

# POWERLINE

NEWSLETTER FOR CO-OP MEMBERS OF CORN BELT ENERGY



## A little something for everyone

Famous Dave's offers new, quick lunch option without sacrificing quality

Full-service restaurant, Famous Dave's, is offering a new fast lunch for customers with their Wilbur's Express Lunch offering.

The Bloomington location is the first of Famous Dave's restaurants to offer this express option. Famous Dave's offers the ease and convenience of a quick meal, but with a more inviting sit-down atmosphere.

The menu consists of better-quality ingredients than what can be found at most fast food establishments. "Wilbur's Express Lunch features chopped pork and rib tips along with a special meat or two of the day (such as smoked meatloaf, rotisserie chicken, pork loin, etc.) and it will always include fish on Fridays. In addition, the express lunch features several Famous Dave's side dishes, a full salad bar and drink for \$12 each and is available between 11 am – 1 pm,



Monday through Friday.", said Ron Helms, Vice President of Mercedes Restaurants, Inc.

Although it is possible to stop

in for the Wilbur's Express Lunch and be in and out in less than 15-20 minutes, the quality of food surpasses that of other fast casual options.



**Use your Co-op Connections card or app at Famous Dave's and receive a 15% discount off of Wilbur's Express Lunch.**  
*(Offer expires: 4/30/2019)*

"We felt we needed to be recognized for having fast service and fair prices to compete with the other fast casual offerings in the area," Helms said.

"Wilbur's Express Lunch offering began on January 9, and so far, customers who have had the Wilbur's Express Lunch really, really enjoy it.", said Helms.

With a passion for authentic BBQ, Famous Dave's pit masters get their hickory logs smoldering around 4 a.m. starting with top quality

meats, hand-rubbed with fresh spices, and slow-cooked to perfection. Many of the items offered as a part of the Wilbur's Express Lunch are unique and not offered on the regular menu.

While that line-up is enough to garner a lot of regulars, Famous Dave's also offers the traditional full-service menu, carry out items and catering services.



We all have those days when pre-planning meals, much less an emergency trip to the grocery store, just isn't in the cards. When you're short on time but still want a healthy, high quality meal, stop in and experience the Famous Dave's Wilbur's Express Lunch.

Located at the corner of Veteran's Parkway and US 150 in Bloomington, Illinois, you will find Famous Dave's. Famous Dave's employs approximately 50 people at the Bloomington location and is the official caterer of the Corn Belt Energy's annual meeting.

Corn Belt Energy's 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, June 21, 2019, at Central Catholic High School.



# Three easy DIY projects to save energy

Winter weather can have a big impact on your energy bills, hitting your pockets a little harder than you would have liked. Now that spring is just around the corner, it's the perfect time to tackle a few DIY efficiency projects for your home. The good news: You don't have to be an energy expert to do this!

There are several easy ways to save energy, but if you're willing to take a hands-on approach, here are three projects you can do now to start saving.

- 1. Insulating your electric water heater.** Insulating a water heater that's warm to the touch can save 7 to 16 percent annually on your water heating bills.
- 2. Seal air leaks with caulk.** The average American family spends \$2,000 annually on energy bills, but unfortunately, much

of that money is wasted through air leaks in the home. Applying caulk around windows, doors, electrical wiring and plumbing can save energy and money.

- 3. Weather strip exterior doors.** One of the best ways to seal air leaks is to weather strip exterior doors, which can keep out drafts and help you control energy costs. Weather stripping materials vary, but you can ask your local hardware or home store for assistance if you're unsure about the supplies you need.

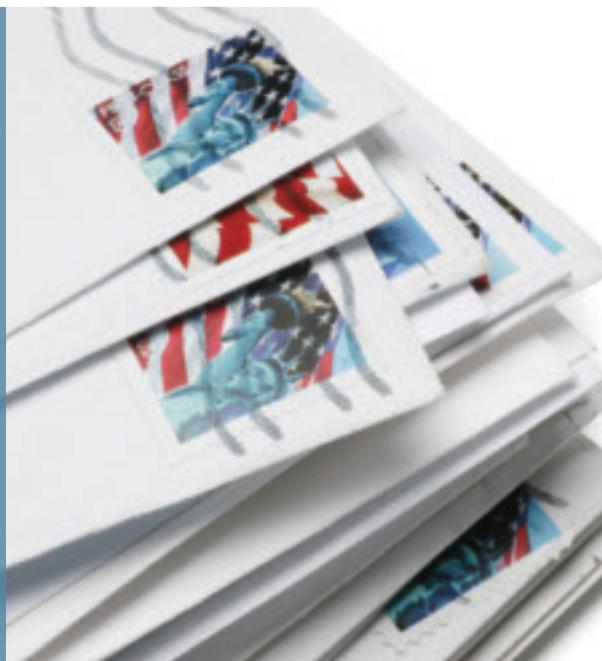
By completing these simple efficiency projects, you can save energy (and money!) while increasing the comfort level of your home. And you can impress your family and friends with your savvy energy-saving skills.

## ATTENTION MEMBERS:

If you pay your bill by check, please note that effective April 1, 2019, the mailing address for payments is changing.

Please make sure all payments are sent to the following address:

**Corn Belt Energy**  
1 Energy Way  
Bloomington, IL 61705



**Chantel Eddins**  
Member Account Representative

*How long have you worked at Corn Belt Energy?*

**17 years**

*What is your role at Corn Belt Energy?*  
**First line of communications, I would consider us the hub of the company.**

*What aspect of your role do you enjoy the most?*

**Every day is a new day and another day to impact our community.**

*If there is one piece of advice that you could share with our members, what would it be?*  
**Utilize your cooperative, there is so much knowledge throughout the company and we are happy to share it!**

*Corn Belt Energy puts SAFETY FIRST. What safety tip would you share with our members?*  
**If you don't know ask, we take pride in our job and we are dedicated to serving our members.**

*What are your hobbies and outside interests?*  
**I am a family oriented individual, so I enjoy spending time with my family and friends.**

*Who or what inspires you?*  
**My mom inspires me, she was the matriarch of our family. She held our family down with effortless grace and now that torch has been passed on to me.**

*If you had to select a hashtag to describe yourself, what would it be?*  
**#BlackGirlMagic**



## Stay safe with these generator safety tips

Generators can come in handy during prolonged outages, but things could turn deadly if they're not used properly.

Follow these tips to stay safe:

- Always follow manufacturers' directions for installation and operation.
- To prevent electric shock, make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- Operate electric generators or other fuel-powered machines outside where deadly carbon monoxide fumes cannot enter the home.
- Do not overload the generator by operating more appliances and equipment than it can handle.
- Individual appliances should be plugged directly into the receptacle outlet of the generator using appropriately sized extension cords to carry the electric load. Never connect generators directly to your home's wiring or household outlet.
- Do not refuel a generator while it is running. Store fuel outside of living areas and away from heat sources like water heater pilot lights.
- Turn off all equipment powered by the generator before shutting it down.
- If you are installing a permanent generator, it must have a transfer switch. The transfer switch prevents energy from

leaving your generator and going back onto the utility electrical equipment. Have a qualified electrician install your generator and transfer switch.



Generators, if not used properly, could not only be dangerous to you and your family but also to a lineman or others near downed power lines.

## CONTACT US

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