first-hand how the government process works.

It's easy to enter. No essay required! Just enter online at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) or call (800) 879-0339 to request an application form. But do it soon, as **February 24, 2006, is the deadline to enter.**



## Grants Available to Educators

**E**nter Corn Belt Energy's Education Grant Competition, and your school could win \$1,000 for a project that will enhance classroom education!

Four schools within Corn Belt Energy's service area will be awarded \$1,000 each to be used for innovative programs to enrich students' education. To apply, send a written request (not to exceed three pages) that states the following:

1. Project description and goal
2. Estimated cost
3. Why are outside funds needed?
4. Who will benefit?
5. Are the goals measurable?



Photos or supporting data are optional. Requests can be e-mailed to [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com), faxed to (309) 663-4516, or mailed to Corn Belt Energy Corp., Attention: Marketing Dept., P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816.

The deadline for entries to be received at Corn Belt Energy is March 31, 2006. For additional information, call (800) 879-0339, Ext. 235.

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



MARCH 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Danger After A Storm

### Tips to stay safe after the storm is over

**A**s part of Severe Storm Preparedness Month in March, Safe Electricity and Corn Belt Energy caution everyone to be mindful of the electrical hazards that storms and flooding can leave in their wake. The following safety tips will help you avoid electrocution and serious injury when dealing with the aftermath of a major storm or disaster:

1. Stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Treat all downed or hanging power lines as if they are energized. Warn others to stay away and contact the electric utility.
2. If using electric yard tools in clean-up efforts, do not operate them if it's raining, the ground is wet, or while you are wet or standing in water. Keep all electric tools and equipment at least 10 feet away from wet surfaces.
3. Turn off electric and gas before entering flooded or damaged rooms. If you can't reach your breaker box safely, call Corn Belt Energy at (800) 879-0339 to shut off your power at the meter.
4. Never step into a flooded basement or other area if water is covering electrical outlets, appliances or cords. Be alert to any electrical equipment that could be energized and in contact with water.

5. Never touch electrical appliances, cords or wires while you are wet or standing in water. Have a professional check out all water damaged appliances before using them.
6. If the power to your home is out for a prolonged period, know important safety rules, such as never using a charcoal or gas grill to cook inside!
7. Before operating a standby generator, make sure a transfer safety switch is used, or connect the appliance(s) directly to the generator output through an isolated circuit before you operate it. This prevents electricity from traveling back through the power lines, known as "back feed." Back feed creates danger for anyone near lines, particularly crews working to restore power.



When you call to report an outage, our outage system will match your phone number with your account. If you are calling from another number, you will be asked to enter the phone number where the power is out. The phone number we have listed on your account is printed on the bottom of your energy bill. If that number isn't correct, please write down the correct number and return it with your payment. We will provide information about outages on local radio stations and at our Web site, which is [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com).

**For more information on electrical safety, visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org).**

# More Businesses Learn Co-op Connections Advantage

**A**s more members are using their Co-op Connections cards, area businesses are benefiting from the free advertising that is bringing customers their way. The Co-op Connections Program is good for members and good for local businesses! **Have you used your card yet?**



More businesses are joining the program every month. For a complete list of national offers go to [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop). If you don't see any participating businesses in your area, please be patient as more businesses are coming onboard every week.

## Abingdon

- **Bradshaw's TV & Appliance Sales & Service** – (309) 462-5703  
801 N. Monroe St.  
50% off all repair estimates

## Bloomington

- **A & B Auto Body Supply, Inc.** – (309) 663-0376  
1642 Commerce Pkwy.  
10% off list prices.
- **Aaron's Sales & Lease** – (309) 820-8700  
1724 RT Dunn Drive  
50% off 1st month's payment.
- **Baller Eye Care Center** – (309) 662-7715  
210 1/2 N. Williamsburg  
10% off first pair of glasses. Ask for current offers. Only 1 discount will apply.
- **Bard Optical** – (309) 663-1519  
1407 N Veterans Parkway  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Baymont Inn** – (309) 662-2800  
604 1/2 1AA Drive  
10% off.
- **Benchmark Home Loans** – (309) 665-0506  
2310 E. Oakland Ave., Suite 11A  
Free credit report consultation and \$200.00 off closing costs.
- **Bev Engerton, Realtor, Brady Weaver, GMAC Real Estate** – (309) 826-2101  
2203 Eastland Dr., Suite 1  
\$50.00 McLean County Cash Gift Certificate honored at over 150 local merchant members of Chamber of Commerce presented at completion of successful closing.
- **Bloomington-Normal YMCA** – (309) 827-6233  
602 S. Main St.  
1/2 off joiner fee for new members plus a double portion (6) of one-day guest passes.
- **Blue Fish Estate Sales** – (309) 828-9978  
1 Burgundy Ct.  
\$100 cash back bonus at the conclusion of an estate sale or household buyout.
- **Brad Barker Honda** – (309) 663-9591  
1602 General Electric Road  
10% off oil & filter change. Honda cars only. Not valid with other discounts.
- **BrokersDiscount.com** – (309) 664-4455  
2409 E. Washington St., Suite B  
Free market analysis on your home. Home must be located in McLean County.

- **Bussey Bank** – (309) 663-6345  
301 Fairway Dr.  
\$100 off closing costs of 1st mortgage loan and 25 basis point reduction of closed-end home equity loan rate. New originations only.
- **Bussy's Automotive** – (309) 664-5398  
1627 Commerce Parkway  
10% off brake repair over \$200/\$10 off any motor fuel system clean.
- **Calahan Solutions, Inc.** – (309) 825-7833  
5% off Organization Assessment and Consultation Services. Please show card for discount. Not valid with other offers or discounts.
- **Carpet Weaver's Floor Care** – (309) 834-3602  
902 Eldorado Road  
10% off all services.
- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** – (309) 828-7562  
3 Turtleback Ct.  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties
- **Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.** – (309) 662-1648  
2027 Ireland Grove Rd  
10% off Harley-Davidson t-shirts, sweatshirts, and leather jackets.
- **Cindy's Cinnamon Rolls** – (309) 663-9877  
1615 E Empire Suite 1190  
10% off any purchase.
- **Clay Dooley Tire** – (309) 827-5037, (309) 662-2886  
1507 East Vernon Avenue & 307 E. Grove  
\$25 off set of tires installed. No carry outs or wholesale/up to \$20 off auto repair. \$50 minimum purchase. Offer valid at time of purchase.
- **Comfort Inn** – (309) 828-6000  
505 Brock Dr.  
15% off room rates on conference room rental.
- **CTB, Inc.** – (309) 662-8243  
3006 Gill St., Suite E  
Receive a 10% discount on website hosting and programming services. May not be used in conjunction with other offers or sales.
- **Culver's** – (309) 827-3527, (309) 662-7070  
1807 W. Market St & 901 N. Hershey Dr.  
Free regular sundae with purchase of any dinner.
- **Davis Tire and Auto Service, Inc.** – (309) 663-6366  
1809 Eastland Drive  
Discounts up to 10% off retail price on all tires & mechanical parts & service/5% discount on sale items. Some restrictions apply. Ask for details.

- **Domino's Pizza** – (309) 665-0505  
2205 E. Oakland Ave.  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Glass Specialty Company** – (309) 664-1087  
3302 Gerig Dr.  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off Rhino Linings Spray where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Gloria Jean's Coffees** – (309) 662-2550  
1615 E Empire (Eastland Mall)  
50 cents off any medium or large drink or \$1 off 1 pound whole bean coffee.
- **Heavenly Ham** – (309) 661-1450  
1407 N. Veterans Parkway  
10% off a box lunch. Dine in only.
- **Mad Bean Painting & Design** – (309) 825-8235  
1004 1/2 North Lee St.  
\$50 off any customer painting job under \$400 and \$100 off any customer painting job over \$400.
- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 821-9600  
103 E. Hamilton Rd.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.
- **Mid-Illini Credit Union** – (309) 661-1166  
1811 Eastland Dr.,  
Open checking account & get first box of checks free. \$200 off closing costs for home mortgage. Must show card for offers. Must work or reside in McLean County to become a member.
- **Mole Hole of Eastland** – (309) 663-2241  
1615 East Empire Street  
\$5 off any purchase of \$25 or more.
- **Monster Pawn & Monster Deals** – (309) 823-9115  
1610 RT Dunn Drive  
\$1 off all DVDs  
Must show card to clerk for discount.
- **National City Mortgage** – (309) 823-3014  
202 E. Washington St.  
\$200 off closing costs. Must identify yourself on application as Corn Belt Energy member. Keith Thompson specifically must be identified at application.

(Continued on page 16c)

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

(Continued from page 16b)

- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** - (309) 663-7100  
1603 A. Morrissey  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Nybakke Vacuum Shop Inc.** - (309) 662-7272  
814 I.A.A. Drive  
10% off disposal bags or filters  
Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **OSF St. Joseph Medical Center-Center For Healthy Lifestyles** - (309) 661-5151  
2200 E. Washington St.  
10% off of any regularly priced merchandise at the Center for Healthy Lifestyles.
- **Paint Depot** - (309) 664-6733  
2407 GE Road  
20% off.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** - (309) 662-9000  
2402 E. Oakland Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.
- **Peoples Bank** - (309) 661-9993, (309) 828-8611  
1 Brickyard Dr. Ste 301 & 1218 Towanda Ave.  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.
- **Performance Growth Partners, Inc.** - (309) 664-7741  
3 Mallard Ct.  
\$100.00 off the cost of a customer service assessment, customer service standards development or customer service training for your business. One discount per business.
- **Personal Touch Cleaning Company** - (309) 661-0833  
2412 E. Washington St., Ste. 7A  
\$20 off 1st cleaning with ongoing service for new customers/\$15 off LX cleanings
- **Pheasant Lanes Bowling and Miniature Golf** - (309) 663-8556  
804 N. Hershey Rd.  
Buy 1 game of bowling and get 2nd free. Limit 1 per visit. During open bowling days only. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Red Wing Shoe Store & Adrian's Shoe Repair** - (309) 827-6370  
1210 Towanda Plaza  
10% off regular priced merchandise  
Not valid with other offers or discounts.
- **Ride The Nine Home of Shooters Lounge** - (309) 662-1009  
503 N. Prospect  
15% off billiard time.
- **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory** - (309) 662-8610  
101 N. Veterans Parkway  
10% off purchase.
- **Ryan Pharmacy** - (309) 828-4813  
1118 E. Oakland  
\$10 off new prescription  
Medicare and some 3rd party insurers excluded. 1 per family per year.
- **Sam Leman Automotive Group** - (309) 662-5000  
1602 Commerce Pkwy  
10% off maintenance services.
- **Specs Around Town Optical Boutique** - (309) 827-7327  
317 N. Center St.  
\$25 off any in-stock sunglasses  
Not valid with other offers.
- **Stiles Automotive** - (309) 828-6603  
905 S. Morris Avenue  
10% discount  
Excludes used cars.
- **T.C. Buzz Coffee Co.** - (309) 661-8229  
2103 N. Veterans Parkway Suite #304  
15% off all beverages.
- **Tarvin's Culligan Water Conditioning** - (309) 663-4400  
#8 Gilmore Dr  
Try a Culligan water softener for only \$9.95 a billing for 3 billings, or \$100 off purchase price of a Gold Series water softener. Free in-home water testing.
- **Terry Winn Tire & Auto Service, Inc.** - (309) 661-2886  
909 N. Hershey Rd.  
10% off all retail tire prices installed. 10% discount on repair parts and oil changes. We inflate tires with nitrogen! Discounts do not apply to sale items.
- **The Chocolatier Inc** - (309) 821-0277  
514 N. Main St  
5% off all assortment boxes  
Truffles not included.
- **Union Auto Sales** - (309) 820-7561  
1201 S. Main St.  
\$100 off purchase. Must present card at purchase.
- **US Cellular** - (309) 661-8181  
115 Krispy Kreme Dr. Suite 2  
20% off on all accessories.
- **Weed Man** - (309) 827-9390  
12051 McCue Dr.  
One free application for new customers when scheduling a full program. Only available to new customers.
- **Wingate Inn** - (309) 820-9990  
1031 Wylia Drive  
\$59 plus tax any standard room  
(King or Double). Based on availability. Book in advance through Sales Dept.
- **Wm. Masters, Inc. Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & A/C** - (309) 662-8481  
401 Olympia Drive  
Offer: \$100 off Guardian standby gen. system. \$50 off transfer switch wiring system for your portable gen. 10% off plbg serv call for new customers. Free energy analysis & system eval. of your current htg & a/c system. \$200 off new Trane hybrid htg/ac system. \$300 off new Waterfurnace geothermal htg/ac system. 5% off new security system or video surveillance system. Can't be used with other offers/discounts.
- **YWCA of McLean County** - (309) 662-0461  
1201 N. Hershey Rd.  
Buy 10 fitness classes for \$50 & get \$50 off annual Healthy Benefits Plus. Buy annual fitness membership & get 10% off. Offers apply only to new customers. Co-op Connections Card must be shown to receive offer.

#### Canton

- **Bard Optical** - (309) 647-0366  
127 N. Main  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

#### Champaign

- **Bard Optical** - (217) 351-8622  
907 Market View Dr., Unit 7  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

#### Dahinda

- **Discount Wildlife Service** - (877) 397-2287  
250 Greenleaf Ct.  
\$25 off the cost of service call/\$10 off the cost of chlmney cap.

#### Danvers

- **Lullaby Studios** - (309) 963-6466  
18682 N. Apache Path  
Free 8 X 10 with order. Free proof book with \$200 order.

#### Decatur

- **Bard Optical** - (217) 422-3881  
288 N. Park  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Glass Specialty Company** - (217) 429-2371  
505 E. William  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.

#### Downs

- **Bevande Café** - (309) 663-4627  
#1 Mike's Way  
50 cents off any drink  
Not to be combined with other offers.
- **Crowne Realty** - (309) 824-9016  
9336 Abbey Way  
Free 2-3 night stay on Lake of the Ozarks at vacation hide-a-way condominiums or \$50 gift certificate to Lowe's, whichever you choose after completion of successful closing.
- **Peoples Bank** - (309) 662-1800  
#1 Mike's Way  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

#### East Peoria

- **Bard Optical** - (309) 694-2273  
416 Riverside Dr  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

#### Forsyth

- **Bard Optical** - (217) 875-3724  
1351 Hickory Point Dr  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

#### Galesburg

- **Appliance Parts & Service Depot** - (309) 343-9923  
99 S. Seminary St.  
10% off appliances and parts in stock.
- **Bard Optical** - (309) 343-7799  
1265 N Henderson  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Bunker Links Municipal Golf Course** - (309) 344-1818  
3535 Lincoln Park Drive  
\$20 green fees for 18 holes with cart.
- **Creations by Carolina** - (309) 343-9998  
54 S. Seminary St.  
10% off alterations to clothing on up to \$50 of alterations. First visit only.
- **Giardina Pontiac Cadillac GMC** - (309) 344-2288  
1621 N. Henderson St.  
Purchase any in stock new vehicle at the GM supplier price which is several thousands of dollars savings. Must show proof of membership of Corn Belt Energy.

#### Geneseo

- **Bard Optical** - (309) 686-6491  
206 W First St  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

#### Gridley

- **Peoples Bank** - (309) 747-2100  
325 Center St., PO Box 460  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

(Continued on page 16d)

### Hudson

- **The Cruise Consultants** – (309) 726-2509  
23560 N. 1600 E. Rd.  
\$50 off cabin of 7-day cruise or longer.
- **Whitacre's Country Oak Shoppe** – (309) 726-1305  
704 S. Broadway  
10% off. Sale items excluded.

### Jacksonville

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 243-0506  
901 W Morton 10B  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Kewanee

- **O'Reilly Auto Parts**  
321 S. Main  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

### LaSalle

- **Coon's Grove Nursery, Inc** – (815) 223-9287  
359 N 35th Rd  
10% off the purchase of any evergreen 6-8ft or shade tree 2-2.5 inches in diameter. Planting & delivery excluded.

### Lincoln

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 735-1707  
1481 Woodlawn Rd  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Mendota

- **Prescott Brothers Inc.-Chrysler, Dodge & Jeep** – (866) 539-9388  
614 13th Ave.  
New cars & trucks: 1% below factory invoice(Family & Friends Program)/\$19.95 for oil change, 15 pt. inspection and choice of wash & wax or tire rotation/10% off MOPAR items.

### Minier

- **Sears Portrait Studio** – (309) 392-3209  
202 Darnall Drive  
10% off entire portraits purchase.

### Morton

- **Ashland House** – (309) 263-5116  
201 East Ashland  
10% off regular rack rate  
Special event dates.
- **Leisure Spas Inc** – (309) 263-0637  
911 W Jefferson  
15% off all spa chemicals.
- **Pete's Shoe Store** – (309) 266-9212  
109 W. Jefferson  
20% off Red Wing Work boots.
- **Wm. Masters, Inc. Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning** – (309) 263-9400  
933 Detroit Court  
\$100 off Guardian automatic backup generator system. \$50 off installation of a backup power transfer switch wiring system for portable generator. Free energy analysis & system evaluation of your current heating & a/c system. \$200 off purchase of new Trane hybrid heating & a/c system. \$300 off purchase of new Waterfurnace geothermal heating & a/c system. 5% off new security system or video surveillance system. Can not be combined with any other offers or discounts.

### Mossville

- **Bill's Radiator** – (309) 691-3030  
10307 Wheaton Road  
10% off parts  
Any previously discount parts excluded.

### Normal

- **A-1 Security Locksmith** – (309) 454-5800  
310 Pine Street  
\$5 off service call or locks and deadbolts. Buy 5 keys and get 1 free.
- **Baird's Auto Care, Inc.** – (309) 452-9819  
804 W. Division St.  
\$1.50 off full service oil change/10% off repair parts. No discount on labor or warranty parts.
- **Best Western University Inn** – (309) 454-4070  
6 Traders Circle  
20% off rack rate. Not valid with other discounts. Advanced reservation recommended.
- **Body Dynamics Fitness Equipment** – (309) 268-9313  
406 Kays  
10% off any equipment or accessory purchase. Does not include weights or sale price items.
- **College Station Apartments** – (309) 454-5549  
9 Traders Circle  
\$30.00 application fee waived
- **Domino's Pizza** – (309) 454-5111  
305 W. Beaufort  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Illinois Agricultural Auditing Association** – (309) 862-3870, Ext. 228  
318 Susan Drive  
10% discount on the preparation of personal income tax returns. Can't be combined with other discounts.
- **Mary Kay Cosmetics, Joan Garber** – (309) 838-1490  
1302 Kern St.  
At your complimentary facial, you will receive a free gift with a \$40.00 purchase. Void if serviced by another beauty consultant.
- **MidState Transmission Inc.** – (309) 452-5595  
1408 Fort Jesse Rd.  
\$25 off clutch replacement and automatic transmission rebuild  
Not valid with other discounts.
- **Midwest College of Cosmetology** – (309) 451-1373  
755 W. Raab Road  
15% off any service with member card  
Not valid with other discounts.
- **Obrien Mitsubishi** – (309) 454-1222  
1601 Ft. Jesse Rd  
Any new vehicle 5% over invoice price amount/ Any used vehicle at employee pricing.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (309) 452-7575  
1531 E. College Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.
- **Signature Inn** – (309) 454-4044  
101 S. Veterans Parkway  
\$69 room rate on all standard rooms  
Offer not valid during special events. All discounts subject to availability.
- **Team Automotive Inc** – (309) 454-5454  
1223 S Adelaide St  
10% off all parts  
Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Washburn Flowers** – (309) 452-1113  
111 North St  
10% on floral products only-cash and carry only. Plants, giftware & month of February excluded.

- **Wild Birds Unlimited** – (309) 454-3455  
1520 East College Avenue  
20% off any in-stock bird feeder or bird-house. 1 per family.
- **Wm. Marken Jewelers** – (309) 454-8855  
1520 E. College  
20% off any merchandise purchase. 25% off Setko watches. Discount does not apply to repair services.

### North Pekin

- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 382-2600  
135 Radio City Dr.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.

### Pekin

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 353-9313  
3287 Court St  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Sud's Volkswagen, Audi, Mercedes Benz, Porsche** – (309) 676-1101  
2350 N. 8th St.  
15% off all parts and service.

### Peoria

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 353-9313, (309) 676-1101, (309) 693-9540, (309) 672-2273  
7720 N. Crestline Dr. & 1200 W. Main St., Suite 21 & 1800 N Knoxville #5 & 4620 N University  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Glass Specialty Company** – (309) 686-6491  
1000 SW Jefferson  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Jim's Autobody and Refinishing Inc.** – (309) 674-0113  
1330 NE Adams St.  
5% off repair cost up to \$100.00 discount.
- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 691-8600  
8859 N. Knoxville Rd.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (309) 685-1033  
4114 N. Brandywine  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

### Peoria Heights

- **A Sweet Arrangement** – (309) 681-8423  
4709 N. Prospect Road  
20% off any single bouquet of candy  
Consignment collectibles/Offer not valid for the following periods 12/15-12/25 and 2/1-2/14.
- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** – (309) 681-1744  
1507 Lake #12  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties.

### Peru

- **Glass Specialty Company** – (815) 223-1060  
4115 Progress Blvd  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.

(Continued on page 16e)



(Continued from page 16d)

• **O'Reilly Auto Parts**

941 Wenzel Rd.  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

**Pontiac**

• **Peoples Bank - (815) 844-3171**

223 N. Mill St.  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

**Princeton**

• **Adler Chiropractic - (815) 872-1800**

403 S. Main St.  
10% discount on new patient office visit.

• **Browning Ford Lincoln Mercury - (815) 875-1150**

1502 W. Peru  
4 free oil changes and 1 complete detail (\$250 value) with purchase of any new car. All included services by appt. only. Offer must be presented at the time of sale.

• **Dunbar's Office Supply - (815) 872-1907**

21 Park Ave. East  
10% off catalog items. Sale items excluded.

• **Hattie's Arts & Antiques - (815) 875-9151**

24 W. Long  
10% discount on items over \$20 unless marked Net or Firm.

• **Heartland Printing & Publications - (815) 875-4659**

21 Park Ave. East  
10% off printing orders.

• **Johnsons Carpet Shoppe Inc. - (815) 875-3444**

1033 N. Main  
\$1 off per yard of carpet  
Not valid with other sales.

• **McCall Chiropractic Clinic - (815) 879-0909**

105 S. Main, Suite 7  
\$10 off an initial examination/consultation. Must present card. Excludes Medicare patients.

• **O'Reilly Auto Parts - (815) 875-2474**

1504 N. Main St.  
\$.99 for the following O'Reilly chemicals: ORC 72142 (fueling and carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). 1 per customer per visit

• **Very Important Pet Grooming, Inc. - (815) 875-9806**

634 S. Main St.  
10% off any service with Co-op Connections Card

• **Wyant Carpet - (815) 879-0005**

816-818 N. Main St.  
Say "Corn Belt" and receive up to 10% off. Not valid with other discounts.

**Springfield**

• **Bard Optical - (217) 793-2273**

3141 S. Veterans Pkwy  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

• **Calhoun Carpet - (217) 544-1826**

1701 S. Dirksen Pkwy  
10% off any carpet purchase.

• **George Alarm Company - (309) 827-5707**

917 S. 9th St.  
Switching monitoring systems and we'll beat your existing price by 15%. New system (lease/purchase) 15% discount and 15% off upgrades for existing customers.

• **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse - (217) 793-6756**

3455 Freedom Dr.  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

• **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza - (217) 391-7272**

1712 Sangamon Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.

**Stanford**

• **Distinctive Affairs - (309) 379-2514**

202 S. Division Street  
Free dessert with rehearsal dinner.

**Sterling**

• **Bard Optical - (815) 626-6006**

3215 E. Lincoln Way  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

**Urbana**

• **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse-Urbana - (217) 344-8201**

1601 N. Cunningham  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

**Utica**

• **Apple Tree Acres Alpacas - (815) 667-4228**

3037 E. 11th Road  
10% on all alpaca apparel.

**Washington**

• **Bard Optical - (309) 444-2277**

#8 Cherry Tree Shopping Center  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers



## Is Standby Electricity Costing You Money?

If you had a leaky faucet, you would recognize that you're losing energy dollars whenever you hear the drip...drip...drip. Did you know that you are probably "leaking" electricity, because some of your appliances are using electricity even when they are not in use? These include televisions, VCRs, DVD players, garage door openers, cordless phones, stereo systems and microwave ovens. Even when they are not on, they may not be off. They may be on standby, charging a battery or waiting to be used.

According to some experts, this could amount to 5 to 10

percent of your annual household electrical consumption. For VCRs, cable boxes and video games, between 70 and 90 percent of the electricity they consume takes place while they are on standby. That's because they use very little extra power when they are on, and when they are off, they are powered 24 hours a day.

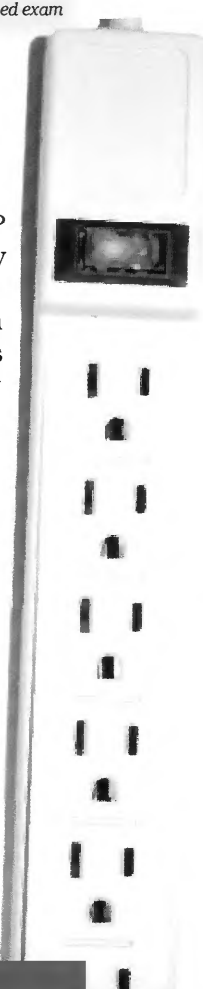
Office equipment, such as computers, fax machines and copiers use large amounts of standby power to avoid warm-up times and to power clocks and soft-touch keypads.

Most standby power is lost as heat by the transformer (the power supply) converting the electricity to a lower voltage. Have you ever felt the heat coming from the adapter plug

for your cordless phone? That's where the energy went.

The only way you can prevent some appliances from leaking electricity is to unplug them. It's easiest to use a power bar, and simply shut off the power to the bar. Unplug appliances that aren't being used, such as chargers for mobile phones and power tools.

Energy Star® now rates home electronic equipment for consumption and standby losses. For more information, go to [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).



**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

# Please plan to attend the 68<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

**Saturday, March 11, 2006**

**to be held at Normal Community High School  
3900 E. Raab Rd., Normal, Illinois**

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration – Coffee, milk and donuts served.
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration for the Children's Program (ages 3-10)
10:00 a.m.	Early bird prize drawing is a personal computer!
10:00 a.m. – Noon	Annual Meeting
Noon	Lunch will be served



**Please return the reservation form before March 9  
or reply via e-mail to [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com).**

**RESERVATION FORM**



## 68<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

There is no charge for the meal. Please return the completed form to P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816, call (800) 879-0339, or e-mail [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com) before March 9.

Number of people for lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children attending youth programs      3-4 yr. old \_\_\_\_\_      5-10 yr. old \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

CBEC Acct. Number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU MARCH 11!**

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Natural Gas Update

**C**omplete details about the 2006 natural gas offer will be available at the Annual Meeting. If you have Nicor natural gas and you haven't made the change to Corn Belt Energy, you can view our offer online after March 1, 2006, at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) or call (866) 806-3411.

You'll like our simple offer. **Let your cooperative be your total energy provider!**



## Grants Available To Educators



**E**nter Corn Belt Energy's Education Grant Competition, and your school could win \$1,000 for a project that will enhance classroom education! Four schools within Corn Belt Energy's service area will be awarded \$1,000 each to be used for innovative programs to enrich students' education.

Tell your local school administrators and teach-

ers about Corn Belt Energy's Education Grant Program. It's easy to apply online at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com), or call for details at (800) 879-0339, Ext. 235.

Don't delay! Entries must be received at the co-op no later than **March 31, 2006**. Share the news and make a difference in your community.

## OUTAGE REPORT

**T**he following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
11/22/05	12:30 p.m. -12:38 p.m.	1015	Danvers, west Bloomington, west Normal areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
11/22/05	12:30 p.m. -12:38 p.m.	389	Mackinaw, Congerville areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
11/22/05	12:30 p.m. -12:38 p.m.	944	Goodfield, Deer Creek, Eureka, Secor areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
12/07/05	3:50 p.m. - 4:36 p.m.	3377	East Bloomington, north Normal areas	Car accident broke pole causing interruption at Normal substation
12/08/05	5:14 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	944	Goodfield, Deer Creek, Eureka, Secor, Congerville areas	Blown fuse inside Goodfield substation
12/14/05	9:24 a.m. -11:45 a.m.	5903	NE Normal, east Bloomington areas	Ice and wind caused galloping lines
12/27/05	10:55 a.m. -11:05 a.m.	586	Argenta, Oreana, Cisco, Cerro Gordo, Maroa	AmerenIP transmission failure
01/10/06	10:50 a.m. -12:23 p.m.	200	Streid Dr, Oakland Ave, Ireland Grove Rd. areas	Downed wire

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

# Geothermal Grants Awarded

**L**ittle Galilee Christian Assembly in Clinton was awarded a \$26,376 grant toward the completion of a geothermal heating and cooling system in its new worship and recreational center. In addition, Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center, Tiskilwa, was awarded a \$17,285 grant for the same purpose. The grants were funded by the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation (ICECF) and administered by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC). Corn Belt Energy Corporation assisted Menno Haven church leaders and Little Galilee in submitting the geothermal grant applications.

Jeff Reeves, the cooperative's President/CEO, noted that geothermal technology will provide both comfort and energy savings for the facilities for many years. "Because of the energy cost savings and environmental benefits, geothermal technology is an excellent match for many of our members, both commercial and residential."

The grants are available for any facility operated by a government or non-profit organization and served by an Illinois electric cooperative. Eligible facilities, such as schools, community centers, libraries and churches, may apply for a grant of up to \$50,000 to help offset the higher initial cost of geothermal system installations.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, in a landmark technical report entitled "Space Conditioning: The Next Frontier," calls geothermal systems "the most energy efficient, environmentally clean and cost-effective space conditioning systems available." Geothermal systems can save 50 percent in energy costs and



have been proven to decrease maintenance costs as well. Geothermal systems recover the earth's energy with loops of pipe installed underground. It is primarily the cost of installing this ground loop that creates the higher initial costs.

While use of this energy-efficient technology has grown in the residential market, it has been underutilized in institutional and commercial installations because of the higher initial costs to install.

"Facility managers and boards are sometimes tempted to move forward with the lowest initial cost alternatives, which mean less efficient, traditional systems," said John Freitag, vice president of operations for the AIEC. "Traditional systems

will have increased energy usage, greater operating costs and a much greater total cost in the long run. By providing the upfront incentive, we hope to make the geothermal decision much easier."

ICECF invests in clean energy development and land preservation efforts throughout Illinois. Facilities not serviced by Illinois electric cooperatives can apply directly to ICECF for geothermal system funding. Information on ICECF's other grant programs can be found at [www.illinoiscleanenergy.org](http://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org).

For more information about the geothermal system funding program, contact Corn Belt Energy at (800) 879-0339, the AIEC at (217) 529-5561, or go to [www.aiec.coop](http://www.aiec.coop).

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



APRIL 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Get All the Facts in Black and White

**C**orn Belt Energy's 2006 natural gas offer is now available! This year, you can choose between two variable price plans.

### 1. Winter Protection Plan

Based on your historical usage, the cooperative will purchase all your gas requirements before November 1, with the objective of protecting you from the volatility of the winter market. Your price per therm will be adjusted according to market prices, if you use more or less gas than was purchased on your behalf.

### 2. Market-Based Plan

Based on your historical usage, one-third of your gas is purchased in the summer (per Nicor storage requirements), with the remainder purchased monthly at market prices. This plan allows you to benefit if market prices remain the same or drop during the coming months.

Whichever plan you choose, the monthly price per therm is all inclusive, with no additional monthly service fees. The Corn Belt Energy charge will be conveniently located on your Nicor statement, so you'll only pay one gas bill.

- If you are a new gas customer and sign up online at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com), you will receive a \$10 check after your first billing.
- If you're already a Corn Belt Energy electric member, you'll receive a one-time credit of \$10 on your electric bill once Corn Belt Energy begins supplying your natural gas!
- Call us about fund-raising opportunities that are available for churches, schools, communities and organizations.

- Call for a personalized quote if your business uses more than 50,000 therms per year.

If Corn Belt Energy is currently your natural gas supplier, please be aware that your contract will automatically renew, and your gas will be purchased under the Winter Protection Plan, unless you contact us and indicate otherwise.


For complete details, please visit our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) or call toll free (866) 806-3411. Get all the facts in black and white, plain and simple, with no fine print.

Want simple answers  
to your questions about  
choosing a natural gas  
supplier?

Corn Belt Energy states  
the facts clearly in  
**BLACK and WHITE.**

No fine print –  
no surprises!



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2006  
Natural Gas Offer



# Electrical-Safety Quiz

**T**ake this quiz adapted from the Underwriters Laboratories' Web site with your family to educate everyone on electrical safety practices. You can take the quiz online at [www.ul.com](http://www.ul.com).

- 1 To decrease the risk of burn or electrical shock for small children:**
  - A Keep small appliances out of reach.
  - B Avoid using extension cords when children are present.
  - C All of the above.
- 2 To use extension cords safely in your home:**
  - A Replace worn extension cords with new ones.
  - B Run cords through and around doors and windows, so you won't trip on them.
  - C Duct tape them to the floor.
- 3 If an electrical appliance falls into the water, the first thing to do is:**
  - A Unplug it, then take it to a service center.
  - B Call 911, then take it to a service center.
  - C Take it out quickly, and take it to a service center.
- 4 When buying an extension cord:**
  - A Get one at least 25 feet long.
  - B Make sure it has three prongs.
  - C Choose one based on how it will be used.
- 5 If your electrical outlet is hot to the touch:**
  - A Increase the size of the fuse.
  - B Unplug all appliances and have the wire checked as soon as possible.
  - C Wrap it with duct tape.
- 6 If you don't know what size bulb to use in a lamp:**
  - A Use a 25-watt bulb.
  - B Use a 60-watt bulb.
  - C Check with the manufacturer.
- 7 The UL Mark on a product means:**
  - A The product will perform to your expectations.
  - B The safety of a sample of the product has been evaluated by UL.
  - C The government has tested and approved the product.
- 8 When you need to use a three-pronged plug and you have only a two-pronged extension cord, you should:**
  - A Break off the third prong.
  - B Use the appliance with one prong exposed, keeping your hands dry.
  - C Avoid using the appliance until you can buy an appropriate extension cord.
- 9 If you damage an electrical appliance, you should:**
  - A Assume it's safe, as long as no electrical parts are exposed.
  - B Have it checked by a qualified service center.
  - C Duct-tape over any exposed electrical parts.
- 10 A simple, effective way to protect yourself from serious shock hazards is to use:**
  - A Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs).
  - B Rubber gloves.
  - C Circuit breakers.

**Answers found on page 16d.**

## Continuing Education for Directors

**C**orn Belt Energy Director Bob Whitwood of Hudson (right) spoke with N. Duane Noland, former Illinois State Senator and new President/CEO of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), during a break in a continuing education class held at the AIEC in Springfield.



The financial decision making course is part of the Credentialed Cooperative Director Certification program established by the National Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NRECA). During the class, directors learned about their role in creating and maintaining financial security for the cooperative. Noland said, "Directors make decisions that can affect the long-term financial health of the cooperative. They have learned how their decisions impact rates, capital credits and debt and equity management at the cooperative. It's all a part of learning to serve their members better."

## It's Easy Being Green

**W**hen you choose Corn Belt Energy's Green Power Rate, you purchase power that is generated from wind, sun and biomass. In addition, a portion of your funds are contributed to environmental projects, such as the proposed wind generator at the Illinois State University farm. The Green Power Program is a tangible way to make a difference in response to members' concern about the environment.

Corn Belt Energy is purchasing its green power from a supplier that operates landfill-power generators in Indiana. These landfills produce methane, and it is used as fuel for generating electricity. It reduces our need to use more nonrenewable fossil fuels.

The Green Power Rate is one-half cent per kilowatt-hour more for the kilowatt-hours used each month. For the average residential member, that is approximately \$46 per year. That money is placed in the Green Power Fund, which is administered by the cooperative's board of directors.

It's easy to choose Green Power by emailing [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com) or by calling (800) 879-0339.



**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



## Office Closing

**C**orn Belt Energy offices will be closed on Friday, April 14 to observe Good Friday. In case of emergency, call (800) 879-0339.

## ANSWERS TO ELECTRICAL SAFETY QUIZ:



**1) C: All of the above.**

These practices will all help decrease the risk of injury to small children. Children may see cords as toys and play with them in ways that adults would never imagine.

**2) A: Replace worn extension cords with new ones.**

Hiding cords or running them around doors and windows can present a serious fire hazard; it is safer to have a qualified electrician install outlets where you need them.

**3) A: Unplug it, then take it to a service center.**

When an electrical appliance falls into the water, first unplug it. Then, take it to a service center to make sure there is no damage that could cause injury.

**4) C: Choose one based on how it will be used.**

Many cords are listed by UL according to their intended use. Some are listed for "general use," which means they can be used for virtually any purpose. Ask your local hardware store dealer for help.

**5) B: Unplug all appliances and have the wire checked as soon as possible.**

If an electrical outlet becomes so hot that you can't leave your hand on it, you need to consult an electrician. However, keep in mind, most outlets feel a little warm after use.

**6) C: Check with the manufacturer.**

Check to see if your manufacturer has specified which size bulb to use. All products Listed by UL are marked with wattage ratings. If no marking is available, do not use bulbs rated more than 60 watts.

**7) B: A representative sample of the product has been evaluated by Underwriters Laboratories for safety.**

The UL Mark tells you that representative samples of the product have met UL's rigorous requirements for safety.

**8) C: Avoid using the appliance until you can get an appropriate extension cord.**

Leaving the third prong of a plug open could expose you and your family to the threat of electric shock.

**9) B: Have it checked by a qualified service center before you use it again.**

Even if it functions normally, you should always have damaged appliances checked by a qualified service center. Be wary of older appliances, especially if you are not familiar with their history.

**10) A: Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs).**

These devices monitor the current flowing into and out of a product. If the product is receiving more electricity than it is giving back, the GFCI immediately cuts off the current.

## OUTAGE REPORT

**T**he following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
01/13/06	9:09 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	565	North Normal, east Bloomington areas	Ice and wind caused wire down
01/13/06	8:55 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	171	Holder, east Bloomington, Downs areas	Ice and wind caused wire down
01/13/06	2:40 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	588	Argenta, Oreana, Cisco, Maroa areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
01/13/06	3:09 p.m. - 5:40 p.m.	414	Farmer City, Dewitt, Le Roy areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
01/13/06	4:00 p.m. - 5:40 p.m.	317	Deland, Weldon, Farmer City areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
01/16/06	11:12 a.m. - 12:12 p.m.	262	South Bloomington, Downs areas	Bird caused line outage
01/29/06	1:20 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	112	Oreana area	Faulty breaker
02/01/06	8:36 a.m. - 8:46 a.m.	1650	Normal area	AmerenIP transmission failure

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



MAY 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Annual Meeting Recap

Approximately 500 people attended Corn Belt Energy's Annual Meeting at Normal Community High School on Saturday, March 11.

Members visited with more than 20 Co-op Connection<sup>SM</sup> business partners from 8-10 a.m., prior to the business meeting. Representatives informed members about their products and services and distributed literature.

The Children's Discovery Museum's "Dinosaur Dig" was a big hit with 30 children who attended the Kid's Program that ran concurrent with the business meeting from 10 a.m. - noon. Kids (ages 3-10) had a great time excavating dinosaur bones, making fossil impressions and creating habitats.

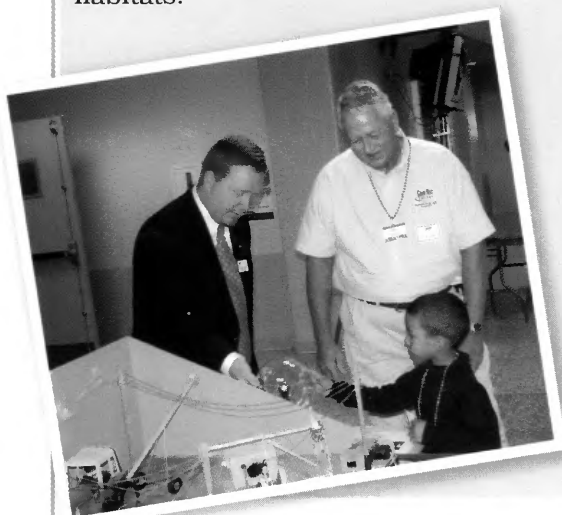


Corn Belt Energy Corporation's members re-elected the following directors: (rear) Gary Archey, Janice Reimer, (front) Charles Meisenheimer, Thomas Johns and James Adams.

Board Chairman Rae F. Payne reported that co-op members will not experience a rate increase in 2006, despite increased prices related to producing, transmitting and distributing power. "The pressures to hold energy rates constant are enormous. Our power supplier, Wabash Valley Power Association, as well as your co-operative, continue to look for ways to control expenses," said Payne.

### Other topics discussed included:

- The \$4 million capital credit return in June 2005.
- The Touchstone Energy® Co-op Connections discount program
- Corn Belt Energy's green power rate that funds environmental projects.



- The installation of the co-op's new Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system.
- Tax credits for 2006 that have resulted from the 2005 Energy Policy Act.

President Jeffrey Reeves stated that the co-operative's financial condition is sound, despite the increased cost of purchased power caused by unusually hot weather last summer.

Secretary-Treasurer Al Hagenbuch said that members' equity in the plant increased from \$38 million to \$44 million between 2003 and 2005. "Current equity is 30 percent, and the goal is to increase our equity level to 35 percent by the year 2010. We will continue to monitor our finances and deliver the service you expect," he said. Total margins for the year were nearly \$2.7 million.

During the meeting, the following directors were re-elected:

- Charles Meisenheimer of Walnut
- Janice Reimer of Carlock
- Thomas Johns of Delavan
- James Adams of Bloomington
- Gary Archey of Clinton

During a re-organizational meeting, Rae F. Payne of Bloomington was elected chairman; Stephen S. Schertz of El Paso was elected vice-chairman; Al Hagenbuch of Utica was elected secretary-treasurer and Janice Reimer was elected assistant secretary-treasurer.

Greg Koos, a local historian, gave a very informative presentation about the historical importance of cooperatives, agriculture, transportation and business.

There were several prize drawings throughout the meeting, and Marilyn Clements of Normal won the early bird prize, a laptop computer.



## Office Closing

Corn Belt Energy offices will be closed on Monday, May 29 to observe Memorial Day.  
In case of emergency, call (800) 879-0339.

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Save On Your Summer Energy Bills

**S**witch 'N' Save\* is a program that enables Corn Belt Energy to reduce the need to purchase high-priced electricity during peak periods. Members\* who participate in the program receive credits on their energy bills in exchange for briefly curtaining electricity to their air conditioners and water heaters.

When outdoor temperatures soar in the summer, air conditioning puts a tremendous strain on power generating systems, creating peak demand periods.

By installing a free radio-controlled switch on or near the outside unit of your central air conditioner, Corn Belt Energy is able to "duty cycle" your compressor during peak periods. Duty cycling means the compressor will run for about eight minutes, then shut off for about seven minutes each quarter-hour. The furnace fan continues to run while the compressor is off to give the cooling effect of moving air. When the thermostat is satisfied, the air conditioner and the fan will shut off as they normally do.

When the peak period subsides, the switch will be deactivated and will remain idle until the cooperative faces another peak demand period. The switch won't be activated on weekends and holidays.

The switch is not obtrusive and cannot harm your air conditioner in any way, because it works in partnership with your in-house thermostat. The

radio signal to the switch will not cause radio or television interference.

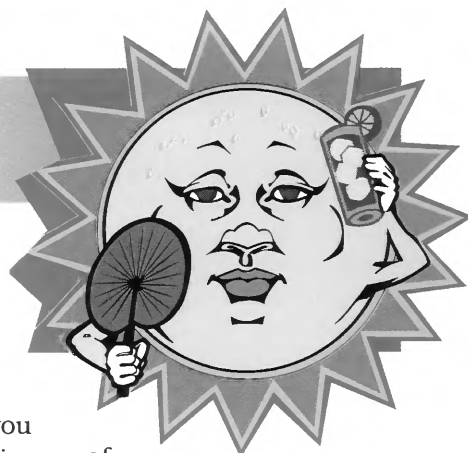
To qualify for the credits, you must use a minimum of 400 kilowatt-hours each month. The switch must be installed before the curtailment month begins to receive the credit for that month's usage.

If you have a radio-controlled switch installed on your air conditioner, you will receive \$9.00 credits on your bills in July, August, September and October. That's a total of \$36.00 in air-conditioning credits.

When you have a radio-controlled switch installed on your electric water heater, you will also receive \$4.50 credits on your bills in July, August, September and October. That's a total of \$18.00 in water heater credits. If you have both switches, that's a total savings of \$54.00 from July through October!

Call today (800-879-0339) and see if you qualify to participate in the Switch 'N' Save Program. There's no charge for the switch or for its installation. Helping the co-op save money during peak demand periods can also save you money.

*\*At this time, the Switch 'N' Save Program is only available in Corn Belt Energy's Central Region.*

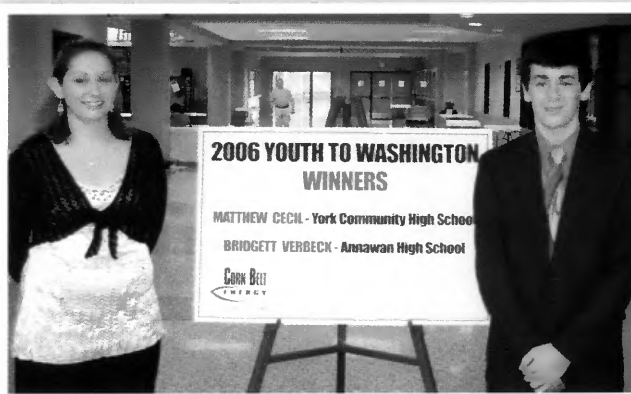


## Youth to Washington Winners Announced

**T**he 2006 winners of the Youth to Washington contest are:

■ Matthew Cecil, son of Bruce Cecil and Rita Trainor of Elmhurst, is a sophomore at York Community High School in Elmhurst.

■ Bridgett Verbeck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Verbeck of Sheffield, is a sophomore at Annawan High School in Annawan.



Matthew and Bridgett will be outstanding representatives for Corn Belt Energy when they travel to Washington, D.C. this summer with approximately 80 other students representing cooperatives throughout Illinois. Congratulations to both winners!

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

# The Power to Choose Your Gas Plan

**C**orn Belt Energy's natural gas members can now choose the buying option that's right for them; the Winter Protection Plan or the Market-Based Plan.

## 1. Winter Protection Plan

Based on your historical usage, the cooperative will purchase all your gas requirements before November 1<sup>st</sup>, with the objective of protecting you from the volatility of the winter market. If you use more or less gas than was purchased on your behalf, your price per

therm will be adjusted according to market prices.

## 2. Market-Based Plan

Based on your historical usage, approximately 28% of your gas is purchased in the summer (per Nicor storage requirements), with the remainder purchased monthly at market prices. This plan allows you to benefit if market prices remain the same or drop during the coming months.

Whichever plan you choose, the monthly price per therm is

all inclusive. The rate is based on the average cost of gas in inventory, all balancing, storage and program fees, taxes (if applicable) and our operating margin of 5.25 cents per therm.

**All current members will receive the Winter Protection Plan, unless they contact us and indicate otherwise.**

Complete details are available at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) or by calling (866) 806-3411. Receive a \$10.00 check when you sign up online!

## OUTAGE REPORT

**T**he following outages affected more than 100 members. Between March 12 and 13, severe storms and high winds caused numerous outages throughout Corn Belt Energy's service area. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
02/22/06	10:20 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	442	Danvers, west Bloomington area	Line fuse out - cause unknown
03/02/06	3:55 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.	432	Troy Grove, Wedron area	Line fuse out - cause unknown
03/07/06	2:50 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	113	Mackinaw, Deer Creek area	Truck bed tangled wires
03/12/06	10:10 p.m. - 3:28 a.m.	125	Saybrook area	High winds caused line fuse outage
03/12/06	10:50 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.	1206	Cambridge, Andover, Kewanee areas	Storm caused AmerenIP transmission failure
03/12/06	10:50 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.	359	Bishop Hill, Galva, Toulon areas	Storm caused AmerenIP transmission failure
03/12/06	10:50 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.	1077	Victoria, Dahinda, Knoxville areas	Storm caused AmerenIP transmission failure
03/13/06	3:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	110	Leroy area	High winds caused broken pole
03/13/06	7:06 a.m. - 8:44 a.m.	104	Deer Creek, Goodfield areas	High winds caused broken pole
03/13/06	11:30 a.m. - 11:06 p.m.	180	Troy Grove, LaSalle areas	High winds caused broken pole
03/16/06	2:10 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	211	Deer Creek, Goodfield areas	Tree limb fell and broke wire

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



Mailing address: P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816  
E-mail address: cbec@cornbeltenergy.com  
Web address: www.cornbeltenergy.com

PHONE NUMBERS  
DAY OR NIGHT  
(800) 879-0339  
FAX: (309) 663-4516  
Call J.U.L.I.E. before you dig:  
(800) 892-0123

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm –  
Monday thru Friday

JUNE 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Education Grant Winners Announced

**T**wenty area teachers and administrators entered Corn Belt Energy's Education Grant contest this year. Applicants were required to submit details about any project or program in their school that would enhance learning and is not currently being funded through their district's budget.

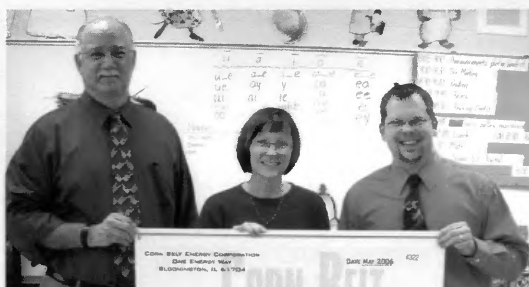
**The winners of the \$1,000 Education Grants are:**



Robin Coon (left) and Caroline McMahan (center), teachers at Deer Creek-Mackinaw High School, won \$1,000 to fund an Effort Honor Roll to recognize students for good conduct and academic achievement. Pictured on the right is Principal Bill Lamb.



Marketing & Public Affairs Director Dave Hawkinson (left) awarded \$1,000 to Jay Schatz, Physical Education teacher at Deland-Weldon Grade School. Schatz will use the grant for a Pedometer Activity Wellness Program to motivate students to develop and maintain healthy lifestyles.



Angie DeVries (center), teacher at Serena Grade School, will be able to purchase books and instructional materials for an excellence in reading library and English as a Second Language Bilingual Education Program. Also pictured are Superintendent Dan Joyce (left) and Principal Paul Schrik (right).



Hawkinson (left) presents Donna Zvonar (right), science teacher at St. Mary's School in Bloomington, with \$1,000 to develop a Forensic Science Program for her 8th grade class.

The quality of the applications and the educational needs were outstanding this year, making it very difficult for judges to select only four winners. Thank you to all who applied.

By funding these programs, the cooperative is making a positive impact on the education provided to students in our area.

# More Businesses Learn Co-op Connections Advantage

**A**s more members are using their Co-op Connections cards, area businesses are benefiting from the free advertising that is bringing customers their way. The Co-op Connections Program is good for members and good for local businesses! **Have you used your card yet?**



More businesses are joining the program every month. For a complete list of national offers go to [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop). If you don't see any participating businesses in your area, please be patient as more businesses are coming onboard every week.

## Abingdon

- **Bradshaw's TV & Appliance Sales & Service** - (309) 462-5703  
801 N. Monroe St.  
50% off all repair estimates
- **Twin Cities Window Cleaning** - (309) 661-0046  
111 North St.  
10% off residential window cleaning.

## Bloomington

- **A & B Auto Body Supply, Inc.** - (309) 663-0376  
1642 Commerce Pkwy.  
10% off list prices.
- **Aaron's Sales & Lease** - (309) 820-8700  
1724 RT Dunn Drive  
50% off 1st month's payment.
- **Amy Witzig Interior Design** - (309) 557-0099  
401 East Monroe St.  
\$60.00 off any custom order over \$500.00.  
One offer per household. Not to be used with other offers.
- **Baller Eye Care Center** - (309) 662-7715  
210 1/2 N. Williamsburg  
10% off first pair of glasses. Ask for current offers. Only 1 discount will apply.
- **Bard Optical** - (309) 663-1519  
1407 N Veterans Parkway  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Baymont Inn** - (309) 662-2800  
604 1/2 1AA Drive  
10% off.
- **Bellas Landscaping** - (309) 827-5263  
2405 Fox Creek Rd.  
10% off all services and products.
- **Benchmark Home Loans** - (309) 665-0506  
2310 E. Oakland Ave., Suite 11A  
Free credit report consultation and \$200.00 off closing costs.
- **Bev Engerton, Realtor, Brady Weaver, GMAC Real Estate** - (309) 826-2101  
2203 Eastland Dr., Suite 1  
\$50.00 McLean County Cash Gift Certificate honored at over 150 local merchant members of Chamber of Commerce presented at completion of successful closing.
- **Bloomington-Normal YMCA** - (309) 827-6233  
602 S. Main St.  
1/2 off joiner fee for new members plus a double portion (6) of one-day guest passes.

- **Blue Fish Estate Sales** - (309) 828-9978  
1 Burgundy Ct.  
\$100 cash back bonus at the conclusion of an estate sale or household buyout.
- **Brad Barker Honda** - (309) 663-9591  
1602 General Electric Road  
10% off oil & filter change. Honda cars only. Not valid with other discounts.
- **BrokersDiscount.com** - (309) 664-4455  
2409 E. Washington St., Suite B  
Free market analysis on your home. Home must be located in McLean County.
- **Busey Bank** - (309) 663-6345  
301 Fairway Dr.  
\$100 off closing costs of 1st mortgage loan and 25 basis point reduction of closed-end home equity loan rate. New originations only.
- **Bussy's Automotive** - (309) 664-5398  
1627 Commerce Parkway  
10% off brake repair over \$200/\$10 off any motor fuel system clean.
- **Calahan Solutions, Inc.** - (309) 825-7833  
5% off Organization Assessment and Consultation Services. Please show card for discount. Not valid with other offers or discounts.
- **Carpets Plus Color Tile** - (309) 661-9101  
1115 Lafayette  
10% discount on materials..
- **Carpet Weaver's Floor Care** - (309) 834-3602  
902 Eldorado Road  
10% off all services.
- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** - (309) 828-7562  
3 Turtleback Ct.  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties
- **Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.** - (309) 662-1648  
2027 Ireland Grove Rd  
10% off Harley-Davidson t-shirts, sweatshirts, and leather jackets.
- **Cindy's Cinnamon Rolls** - (309) 663-9877  
1615 E Empire Suite 1190  
10% off any purchase.
- **Clay Dooley Tire** - (309) 827-5037, (309) 662-2886  
1507 East Vernon Avenue & 307 E. Grove  
\$25 off set of tires installed. No carry outs or wholesale/up to \$20 off auto repair. \$50 minimum purchase. Offer valid at time of purchase.
- **Comfort Inn** - (309) 828-6000  
505 Brock Dr.  
15% off room rates on conference room rental.

- **Community Home Connection** - (309) 827-5424  
105 1st St.  
Free gift bag full of coupons and community information to new movers, newly engaged, newly married, new parents and those celebrating special occasions.
- **CTB, Inc.** - (309) 662-8243  
3006 Gill St., Suite E  
Receive a 10% discount on website hosting and programming services. May not be used in conjunction with other offers or sales.
- **Culver's** - (309) 827-3527, (309) 662-7070  
1807 W. Market St & 901 N. Hershey Rd.  
Free regular sundae with purchase of any dinner.
- **DaVinci Floorcovering & Designs** - (309) 663-5667  
2601 GE Road, Suite 3  
10% off total purchase when presented at time of order.
- **Davis Tire and Auto Service, Inc.** - (309) 663-6366  
1809 Eastland Drive  
Discounts up to 10% off retail price on all tires & mechanical parts & service/5% discount on sale items. Some restrictions apply. Ask for details.
- **Domino's Pizza** - (309) 665-0505  
2205 E. Oakland Ave.  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Emmett-Scharf Electric Co.** - (309) 664-1111  
1005 E. Lafayette St.  
10% off labor for any energy saving lighting upgrades.
- **Fast Signs** - (309) 661-1300  
2109 N. Veterans Pkwy.  
20% off first purchase. New customers only - maximum discount \$100.00. In-stock merchandise only.
- **Glass Specialty Company** - (309) 664-1087  
3302 Gerig Dr.  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off Rhino Linings Spray where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Gloria Jean's Coffees** - (309) 662-2550  
1615 E Empire (Eastland Mall)  
50 cents off any medium or large drink or \$1 off 1 pound whole bean coffee.

(Continued on page 16c)

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

(Continued from page 16b)

- **Heavenly Ham** – (309) 661-1450  
1407 N. Veterans Parkway  
10% off a box lunch. Dine in only.
- **Mad Bean Painting & Design** – (309) 825-8235  
1004 1/2 North Lee St.  
\$50 off any customer painting job under \$400 and \$100 off any customer painting job over \$400.
- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 821-9600  
103 E. Hamilton Rd.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.
- **Mid-Illini Credit Union** – (309) 661-1166  
1811 Eastland Dr.,  
Open checking account & get first box of checks free. \$200 off closing costs for home mortgage. Must show card for offers. Must work or reside in McLean County to become a member.
- **Mole Hole of Eastland** – (309) 663-2241  
1615 East Empire Street  
\$5 off any purchase of \$25 or more.
- **Monster Pawn & Monster Deals** – (309) 823-9115  
1610 RT Dunn Drive  
\$1 off all DVDs  
Must show card to clerk for discount.
- **National City Mortgage** – (309) 823-3014  
202 E. Washington St.  
\$200 off closing costs. Must identify yourself on application as Corn Belt Energy member. Keith Thompson specifically must be identified at application.
- **Granite Transformations** – (309) 661-8155  
1712 E. Hamilton Rd., Suite F  
20% off any in-stock granite off-cut. Not valid with other discounts. Perfect for tabletops, vanities, hearth and more.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (309) 663-7100  
1603 A. Morrissey  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers
- **Nybakke Vacuum Shop Inc.** – (309) 662-7272  
814 I.A.A. Drive  
10% off disposal bags or filters  
Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **OSF St. Joseph Medical Center-Center For Healthy Lifestyles** – (309) 661-5151  
2200 E. Washington St.  
10% off of any regularly priced merchandise at the Center for Healthy Lifestyles.
- **Paint Depot** – (309) 664-6733  
2407 GE Road  
20% off.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (309) 662-9000  
2402 E. Oakland Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.
- **Peoples Bank** – (309) 661-9993, (309) 828-8611  
1 Brickyard Dr. Ste 301 & 1218 Towanda Ave.  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.
- **Performance Growth Partners, Inc.** – (309) 664-7741  
3 Mallard Ct.  
\$100.00 off the cost of a customer service assessment, customer service standards development or customer service training for your business. One discount per business.
- **Personal Touch Cleaning Company** – (309) 661-0833  
2412 E. Washington St., Ste. 7A  
\$20 off 1st cleaning with ongoing service for new customers/\$15 off LX cleanings
- **Pheasant Lanes Bowling and Miniature Golf** – (309) 663-8556  
804 N. Hershey Rd.  
Buy 1 game of bowling and get 2nd free. Limit 1 per visit. During open bowling days only. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Prepaid Legal** – (309) 287-6373  
311 Visors Dr.  
Free identity theft magazine - \$2.00 value.
- **Red Wing Shoe Store & Adrian's Shoe Repair** – (309) 827-6370  
1210 Towanda Plaza  
10% off regular priced merchandise  
Not valid with other offers or discounts.
- **Ride The Nine Home of Shooters Lounge** – (309) 662-1009  
503 N. Prospect  
15% off billiard time.
- **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory** – (309) 662-8610  
101 N. Veterans Parkway  
10% off purchase.
- **Ryan Pharmacy** – (309) 828-4813  
1118 E. Oakland  
\$10 off new prescription  
Medicare and some 3rd party insurers excluded. 1 per family per year.
- **Sam Leman Automotive Group** – (309) 662-5000  
1602 Commerce Pkwy  
10% off maintenance services.
- **Specs Around Town Optical Boutique** – (309) 827-7327  
317 N. Center St.  
\$25 off any in-stock sunglasses  
Not valid with other offers.
- **Stiles Automotive** – (309) 828-6603  
905 S. Morris Avenue  
10% discount  
Excludes used cars.
- **T.C. Buzz Coffee Co.** – (309) 661-8229  
2103 N. Veterans Parkway Suite #304  
15% off all beverages.
- **Tarvin's Culligan Water Conditioning** – (309) 663-4400  
#8 Gilmore Dr  
Try a Culligan water softener for only \$9.95 a billing for 3 billings, or \$100 off purchase price of a Gold Series water softener. Free in-home water testing.
- **Terry Winn Tire & Auto Service, Inc.** – (309) 661-2886  
909 N. Hershey Rd.  
10% off all retail tire prices installed. 10% discount on repair parts and oil changes. We inflate tires with nitrogen! Discounts do not apply to sale items.
- **The Chocolatier Inc** – (309) 821-0277  
514 N. Main St  
5% off all assortment boxes  
Truffles not included.
- **The Pool and Spa Doctor** – (309) 662-7200  
1334 E. Empire  
10% off chemicals
- **Union Auto Sales** – (309) 820-7561  
1201 S. Main St.  
\$100 off purchase. Must present card at purchase.
- **US Cellular** – (309) 661-8181  
115 Krispy Kreme Dr. Suite 2  
20% off on all accessories.

- **Weed Man** – (309) 827-9390  
12051 McCue Dr.  
One free application for new customers when scheduling a full program. Only available to new customers.
- **Wingate Inn** – (309) 820-9990  
1031 Wylia Drive  
\$59 plus tax any standard room (King or Double). Based on availability. Book in advance through Sales Dept.
- **Wm. Masters, Inc. Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & A/C** – (309) 662-8481  
401 Olympia Drive  
Offer: \$100 off Guardian standby gen. system. \$50 off transfer switch wiring system for your portable gen. 10% off plbg serv call for new customers. Free energy analysis & system eval. of your current htg & a/c system. \$200 off new Trane hybrid htg/ac system. \$300 off new Waterfurnace geothermal hg/ac system. 5% off new security system or video surveillance system. Can't be used with other offers/discounts.
- **YWCA of McLean County** – (309) 662-0461  
1201 N. Hershey Rd.  
Buy 10 fitness classes for \$50 & get \$50 off annual Healthy Benefits Plus. Buy annual fitness membership & get 10% off. Offers apply only to new customers. Co-op Connections Card must be shown to receive offer.

## Claxton, GA

- **Quik-Kut Hi Performance Lawn Equipment** – (800) 447-2060  
P.O. Box 776  
Catalog sales specializing in outdoor power equipment and replacement parts. Take an additional 5% off of already discounted prices up to 40% off lawn equipment parts in the catalog. Take 5% off lawn equipment.

## Canton

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 647-0366  
127 N. Main  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers

## Champaign

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 351-8622  
907 Market View Dr., Unit 7  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Dahinda

- **Discount Wildlife Service** – (877) 397-2287  
250 Greenleaf Ct.  
\$25 off the cost of service call/\$10 off the cost of chimney cap.

## Danvers

- **Lullaby Studios** – (309) 963-6466  
18682 N. Apache Path  
Free 8 X 10 with order. Free proof book with \$200 order.

## Decatur

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 422-3881  
288 N. Park  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Glass Specialty Company** – (217) 429-2371  
505 E. William  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.

(Continued on page 16d)

### Downs

- **Bevande Café** – (309) 663-4627  
#1 Mike's Way  
50 cents off any drink  
Not to be combined with other offers.
- **Crowne Realty** – (309) 824-9016  
9336 Abbey Way  
Free 2-3 night stay on Lake of the Ozarks at vacation hide-a-way condominiums or \$50 gift certificate to Lowe's, whichever you choose after completion of successful closing.
- **Peoples Bank** – (309) 662-1800  
#1 Mike's Way  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

### East Peoria

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 694-2273  
416 Riverside Dr  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Forsyth

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 875-3724  
1351 Hickory Point Dr  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Galesburg

- **Appliance Parts & Service Depot** – (309) 343-9923  
99 S. Seminary St.  
10% off appliances and parts in stock.
- **Bard Optical** – (309) 343-7799  
1265 N Henderson  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Bunker Links Municipal Golf Course** – (309) 344-1818  
3535 Lincoln Park Drive  
\$20 green fees for 18 holes with cart.
- **Creations by Carolina** – (309) 343-9998  
54 S. Seminary St.  
10% off alterations to clothing on up to \$50 of alterations. First visit only.
- **Giardina Pontiac Cadillac GMC** – (309) 344-2288  
1621 N. Henderson St.  
Purchase any in stock new vehicle at the GM supplier price which is several thousands of dollars savings. Must show proof of membership of Corn Belt Energy.

### Geneseo

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 686-6491  
206 W First St  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Gridley

- **Peoples Bank** – (309) 747-2100  
325 Center St., PO Box 460  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

### Hudson

- **The Cruise Consultants** – (309) 726-2509  
23560 N. 1600 E. Rd.  
\$50 off cabin of 7-day cruise or longer.

- **Whitacre's Country Oak Shoppe** – (309) 726-1305  
704 S. Broadway  
10% off. Sale items excluded.

### Jacksonville

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 243-0506  
901 W Morton 10B  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Kewanee

- **O'Reilly Auto Parts**  
321 S. Main  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

### LaSalle

- **Coon's Grove Nursery, Inc** – (815) 223-9287  
359 N 35th Rd  
10% off the purchase of any evergreen 6-8ft or shade tree 2-2.5 inches in diameter. Planting & delivery excluded.

### Lincoln

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 735-1707  
1481 Woodlawn Rd  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Mendota

- **Prescott Brothers Inc.-Chrysler, Dodge & Jeep** – (866) 539-9388  
614 13th Ave.  
New cars & trucks: 1% below factory invoice (Family & Friends Program)/\$19.95 for oil change, 15 pt. inspection and choice of wash & wax or tire rotation/10% off MOPAR items.

### Minier

- **Sears Portrait Studio** – (309) 392-3209  
202 Darnall Drive  
10% off entire portraits purchase.

### Morton

- **Ashland House** – (309) 263-5116  
201 East Ashland  
10% off regular rack rate  
Special event dates.
- **Leisure Spas Inc** – (309) 263-0637  
911 W Jefferson  
15% off all spa chemicals.
- **Pete's Shoe Store** – (309) 266-9212  
109 W. Jefferson  
20% off Red Wing Work boots.
- **Wm. Masters, Inc. Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning** – (309) 263-9400  
933 Detroit Court  
\$100 off Guardian automatic backup generator system. \$50 off installation of a backup power transfer switch wiring system for portable generator. Free energy analysis & system evaluation of your current heating & a/c system. \$200 off purchase of new Trane hybrid heating & a/c system. \$300 off purchase of new Waterfurnace geothermal heating & a/c system. 5% off new security system or video surveillance system. Can not be combined with any other offers or discounts.

### Mossville

- **Bill's Radiator** – (309) 691-3030  
10307 Wheaton Road  
10% off parts  
Any previously discount parts excluded.

### Normal

- **A-1 Security Locksmith** – (309) 454-5800  
310 Pine Street  
\$5 off service call or locks and deadbolts.  
Buy 5 keys and get 1 free.
- **Baird's Auto Care, Inc.** – (309) 452-9819  
804 W. Division St.  
\$1.50 off full service oil change/10% off repair parts. No discount on labor or warranty parts.
- **Best Western University Inn** – (309) 454-4070  
6 Traders Circle  
20% off rack rate. Not valid with other discounts. Advanced reservation recommended.
- **Body Dynamics Fitness Equipment** – (309) 268-9313  
406 Kays  
10% off any equipment or accessory purchase. Does not include weights or sale price items.
- **College Station Apartments** – (309) 454-5549  
9 Traders Circle  
\$30.00 application fee waived
- **Domino's Pizza** – (309) 454-5111  
305 W. Beaufort  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Illinois Agricultural Auditing Association** – (309) 862-3870, Ext. 228  
318 Susan Drive  
10% discount on the preparation of personal income tax returns. Can't be combined with other discounts.
- **Mary Kay Cosmetics, Joan Garber** – (309) 838-1490  
1302 Kern St.  
At your complimentary facial, you will receive a free gift with a \$40.00 purchase. Void if serviced by another beauty consultant.
- **MidState Transmission Inc.** – (309) 452-5595  
1408 Fort Jesse Rd.  
\$25 off clutch replacement and automatic transmission rebuild  
Not valid with other discounts.
- **Midwest College of Cosmetology** – (309) 451-1373  
755 W. Raab Road  
15% off any service with member card  
Not valid with other discounts.
- **Obrien Mitsubishi** – (309) 454-1222  
1601 Ft. Jesse Rd  
Any new vehicle 5% over invoice price amount/ Any used vehicle at employee pricing.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (309) 452-7575  
1531 E. College Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.
- **Signature Inn** – (309) 454-4044  
101 S. Veterans Parkway  
\$69 room rate on all standard rooms  
Offer not valid during special events. All discounts subject to availability.
- **Team Automotive Inc** – (309) 454-5454  
1223 S Adelaide St  
10% off all parts  
Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Uncle Bill's Self Storage** – (309) 451-4500  
421 Kays Dr.  
\$25.00 off first month's rent. Can also be used for truck rental.

(Continued on page 16e)



(Continued from page 16d)

- **Washburn Flowers** – (309) 452-1113  
111 North St  
10% on floral products only-cash and carry only. Plants, giftware & month of February excluded.
- **Wild Birds Unlimited** – (309) 454-3455  
1520 East College Avenue  
20% off any in-stock bird feeder or bird-house. 1 per family.
- **Wm. Marken Jewelers** – (309) 454-8855  
1520 E. College  
20% off any merchandise purchase. 25% off Seiko watches. Discount does not apply to repair services.

#### North Pekin

- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 382-2600  
135 Radio City Dr.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.

#### Pekin

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 353-9313  
3287 Court St  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Sud's Volkswagen, Audi, Mercedes Benz, Porsche** – (309) 676-1101  
2350 N. 8th St.  
15% off all parts and service.

#### Peoria

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 353-9313, (309) 676-1101, (309) 693-9540, (309) 672-2273  
7720 N. Crestline Dr. & 1200 W. Main St., Suite 21 & 1800 N. Knoxville #5 & 4620 N. University  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Glass Specialty Company** – (309) 686-6491  
1000 SW Jefferson  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Jim's Autobody and Refinishing Inc.** – (309) 674-0113  
1330 NE Adams St.  
5% off repair cost up to \$100.00 discount.
- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 691-8600  
8859 N. Knoxville Rd.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (309) 685-1033  
4114 N. Brandywine  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

#### Peoria Heights

- **A Sweet Arrangement** – (309) 681-8423  
4709 N. Prospect Road  
20% off any single bouquet of candy  
Consignment collectibles/Offer not valid for the following periods 12/15-12/25 and 2/1-2/14.
- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** – (309) 681-1744  
1507 Lake #12  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties.

#### Peru

- **Glass Specialty Company** – (815) 223-1060  
4115 Progress Blvd  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **O'Reilly Auto Parts**  
941 Wenzel Rd.  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

#### Pontiac

- **Peoples Bank** – (815) 844-3171  
223 N. Mill St.  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

#### Princeton

- **Adler Chiropractic** – (815) 872-1800  
403 S. Main St.  
10% discount on new patient office visit.
- **Browning Ford Lincoln Mercury** – (815) 875-1150  
1502 W. Peru  
4 free oil changes and 1 complete detail (\$250 value) with purchase of any new car. All included services by appt. only. Offer must be presented at the time of sale.
- **Dunbar's Office Supply** – (815) 872-1907  
21 Park Ave. East  
10% off catalog items. Sale items excluded.
- **Hattie's Arts & Antiques** – (815) 875-9151  
24 W. Long  
10% discount on items over \$20 unless marked Net or Firm.
- **Heartland Printing & Publications** – (815) 875-4659  
21 Park Ave. East  
10% off printing orders.
- **Johnsons Carpet Shoppe Inc.** – (815) 875-3444  
1033 N. Main  
\$1 off per yard of carpet  
Not valid with other sales.
- **McCall Chiropractic Clinic** – (815) 879-0909  
105 S. Main, Suite 7  
\$10 off an initial examination/consultation. Must present card. Excludes medicare patients.
- **O'Reilly Auto Parts** – (815) 875-2474  
1504 N. Main St.  
\$.99 for the following O'Reilly chemicals: ORC 72142 (fueling and carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). 1 per customer per visit.
- **Very Important Pet Grooming, Inc.** – (815) 875-9806  
634 S. Main St.  
10% off any service with Co-op Connections Card
- **Wyanet Carpet** – (815) 879-0005  
816-818 N. Main St.  
Say "Corn Belt" and receive up to 10% off. Not valid with other discounts.

#### Roanoke

- **Lifts of Illinois Inc.** – (800) 835-5438  
415 W. Front St.  
\$50.00 off purchase over \$3,000. \$100 off purchase over \$8,000.

#### Springfield

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 793-2273  
3141 S. Veterans Pkwy  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Calhoun Carpet** – (217) 544-1826  
1701 S. Dirksen Pkwy  
10% off any carpet purchase.
- **George Alarm Company** – (309) 827-5707  
917 S. 9th St  
Switching monitoring systems and we'll beat your existing price by 15%. New system (lease/purchase) 15% discount and 15% off upgrades for existing customers.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (217) 793-6756  
3455 Freedom Dr.  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (217) 391-7272  
1712 Sangamon Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.

#### Stanford

- **Distinctive Affairs** – (309) 379-2514  
202 S. Division Street  
Free dessert with rehearsal dinner.

#### Sterling

- **Bard Optical** – (815) 626-6006  
3215 E. Lincoln Way  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

#### Urbana

- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse-Urbana** – (217) 344-8201  
1601 N. Cunningham  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

#### Utica

- **Apple Tree Acres Alpacas** – (815) 667-4228  
3037 E. 11th Road  
10% on all alpaca apparel.

#### Washington

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 444-2277  
#8 Cherry Tree Shopping Center  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers



## Summer Rates Begin

**M**embers who are billed on rates that include a summer schedule receive a lower rate during the heating season. The following rates have summer schedules for usage from June 1 through August 31 (in the Central Region) and for usage from June 21 through September 20 (in the Northern Region):

**Rate 1** – Residential & Farm

**Rate 2** – Residential & Farm 3 Phase

**Rate 4** – General Service 3 Phase

**Rate 5** – General Service Over 50 kW

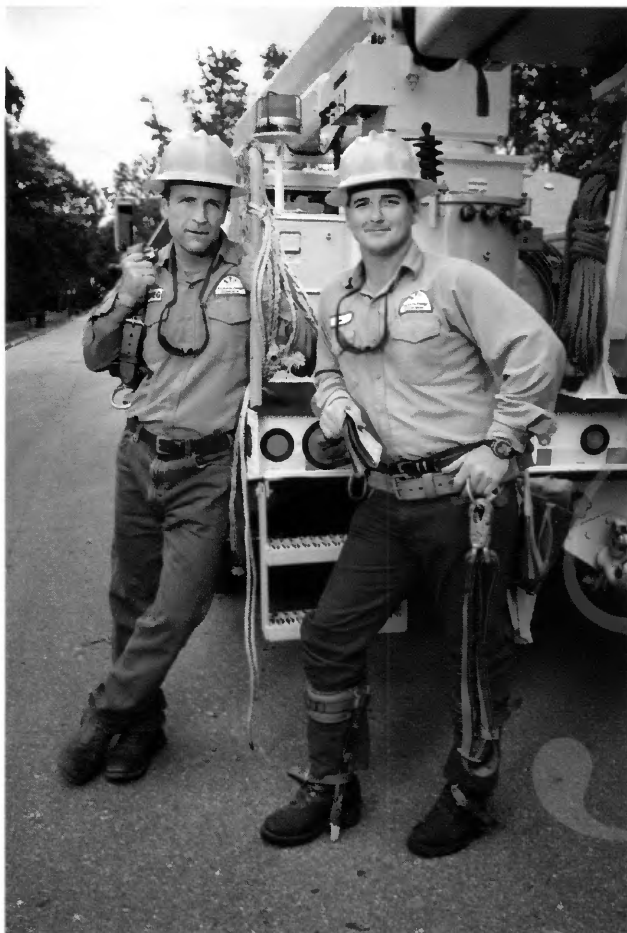
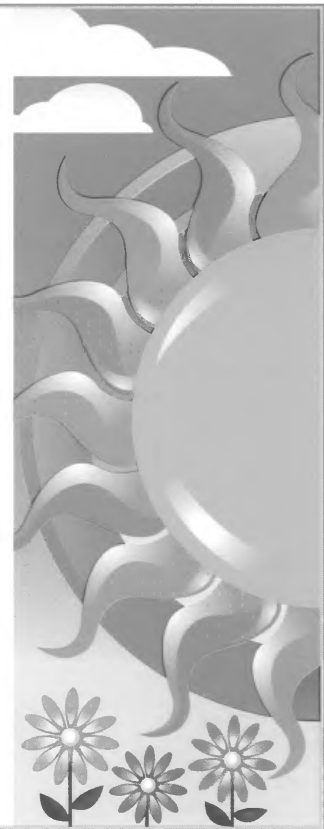
**Rate 12** – Residential Electric Heat for Apartments

**Rate 113** – Campground Seasonal

Central Region Rate 11 – Usage from June 1 through September 30 is billed at a higher rate than during the other eight months of the year.

Rate 10 and Rate 19 members with separate metering for electric heat are billed at Rate 1 for usage from May 1 through September 30 (in the Central Region) and from April 21 through September 20 (in the Northern Region).

Members who participate in the Switch 'N Save Program will start receiving credits for their water heating and air conditioning usage from June through September. *Currently, this program is only available in the Central Region.* For additional information on the Switch 'N Save Program, call (800) 879-0339 extension 222.



## We're Looking Out for You

**T**here are many costs we can't control. Fuel costs continue to skyrocket and the weather will never be predictable...It all impacts rates. But, we're working hard every day to control what we can to provide you with the most reliable power at the lowest price with the best service possible. We're looking out for you every day. That's our promise as your Touchstone Energy cooperative.



Touchstone Energy

*The power of human connection*

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

# Stay Safe When Lightning Strikes

**L**ightning causes more storm-related deaths annually in the United States than tornadoes or hurricanes and causes about \$5 billion in economic losses each year.

During National Lightning Safety Awareness Week in June, Corn Belt Energy and Safe Electricity offer safety tips and precautions recommended by the National Weather Service to avoid injury and damage during thunderstorm and lightning activity.

Under the '30-30 rule,' if you are outside when a storm approaches and you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If you count 30 seconds or less, seek proper shelter. Wait at least 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder before leaving shelter.

## Stay Inside

"If thunderstorms and lightning are approaching, the safest location is indoors away from doors and windows," says Molly Hall, Director of the Safe Electricity program.

- ♦ Use only cordless or cell phones to make emergency calls.
- ♦ Turn off and unplug appliances well before a storm nears – never during.
- ♦ Stay away from electrical outlets, appliances, computers, power tools and TV sets. Take off headsets and stop playing video games.
- ♦ Avoid water and contact with piping, including sinks, baths and faucets. Don't wash dishes, shower or bathe during a thunderstorm. Also avoid washers and dryers since they not only connect with the plumbing and electrical systems, but also contain an electrical path from the outside through the dryer vent.
- ♦ Do not lie on the concrete floor of a garage as it likely contains a wire mesh.

- ♦ Basements typically are a safe place to go during thunderstorms, but avoid concrete walls that may contain metal rebar.

## If You're Caught Outdoors

"If you're in an open area outside, tingling skin or crackling sounds could signal that lightning is about to strike," warns Hall. "Drop down into a crouching position and make yourself as small as possible - feet together and hands over your ears - with minimal contact with the ground."

- ♦ Move to a safer location such as vehicle with a solid, metal roof. Close the windows and avoid contact with electrical conducting paths, such as the steering wheel, ignition, gear shifter or radio.

- ♦ Avoid water, high ground and open spaces. Do not seek shelter under tall, solitary trees; canopies; small picnic or rain shelters; or in any open-frame vehicles such as jeeps, convertibles, golf carts, tractors or mowers.

- ♦ Do not stand near power, light or flag poles, machinery, fences, gates, metal bleachers, or even other people. Spread out at least 20 feet apart from each other. Move to low ground and seek cover in clumps of bushes, or trees of uniform height, such as a forest.

Additional lightning facts and safety tips can be found at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Web site at [www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov). Also visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org) for more electrical safety information.

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY JUNE 18

*Thank you for the laughter,  
For the good times that we share,  
Thanks for always listening,  
For trying to be fair.*

*Thank you for your comfort,  
When things are going bad,  
Thank you for the shoulder,  
To cry on when I'm sad.*

*This poem is a reminder that  
All my life through,  
I'll be thanking Heaven  
For a Special Dad like you.*



## Take a Vacation from Summer Electric Bills

**R**equest Budget Billing to level out your summer electric bills. Budget Billing eliminates spikes in energy bills caused by increased electric usage and higher summer rates.

Members who select Budget Billing for their electric accounts pay a monthly average, rather than the actual charge for their consumption. The monthly average is 1/12th of the total of your current bill, the past 11 months and your account balance. Therefore, you don't have to settle up at the end of 12 months.

It's an easy way to level out your monthly electric bills. To request Budget Billing, e-mail us at [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com) or call (800) 879-0339.

## OUTAGE REPORT

**T**he following outages affected more than 100 members. Between March 12 and 13, severe storms and high winds caused numerous outages throughout Corn Belt Energy's service area. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
03/21/06	2:18 a.m. - 4:30 a.m.	386	Maroa, Kenney, Warrensburg areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
03/21/06	2:18 a.m. - 4:30 a.m.	581	Wapella, Clinton, Heyworth	AmerenIP transmission failure
03/24/06	8:05 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	589	Argenta, Oreana, Cisco, Cerro Gordo areas	Insulator burnt inside substation
03/29/06	12:30 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.	419	Saybrook, Arrowsmith, Ellsworth, Bellflower areas	High side fuse blown in substation
03/30/06	11:00 p.m. - 12:40 a.m.	144	Funks Grove, McLean, Stanford, Minier areas	High side fuse blown in substation
04/02/06	6:42 p.m. - 11:26 p.m.	589	Argenta, Oreana, Cisco, Cerro Gordo areas	AmerenIP transmission failure due to storm

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Geothermal Subdivision

### The world's only "Normal" Geothermal Subdivision

**O**ne geothermal installation might be considered a good idea...more than 300 could be called a great vision.

Dr. Frank Koe had this vision and is developing a unique geothermal residential/commercial property in Normal, Illinois. It will be the largest all geothermal subdivision in Illinois. Dr. Koe plans to develop Franklin Heights as a non-traditional community setting that will include beautiful lakes, large green parks and pedestrian friendly trails. Each house will be served by geothermal heating/cooling systems.

Dr. Koe knows that the geothermal systems will provide homeowners with lower energy costs and also be beneficial to the environment.

The systems will use underground pipes to transfer heat between the home and the yard. In the winter the system brings heat inside, where an electric air handler distributes it through the ductwork. During the summer, the geothermal system reverses the process and transfers heat from inside the home into the ground.

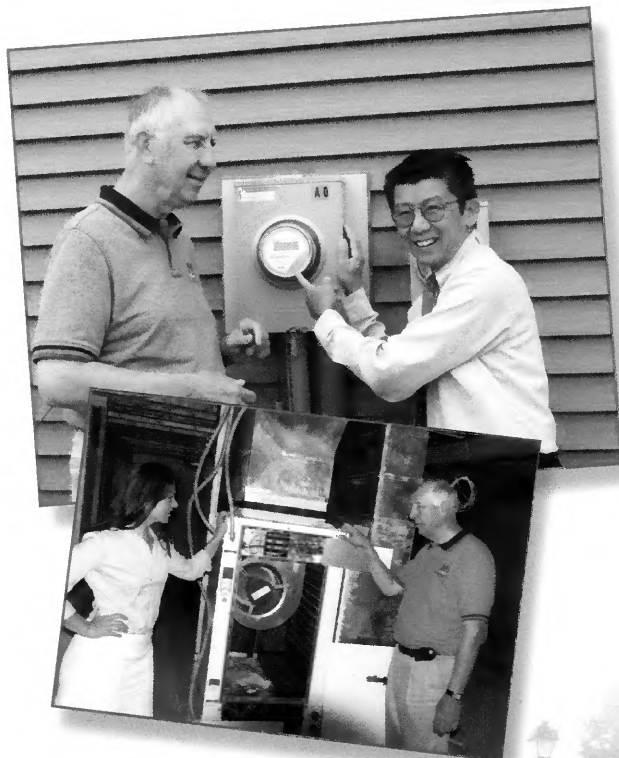
Geothermal systems offer the following advantages:

- Much more efficient than a gas furnace
- Environmentally clean and friendly
- Uses a limitless source of heating and cooling
- No noisy outside unit
- Needs very little regular maintenance
- No dangerous gases
- Lower hot water costs
- Few moving parts means more reliability

Franklin Heights geothermal subdivision is designed as a way of life community. Lot prices begin in the mid \$40,000 range and homes can be customized to meet the design specifications of the buyer.

Corn Belt Energy cooperative provides the energy to this new subdivision and strongly supports the use of geothermal systems by cooperative members. To find out more, visit the Web site [www.franklinheights.com](http://www.franklinheights.com) or call Amanda Hester at 309-242-2647.

Corn Belt Energy employees and area geothermal system dealers will be available at the Franklin Heights Open House scheduled for Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday, July 16 from 1-4 p.m.

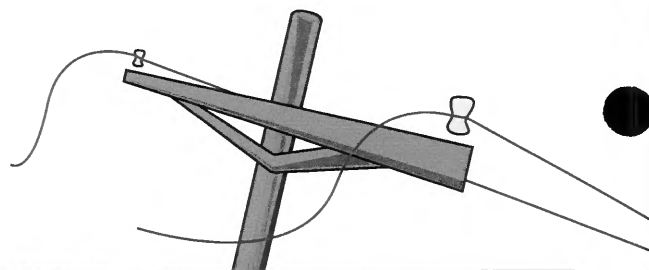


(Top) CBEC Manager of Member Services Jerry Durlinger (left) discusses the metering installations necessary for the electric heat rate with Dr. Koe.

(Bottom) Amanda Hester (left), Sales and Marketing Director for Franklin Heights, reviews the operations of the geothermal system with Jerry Durlinger.

# Outage Report

The following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.corn-beltenergy.com](http://www.corn-beltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.



DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
5/1/06	1:30 p.m.- 2:05 p.m.	389	Troy Grove, Lamoille, Arlington, Mendota areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
5/2/06	8:50 a.m.- 10:15 a.m.	136	Sheridan, Newark areas	Wire down from tree limb
5/11/06	9:50 p.m.- 12:45 a.m.	152	ElPaso, Kappa, Hudson, Secor areas	Blown arrester from lightning

## Summer Celebration Scheduled

Include Corn Belt Energy's Summer Celebration in your summer plans. Join us for a cookout, rain or shine, featuring hot dogs, brats, watermelon and more! Bring the family so they can learn about electric safety, enjoy entertainment and even take a bucket truck ride. Meet the people who deliver your electricity and celebrate cooperative membership with your neighbors. This is an opportunity for us to say, "Thank you for allowing us to serve you."

**Events are scheduled at two locations  
from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

- Tuesday, August 15 at the Princeton office
- Thursday, August 17 at the Bloomington office

*Directions to the Bloomington Office: Approximately 5 miles south of Bloomington on U.S. Highway 150 just west of the intersection of Towanda-Barnes Road.*

*Directions to the Princeton Office: The Princeton Office is located at 1702 W. Peru.*

**Mark your calendar for an evening of fun at your local cooperative. Reservations are required, so we can prepare enough food. For additional information and to make reservations, call 800-879-0339, extension 232 or e-mail [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com).**



## Office Closing

**Corn Belt Energy offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2006, in observance of Independence Day. Have a safe and happy holiday.**

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



## Green Power Rate Available

**P**urchasing environmentally conscious "green power" is now an option for Corn Belt Energy members.

"Green Power" is electricity generated from the wind, sun or biomass. Corn Belt Energy is purchasing its green power from a supplier that operates landfill-power generators in Indiana. These landfills produce methane, which is used to generate electricity. This reduces our need to use more non-renewable fossil fuels.

Besides supplying green power to consumers who opt for it, the program will raise funds for environmental projects in the Corn Belt Energy service area.

Members on the Green Power Rate pay  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent more per kilowatt-hour for their usage each month. For the average residential member, that's approximately \$46 per year.

Corn Belt Energy's Board of Directors administers the Green Power Funds. These funds will assist in financing local environmental projects such as the proposed wind generators at the Illinois State University farm.

Finally someone has the power to help the environment. You!



## Fuel Costs

**S**ee our chart below to compare geothermal, gas and propane heating costs, and cooling costs using these systems.

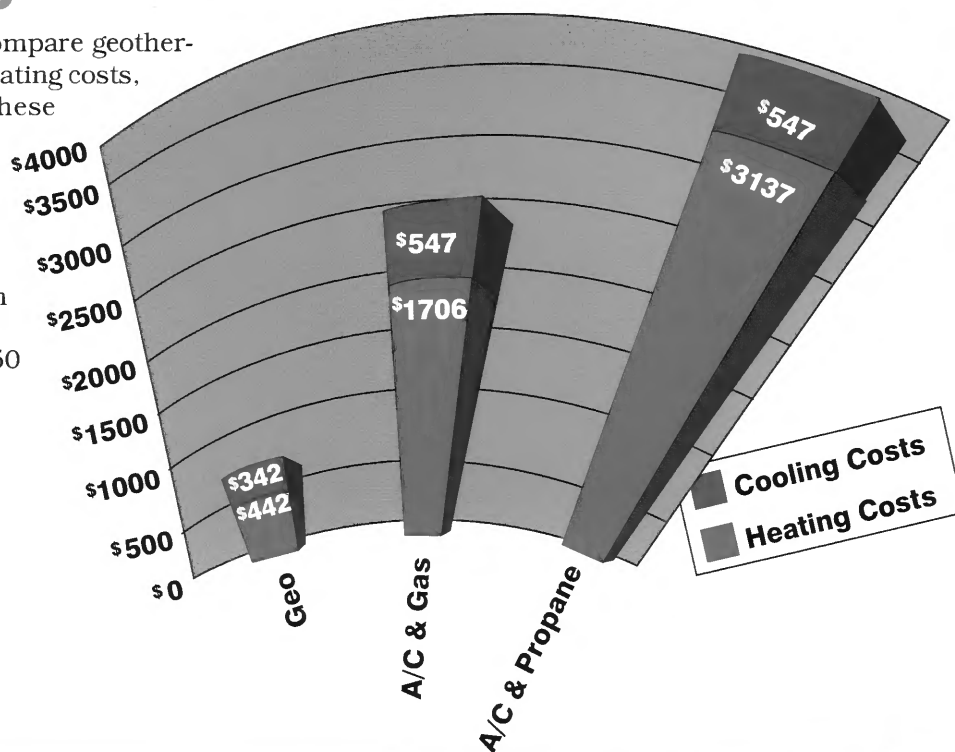
Costs are based on a 2,500 sq. ft. house with average insulation.

Heating costs based on 5,800 days of 0° weather.

Cooling costs based on 950 days of 90° weather.

### Fuel Costs

kwh	\$0.04 heating
	\$0.10 cooling
gas/therm	\$0.75
propane/gallon	\$1.00



CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

# Will Going On Vacation Reduce Your Electric Bill?

**Y**ou may assume that when you're away from home, your electric bill should drop significantly. Frequently members call us following vacation and insist that there must be something wrong with their meters. After all, they were gone for part of the month and turned off the air conditioning before leaving home.

Rarely is anything wrong with the meter. Consumers often forget that many appliances in their homes operate automatically, whether they're at home or not.

Refrigerators and freezers are big electric users. Especially, if they are older models, are located in areas that aren't cooled, or have an accumulation of dust on the coils. During the summer, an old refrigerator can account for as much as 25 percent of the monthly electric bill. Even models purchased five years ago consume more than those manufactured today.

Keep in mind it also costs more to operate refrigerators and freezers that are only partially filled. Did you empty your refrigerator before you left home, or do you have an old refrigerator in your garage or basement that's only used occasionally or to keep beverages cold?

If you shut off the air conditioner before you left

home, the warmer house caused the refrigeration equipment to run longer. Other automatic conveniences such as dehumidifiers, waterbed heaters, sump pumps, battery-powered appliances with charges, instant-on TVs, water heaters, clocks, security light, cable TV boxes, etc. operate automatically and contribute to the usage and to the bill.

Plus, when you returned from vacation, you probably

turned on the air conditioning, which had to work hard to cool down the house and draw humidity from the air. Then you were probably busy restocking the refrigerator, washing and drying clothes, ironing, bathing, cooking, etc. Even though some kilowatt-hours may have been saved while you were away, you may have used them when you returned – and maybe even more.



CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

Mailing address: P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816  
E-mail address: cbec@cornbeltenergy.com  
Web address: www.cornbeltenergy.com

PHONE NUMBERS

DAY OR NIGHT

800-879-0339

FAX: 309-663-4516

Call J.U.L.I.E. before you dig:  
800-892-0123

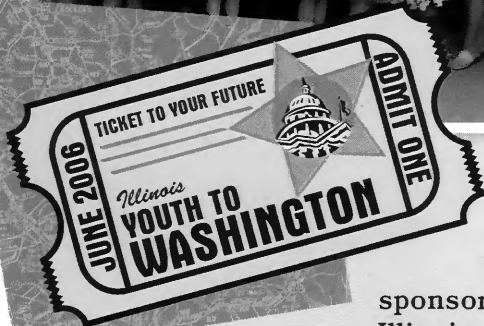
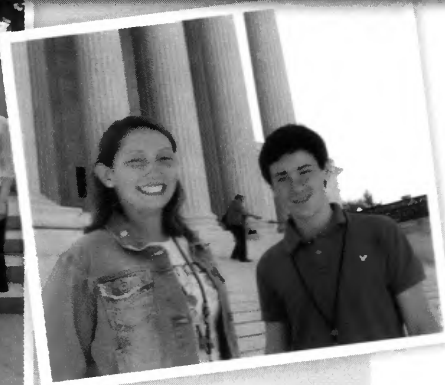
Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm –  
Monday thru Friday

AUGUST 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Corn Belt Sponsors Students In Washington, D.C.



**M**atthew Cecil of Elmhurst (right) and Bridgett Verbeck of Sheffield represented Corn Belt Energy in Washington, D.C., during the annual "Youth to Washington" Tour, June 9-16. This event, sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois, began in the late 1950s to introduce youths to our democratic form of government and cooperatives.

The students were among 63 Illinois youth leaders selected for the trip. In addition to the Capitol, they also visited Arlington National Cemetery, the National Cathedral, the Smithsonian Museums, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the World War II Memorial, the Native American Indian Museum and a number of other historical sites.

## Renewable Winners

**L**ast year, consumers purchased 2.7 billion kilowatt hours of renewable electricity, an increase of 36 percent from 2004.

Austin Energy in Texas was tops in overall renewable power sales.

Xcel Energy had the largest number of participants, followed by PacifiCorp.

The city of Palo Alto Utilities in California was number one in customer participation rates.

Lori Bird, senior energy analyst with the U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory, which compiled the figures, said, "Utility green power sales continue to show strong growth across the country. These utilities are the national leaders."

Source: U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory

## Your Cooperative's Investment In Training

**E**ach year, Corn Belt Energy makes a major financial investment in supplies and equipment to keep our system working properly and upgrading facilities to improve service and reliability.

Equally important is the investment we make in our employees through safety and job training. Line crews and front office personnel are required to attend a variety of training sessions each year.

Safety training is one of the most important skills that the co-op provides. Employees are instructed in CPR, first aid, rescue techniques, hazard recognition and fire prevention and extinguishers. Much of this training is required by the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA).

In addition, line crews attend "schools," which can last from one day to one week. Training schools such as hotline, forestry, chainsaw safety, underground and substation keep linemen up-to-date on new technology, safety equipment and work practices.

Front office personnel also have specific training regarding computer skills. The ability to easily locate correct information for members is a top priority for our customer service representatives and the engineering department staff.

Corn Belt invests in new technology and staff training to better serve you. Employee training is essential for the safe and efficient operation of your cooperative.



## Green Power Rate Available

**P**urchasing environmentally conscious "green power" is now an option for Corn Belt Energy members.

"Green Power" is electricity generated from the wind, sun or biomass. Corn Belt Energy is purchasing its green power from a supplier that operates landfill-power generators in Indiana. These landfills produce methane, which is used to generate electricity. This reduces our need to use more non-renewable fossil fuels.

Besides supplying green power to consumers who opt for it, the program will raise funds for environmen-

tal projects in the Corn Belt Energy service area.

Members on the Green Power Rate pay ½ cent more per kilowatt-hour for their usage each month. For the average residential member, that's approximately \$46 per year.

Corn Belt Energy's Board of Directors administers the Green Power Funds. These funds will assist in financing local environmental projects such as the proposed wind generators at the Illinois State University farm.

Finally someone has the power to help the environment. You!

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Save Money With Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

**T**housands of Corn Belt Energy members pay their energy bills automatically each month. And with stamp prices on the rise, these members are saving money. Currently 39 cents each, stamps are due to increase to 42 cents in January 2007 and to 44 cents in January 2008. Maybe it's time for you to consider electronic payment for your Corn Belt Energy electric bill.

### Reasons to consider EFT:

- You're a busy person
- You frequently travel
- You want to make sure your bills are paid on time
- You like to save money
- You're looking for ways to simplify your life.

**How does it work?** We still send you a billing statement every month that shows the amount and the date of the transfer. The transfer takes place on the billing due date, which is approximately three weeks from the date the bill is printed. If there are insufficient funds in your account, you may be charged a service fee by both your bank and Corn Belt Energy Corporation.

**How to apply?** Call 800-879-0339 and have your bank account and bank transit number available. Both numbers are listed on the bottom of your checks.



## Have You Used Yours Yet?

**H**opefully, you're carrying your Co-op Connections card or key fob as you're patronizing local businesses that display the Co-op Connections stickers on their windows or entrances. That way you're receiving special discounts whenever you show your Co-op Connections Card.

Don't forget your card when traveling outside the area, as more than 5,000 businesses are participating nationwide. For a complete list of national offers go to [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop). If you don't have Internet access, call us before you travel to get a list of Co-op Connections businesses in the area of your destination.

New businesses are coming onboard every month, so visit our Web site frequently at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com). Enjoy this free benefit of cooperative membership!

## Electric Generation

**E**lectricity Generation in 2005 increased 1.7 percent, compared to 2004.

Nuclear power generation was down 1 percent and hydroelectric power production fell by 1.2 percent, federal figures show.

The slack was picked up by natural gas-fired generation, which was up 6 percent, and coal-fired generation, up 1.8 percent, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Utilities produced roughly two-thirds of the electricity generated last year, while independent power producers produced the balance.

49.9%	Coal
3.1%	Renewable (biomass, geothermal, solar, wind)
6.6%	Hydroelectric
2.5%	Petroleum
18.8%	Natural Gas
19.3%	Nuclear

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



# Summer Celebration Scheduled

**I**nclude Corn Belt Energy's Summer Celebration in your summer plans. Join us for a cookout, rain or shine, featuring hot dogs, brats, watermelon and more! Bring the family so they can learn about electric safety, enjoy entertainment and even take a bucket truck ride. Meet the people who deliver your electricity and celebrate cooperative membership with your neighbors. This is an opportunity for us to say, "Thank you for allowing us to serve you."

**Events are scheduled at two locations  
from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

- **Tuesday, Aug. 15 at the Princeton office**
- **Thursday, Aug. 17 at the Bloomington office**

*Directions to the Bloomington Office: Approximately 5 miles south of Bloomington on U.S. Highway 150 just west of the intersection of Towanda-Barnes Road.*

*Directions to the Princeton Office: The Princeton Office is located at 1702 W. Peru.*

***Mark your calendar for an evening of fun at your local cooperative. Reservations are required, so we can prepare enough food. For additional information and to make reservations, call 800-879-0339, extension 232 or e-mail [cbec@cornbeltenergy.com](mailto:cbec@cornbeltenergy.com).***

## OUTAGE REPORT

**T**he following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
5/17/06	9:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.	378	Princeton, Malden, Walnut, Ohio areas	Fuse blown inside substation from raccoon
5/22/06	2:30 a.m.-3:30 a.m.	388	Maroa, Kenney, Warrensburg areas	Fuse blown inside substation from raccoon
5/24/06	3:40 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	149	Funks Grove, McLean, Stanford, Minier areas	AmerenIP lost transmission
5/29/06	7:30 p.m.-8:20 p.m.	1311	West Normal, West Bloomington areas	Line fuse out-cause unknown
5/31/06	3:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	593	Argenta, Oreana, Cisco, Cerro Gordo areas	AmerenIP lost transmission
6/7/06	10:15 a.m.-10:50 a.m.	410	Royal Point and Mill Creek subdivisions	Line fuse out from overload
6/8/06	11:15 p.m.-5:00 a.m.	494	Ottawa, Utica, Grand Ridge, Marseilles areas	Planned outage with AmerenIP
6/15/06	8:00 a.m.-10:20 a.m.	1090	Goodfield, DeerCreek, Congerville, Eureka, Secor	Broken transmission pole from car
6/15/06	8:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.	1052	Danvers, west Bloomington, west Normal, Mackinaw	Broken transmission pole from car
6/15/06	10:20 a.m.-3:40 p.m.	200	Goodfield, Mackinaw areas	Change transmission pole

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

Mailing address: P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816  
E-mail address: cbec@cornbeltenergy.com  
Web address: www.cornbeltenergy.com

## PHONE NUMBERS

DAY OR NIGHT

800-879-0339

FAX: 309-663-4516

Call J.U.L.I.E. before you dig:

800-892-0123

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm –  
Monday thru Friday

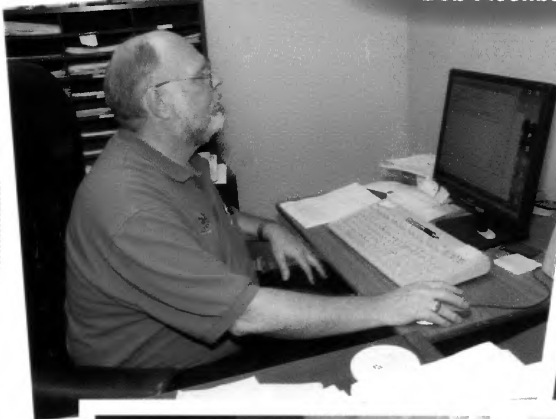
SEPTEMBER 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Technology pervades Corn Belt Energy

Bob Fischbach



(L-R) Tammy Woosley and Ron Hopkins of CBEC and Andrew Horstman of Wabash Valley Power Cooperative.

Steve Coppenbarger



Technology is a part of every department at Corn Belt Energy and the coop is also on the brink of many new technological advances that will improve our relationship with member owners from advances in billing to building security to Global Positioning System (GPS) "in the field" and everything in between.

"We're always looking at new technology," said Bob Fischbach, manager of accounting and information services.

Computers first appeared in the building in 1976 in the form of one terminal in the billing department. Data was stored on

cassette tapes that were transmitted over the telephone lines to a large, bulky mainframe system in St. Peters, MO. That computer generated the bills and shipped them back to the Bloomington office to mail.

Today, many computerization generations later, Corn Belt still works with the same provider, now called National Information Solutions Corporation (NISC), still headquartered in the same city. They develop much of the billing/accounting and outage software used by Corn Belt Energy.

In 1980 that first terminal was replaced with three online terminals and data was

(continued on 16b)

(continued from 16a)

stored on eight-inch "floppy" disks. Information was transmitted once a day. Customer Service Representatives were excited when they could look up information themselves – there was two-way communication between NISC and Corn Belt for the first time.

### Personal computers

A technological milestone was achieved in 1985 when the first personal computer (pc) made its appearance on the desk of the executive assistant – a Digital Rainbow "pc" used mostly for word processing. It had a monochrome screen, 64K of memory, no hard drive and ran on a CPM operating system.

But around 1990 International Business Machine (IBM) pc's began showing up on many desks in the cooperative. NISC was using a satellite system on dedicated service terminals and for the first time – live data transmission but the processor was still a large mainframe computer. Corn Belt Energy acknowledged the role of computers in the coop by hiring the first full time Information Technology (IT) employee.

Five years later Corn Belt Energy boasted its first in-house processors – employees had pc's that did their own processing, connected to the first network, instead of terminals connected to a mainframe.

Steve Coppenbarger, the current Information Systems Director, started in July 2000. "Technological progress has provided us with more efficient means to better serve our members," Coppenbarger said.

Corn Belt Energy had the opportunity to move to a new building in the Central Region, complete with high-end wiring and other considerations for technology. The coop moved in January, 2002.

### Going paperless



In late 2004 another wave of change occurred with the advent of new software in the accounting department and later billing. The software was converted to the GUI interface and ran on INTEL based hardware (which is cheaper and an industrial standard). Also the software was date sensitive - allowing us to store data by date and run reports by date. Corn Belt is also moving closer to being paperless. Many functions of the coop from timecards to letterhead are done on computers now. In fact every important record is being scanned and stored and accessed via

computer. The program also cross references the data. All company files are meticulously backed up off site. Even paper work orders may soon be a thing of the past as they are computerized and software helps match equipment and manpower and scheduling for the work order.

### CAD and GPS

Meanwhile technology was changing and improving other departments in the coop. The Engineering Department began using Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) in 1993. Another program that sends and receives data about electrical loads is Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA). When Corn Belt Energy began contracting with Wabash Valley for electricity, they were introduced to Open Systems International (OSI). OSI monitors all of Corn Belt's substations – checking for kilowatt usage, checking breakers and transmission lines and monitoring amperage on phases and load control. When something goes wrong, employees take a laptop and plug it into a regulator and gather data to help them analyze the problem.

The newest leap in technology is the use of Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Corn Belt Energy is locating all of their poles, meters, lines, transformers, breakers, etc. Servicemen can be dispatched for maintenance or repairs based on GPS locations which they can find using a laptop in their truck. Engineering will also be using tablet computers in the field to design and stakes lines for new construction projects using GPS. Our Northern Region paved the way and is already using this technology.

### Outages

Perhaps no where does technology provide better service for member owners than in the Operations Department. Phone technology is meshed with computer technology to not only let Operations know that your power is out when you call in from a phone number associated with your map location (this can be a home, cell phone etc. as long as it is entered in your customer information) but also recognizes if they are from a particular geographic area so linemen know everyone beyond a circuit breaker or transformer is probably out of power. It also works with our after hours dispatch center. This technology is continuing to explode and soon members may be able to view outage maps on our website.

One of our linemen has been serving as a test model for several years. He carries a laptop containing electronic maps of his territory and customers information including what equipment they have so he can bring the correct breaker or transformer that may be needed for the repair. Soon, all trucks will have this technology.

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Automatic Meter Reading

Another exciting technological advance closely associated with members is Automatic Meter Reading (AMR). Many members' meters are already changed out and the usage is being transmitted through the power lines themselves to the substation where a radio signal sends it to the office for eventual billing.

Corn Belt Energy's buildings are all monitored and videotaped via computerization.

## New web site design

Member owners are already using [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) in greater and greater numbers. Corn Belt has contracted with a cutting edge web development company to revamp our web site. Watch for the unveiling late in 2006. The process used to gather new ideas for the site should assure a design that is comprehensive, user-friendly and exciting to look at and use. Bookmark it in your "favorites."

"We're poised for the future with technology," said Todd Sovich, CAD operator.

# Test Your Electrical Savvy With This Quick Quiz

**M**ost people know only as much about electricity as they need to get through their daily lives; in other words, not very much. A little knowledge can help prevent a shock, make your home safer, and save you money on your power bill. Here are a handful of true/false questions from the Leviton Institute to test your Electrical IQ:

1. It's cheaper to leave fluorescent lights on when exiting a room than it is to turn them back on when you return.
2. House wiring never needs replacing.
3. A circuit breaker is not designed to protect against a ground fault.
4. A two-parter: Computer screen savers save energy, and your computer will last longer if you leave it on all day, instead of shutting it off when you're not using it.
5. You can damage a power tool by using the wrong size extension cord.

## ANSWERS

**1. False.** This is a commonly held belief, based on the erroneous notion that fluorescent bulbs use a lot of power to get started. While it is true that a compact fluorescent bulb does require a brief surge when switched on, it works out to be around the same amount of energy as five seconds of normal use, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). So turning the lights off for more than five seconds will save more energy than leaving them on.

**2. False.** Depending on the amount of use, insulation on house wires can become frayed or broken, creating a fire hazard. If you have any doubts about your wiring, have a qualified electrician perform a complete in-

spection. Houses built between 1965 and 1973, in particular, are at risk because many were built with aluminum wiring, which the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission says is 55 times more likely to reach "fire hazard conditions" than regular copper wire.

**3. True.** Circuit breakers are designed to protect against high levels of electrical current caused by a short circuit. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) protect against ground faults, when current leaking from an appliance goes to ground through a person touching the appliance. Even a small amount of current passing through a person this way can be lethal; a GFCI will trip if there's a ground fault, whereas a circuit breaker won't.

**4. False and False.** Screen savers only save screens, not energy. If you want to save energy, turn the monitor off. In fact, the EPA recommends you turn the computer off, too, if you aren't going to use it within a half hour. They claim the lifetime of the hard disc is limited by use, rather than start-ups.

**5. True.** If your electric lawn mower, hedge trimmer or leaf blower doesn't get enough power, either because the extension cord is too thin or too long to deliver it, it can damage and eventually destroy the motor. Also, overloading an extension cord can cause a fire or shock hazard.

Just because we can't lower  
your rates doesn't mean we can't  
help you lower your power bill.

Call your local Touchstone Energy cooperative  
for information about installing geothermal  
heating/cooling technology, insulation and windows  
for energy savings. 309-662-5330 (Ext. 222 or 228)



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## OFFICE CLOSING



In observance of Labor Day,  
Corn Belt Energy offices will  
be closed Monday, Sept. 4. To  
report an outage call 800-879-  
0339 at any time.

## OUTAGE REPORT

The following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
6/15/06	8:00am-10:20am	1090	Goodfield, DeerCreek, Congerville, Eureka, Secor	Broken transmission pole from car
6/15/06	8:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.	1052	Danvers, west Bloomington, west Normal, Mackinaw	Broken transmission pole from car
6/15/06	10:20 a.m.-3:40 p.m.	200	Goodfield, Mackinaw areas	Left off to change transmission pole
6/17/06	10:57 a.m.-11:54 a.m.	582	Wapella, Clinton & Heyworth areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
6/17/06	10:57 a.m.-11:54 a.m.	388	Maroa, Kenney & Warrensburg areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
6/19/06	3:20 p.m.-5:50 p.m.	240	Downs, south Bloomington areas	Line fuse out from lightning
6/19/06	3:25 p.m.-4:35 p.m.	117	South Bloomington area	Line fuse out from lightning
6/19/06	3:40 p.m.-4:20 p.m.	249	Wapella, Heyworth areas	Line fuse out from tree limb
7/3/06	5:35 p.m.-9:05 p.m.	907	Norway, Sheridan, Newark areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
7/3/06	5:35 p.m.-9:05 p.m.	492	Wedron, Marseilles, Harding, Earlville areas	AmerenIP transmission failure
7/9/06	9:40 a.m.-2:45 p.m.	1131	West & south Bloomington areas	Line blinks from equipment malfunction
7/10/06	6:57 p.m.-8:50 p.m.	104	Kappa, El Paso areas	Tree limb broke pole top
7/11/06	5:25 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	907	Norway, Sheridan, Newark areas	AmerenIP planned outage
7/11/06	5:43 p.m.-7:25 p.m.	168	Ottawa, Marseilles areas	Substation overload

CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS



Mailing address: P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816  
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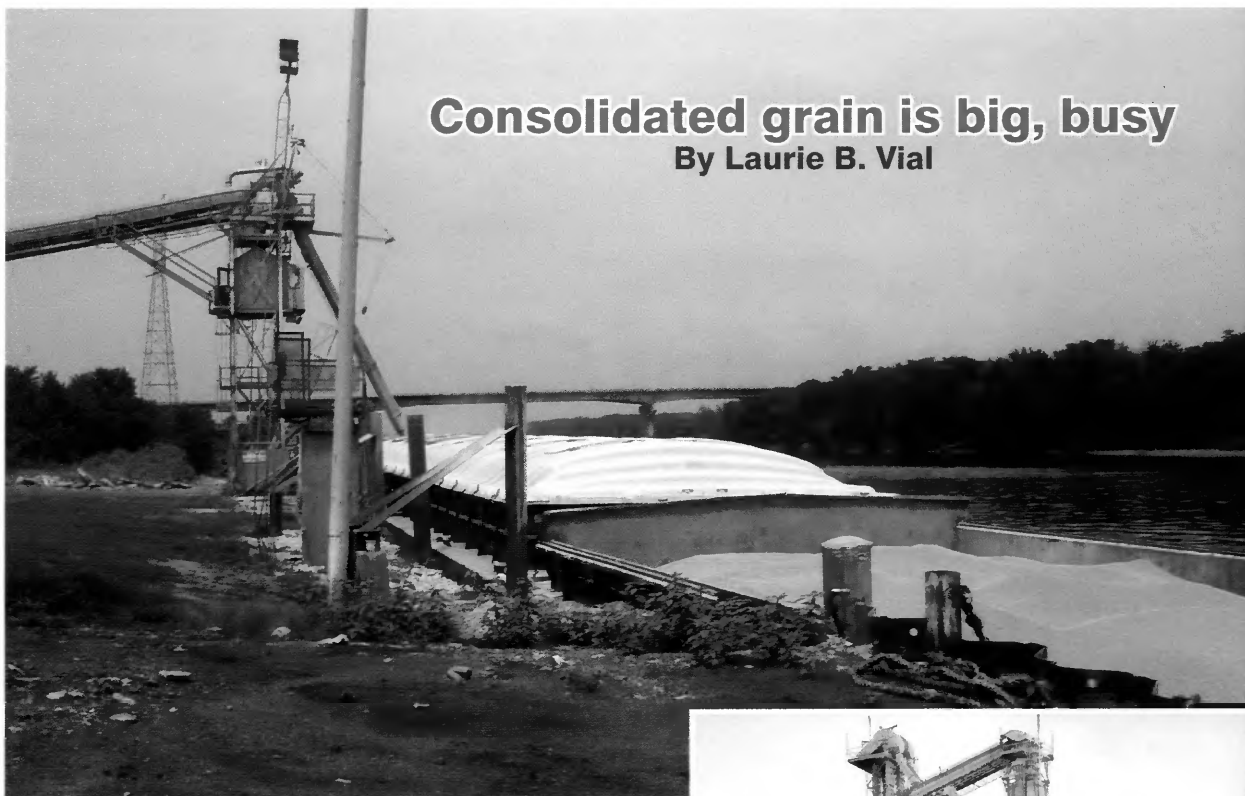
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OCTOBER 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)



## Consolidated grain is big, busy

By Laurie B. Vial

**C**onsolidated Grain and Barge Co., located along the Illinois River near Hennepin, was a busy place in late July (when these photographs were taken) with semi trucks of grain lining the driveway waiting their turn on the scales. But in the fall the pace picks up even more with newly harvested corn, soybeans and wheat arriving by semis from inland grain elevators, smaller trucks and even a few tractors pulling wagons from area farms. And at same time grain is leaving via giant river barges. The barges head to Louisiana where grain is exported by cargo ships.

Storage capacity at the Hennepin site is two million bushels. Grain moves in and out of the facility year-round. One of the challenges is to handle a lot of specialty grain which must be tracked and stored separately with no co-mingling.

Some grain is dried to the proper moisture level for storage and some moves in and out of the facility without further drying.

✱ *Continued on page 16b*



✱ **Continued from page 16a**

Adding to the flurry of physical activity is the large room filled with grain marketing representatives selling grain for individuals and the company as the prices rise and fall at the Chicago Board of Trade. And the bookkeepers are pouring over scale ticket information accounting for every incoming, outgoing and stored bushel and who owns it. They also write the checks to the customers after they sell grain.

Watching over this flurry of activity is Jim Hamacher, regional operations manager. Hamacher stresses safety at all of Consolidated Grain's locations. His goal is zero accidents and he has seen the accident rate drop 78 percent.

Consolidated Grain and Barge Co. began in 1970 and is now divided into four regions with 20 elevators in the Northern Illinois Region. There are river terminals in East Dubuque, Savanna,

Peru and Utica as well as the main office and river terminal at Hennepin. With all those facilities the company is always planning and conducting capital improvement projects, updates, expansion and repairs. Consolidated Grain also has a connection with railroads. The site at Freeport loads grain into rail cars. They have several locations that have the capability to fill shipping containers that go by rail to the coast where they are loaded onto ships for export. The company also has its own trucking division which leases trucks.

One of the keys to success at Consolidated is diversification. Since the company owns the equipment for loading and unloading barges they also handle products other than grain including coke, fertilizer and a product used as a conditioner for baseball fields.

Consolidated Grain and Barge Co. is a Corn Belt Energy Corporation member/owner.

## OUTAGE REPORT

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DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
7/19/06	5:00 p.m.-5:38 p.m.	1210	East Bloomington, Normal areas	Line fuse out from lightning
7/30/06	12:53 p.m.-3:06 p.m.	203	Bishop Hill, Galva, Toulon areas	AmerenIP transmission problem
7/30/06	12:53 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	1149	Victoria, Dahinda, Knoxville areas	AmerenIP transmission problem
8/5/06	1:45am-4:45am	2598	South & west Bloomington area	AmerenIP transmission problem
8/5/06	4:48am-6:15am	992	South Bloomington, Downs area	AmerenIP transmission problem
8/7/06	7:44am-8:15am	1206	East Bloomington, Normal areas	Low wire blew into transmission wire
8/7/06	1:25 p.m.-2:55 p.m.	293	Utica, Ottawa areas	Line fuse out from lightning
8/10/06	9:26 a.m.-10:50 a.m.	122	Neponset area	Line fuse out from lightning
8/15/06	10:45 a.m.-11:28 a.m.	222	Ottawa, Utica, Grand Ridge, W Marseilles areas	Faulty OCR inside Deer Park sub



**Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. on Oct. 29.**

**Remember to "fall back" one hour. Remember it's also a good time to vacuum smoke detectors, replace batteries if needed and replace any detectors that are more than 10 years old.**

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

# More businesses learn Co-op Connections advantage

**A**s more members are using their Co-op Connections cards, area businesses are benefiting from the free advertising that is bringing customers their way. The Co-op Connections Program is good for members and good for local businesses! **Have you used your card yet?**



More businesses are joining the program every month. For a complete list of national offers go to [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop). If you don't see any participating businesses in your area, please be patient as more businesses are coming onboard every week.

## Abingdon

- **Bradshaw's TV & Appliance Sales & Service** – (309) 462-5703  
801 N. Monroe St.  
50% off all repair estimates
- **Twin Cities Window Cleaning**  
– (309) 661-0046  
111 North St.  
10% off residential window cleaning.

## Bloomington

- **A & B Auto Body Supply, Inc.**  
– (309) 663-0376  
1642 Commerce Pkwy.  
10% off list prices.
- **Aaron's Sales & Lease** – (309) 820-8700  
1724 RT Dunn Dr.  
50% off 1st month's payment.
- **Amy Witzig Interior Design** – (309) 557-0099  
401 East Monroe St.  
\$60.00 off any custom order over \$500.00. One offer per household. Not to be used with other offers.
- **Baller Eye Care Center** – (309) 662-7715  
210 1/2 N. Williamsburg  
10% off first pair of glasses. Ask for current offers. Only 1 discount will apply.
- **Bard Optical** – (309) 663-1519  
1407 N Veterans Pkwy.  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Baymont Inn** – (309) 662-2800  
604 1/2 1AA Dr.  
10% off.
- **Bellas Landscaping** – (309) 827-5263  
2405 Fox Creek Rd.  
10% off all services and products.
- **Benchmark Home Loans** – (309) 665-0506  
2310 E. Oakland Ave., Ste. 11A  
Free credit report consultation and \$200.00 off closing costs.
- **Bev Engerton, Realtor, Remax Choice** – (309) 826-2101  
2203 Eastland Dr., Ste. 1  
\$50.00 McLean County Cash Gift Certificate honored at over 150 local merchant members of Chamber of Commerce presented at completion of successful closing.
- **Bloomington-Normal YMCA** – (309) 827-6233  
602 S. Main St.  
1/2 off joiner fee for new members plus a double portion (6) of one-day guest passes.

- **Blue Fish Estate Sales** – (309) 828-9978  
1 Burgundy Ct.  
\$100 cash back bonus at the conclusion of an estate sale or household buyout.
- **Brad Barker Honda** – (309) 663-9591  
1602 General Electric Rd.  
10% off oil & filter change. Honda cars only. Not valid with other discounts.
- **BrokersDiscount.com** – (309) 664-4455  
2409 E. Washington St., Ste. B  
Free market analysis on your home. Home must be located in McLean County.
- **Bussey Bank** – (309) 663-6345  
301 Fairway Dr.  
\$100 off closing costs of 1st mortgage loan and 25 basis point reduction of closed-end home equity loan rate. New originations only.
- **Bussy's Automotive** – (309) 664-5398  
1627 Commerce Pkwy.  
10% off brake repair over \$200/\$10 off any motor fuel system clean.
- **Calahan Solutions, Inc.** – (309) 825-7833  
5% off Organization Assessment and Consultation Services. Please show card for discount. Not valid with other offers or discounts.
- **Carpet Weaver's Floor Care** – (309) 834-3602  
902 Eldorado Rd.  
10% off all services.
- **Carpets Plus Color Tile** – (309) 661-9101  
1115 Lafayette  
10% discount on materials.
- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** – (309) 828-7562  
3 Turtleback Ct.  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties
- **Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.** – (309) 662-1648  
2027 Ireland Grove Rd.  
10% off Harley-Davidson t-shirts, sweatshirts, and leather jackets.
- **Cindy's Cinnamon Rolls** – (309) 663-9877  
1615 E Empire, Ste. 1190  
10% off any purchase.
- **Clay Dooley Tire** – (309) 662-2886, (309) 828-5037  
1507 East Vernon Avenue & 307 E. Grove  
\$25 off set of tires installed. No carry outs or wholesale/up to \$20 off auto repair. \$50 minimum purchase. Offer valid at time of purchase.
- **Comfort Inn** – (309) 828-6000  
505 Brock Dr.  
15% off room rates on conference room rental.

- **Community Home Connection** – (309) 827-5424  
105 1st St.  
Free gift bag full of coupons and community information to new movers, newly engaged, newly married, new parents and those celebrating special occasions.
- **CTB, Inc.** – (309) 662-8243  
3006 Gill St., Ste. E  
Receive a 10% discount on website hosting and programming services. May not be used in conjunction with other offers or sales.
- **Culver's** – (309) 827-3527, (309) 662-7070  
1807 W. Market St. & 901 N. Hershey Rd.  
Free regular sundae with purchase of any dinner.
- **DaVinci Floorcovering & Designs** – (309) 663-5667  
2601 GE Rd., Ste. 3  
10% off total purchase when presented at time of order.
- **Davis Tire and Auto Service, Inc.** – (309) 663-6366  
1809 Eastland Dr.  
Discounts up to 10% off retail price on all tires & mechanical parts & service/5% discount on sale items. Some restrictions apply. Ask for details.
- **Domino's Pizza** – (309) 665-0505  
2205 E. Oakland Ave.  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Emmett-Scharf Electric Co.** – (309) 664-1111  
1005 E. Lafayette St.  
10% off labor for any energy saving lighting upgrades.
- **Fast Signs** – (309) 661-1300  
2109 N. Veterans Pkwy.  
20% off first purchase. New customers only – maximum discount \$100.00. In-stock merchandise only.
- **Freestar Bank** – (309) 661-9993, (309) 828-8611  
1 Brickyard Dr., Ste. 301  
& 1218 Towanda Ave.  
\$25 credit towards opening of a new personal or business account/ \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit one per household per year.

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## Bloomington (continued)

- **Glass Specialty Company** – (309) 664-1087  
3302 Gerig Dr.  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off Rhino Linings Spray where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Global Engineering & Technology, LLC** – (309) 664-1900  
2203 E. Empire St., Ste. B  
15% off all services discounted.
- **Gloria Jean's Coffees** – (309) 662-2550  
1615 E Empire (Eastland Mall)  
50 cents off any medium or large drink or \$1 off 1 pound whole bean coffee.
- **Granite Transformation** – (309) 661-8155  
1712 E. Hamilton Rd., Ste. F  
20% off any in-stock granite off cut. Serving all of Central Illinois. Call or visit our showroom for complete details and available colors. Not valid with other discounts.
- **Heavenly Ham** – (309) 661-1450  
1407 N. Veterans Pkwy.  
10% off a box lunch. Dine in only.
- **Mad Bean Painting & Design** – (309) 825-8235  
1004 1/2 North Lee St.  
\$50 off any customer painting job under \$400 and \$100 off any customer painting job over \$400.
- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 821-9600  
103 E. Hamilton Rd.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.
- **Mid-Ilini Credit Union** – (309) 661-1166  
1811 Eastland Dr.  
Open checking account & get first box of checks free. \$200 off closing costs for home mortgage. Must show card for offers. Must work or reside in McLean County to become a member.
- **Mole Hole of Eastland** – (309) 663-2241  
1615 East Empire St.  
\$5 off any purchase of \$25 or more.
- **Monster Pawn & Monster Deals** – (309) 823-9115  
1610 RT Dunn Dr.  
\$1 off all DVDs  
Must show card to clerk for discount.
- **National City Mortgage** – (309) 823-3014  
202 E. Washington St.  
\$200 off closing costs. Must show card. Keith Thompson specifically must be identified at application.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (309) 663-7100  
1603 A. Morrissey  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Nybakke Vacuum Shop Inc.** – (309) 662-7272  
814 I.A.A. Dr.  
10% off disposal bags or filters  
Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **OSF St. Joseph Medical Center-Center For Healthy Lifestyles** – (309) 661-5151  
2200 E. Washington St.  
10% off of any regularly priced merchandise at the Center for Healthy Lifestyles.
- **Paint Depot** – (309) 664-6733  
2407 GE Rd.  
20% off.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (309) 662-9000  
2402 E. Oakland Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.

- **Performance Growth Partners, Inc.** – (309) 664-7741  
3 Mallard Ct.  
\$100.00 off the cost of a customer service assessment, customer service standards development or customer service training for your business. One discount per business.
- **Personal Touch Cleaning Company** – (309) 661-0833  
2412 E. Washington St., Ste. 7A  
\$20 off 1st cleaning with ongoing service for new customers/\$15 off LX cleanings
- **Pheasant Lanes Bowling and Miniature Golf** – (309) 663-8556  
804 N. Hershey Rd.  
Buy 1 game of bowling and get 2nd free. Limit 1 per visit. During open bowling days only. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Pre-Paid Legal** – (309) 287-6373  
311 Visors Dr.  
Free identity theft magazine - \$2.00 value.
- **Red Wing Shoe Store & Adrian's Shoe Repair** – (309) 827-6370  
1210 Towanda Plaza  
10% off regular priced merchandise  
Not valid with other offers or discounts.
- **Ride The Nine Home of Shooters Lounge** – (309) 662-1009  
503 N. Prospect  
15% off billiard time.
- **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory** – (309) 662-8610  
101 N. Veterans Pkwy.  
10% off purchase.
- **Ryan Pharmacy** – (309) 828-4813  
1118 E. Oakland  
\$10 off new prescription  
Medicare and some 3rd party insurers excluded.  
1 per family per year.
- **Sam Leman Automotive Group** – (309) 662-5000  
1602 Commerce Pkwy.  
10% off maintenance services.
- **Specs Around Town Optical Boutique** – (309) 827-7327  
317 N. Center St.  
\$25 off any in-stock sunglasses  
Not valid with other offers.
- **Stiles Automotive** – (309) 828-6603  
905 S. Morris Avenue  
10% discount  
Excludes used cars.
- **T.C. Buzz Coffee Co.** – (309) 661-8229  
2103 N. Veterans Pkwy. Ste. #304  
15% off all beverages.
- **Tarvin's Culligan Water Conditioning** – (309) 663-4400  
#8 Gilmore Dr.  
\$100 off Gold Series Water Conditioner (Cons. Digest Best Buy). \$100 off Culligan Rev. Osmosis syst. Cash/carry: Buy 6 bags salt get 1 free & buy 6 bottles water, get 1 free.
- **Terry Winn Tire & Auto Service, Inc.** – (309) 661-2886  
909 N. Hershey Rd.  
10% off all retail tire prices installed. 10% discount on repair parts and oil changes. We inflate tires with nitrogen! Discounts do not apply to sale items.
- **The Chocolatier Inc** – (309) 821-0277  
514 N. Main St.  
5% off all assortment boxes  
Truffles not included.
- **The Pool and Spa Doctor** – (309) 662-7200  
1334 E. Empire  
10% off chemicals

- **Union Auto Sales** – (309) 820-7561  
1201 S. Main St.  
\$100 off purchase. Must present card at purchase.
- **US Cellular** – (309) 661-8181  
115 Krispy Kreme Dr. Ste. 2  
20% off on all accessories.
- **Weed Man** – (309) 827-9390  
12051 McCue Dr.  
One free application for new customers when scheduling a full program. Only available to new customers.
- **Wingate Inn** – (309) 820-9990  
1031 Wylia Dr.  
\$59 plus tax any standard room (King or Double). Based on availability. Book in advance through Sales Dept.
- **Wm. Masters, Inc. Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & A/C** – (309) 662-8481  
401 Olympia Dr.  
\$100 off the purchase of a Guardian automatic back-up generator system, \$200 off Trane hybrid Heating/AC system, \$300 off Waterfurnace Geothermal Heating/AC. Other offers. Can't be used with other offers/discounts.
- **YWCA of McLean County** – (309) 662-0461  
1201 N. Hershey Rd.  
Buy 10 fitness classes for \$50 & get \$50 off annual Healthy Benefits Plus. Buy annual fitness membership & get 10% off. Offers apply only to new customers. Co-op Connections Card must be shown to receive offer.

## Canton

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 647-0366  
127 N. Main  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Champaign

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 351-8622  
907 Market View Dr., Unit 7  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Claxton, GA

- **Guik-Kut Hi Performance Lawn Equipment** – (800) 447-2060  
P.O. Box 776  
Take an additional 5% off of already discounted prices up to 40% off lawn equipment parts in the catalog. Take 5% off lawn equipment.

## Dahinda

- **Discount Wildlife Service** – (877) 397-2287  
250 Greenleaf Ct.  
\$25 off the cost of service call/\$10 off the cost of chimney cap.

## Danvers

- **Lullaby Studios** – (309) 963-6466  
18682 N. Apache Path  
Free 8 X 10 with order. Free proof book with \$200 order.

## Decatur

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 422-3881  
288 N. Park  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Decatur (continued)

- **Glass Specialty Company** – (217) 429-2371  
505 E. William  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.

## Downs

- **Bevande Café** – (309) 663-4627  
#1 Mike's Way  
50 cents off any drink  
Not to be combined with other offers.
- **Crowne Realty** – (309) 824-9016  
9336 Abbey Way  
Free 2-3 night stay on Lake of the Ozarks at vacation hide-a-way condominiums or \$50 gift certificate to Lowe's, whichever your choose after completion of successful closing.
- **Freestar Bank** – (309) 662-1800  
#1 Mike's Way  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

## East Peoria

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 694-2273  
416 Riverside Dr.  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Farmington

- **M&K Parties** – (309) 245-2468  
34 N. West  
\$20 off inflatable ride rental. Mon-Thurs 3 hour time limit.

## Forsyth

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 875-3724  
1351 Hickory Point Dr.  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Galesburg

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 343-7799  
1265 N Henderson  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Bunker Links Municipal Golf Course** – (309) 344-1818  
3535 Lincoln Park Dr.  
\$20 green fees for 18 holes with cart.
- **Creations by Carolina** – (309) 343-9998  
54 S. Seminary St.  
10% off alterations to clothing on up to \$50 of alterations. First visit only.
- **Giardina Pontiac Cadillac GMC** – (309) 344-2288  
1621 N. Henderson St.  
Purchase any in stock new vehicle at the GM supplier price which is several thousands of dollars savings. Must show proof of membership of Corn Belt Energy.

## Geneseo

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 686-6491  
206 W First St  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Gridley

- **Freestar Bank** – (309) 747-2100  
325 Center St., PO Box 460  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

## Hudson

- **Childers Door Service** – (309) 726-1307  
217 Front St.  
5% off on purchase of a Raynor Garage Door or opener, parts or service. Excludes contractors.
- **The Cruise Consultants** – (309) 726-2509  
23560 N. 1600 E. Rd.  
\$50 off cabin of 7-day cruise or longer.
- **Whitacre's Country Oak Shoppe** – (309) 726-1305  
704 S. Broadway  
10% off. Sale items excluded.

## Jacksonville

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 243-0506  
901 W Morton 10B  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Kewanee

- **O'Reilly Auto Parts**  
321 S. Main  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

## LaSalle

- **Coon's Grove Nursery, Inc** – (815) 223-9287  
359 N 35th Rd.  
10% off the purchase of any evergreen 6-8ft or shade tree 2-2.5 inches in diameter. Planting & delivery excluded.

## Lincoln

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 735-1707  
1481 Woodlawn Rd.  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

## Mendota

- **Prescott Brothers Inc.-Chrysler, Dodge & Jeep** – (866) 539-9388  
614 13th Ave.  
New cars & trucks: 1% below factory invoice (Family & Friends Program)/\$19.95 for oil change, 15 pt. inspection and choice of wash & wax or tire rotation/10% off MOPAR items.

## Minier

- **Sears Portrait Studio** – (309) 392-3209  
202 Darnall Dr.  
10% off entire portraits purchase.

## Morton

- **Ashland House** – (309) 263-5116  
201 East Ashland  
10% off regular rack rate. Special event dates.

- **Leisure Spas Inc** – (309) 263-0637  
911 W Jefferson  
15% off all spa chemicals.
- **Pete's Shoe Store** – (309) 266-9212  
109 W. Jefferson  
20% off Red Wing Work boots.

## Mossville

- **Bill's Radiator** – (309) 691-3030  
10307 Wheaton Rd.  
10% off parts  
Any previously discount parts excluded.

## Normal

- **A-1 Security Locksmith** – (309) 454-5800  
310 Pine St.  
\$5 off service call or locks and deadbolts. Buy 5 keys and get 1 free.
- **Baird's Auto Care, Inc.** – (309) 452-9819  
804 W. Division St.  
\$1.50 off full service oil change/10% off repair parts. No discount on labor or warranty parts.
- **Best Western University Inn** – (309) 454-4070  
6 Traders Circle  
\$60.00 Sunday - Thursday nights \$70.00 Friday and Saturday nights. Not valid with other discounts. Advanced reservation recommended.
- **Body Dynamics Fitness Equipment** – (309) 268-9313  
406 Kays  
10% off any equipment or accessory purchase. Does not include weights or sale price items.
- **College Station Apartments** – (309) 454-5549  
9 Traders Circle  
\$30.00 application fee waived
- **Domino's Pizza** – (309) 454-5111  
305 W. Beaufort  
Buy one large pizza at regular menu price, get a second pizza of equal or lesser value FREE! Carry out only.
- **Illinois Agricultural Auditing Association** – (309) 862-3870, Ext. 228  
318 Susan Dr.  
10% discount on the preparation of personal income tax returns. Can't be combined with other discounts.
- **Mary Kay Cosmetics, Joan Garber** – (309) 838-1490  
1302 Kern St.  
At your complimentary facial, you will receive a free gift with a \$40.00 purchase. Void if serviced by another beauty consultant.
- **MidState Transmission Inc.** – (309) 452-5595  
1408 Fort Jesse Rd.  
\$25 off clutch replacement and automatic transmission rebuild. Not valid with other discounts.
- **Midwest College of Cosmetology** – (309) 451-1373  
755 W. Raab Rd.  
15% off any service with member card. Not valid with other discounts.
- **O'Brien Mitsubishi** – (309) 454-1222  
1601 Ft. Jesse Rd  
Any new vehicle 5% over invoice price amount/ Any used vehicle at employee pricing.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (309) 452-7575  
1531 E. College Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.
- **Signature Inn** – (309) 454-4044  
101 S. Veterans Pkwy.  
\$69 room rate on all standard rooms. Offer not valid during special events. All discounts subject to availability.



### Normal (continued)

- **Team Automotive Inc** – (309) 454-5454  
1223 S Adelaide St.  
10% off all parts. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Uncle Bill's Self Storage** – (309) 451-4500  
421 Kays Dr.  
\$25.00 off first month's rent. Can also be used for truck rental.
- **Washburn Flowers** – (309) 452-1113  
111 North St.  
10% on floral products only-cash and carry only. Plants, giftware & month of February excluded.
- **Wild Birds Unlimited** – (309) 454-3455  
1520 East College Avenue  
20% off any in-stock bird feeder or birdhouse. 1 per family.
- **Wm. Marken Jewelers** – (309) 454-8855  
1520 E. College  
20% off any merchandise purchase. 25% off Seiko watches. Discount does not apply to repair services.

### North Pekin

- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 382-2600  
135 Radio City Dr.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.

### Pekin

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 353-9313  
3287 Court St.  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Sud's Volkswagen, Audi, Mercedes Benz, Porsche** – (309) 676-1101  
2350 N. 8th St.  
15% off all parts and service.

### Peoria

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 693-9540, (309) 672-2273, (309) 686-6491, (309) 692-8222  
7720 N. Crestline Dr. & 1200 W. Main St., Ste. 21 & 1800 N. Knoxville #5 & 4620 N. University  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Glass Specialty Company** – (309) 686-6491  
1000 SW Jefferson  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **Jim's Autobody and Refinishing Inc.** – (309) 674-0113  
1330 NE Adams St.  
5% off repair cost up to \$100.00 discount.
- **Mattress Doctor** – (309) 691-8600  
8859 N. Knoxville Rd.  
Get 15% off of non-sale items and 10% off sale items. Shop "Early Bird" from 10 a.m. – noon and receive 20% extra off non-sale and sale items. Must present card upon entering store.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (309) 685-1033  
4114 N. Brandywine  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

### Peoria Heights

- **A Sweet Arrangement** – (309) 681-8423  
4709 N. Prospect Rd.  
20% off any single bouquet of candy  
Consignment collectibles/Offer not valid for the following periods 12/15-12/25 and 2/1-2/14.

- **Chem-Dry CleanMasters** – (309) 681-1744  
1507 Lake #12  
15% off carpet and upholstery cleanings over \$100. Serve McLean, Dewitt, Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties.

### Peru

- **Glass Specialty Company** – (815) 223-1060  
4115 Progress Blvd.  
\$20 Walmart gift card with auto glass replacement. \$25 off rhino lings where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.
- **O'Reilly Auto Parts**  
941 Wenzel Rd.  
The following O'Reilly chemicals for 99 cents each: ORC 72142 (fueling & carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). One per customer per visit.

### Pleasant Plains

- **Paul Tree Farms LLC "Home of the \$8.00 Tree"** – (217) 971-7876  
12430 State Route 125  
10% off of Pine, spruces, maples, and oak trees.

### Pontiac

- **Freestar Bank** – (815) 844-3171  
223 N. Mill St.  
\$25 credit toward opening a new personal or business account. \$100 discount on closing cost for residential mortgage. Limit 1 per household per year. Offer may be withdrawn or amended without notice.

### Princeton

- **Adler Chiropractic** – (815) 872-1800  
403 S. Main St.  
10% discount on new patient office visit.
- **Browning Ford Lincoln Mercury** – (815) 875-1150  
1502 W. Peru  
4 free oil changes and 1 complete detail (\$250 value) with purchase of any new car. All included services by appt. only. Offer must be presented at the time of sale.
- **Dunbar's Office Supply** – (815) 872-1907  
21 Park Ave. East  
10% off catalog items. Sale items excluded.
- **Hattie's Arts & Antiques** – (815) 875-9151  
24 W. Long  
10% discount on items over \$20 unless marked Net or Firm.
- **Heartland Printing & Publications** – (815) 875-4659  
21 Park Ave. East  
10% off printing orders.
- **Johnsons Carpet Shoppe Inc.** – (815) 875-3444  
1033 N. Main  
\$1 off per yard of carpet. Not valid with other sales.
- **O'Reilly Auto Parts** – (815) 875-2474  
1504 N. Main St.  
\$.99 for the following O'Reilly chemicals: ORC 72142 (fueling and carb cleaner); ORC 72152 (gas treatment); ORC 72717 (oil treatment); ORC 72813 (power steering fluid). 1 per customer per visit.
- **Very Important Pet Grooming, Inc.** – (815) 875-9806  
634 S. Main St.  
10% off any service with Co-op Connections Card

- **Wyanet Carpet** – (815) 879-0005  
816-818 N. Main St.  
Say "Corn Belt" and receive up to 10% off. Not valid with other discounts.

### Roanoke

- **Lifts of Illinois Inc.** – (800) 835-5438  
415 W. Front St.  
\$50.00 off purchase over \$3,000. \$100 off purchase over \$8,000.

### Springfield

- **Bard Optical** – (217) 793-2273  
3141 S. Veterans Pkwy.  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.
- **Calhoun Carpet** – (217) 544-1826  
1701 S. Dirksen Pkwy.  
10% off any carpet purchase.
- **George Alarm Company** – (309) 827-5707  
917 S. 9th St.  
Switching monitoring systems and we'll beat your existing price by 15%. New system (lease/purchase) 15% discount and 15% off upgrades for existing customers.
- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse** – (217) 793-6756  
3455 Freedom Dr.  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.
- **Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza** – (217) 391-7272  
1712 Sangamon Ave.  
\$2 off any regularly priced family size pizza.

### Stanford

- **Distinctive Affairs** – (309) 379-2514  
202 S. Division St.  
Free dessert with rehearsal dinner.

### Sterling

- **Bard Optical** – (815) 626-6006  
3215 E. Lincoln Way  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers.

### Urbana

- **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse-Urbana** – (217) 344-8201  
1601 N. Cunningham  
Free half onion loaf appetizer or skillet cookie dessert for 2 with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

### Utica

- **Apple Tree Acres Alpacas** – (815) 667-4228  
3037 E. 11th Rd.  
10% on all alpaca apparel.

### Washington

- **Bard Optical** – (309) 444-2277  
#8 Cherry Tree Shopping Center  
20-40% off all eye care products/reduced exam fee for Preferred Program Providers

## CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Summer Celebration highlights shared

Over 685 members, employees and directors attended the Summer Celebration festivities at the Bloomington and Princeton offices in August. The events were held to celebrate the cooperative partnership of members, employees and directors. The venues provided opportunities to learn more about the cooperative, visit with cooperative leaders and members and to enjoy a summer evening with friends and neighbors.

Good food, live music, line demonstrations, bucket rides, kids' activities, chainsaw carving and forestry demonstrations entertained guests. Prize drawings were held for two chainsaw carvings of a raccoon running through a log by our own arborist Cal Williams and Wal-Mart gift cards.

### The winners included:

- Phyllis Hepner, Kewanee, carving
- Janine Drummond, Bradford, \$50 gift card
- Joyce Hochstatter, Sheffield, \$25 gift card
- Bob Nelson, Sheffield, \$25 gift card
- Cassie Lucas, Kwanee, \$25 gift card
- Taylor Krug, Ottawa, \$25 gift card
- Rod Hitch, Shirley, carving
- Arlene Punke, Lexington, \$50 gift card
- Jo Ann Dalton, Normal, \$25 gift card
- Norma Brown, Bloomington, \$25 gift card.
- Megan Hopf, Bloomington, \$25 gift card
- Kacey Woods, Normal, \$25 gift card

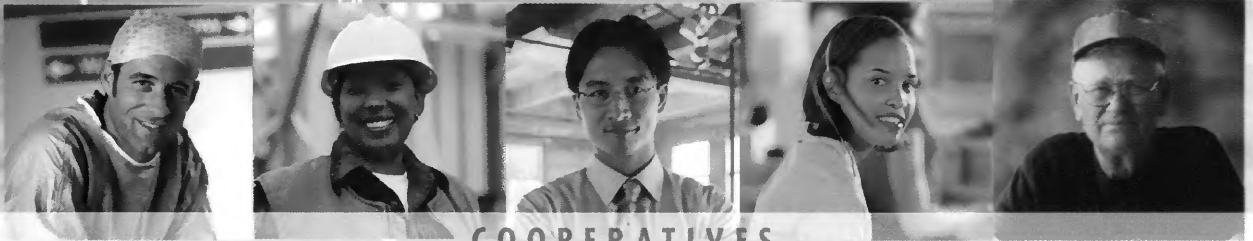
It's a unique experience, in these modern times, to be invited by your utility to enjoy a free meal prepared and served by management, directors and union personnel and are encouraged to ask questions and give comments face to face. Outside of a cooperative environment, it's unlikely employees will serve you a snow cone, or you'll have the opportunity to discuss corporate issues with a board member as you enjoy a refreshing bowl of watermelon.

Despite technology advances and increased membership growth, the cooperative's philosophy has not changed; serving members by working together, sharing information and providing education.



CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

# NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH



## COOPERATIVES

by Laura Camper,  
Intern, Illinois Country Living

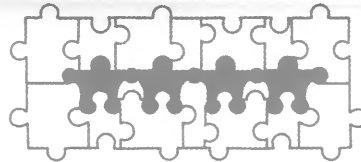
October is National Co-op Month, a time to celebrate the cooperative way of doing business. Cooperatives are formed to benefit the people who are served by them. Cooperatives are owned by the members, so the priority becomes the service of the members, not profit.

Because the members own the company, they have a voice in how the company is run. They elect the board of directors, the guiding body of the cooperative, and they are invited to meetings to hear the important issues and news related to the co-op. The co-op also sends members newsletters and other communication to keep them informed.

Member-owned also means locally-owned, so co-ops have a vested interest in the communities they serve. If members have questions or concerns, they can contact the cooperative locally to voice their opinions. And co-op employees are often very active in their communities.

### Did you know that...?

■ Ben Franklin formed the first successful cooperative in 1752.



Businesses People Trust

**Cooperatives are  
owned by the  
members  
they serve.**

■ Toad Lane in England is considered the birthplace of the modern cooperative because many of the principles that guide cooperatives were formed there in 1844.

■ Cooperatives are guided by seven internationally recognized principles: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training, and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for the communities they serve.

■ Cooperatives are formed by producers to sell their products, by workers who own and operate the company they work for, by consumers who use a service or product, and by small business owners and municipalities to share purchases of goods and services in order to increase their purchasing power.

■ Electric cooperatives provide electric service to the member-owners at the cost of service. The members share any profit either through investment in the company or by credit to the member-owners.

■ Electric cooperatives own 2.4 million miles or 43 percent of the nation's electric distribution lines and deliver 10 percent of the total kilowatt-hours in the United States annually.

■ Electric cooperatives serve 12 percent of the population in the United States and employ 63,000 people.

■ Land O Lakes, Ocean Spray, and Sunkist brands are all produced by cooperatives.

■ Ace Hardware and True Value are owned and operated by cooperatives.

CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)

## Corn Belt Energy supplies Grand Bear Resort

By Laurie B. Vial

**G**rizzly Jack's Grand Bear Resort in rural Utica – an indoor water park, amusement park, hotel, cluster of restaurants and more - is serviced by Corn Belt Energy Corporation.

Opened on July 1, 2005, the resort was designed by the owners and is the only one of its kind in the United States.

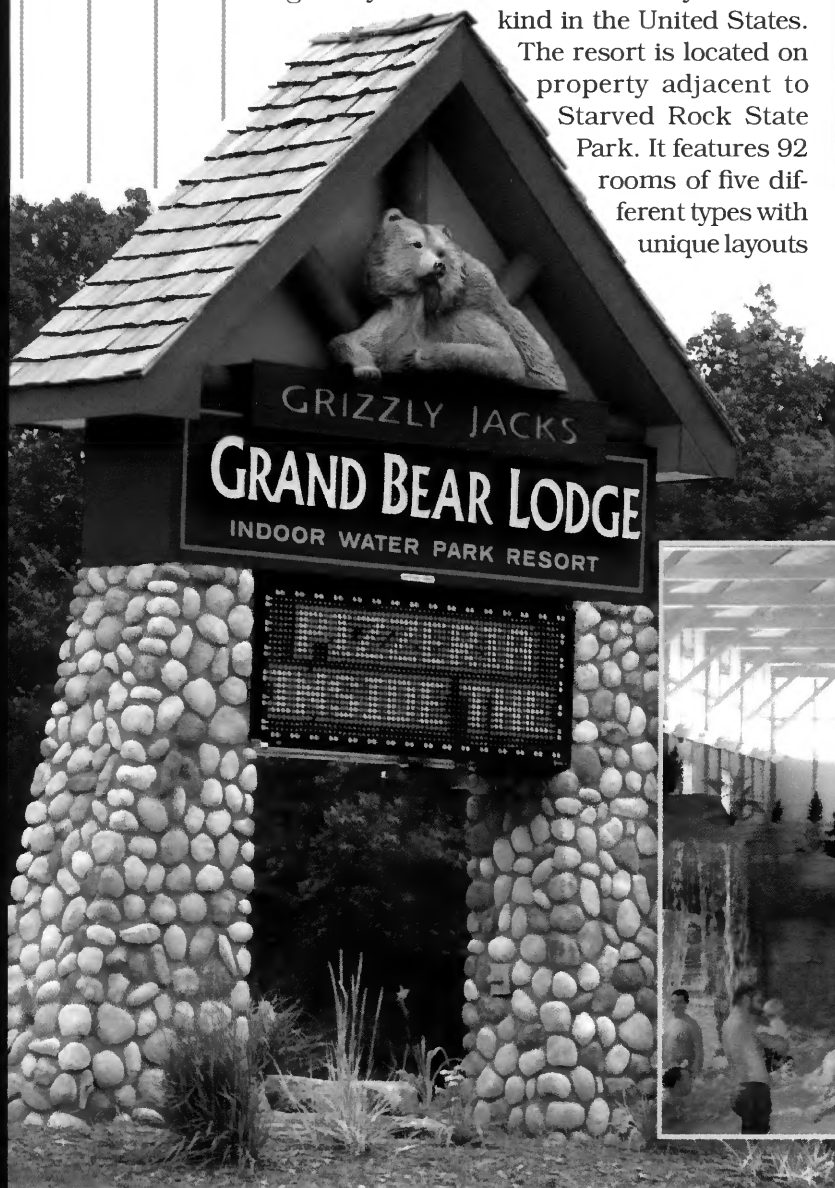
The resort is located on property adjacent to Starved Rock State Park. It features 92 rooms of five different types with unique layouts

from bunk bed rooms to Jacuzzi suites with king-size beds. But investors own neighboring 1,800-square-foot villas that sleep 10 and 2,800-square-foot cabins that sleep 18. Villas and cabins feature full kitchens and are rented out to guests when the investors are not using them.

The "b" word (boredom) is probably not heard much around Grizzly Jack's. For starters if you are hungry or thirsty you can choose from five different restaurant venues. There's a pizza parlor, the Honey Pot ice cream and fudge shop, the Grizzly Bean Café coffee shop, Grizzly Jack's Place – a full service restaurant and Jack's Bar, a bar and grill for adults.

Need an item from a convenience store? No need to leave the property - Grand Bear Resort has its own store, and a gift shop.

The centerpiece of the resort is no doubt the indoor water park – a first for Illinois. It features an interactive water slide with visual effects, one of only two in



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(continued from page 16a)

the world, and attractions such as the body slide, Lazy River, wave pool and dumping bucket.

The Cave Arcade is 3,600 square feet of video games and includes Canyon Creek, an 18-hole indoor miniature golf course. There's also a playground for children, Castle in the Woods.

And across the parking lot is the Enchanted Forest – a 40,000-square-foot indoor amusement park featuring rides such as bumper cars and Tilt-a-Whirl. A special ride is Eclipse rated at “4 Gs” which is the only one in the United States and one of only three in the world. Surprise visitors at the Enchanted Forest have included live wild animals such as bear, lion and tiger cubs.

And if you want a unique way of traveling between the villas and cabins and the amusement park or main lodge try the resort's train, which



provides free shuttle services to guests.

The resort is also home to many conventions and business meetings with more than 6,000 square feet of meeting space. Banquet facilities for wedding receptions and other events are also popular.

In keeping with the theme of never saying the “b” word is an activity area with supervised arts and crafts projects. Or hang out in the soaring lobby and Grizzly Jack and Grand Bear will come alive and tell you a bedtime story.

Grand Bear attracts many visitors from the Midwest – especially the Chicago area. Theme weekends are popular.

The resort covers 60 acres and also boasts a natural 100-foot ravine and waterfall. An outdoor pool is almost complete. Check out the fun at [www.grizzlyjacksresort.com](http://www.grizzlyjacksresort.com).

## CBEC helps to Spread the Red

Corn Belt Energy Corporation participated in a special event, CommUniversity, sponsored by the McLean County Chamber of Commerce to bring the community and the university closer together. The tailgate helped “Spread the Red” prior to the first Illinois State University home football game. CBEC staff greeted members and other businesses while serving their signature Crazy Ken's Kettle Corn. The cooperative used this event to promote natural gas sales and the Co-op Connections card. Friends of all ages enjoyed games and prizes.



**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**



## Students encouraged to apply for 2007 IEC Memorial Scholarships

**C**orn Belt Energy Corporation President Jeffrey Reeves has announced that for the twelfth consecutive year the Illinois electric cooperatives will award academic scholarships to high school seniors. Five scholarships in 2007 will be awarded through the Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program. Each of the scholarships will be worth \$1,250.

High school seniors pursuing a college education are eligible to participate in the program. Three of the five scholarships will be awarded to the son or daughter of an electric cooperative member. A fourth award will go to the son or daughter of an electric cooperative director or employee. A fifth scholarship will be reserved for use at a two-year Illinois community college, and sons and daughters of electric cooperative members, employees and directors are all eligible. Deadline for applications to be returned to the cooperative is Jan. 1, 2007.



"The purpose of the scholarship program is to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders through memorial gifts," said Reeves. "Corn Belt and the other Illinois electric cooperatives want to make a difference in their communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by lending a hand to our youth. With the cost of tuition and books going up scholarships like this one can help."

Candidates are judged on the basis of grade point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities, and a short essay which demonstrates their knowledge of electric cooperatives.

The IEC Memorial Scholarship Program was established in 1994 by the board of directors of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. For further information on the IEC Memorial Scholarship Program, contact CBEC at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) or ask your high school guidance counselor.

### Grants available to CBEC service area schools

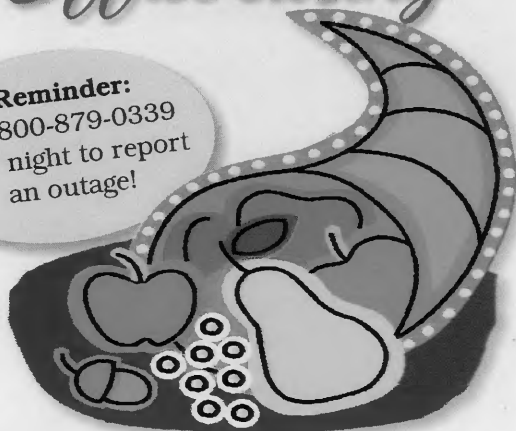
**F**or the third year, Corn Belt Energy is offering four-\$1,000 grants to area schools. The grant is available for pre-school, elementary or secondary level programs. It's easy to enter. School teachers and administrators may apply online at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) or call 800-879-0339, Ext. 250 for details.

Applicants are required to give specific details about a program need in their district that is not currently funded. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 30, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. Four schools will be selected based on the need and/or impact of the program. A panel of judges will evaluate the applications and determine the four winners.

Share this good news with your local teachers and school officials. The children at four area schools will benefit from these education grants. Wouldn't it be nice if one of the winners was your school?

### Office closing

**Reminder:**  
Call 800-879-0339  
day or night to report  
an outage!



**C**orn Belt Energy offices will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.

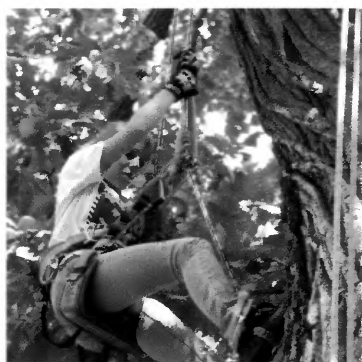
The staff and management wish to express their thanks to the employees, directors and members who support the cooperative through their time and talents.

*Have a happy holiday!*

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## CBEC offers rope climbing at Lincoln Railsplitting Contest

**C**orn Belt Energy Corporation employees brought their climbing expertise to the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Abraham Lincoln National Railsplitting Contest and Crafts Festival on Sept. 16. The display drew a crowd and many tried to climb high into the leaves and limbs and ring the bell at the top of the rope.



Kendra Toliver makes zooming up the tree trunk look simple. Could be because she has many hours of climbing practice under the watchful eye of her father, Steve Toliver, Apprentice Forestry Foreman at CBEC.



All you need to do is hook up your safety belts, slip on some gloves and be brave enough to climb 80 feet into the top of the tree... only a few rang the bell at the top which signaled the highest point was reached.

Zach Schleder of Lincoln (left) has his gear double checked by CBEC's Frank Kinnison, Forestry Foreman, before he begins his climb.



Novice climbers tackle the rigging as they start up into the foliage!

## OUTAGE REPORT

**T**he following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

Date	Time	Members	Areas affected	Reason for outage
08/21/06	8:00 a.m.-10:40 a.m.	126	Troy Grove area	Line fuse out from bird
08/23/06	9:26 a.m.-9:46 a.m.	412	Troy Grove, Lamoille, Arlington, Mendota areas	AmerenIP transmission problem
08/23/06	9:26am-9:46am	288	Ladd, Spring Valley, Dover, Malden areas	AmerenIP transmission problem
08/28/06	1:47pm-3:00pm	403	Princeton, Walnut, Dover, Malden areas	AmerenIP transmission problem
08/29/06	8:45am-9:55am	247	Sheridan, Norway areas	Line fuse out from lightning
09/02/06	12:38pm-5:40pm	118	Rustlers subdivision, Mackinaw	Bad primary cable
09/07/06	11:29am-1:56pm	239	Deer Creek areas	Line fuse out from wire down

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

Mailing address: P.O. Box 816, Bloomington, IL 61702-0816  
E-mail address: cbec@cornbeltenergy.com  
Web address: www.cornbeltenergy.com

## PHONE NUMBERS

DAY OR NIGHT

800-879-0339

FAX: 309-663-4516

Call J.U.L.I.E. before you dig:  
800-892-0123

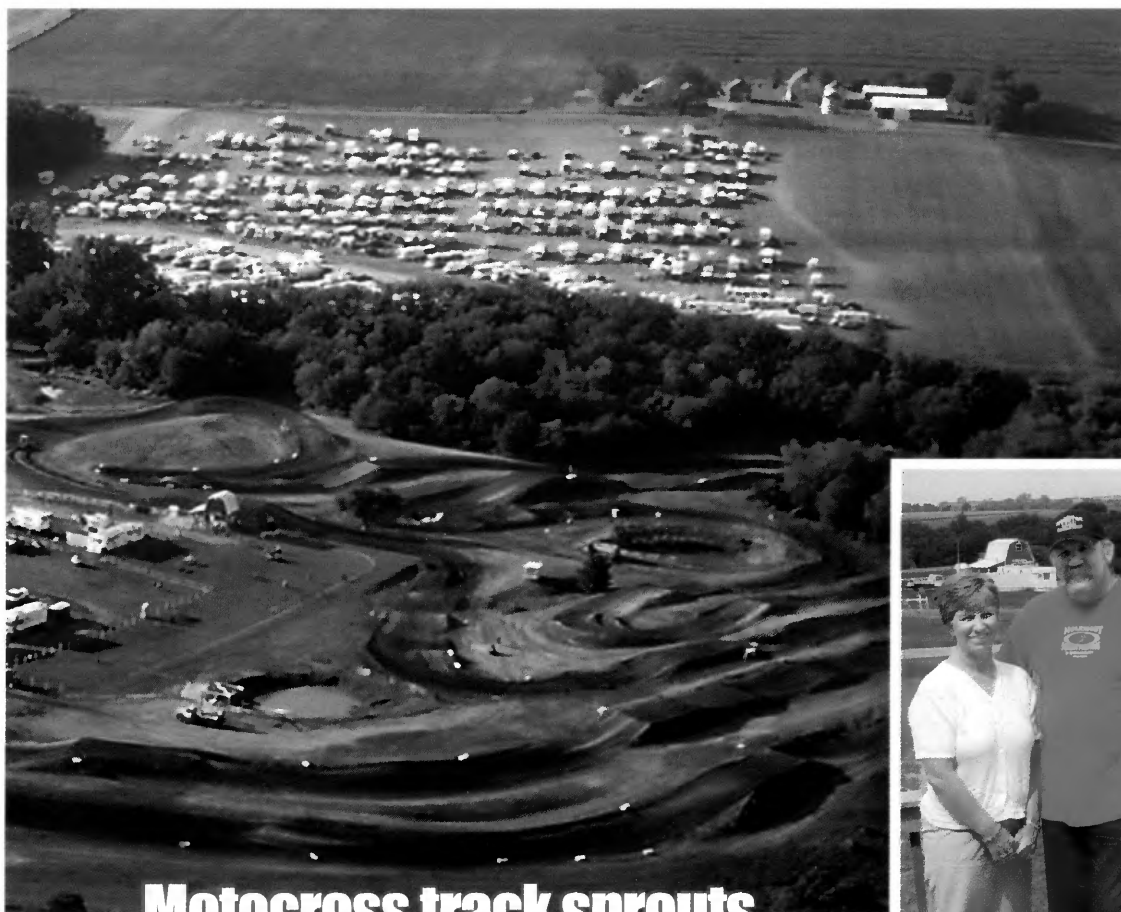
Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm –  
Monday thru Friday

DECEMBER 2006

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



E.O.E. (M/F/D/V)



## Motocross track sprouts amidst farm fields

**T**he Corn Belt Energy service territory near Walnut boasts slightly rolling fields producing corn, soybeans, hay and the Sunset Ridge MX track where motorcycle racing enthusiasts gather on weekends from March through November to test their metal.

The track is the dream of CBEC members Bob and Jan Pistole who built the facility on the family farm and live in a new house adjacent to it. Brother Gary lives on the family farmstead a stone's throw away.

Sunset Ridge debuted in 2000 with five events. They now host 10 race weekends a year to comply with zoning. Races feature

four-wheelers and "dirt bike" motorcycles ranging from 50 ccs up to 500 ccs. Riders range in age from four years old to 60. Classes are separated by age, size of bike and skill level.

A competitor can race in three events in a day if eligible. Racers are scored on where they cross the finish line, the fastest five to seven laps is common.

A national all terrain vehicle (ATV) event this summer drew 600 entrants and was televised by Outdoor Life Network on cable.

(continued on page 16b)



(continued from page 16a)

Open rides are fun and help racers learn the course for future events. Sunset Ridge is a closed course that can run one to two miles with lots of jumps and obstacles.

Bob and Jan stress safety. Racers wear helmets, protective suits and boots. When Jan isn't helping with race weekends she is a flight and emergency room nurse at the hospitals in Princeton and Dixon. She also teaches paramedics at Sauk Valley College. They own their own ambulance and have licensed emergency medical technicians at every event.

Bob designed all the jumps with safety in mind for dirt bikes and ATVs.

Motocross is family-based sport. Many families camp at the track for the weekend.

Like farming, weather plays a big role in the sport. Too much rain can cause cancellation of

an entire event. If the Pistoles cancel before any event starts, the race can be re-scheduled.

Sunset Ridge is in District 17, which includes 11 tracks and most of the state of Illinois.

Bob used to race bikes and eventually graduated to stock cars, but has now retired and is back to dirt bikes.

Jan manages the business and oversees registration, ordering trophies and keeping track of scoring. On a race weekend 10 to 15 people help in the office and eight to 10 people help with track maintenance. They also sell food and t-shirts.

Jan and Bob are the parents of Josh, who lives nearby, and Chad, who lives in Ohio, IL. The four make up the corporation of 4P Promotions Inc., which owns and operates Sunset Ridge MX. There are five grandchildren, three grandsons and two granddaughters. The grandsons are now getting involved in racing.

Check them out at [www.sunsetridgemx.com](http://www.sunsetridgemx.com).

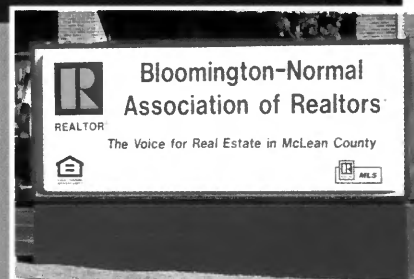


▲ Mike McGoughan, Executive Officer of the Bloomington-Normal Association of REALTOR®s points out a geothermal zone to John Armstrong, President.

## REALTORS® embrace geothermal in new headquarters



Energy conservation is certainly top of mind for residential and commercial members of Corn Belt Energy. The Bloomington-Normal Association of REALTORS® (BNAR) built a new office near the Towanda-Barnes Rd. on the east side of Bloomington and moved in early July. It is one of the first commercial buildings in the area to feature geothermal heating and cooling. President John Armstrong said, "We agreed early on in this process that geothermal was a high priority for us." The new building also features six-inch insulated walls, high efficiency lighting and windows rated for energy conservation. BNAR's new building has 6,500 square feet of space, is handicap accessible and features a large meeting room, spacious board room and a computer lab for training and education.



**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**





▲ Laurie Vial demonstrates the safety display at State Farm's Fire Prevention and Safety week program. The display highlights potential electrical hazards that can easily be overlooked.



▲ State Farm employees watch Cal Williams, Manager of Vegetation and Safety, demonstrate the cooperative's safety display at Fire Prevention and Safety Week. Important information pamphlets are also offered to those visiting the cooperative's area.



▲ Safety pamphlets, displays and gun locks were offered to visitors at the State Farm Fire Prevention and Safety Week. Marketing Director Dave Hawkinson, right, offers State Farm employees gun locks designed to make firearms inoperable.



*Office closing*

Our office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25 and 26 to celebrate Christmas. We will also be closed Jan. 1 for the New Year's Holiday.

**Reminder:**  
Call 800-879-0339  
day or night to  
report an outage!

## OUTAGE REPORT

The following outages affected more than 100 members. Please see our Web site at [www.cornbeltenergy.com](http://www.cornbeltenergy.com) for a complete list of substation and feeder outages.

DATE	TIME	MEMBERS	AREAS AFFECTED	REASON FOR OUTAGE
9/23/06	2:55 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.	223	Norway, Sheridan, Newark areas	Line fuse out from tree limb
9/25/06	6:20 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	2607	Bloomington area	AmerenIP transmission problem

**CORN BELT ENERGY CORPORATION, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**





▲ Linemen from a number of co-ops join the Corn Belt Energy Corporation team for substation training exercises. Keeping line personnel well-trained aids reliability and safety. Electrical substations are highly complex operations. Large amounts of power are transmitted through these locations. Most often voltage is stepped down in order to safely transmit energy to individual members.

◀ Safety training is a key component to the cooperative's continuing education program for all employees. Line staff review procedures and interact with instructors a number of times each year.

## Be safe and sparkling this holiday season

**W**e want your holiday season to sparkle. Glowing Christmas tree lights and festively decorated houses are magical parts of the season. Stay safe by remembering the following tips:

- ◆ If you choose a real tree, keep it watered
- ◆ Use only Underwriters Laboratory (UL) approved lights that are in good condition.
- ◆ Place extension cords out of traffic and not under rugs.
- ◆ Unplug lights before you go to bed.
- ◆ Keep an eye on candles and blow them out at bedtime

**If you decorate the outside, use only lights rated for outdoor use.**

- ◆ Keep cords off walkways.
- ◆ Use portable ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlets to protect you and your family from shock.
- ◆ Make sure you don't overload your electric circuits, a major cause of electrical fire.
- ◆ If you must use extension cords, use heavy duty ones.