

## Connecting members to savings one card at a time

The Co-op Connections Card program has added powerful new features. When the card made prescription discounts available to co-op members in 2007, it started a mission to help make everyday needs - like health care - more affordable. The program continues that mission today with the addition of Healthy Savings discounts.

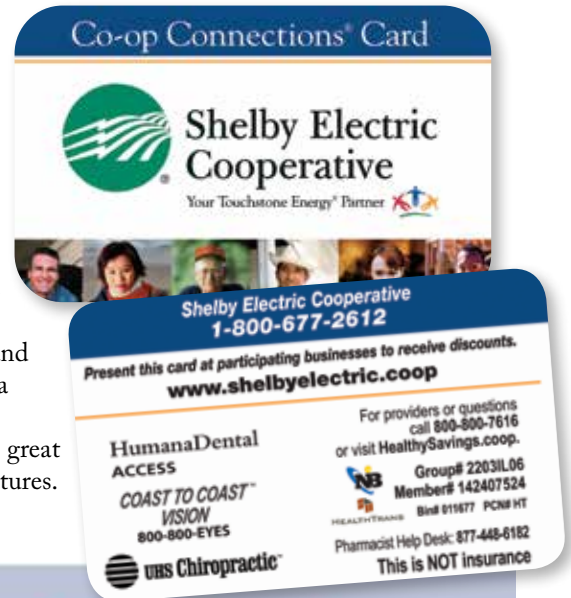
Savings on dental, vision, hearing, lab imaging services, chiropractic care and more are now available through this new feature. Touchstone Energy is partnering with New Benefits, a leading nationwide provider of uninsured health care benefits, to provide the savings.

Shelby Electric Cooperative members will be receiving new cards via a bill insert later this month. For those members who pay bills online and have opted out of a paper bill, we

will mail cards to you. We also hope to have some available at the cooperative's Annual Meeting in June.

The pharmacy discounts and shopping discounts are still a part of this card as well.

Be on the lookout for this great new card with great new features.



### A quick look at the Healthy Savings discounts:

- 10 to 60 percent discounts on eyeglasses, contact lenses, eye exams and LASIK.
- 20 to 40 percent discounts on dental care such as cleanings, x-rays, root canals, crowns and orthodontics.
- 35 percent discount on hearing aid prices at 2,000+ locations and a complimentary hearing evaluation.
- 10 to 60 percent off usual charges for MRI and CT procedures plus savings on blood tests and other lab testing.
- 50 percent savings on chiropractic diagnostic services and 30 percent savings on chiropractic treatments and other services, along with a free initial consultation.

To locate providers of these discounts in your area, go to [HealthySavings.coop](http://HealthySavings.coop) and click on "Locate Provider."

*Cooperative offices will be closed on Monday, May 28th  
in observance of Memorial Day.*

*Power of Green recycling will not be open Saturday, May 26th  
in observance of Memorial Day weekend.*

# Free Home Energy Efficiency Workshop coming to Shelbyville

Featuring Doug Rye the King of "Caulk and Talk"

**D**oug Rye is returning to the area to talk to members about ways to make their homes more energy efficient. This time Doug Rye brings his no-nonsense, down-to-earth and friendly style to the Senior Center at Forest Park in Shelbyville. This free Energy Efficiency Workshop will be held Thursday evening, June 14, 2012.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for registration, with the program starting at 6 p.m. and concluding around 7:30 p.m. Light snacks will be provided.

Doug Rye is America's leading and most trusted "Energy Expert." Doug writes the articles found in the "Energy Solutions" section of this Illinois Country Living Magazine and he conducts over 150 energy savings seminars across the United States each year.

Doug is also host to his own weekly syndicated radio show "Home Remedies" providing practical insight into home construction



Doug Rye speaking to a captive audience during his workshop held March 6th in Taylorville, Illinois.

ideas and energy efficiency measures. One of his famous quotes is, **"If you build a house with high energy costs, it's your own cotton-pickin' fault!"**

If you're searching for the most effective methods to make your present house more energy efficient or are planning to remodel or build a new home, then please join us

at the Shelbyville Senior Center, located in Forest Park, on June 14th. RSVP by calling 1-800-677-2612 or via e-mail [rsvpdougrye@shelbyelectric.coop](mailto:rsvpdougrye@shelbyelectric.coop).

**RSVP by June 11th** to be eligible to win a prize. You must RSVP to enter into a drawing and you need to be present to win.



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**[facebook.com/YourCoop](https://facebook.com/YourCoop)**

**Office Hours:**  
**7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

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Shelby Electric Cooperative  
 Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

OUTAGE REPORT				
LINE OUTAGES				
DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
3/7/2012	1.08	Taylorville	Broken insulator	40
3/14/2012	1.50	Yantisville	Planned work	258
3/14/2012	0.10	Herrick	Planned work	41
3/17/2012	2.30	Elwin	Lightning	46
SUBSTATION OUTAGES				
DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
3/13/2012	1.15	Dunkel	Unknown	297

## Area students visit the State Capitol

Seventeen high school students from 10 area high schools represented Shelby Electric Cooperative at the recent Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives' Youth Day in Springfield. These high schools included; Meridian, Stewardson-Strasburg, Pana, Cowden-Herrick, Nokomis, Central A & M, Okaw Valley, Neoga, Shelbyville and First Baptist Christian Academy.

During Youth Day, hundreds of students from all over the state had the opportunity to meet with their elected senators and representatives at the State Capitol. In addition, students toured the Old State Capitol and Lincoln's Presidential Library.

Two of the Shelby Electric student representatives for "Youth Day" were selected to attend the "Youth to Washington" tour.

A.J. Hahn from Meridian High School and Haley Mettendorf from Stewardson-Strasburg High School were selected during an interview process among the 17 students who attended "Youth Day." Alternates are Hannah Wolfe from Meridian High School and Molly Holthaus from Pana High School.

The "Youth to Washington" tour will begin on Friday, June 15th and conclude on Friday, June 22nd.

During the week in the nation's Capitol, the Illinois contingent will meet with Illinois senators and the downstate Illinois congressional delegation at a Capitol Hill luncheon.

Meetings are also scheduled with leaders of co-op organizations such as the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. In addition, there will be opportunities to tour many historic sites.

The students will also create and operate their own cooperative, a chip and pop cooperative, for selling drinks and snacks while on the trip.

"This gives the students a chance



*Senator Kyle McCarter and Representative Adam Brown visit with students during Youth Day. Pictured, l-r, front row: Sen. McCarter, chaperone Monica Tomblin, Zach Bone, Hannah Wolfe, Kaitlyn Corzine, Devyn Gaskin, Jackie Schlanser, Rep. Brown, and chaperone Marla Eversole. Row 2: Shawn Beck, Jordan Creviston, Molly Holthaus, Haley Mettendorf, Crystal Hubbartt and Lukas Hamlin. Row 3: Jason Grotts, Ethan Lawrence, AJ Hahn, Michael Baker, Dakota Pruemer, Andrew Mathis and AJ Miller.*



*Students representing Shelby Electric Cooperative meet with Senator Dale Righter during Youth Day.*

to learn more about what a cooperative business model is and how it works," said Marla Eversole, who coordinates Youth Day for the cooperative.

"The students from across the state who are going on the trip to D.C. will organize the cooperative, elect directors and hire a manager to

run the cooperative," said Eversole.

For more information about the "Youth to Washington" tour visit [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop).

To learn more about Shelby Electric Cooperative "like" them on facebook, [www.facebook.com/YourCoop](http://www.facebook.com/YourCoop) or search Shelby Electric Cooperative.



REAL LIFE  REAL POWER

## Getting real with Marla – during National Electrical Safety Month

**H**ave you ever wondered how **clothes dryer fires** can ignite so quickly? Here is an experiment that will help you understand. Next time you need to start a fire outside, use a ball of dryer lint as the “kindling.” Dryer lint ignites very quickly! The US Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends these dryer tips:

- Clean the lint screen/filter before or after EACH load of laundry. A sign of a blocked screen or duct work is damp laundry at the end of a typical drying cycle.
- Replace accordion-type, flexible ducting material with rigid metal duct. Flexible duct allows lint to become trapped easier and is more susceptible to kinks or crushing.
- Take special care with laundry that has been soiled with flammable chemicals such as gasoline, cooking oils, cleaning agents or finishing oils and stains. If possible, wash the soiled laundry more than once and hang the laundry outside to dry. If a dryer must be used,

use the lowest heat setting and a cool-down cycle at the end.

Install **smoke detectors** and check the batteries in existing units. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention states that 37 percent of home fire deaths occurred in homes without smoke alarms.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that 4,700 residential fires are caused by **extension cords** each year. Overheating occurs when the cord is overloaded. Extension cords should not be treated equally. An appliance may need more watts than an extension cord is rated to handle. If an extension cord feels hot, disconnect the appliance and unplug the extension cord. Throw away cords that have become brittle or cracked.

Summer storms can approach quickly. If caught outside while it is **lightning**, move to a low point. Stay away from trees and metal, including tools, golf clubs, fishing rods, metal sheds and poles. Inside the home, stay away from windows

and doors. If possible, unplug electronics before the storm arrives. Avoid contact with electrical cords and equipment and plumbing during the storm. Corded phones should only be used in an emergency.

In the case of **downed power lines**, contact emergency personnel or call Shelby Electric Cooperative at 1-800-677-2612. Never attempt to move them. Never assume they are not charged, even if your power has gone out. If your vehicle is in contact with the downed line(s), stay in the vehicle! Only exit if it becomes unsafe (such as fire). Exit by jumping out with both feet together and shuffle away. Do not make contact with the vehicle and the ground at the same time.

Please keep these tips in mind and take time to help educate any children and teenagers about the importance of these safe practices.

*~ Marla Eversole, Member Services Representative*

## Mark your calendars now for your cooperative's Annual Meeting

**P**lan on attending Shelby Electric Cooperative's 74th Annual Meeting of members to be held on Friday, June 15, 2012. This year's meeting will again be held at Forest Park in the historic Chautauqua building.

Be on the lookout for your annual meeting notice, which will be arriving in the mail later this month. The notice will contain information

about the cooperative, a meeting agenda, a map with directions and important registration information.

As in previous years, a barbecue pork chop dinner will be served between 11:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. prepared by the Pork Producers of Shelby County. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. with the business meeting scheduled for 1 p.m.

The “Energy Efficiency Wall” will

be set up in the registration area again this year with guest Doug Rye visiting with members about energy efficiency tips. Doug has agreed to stop by our registration tent after spending Thursday evening presenting an energy efficiency workshop at the Senior Center (see related story on page 16b).