

# WIEC NEWS

P.O. Box 338 ■ Carthage, Illinois 62321 ■ www.wiec.net ■ 800/576-3125

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## WIEC holds 17th Annual Safety Fair

*Kids learn to Live Smart, Keep Safe and Have Fun*

On September 28th, 225 5th graders from seven elementary schools in WIEC's service territory descended on the north edge of Carthage for the 17th Annual Safety Fair. Each year, students hear about different safety topics, including electrical safety, bike safety, internet safety, safe boating practices, farm safety and emergency (855-60) preparedness.

*See additional photos on page 16c.*



▲ While waiting for their turn to go through the Carthage Clipper Fire Department's Smoke House, these students try on the rubber gloves that our linemen must wear when working with live electrical wires.



▲ Chris Egelston impressed the crowd with his magic and his humor to enforce his message of reaching for success - drug free.



◀ WIEC serves students, teachers, chaperones, bus drivers and presenters a lunch of hot dogs, chips, applesauce and a drink.



**Western Illinois**  
ELECTRICAL COOP.  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

524 North Madison | P.O. Box 338  
Carthage, IL 62321  
www.wiec.net | 800/576-3125

**OFFICE HOURS**  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Monday - Friday  
**DURING OFFICE HOURS,**  
**OR AFTER HOURS**  
**TO REPORT OUTAGE**  
217-357-3125  
800-576-3125

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- **Rob Gronewold** —  
President, Carthage
- **Jay Morrison** —  
Vice President, Niota
- **Janet Spory** —  
Secretary/Treasurer, Sutter
- **William R. Newton** —  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer,  
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- **Dave Biery** — Director,  
Carthage
- **Calvin Baumann** —  
Director, Basco
- **Mike Ford** — Director, Lomax

**STAFF**

- **Paul Dion** — Manager
- **Tommie Long** —  
Manager of Operations
- **Becky Dickinson** —  
Office Manager

**MAP LOCATION CONTEST**

Every month we are printing four member's map location numbers in the newsletter. If you find your map location number call the WIEC office by the 25th of the following month, tell us where it is and we will give you a \$10.00 bill credit. Keep on reading the WIEC News.

**Welcome New Members**

Stephen Akers, Plymouth  
Seldon Conover, Burlington IA  
DeDe Doak, Mt Union, IA  
Linda Brooks Housewright, Carthage  
Jack Malinao, Dallas City  
Joe A & Tammy K Martin, Niota  
Marvin & Janet Moffitt, Vinton, IA  
Mike Phillips, Bowen  
Jessica Rankin, Carthage

Elizabeth A Watts-Rieke, Dallas City  
Alex Ruebush, Blandinsville  
Zachary Smith, Dallas City  
Corey Stenger, Avon  
Danny & Kris Stevens, Hamilton  
Angela J Stoney, Stronghurst  
Matthew Swisher, Carthage  
Jessica & CJ Warden, Nauvoo  
Travis Watson, Niota



**Energy Efficiency**  
*Tip of the Month*



Use motion sensors on your lights to **(3911-33)** save on your electric bill. These sensors turn on lights automatically when someone enters a room and turns them off after a person leaves.

**Source: U.S. Department of Energy**

**WIEC's office will be closed**  
**November 11 in observance of**  
**Veteran's Day.**

**The Office will also be closed on**  
**November 24th for Thanksgiving.**  
**The office will reopen on Friday,**  
**November 25th.**







▲ To keep our fair moving in a timely manner, these Illini West Students volunteered to chaperone the 5th graders to the different presentations.



Carthage Clipper Fire Department's Smoke House ▶



▲ Kyle Finley and his Live Line Demo also shows the kids the power of electricity. Here, he shows that Mylar balloons become energized when in contact with electric lines.

## Thank You

A big thank you goes out to the people and the organizations that are such an integral part of the fair. Without them, the Safety Fair would not be possible.

- Sly Fox Food Service – ordering and preparing the food
- Refreshment Services Pepsi-donating bottled water
- Illini West High School Student Council and their sponsor, MJ Palmer
- Marine Bank & Trust - supplying paper goods

We would also like to thank the following presenters for donating their time:

- State Trooper Todd Adkisson
- State Trooper Brad Beekman
- Eric Myer, Conservation Officer
- Carthage Clipper Fire Department
- Dawn Weinberg, University of Illinois Extension
- Maria Hopp, 9-1-1 coordinator – Hancock Co.
- Hancock Co. Ambulance Service

...and finally acknowledge all the WIEC employees and board members who work very hard on the Safety Fair each year.

# Eight 2012 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

**W**IIEC Manager Paul Dion has announced that the Illinois electric cooperatives will again in 2012 award seven academic scholarships to high school seniors through a memorial scholar-



ship fund designed to financially assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.” In addition, an eighth scholarship – to assist with costs in attending an electric lineworker school – will also be offered.

The eight scholarships of \$1,250 each will be awarded in 2012 through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Four scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative. A fifth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee.

The sixth and seventh scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college (9511-37) who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

A new eighth annual scholarship, the “LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker’s Scholarship,” was awarded for the first time in 2011. This \$1,250 scholarship will help pay for costs to attend the lineworker’s school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Ill. LaVern McEntire served as a lineman for McDonough Power Electric Cooperative from 1949 until 1991. He and his wife, Nola, endowed the new scholarship to financially assist deserving individuals in becoming trained lineworkers. Sons and daughters of co-op members; relatives of co-op employees or directors; and individuals who have served or are serving in

the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible for the lineworker’s scholarship.

“We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships,” says Dion. “WIEC and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth through programs like this one. In addition, we are very pleased to offer the electric lineworker’s scholarship. It will benefit not only electric cooperative youth but also those fine men and women who have served their country through their military service and may now be wanting to become a trained lineworker.”

For more information regarding the scholarships, contact the WIEC office. All necessary paperwork has also been sent to area high school guidance counselors and is also available for download at the cooperative’s website at [www.wiec.net](http://www.wiec.net).

## Seal cracks to save energy, money

**F**inding and sealing air leaks can save you energy and money. Here’s a tip that can help keep your home cooler in summer and warmer in winter while lowering your utility bills.

Caulking cracks and openings can save you \$212 a year. Find cracks by waiting for a windy day and then carefully holding a lit incense stick or a smoke pen next to your windows, doors, electrical outlets, and other spots where outside air may infiltrate. If the smoke stream moves (3811-44) horizontally, you’ve found a leak that needs to be sealed.

Experts recommend using waterproof, flexible, and long-lasting silicone caulk to seal cracks and gaps that are less than one-quarter-inch wide. Remove any old caulk and clean the surface before applying new caulk.

Fresh caulk takes several hours, or longer, to dry, so it’s best to do the job on a dry day when humidity is relatively low and the temperature is above 45 degrees F. In addition to caulk, you can use low-expansion spray foam to seal leaks.

**For other tips on how to save energy — and money — visit [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov) OR Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives energy-saving website, [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).**

