



Safety Fair

Safety Fair began in 1994 to familiarize grade school students on being safe in the world around them. Now, after 5,500 kids and countless hot dogs later, the WIEC Safety Fair (10527-22) is still reminding kids to “Live Smart, Keeping Safe and Having Fun.”

This year’s fair was held Sept. 20 with five elementary schools and 150 students learning about topics such as bicycle

safety; how to make a 9-1-1 call and what happens next; ATV safety including the importance of wearing proper helmets; how critical it is to wear the proper size of life jackets and other safety gear. The students also could play “Farm Safety Jeopardy” as a fun way to learn about how to stay safe on a farm.

The day started out with a presentation by Steve Hancock of Corn Belt Energy

in Bloomington, Ill. who brought an energized electrical system and showed the kids the power of 7,200 volts. At lunchtime, WIEC serves the students, their teachers and chaperones a hot dog lunch on a frisbee to keep as a memento of their day. The day ended with Chris Egelston who used his magic to remind kids (3613-52) to stay drug-free with his own brand of laughter and fun.



Continued on 20B ►



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

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

BUSINESS OFFICE

217-357-3125

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

800-576-3125

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Kent Flesner** —
President, West Point
- **Mark Burling** —
Vice President, Carthage
- **Janet Spory** —
Secretary/Treasurer, Sutter
- **William Newton** —
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer,
Burnside
- **Rob Gronewold** —
Director, Carthage
- **Kim Gullberg** —
Director, Stronghurst
- **Jay Morrison** —
Director, Niota

STAFF

- **Todd Grotts** — Manager
- **Ryan Biery** — Manager
of Operations
- **Becky Dickinson** — Finance/
Accounting Manager

MAP LOCATION CONTEST

Every month we are printing four members' 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.

"Safety Fair" photo continued from 20A



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

- Sly Fox Food Service – ordering and preparing the food
- Illini West High School Student Council and their sponsor, Shari Shupe

We would also like to thank the following presenters for donating

their time:

- Melinda Bickel – Bickel Cycling and Fitness, Burlington, Iowa
- Dawn Weinberg, University of Illinois Extension
- James Blakeley of the IL Department of Conservation
- Maria Hopp, 9-1-1 coordinator – Hancock Co.
- Hancock Co. Ambulance Service
- Brian Smith – Smith Brothers Honda, Quincy, Ill.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Cooler temps are just around the corner! Is your home's heating system ready? Remember to replace furnace filters once a month or as recommended. If you heat your home with warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean them regularly to increase efficiency.



Welcome New Members

August 2018

Jared Buchanan - Carthage
Amanda & Michael Coxsey - New
London, IA
Job Dunlavey - Colchester
Erik Faul - Carthage
Aeriel & Jeremy Ferguson - Niota
David J & Cathy Hardle - Saratoga, WY
Kieffer Harman - Carthage

Michael Craig Harmon - Hamilton
Link Media Outdoor - Bourbonnais, IL
Lisa & Tim Lomax - Hamilton
Marti L. & Paul Mcquay - Albany, OR
Cecil Glen Pippenger - Cameron, IL
Steve & Megan Ritter - Hamilton
Kara Vahle - West Point, IL
Jason Wagy - Wayland, IA
Kenneth E. Wills Jr - Stronghur.
Dustin Wright - Warsaw

TWELVE IEC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR 2019

Western Illinois Electrical Coop. has announced that the Illinois electric cooperatives in 2019 will award 11 academic scholarships worth \$2,000 each to high school seniors. These memorial scholarships were designed to financially assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.” In addition, a 12th scholarship will be offered to assist with costs in attending an electric lineworker school.

Six scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the co-op. A seventh 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 or director. Four additional scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community (3913-32) college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

The 10th annual scholarship, the

“LaVern and Nola McEntire Line-worker’s Scholarship,” will award a \$2,000 scholarship that will help pay for costs to attend the line-worker’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 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 Todd Grotts, WIEC general manager. “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 line-worker’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, visit www.wiec.net.
Deadline to apply is December 31, 2018.



happy
**VETERANS
★ DAY ★**

**WIEC office
will be closed
Monday, November 12
in honor of
Veterans Day.**

A graphic with a dark blue background and a white, red, and blue striped sunburst pattern at the top. It features a white banner with the text "happy VETERANS ★ DAY ★" and a white star on each side. Below the banner, the text "WIEC office will be closed Monday, November 12 in honor of Veterans Day." is written in white and yellow.

*Give
Thanks*
→ THANKSGIVING DAY ←

WIEC office will be closed
November 22
in observance of Thanksgiving.
Our office will reopen on
Friday, November 23.
WIEC directors and employees wish
our members a blessed Thanksgiving.
As always, in case of power emergencies,
call 1-800-576-3125

A graphic with a dark background featuring pumpkins, autumn leaves, and a warm glow. It has a white banner with the text "Give Thanks" in a cursive font and "→ THANKSGIVING DAY ←" below it. Below the banner, the text "WIEC office will be closed November 22 in observance of Thanksgiving. Our office will reopen on Friday, November 23. WIEC directors and employees wish our members a blessed Thanksgiving. As always, in case of power emergencies, call 1-800-576-3125" is written in white.

Make your yard work for you

“Location, location, location” is a mantra of real estate, but it also applies to shade your home. Besides providing beautiful color, positioning the right combination of plants and trees strategically can yield shade and unearthen energy savings.

The U.S. Department of Energy determined that proper placement of just three trees on a property can save an average household \$100-\$200 in yearly energy costs.

- ✓ Use trees and plants to shade a window air conditioner to increase its efficiency by as much as 10 percent. But keep the plants more than three feet from the air conditioner.
- ✓ Shrubs and trees can form windbreaks or protective walls that keep wind chill away from a home. Evergreens, especially when combined with a fence to deflect or even lift wind over a home, are particularly effective. Leave two to five times the mature heights of the trees or

shrubs between the windbreak and your home.

- ✓ When selecting shade trees, keep in mind the mature height of the tree and the shape of its canopy in relation to your home’s height. These factors are important because they influence how far from the house you decide to plant a tree. Shade trees can drop the surrounding air temperature by as much as 9 degrees.
- ✓ Shading takes time – a 6 to an 8-foot deciduous tree planted near a house will begin shading windows in a year, but it may take 5-10 years (3821-43) to shade the roof.
- ✓ Make planting shade trees due west of west-facing windows your first priority.
- ✓ Select a tree that can be planted within 20 feet of the window and that will grow at least 10 feet taller than that window. If you have space, use as many trees as needed to a continuous row

along with all major west- and east-facing windows.

- ✓ To block summer heat while letting sun filter through in the winter months, use deciduous trees, or those that lose their leaves seasonally. Evergreens and shrubs are ideal for providing continuous shade and block heavy winds.
- ✓ Start planting savings and let your yard to all the work. But remember these two things:
- ✓ Always avoid planting near underground or overhead utility lines. Quick rule of thumb: the taller a tree will become, the further it needs to be from overhead lines. See the graphic for more information.
- ✓ Before you dig, call JULIE at 888 and WIEC (217-357-3125) to make sure there are no underground utility lines where the new landscaping will be.

Tall trees, such as:
maple, oak, spruce,
and pine

Plant the right tree in the right place

Plant taller trees away from overhead utility lines

