



Jay County REMC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**484 S 200 W
P.O. Box 904, Portland, IN 47371**

PHONE NUMBERS & HOURS

Local (260) 726-7121
Toll Free (800) 835-7362
Fax (260) 726-6240
E-mail remc@JayREMC.com
Web Site www.JayREMC.com

To report an outage or emergency

Call (260) 726-7121 or
(800) TEL-REMC (835-7362)

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Be ready to provide the following information:

1. Name under which the electric service is listed.
2. Map location number.
3. Your phone number in case we need to call you back.
4. The type of problem you are experiencing, e.g., flickering lights, complete power outage, etc.
5. Hang up when all information has been recorded — other members may be trying to contact the REMC, too.

**Office hours: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday**

CO-OP NOTES

Important dates

Electric bills due the fifth of every month.
Read meter on the 20th of every month.

Congratulations

Ron Hurero of Winchester won the cordless phone given away at the Randolph County Fair. Terry Richards of Portland won the cordless phone given away at the Jay County Fair.

Winning free installation and 90 days service from Omnicity at the Jay County Fair were: Alice Poole, Laura Laux, Ann Lugar, Paul Copeland, Dave Bergman, Don Wagner, Regina Dunlavy, Chare Niccum, Kim Cooper, Lonnie Mertz, Althia Millsap, Laurel Walters, Jennifer Wagner, Jane Jackson, Lisa McGill, Jeff Wehrly, Lisa Gannon and Dianna Glessner.

Thank you to everyone who stopped by the booth.

\$50 cash drawing winner

Congratulations to Tom Hidy of Bryant for winning the \$50 monthly drawing in **Electric Consumer** for bills paid between July 20 and July 30.

co-opNews

Free Automatic Payment Plan now available

The Automatic Payment Plan (APP) is a service that draws funds from your checking or savings account to pay your monthly electric bill.

The payment is made automatically each month. This service is available to any customer, including those enrolled in the budget billing plan. There is no charge for this service from Jay County REMC or your financial institution.

Once you are enrolled in the APP, you will receive a bill each month that says, "Bank draft do not pay." We will withdraw payments from your account one to three days prior to the due date on your bill.

If you are interested in the APP, fill out the authorization form below and **attach a check marked "VOID," or a deposit slip** from your bank account. Mail these items to Jay County REMC at P.O. Box 904, Portland, IN 47371.

The enrollment process may take approximately two billing cycles to complete. Meter readings are still required. Please read your meter and send or phone reading to the REMC by the 5th of each month.

If you have questions concerning the Automatic Payment Plan, contact Carla Sibery, billing coordinator, at (260) 726-7121 or (800) 835-7362.

Authorization for enrollment in the Automatic Payment Plan

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone no. () _____ Jay County REMC Account No. _____

Your Financial Institution _____

Account No. _____ Checking _____ Savings _____

I authorize Jay County REMC to draw monthly bank drafts on my account shown above for the payment of my monthly electric bill. I understand that I can discontinue my participation in the APP by notifying Jay County REMC in writing. Both Jay County REMC and my financial institution may also terminate this agreement with 10 days written notice. I understand that Jay County REMC reserves the right to limit participation in the APP to customers whose accounts are in good standing.

Signature _____ Date _____

Home Energy Seminar

To be held at

Jay County REMC

**Oct. 18
6 p.m.**



- Building a new home?
- Upgrading your heating and cooling system?

**This free seminar is for you! Food, door prizes and more!
More details will be in the October issue of *Electric Consumer*. Please
RSVP to (260) 726-7121 or (800) 835-7362**

Tankless water heaters ... the rest of the story

Recently, we have received numerous calls from members about tankless water heaters. The tankless water heaters have been recently promoted by well-known radio talk shows. There is some crucial information that we believe needs to be shared regarding the tankless water heater.

For electric tankless water heaters, the ADVANTAGES over an electric tank style unit are:

1. Requires less space for installation.
2. Can produce hot water continuously.

The electric tankless water heater's DISADVANTAGES compared to an electric tank style are:

1. Requires nearly five times more demand for electricity during operation — 20 kw or more compared to 4.5 kw.

2. For some homes, an electric breaker or fuse panel upgrade may be required as their existing panels may not be large enough. These tankless units can consume between 100 and 150 amps while they're operating. One hundred fifty amp panels and smaller cannot handle them. There is also a possibility that with a 200 amp panel, lights dimming and other low voltage incidents may occur.

3. The flow rate of hot water at showerheads may be a lot less compared to your present flow or your expected flow. Tankless water heaters are very sensitive to how fast water flows through them. The slower the flow, the hotter the final water temperature.

4. Any electric cost savings between a tankless and a tank type water heater are due to standby losses of the tank model. It takes the same amount of electricity from both units to produce hot water. But today's electric tank type water heaters use foam insulation which is very effective in keeping water hot for longer periods of time than the less effective insulation of several years ago. The California Energy Commission warns consumers that sometimes electric tankless water heaters won't save much energy or money compared to tank style models.

5. When two or more tasks requiring hot water are performed at the same time, the water temperature from a tankless electric water heater gets cooler for both tasks. The temperature of hot water from tank style electric water heaters are not affected by simultaneous multiple tasks.

6. Tankless electric water heaters are much more expensive to purchase than tank style models. And they are more complicated in their construction making homeowner maintenance more important. The present water heater service industry does not have the same large network of skilled servicemen available for tankless units that exists for tank style models.

7. Tankless water heaters are NOT instant. If a tankless unit is installed in a basement the same distance from a shower as a tank model, it will take more time for hot water to reach the showerhead with the tankless unit. Tank type water heaters send hot water into the plumbing lines as soon as the shower faucet is turned onto hot. But tankless units require a little more time to start sending hot water into the lines because they have to make it first.

8. In winter, as the incoming water temperature drops, the maximum temperature of the tankless water heater's capability drops also. Colder winter water requires more heat to warm it up to 120 degrees. The tankless water heater cannot compensate for this colder water unless the flow rate is slowed down. Lower flow rates are frustrating to homeowners.

9. The electric cost savings promoted in dollars or percents in tankless water heater sales literature is based on a U.S. average cost of electricity at \$0.0841 per kwh. The actual savings between tankless and tank type electric water heaters is so low, the payback advantage actually is several years.

10. If homeowners in large numbers choose tankless electric water heaters, our electric rates will go up.

Most hot water is consumed in the morning when we awaken and again in the evening after we return home from work and school. These

two time periods are REMC's daily peak times for providing electricity to our customers' homes. Most hot water produced by a tank type unit occurs while we sleep and are away at work or school. So the electricity we demand for hot water production will be less at those two peak times of the day from a tank type unit.

Tankless units have no hot water stored and must consume all the electricity to produce it during the peak time periods with a five times larger heater. This may cause power availability challenges for Jay County REMC wholesale provider, Wabash Valley Power Association. The solution could be for Wabash Valley Power Association to buy more expensive electric power on the deregulated wholesale market to meet the demands at those two peak periods of each day or invest in construction of another electric power plant. Either choice could be extremely expensive. — *Courtesy of Bob Geswein from Harrison REMC.*

Y2K5 bugs educate about energy

The NEED Project promotes an energy conscious and educated society by creating effective networks of students, educators, business, government and community leaders to design and deliver objective, multisided energy education programs. Eaton Elementary School participates in this worthwhile nationwide project. The local group, while usually referred to as the NEED Group, is known as We Are EARTH. (Energy Aware, Recycling To Help). Participants are known as the Y2K5 Energy Bugs.

As a part of their participation in The NEED Project, they plan and carry out a number of activities designed to educate students at Eaton Elementary school about energy and its uses. The group consists of students who plan, put together, and carry out these activities. These students spend many hours after school and during recess to accomplish these tasks. They also have an active parent committee that provides much needed support.

The local group has been active for 11 years, and has been honored with state and/or national awards each of these years. The first year, it was named Rookie School of the Year for Indiana, and third runner-up nationally. Each year since, including 2005, it has been named as Elementary School of the Year for Indiana in the field of energy education. In 2002 and 2003, it was Elementary School of the Year for Indiana, and a finalist for National honors. It was selected as the Elementary School of the Year for the State of Indiana, and the Elementary School of the Year at the National Level for 2004. All of the previous years the students involved have attended the National Youth Awards Program in Washington, D.C., where they received their award. Students and parents are working together to help protect the planet. One such parent is Jay County REMC member Carrie Summers of Albany.

The NEED program includes innovative curriculum materials, professional development,



Eaton Elementary's NEED students.

evaluation tools, and recognition. NEED teaches the scientific concepts of energy and provides objective information about conventional and emerging energy sources. The program also educates students about energy efficiency and conservation, and provides tools to help educators, energy managers and consumers use energy wisely.

Energy is the vital link between everything that happens in this world, but there is no single or simple world vision. Energy choices and challenges will become increasingly complicated as the nation and the world balance the expanding need for energy supply with the importance of increasing energy efficiency and conservation. The energy world is ever-expanding, and NEED's goal is to prepare future leaders to make those difficult decisions, train educators to teach energy with a balanced perspective, and reach parents and community decision makers through energy outreach and education programs.

Jay County REMC salutes the energized students of Eaton Elementary in their efforts to promote the importance of energy awareness. Visit www.need.org/eaton to find out more about Eaton Elementary's energy program.



Don't forget your new **CALLING CARD** from Jay County REMC.

When you sign up for Jay County REMC long distance program, you will receive a calling card with a rate of 9.5¢* per minute. Parents, you won't be getting those collect calls from the dorm anymore. Stay connected with your kids—they can call anytime, anywhere while away from home for a great low rate. And, enjoy these other great features:

- As low as 4.9¢* per minute when you sign-up for a one-year term and Ebill paperless
- Toll-free number as low as 5.9¢* per minute
- Calling card for only 9.5¢ per minute
- You don't have to be a Jay County REMC customer to sign up!

Call Today!
1-888-610-4529



*Taxes and other regulatory charges not included. Certain restrictions and early termination fees may apply.
Please call for details. In partnership with TransWorld Network.

SIDE LINES

Courtesy of
Berne Chamber of Commerce

Sept. 18: **Bluegrass Jamboree-Limberlost State Historic Site in Geneva.** 2-4 p.m. Info: (260) 368-7428.

Courtesy of Portland Chamber of Commerce

Sept. 9-11: **Bryant Loblolly Days.** Family fun, car show, food, homemade crafts, live entertainment, parade, no admission charge. Info: (260) 997-6476.

Sept. 10: **Museum of Soldier Chicken BBQ.** 4-7 p.m. Info: (260) 726-4816.

Sept. 17: **Jay County Gospel Fest at Jay County Fairgrounds.** Family fun, five-six gospel groups. Info: (260) 726-1259 or 726-7761.

Sept. 22-24: **UKC World Coonhound Championship Finals at Jay County Fairgrounds.** Nations

top 100 hounds compete for 2005 World Championship Title. Info: (260) 726-3547.

Sept. 24-25: **Balbec Days.** Located north of Pennville. Homemade food, flea market, garden tractor pulls. Site of the historic underground railroad cabin. Info: (260) 731-7786.

Courtesy of Winchester Chamber of Commerce

Sept. 8: **Randolph County Adult Literacy Annual Adult Spelling Bee at Willard School.** 7 p.m. Info: (765) 584-1878.

Sept. 9: **YMCA Fall Soccer starts.** Info: (765) 584-9622.

Sept. 10: **Saratoga Lions Club 80th Annual Chicken BBQ.** Lions Club Building. 4-7:30 p.m. Info: (765) 584-0234.

Sept. 17: **Winchester Lions Club Mint Sales.** WalMart and Marsh parking lots. Info: (765) 584-7061.

\$50 monthly drawing for bills dated Sept. 20 and paid by Sept. 30.

NAME: _____

ACCOUNT NO.: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NO.: _____

Note: To be eligible for the drawing, your coupon and payment must be in the office by 4:30 p.m. on the last working day of the month.

Crying Baby Productions presents 'Fiddler on the Roof'

Crying Baby Productions, directed by Linda Priest Rodden, will present ***Fiddler on the Roof***, in the Hall-Moser Theater of Arts Place, Portland, on Sept. 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 17. Performances will begin at 7 p.m. with the Sunday performance set for 2 p.m.

Tickets are priced at \$8 for adults and \$6 for students. They are available at Arts Place.

For more show information visit the Crying Baby Productions Web site at: <http://cryingbaby0.tripod.com>.

Salute to electric employees

The first Monday in September has been set aside to honor the labor force in the United States. They are the people who are working to keep this nation a formidable business power. The Jay County REMC would like to take this time to thank the workforce for the effort they put into to assuring quality and service in the United States. A special thank you for the fine employees of the Jay County REMC. They not only work hard at the REMC but they work hard for their families and their community. A special salute to our hard working troops overseas defending our nation.

Thank you and keep up the great work!

Mark Arnold, business manager

Hildy Bantz, cost accountant

Phillip Cowan, journeyman/lineman

Cindy Denney, director of marketing and customer services

Ron Fields, journeyman/lineman

Rose Gregory, cashier

Jason Haggard, journeyman/lineman

Jim Hartvig, journeyman/lineman

Ron Laux, journeyman/lineman

Vicki Leonard, accounts receivable

Missy May, operations coordinator

Phil Miller, meterman/purchasing agent

Duane Monroe, apprentice

Dwayne Muhlenkamp, operations superintendent

Nathan Myers, groundsman

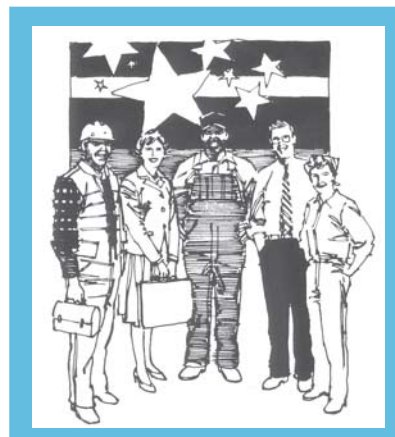
John Nill, president/CEO

Lynn Pinkerton, membership coordinator

Carla Sibery, billing coordinator

Phil Strait, journeyman/lineman

Working safely on the job is a matter of life and death. Making sure you have read and understand your company's safety policy and procedures will assist in performing your job in a safe and efficient manner. The United States has the best workforce in the world. Have a fun, great and safe Labor Day.



**Jay County REMC
will be closed
Monday, Sept. 5, to
celebrate Labor Day**