



Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC

Featured above: Nolin RECC Computer Systems Administrator
Adam Chadbourne, 4 years of service

News you can use

Visit us online for news, savings, and fun

Nolin RECC is proud to be associated with *Kentucky Living*, which ranks among the best magazines of its kind in the United States. But we also realize that the media we've traditionally relied on—from magazines printed on paper to the fliers we stuff inside your monthly bills—are no longer the only places you want to get information about your electrical co-op and energy-related issues.

That's why I'd like to point you to Nolin's Web site, www.nolinrecc.com. I think it would surprise you to see how much you'll find on our Web site.

You can pay your bill online, without having to bother with writing a check, finding a stamp, and tromping through the rain to your mailbox.

The Nolin Web site features a listing of the local businesses that participate in our Touchstone Energy Co-op Connections Card program, which offers our members discounts on many goods and services as well as pharmacy discounts on prescription drugs. You will find how-to tips for weatherizing your house. You can click a link to Togetherwesave.com, which will give you a room-by-room energy-saving tour of a home like yours.

There's a fun section called Kids Zone, where children can learn about energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electrical safety from animated robots Buzz and Sparky, as well as a talking light bulb named CFL Charlie.

We're partners with Lexington's WKYT-TV (Channel 27) through its FirstAlert DEFENDER Doppler radar. By simply clicking the FirstAlert logo on our home page, you can view a detailed, real-time map that will show you satellite pictures of the weather in your back yard—or in India.

If you're interested in green power, read online about our SimpleSaver program. SimpleSaver pays you to let us briefly control your central air conditioner and/or water heater during periods of peak energy demand. Through this program, you can make a little money through credits on some of your monthly electric bills and help the environment at the same time.

Then there's our EnviroWatts program, which allows you to buy blocks of energy generated through renewable resources. (Follow EnviroWatts posts on Twitter and Facebook, too. The Twitter address is www.twitter.com/envirowatts. On Face-

book, search for "EnviroWatts" using Facebook's search box, then become a fan.)

Power outages are never welcome in these parts, but if Mother Nature decides to cast her spell, we can do little about it. The Nolin Web site will keep you informed on outages and restoration efforts. In addition, you can view documents on storm safety, portable generator safety, and several other electrical safety related materials.

There are many other useful tools and information on the Nolin Web site. You'll just have to check it out for yourself at www.nolinrecc.com. ■



On the inside...

- Save with energy audits..... 28B
- A visit to the Capitol..... 28E
- County fair discount 28G

Cashing in on Energy Efficiency

Members make home improvements for long-term payback

Energy efficiency is more important today than ever with continuing increases in the costs of generating electricity. Although the electric rates in Kentucky are some of the lowest in the United States, the days of cheap power are gone with yesterday.

To offset electric consumption, Nolin members are taking advantage of home energy audits. Nolin Energy Management Coordinator Todd Drake has been performing energy audits since 1997, and says each year brings record numbers on the demand for home audits.

Glendale residents and co-op members George and Lana Dawson took advantage of Nolin's offer to conduct an energy audit on their home early this year. Drake's audit uncovered air leaks in the home as well as a faulty heating and cooling system; both were drastically driving up energy consumption.

"After replacing our HVAC unit with a new energy-efficient system and installing low-e windows, we saw a considerable reduction in our electric usage," says Mrs. Dawson. "It wasn't just one thing; it was several changes we made that added up to a big savings on our electric bill. We knew we needed some help, but just didn't know where to start. I am so glad I decided to pick up the phone and call Nolin RECC—they were here for us."

The Dawsons received a rebate from Nolin after making home improvements and installing their new HVAC equipment, but the biggest savings will be in their monthly electric bills. Over the upcoming years, they will save hundreds of dollars!

Drake says often times he finds problems relating to improper maintenance on HVAC systems, but more common problems are air leaks around windows and doors and improper insulation.

"Attic insulation is one area that generally needs to be addressed in homes—proper insulation value for

attics is R-38 and the depth of insulation will depend on the type used," says Drake.

When talking with members, Drake says they are surprised to find out the amount of electricity appliances use. "When I sit down with homeowners and break down the electric usage in their home, I can see the surprise on their faces as they start to realize how all the little things will start to add dollars on the electric bill" says Drake.

The Nolin RECC Web site, www.nolinrecc.com, features many programs and simple do-it-yourself ways to save on energy consumption. Click on Energy Savings and then go to the Touchstone Energy Savers link to access an online Home Energy Audit that will help you identify the best ways to manage and save energy in your home. Other links include lighting tips, heating and cooling recommendations, and steps for air sealing and insulation.

Members interested in learning more about the energy-efficient rebate programs Nolin offers are encouraged to call Todd Drake at (270) 765-6153. ■



Nolin RECC Energy Management Coordinator Todd Drake (left) discusses ways to save money on their electric bill with Lana and George Dawson. After making some recommended upgrades to their home, the Dawsons were able to cut their electric consumption nearly 50 percent in the first month.

Rate increase requested by power supplier

In May, our not-for-profit wholesale power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC), filed an application seeking to increase the base rate it charges to generate and transmit power to Nolin RECC.

EKPC is seeking to increase annual revenue by about \$49 million, to continue building equity and to continue meeting its debt covenant requirements.

If approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC), the proposed wholesale rate increase would be passed to retail members (including Nolin RECC) and would, if the entire \$49 million is approved, add 3.6 percent or approximately \$4 to the monthly bill of the average residential co-op member.

As a not-for-profit cooperative, Nolin must pass this increased cost of doing business to our members. As a result, Nolin is also filing a request with the PSC to raise our rates.

Any rate increase must be approved by the PSC, which will hold public hearings and collect detailed information before making a final decision.

One of the best ways to relieve rising energy costs is to improve the energy efficiency of your home or business through our Touchstone Energy Living programs. These programs include free home energy audits, which are discussed on the opposite page.

The average home in Kentucky has 30 percent leakage in the ductwork and 60 percent air infiltration. These leaks often can be repaired inexpensively, and those changes can dramatically improve energy efficiency. We offer Simple Savings energy information bulletins that explain how to fix common problems. You can download them by going to www.simplesavings.coop or at www.nolinrecc.com

In addition, Nolin offers leveled billing to help you avoid the fluctuations in your monthly bill. No matter what the weather is outside, you'll know what to expect on your electric bill.

Just as the increasing cost of energy is affecting your budget, rising costs are having a dramatic impact on Nolin's budget too.

We're committed to providing you the highest quality service while doing our best to contain costs. If you have any questions about the proposed rate increase, please do not hesitate to call Nolin at (270) 765-6153. ■



05-21-0332-04

Weather Summer Storms Safely

04-19-0275-01

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) encourages consumers to practice caution and safety during summer storms, which at times can be severe. Beware of flooded areas caused by heavy rains—water and electricity do not mix! Below is safety advice to use following a summer storm:

Flooded areas

Be careful when attempting to walk in flooded areas and remember that submerged outlets or electrical cords could energize the water.

Wet electrical equipment

Do not use electrical appliances that have been wet. Water can damage the motors in electrical appliances, such as furnaces, freezers, refrigerators, washing machines, and dryers. Electrical parts can pose a shock hazard or overheat and cause a fire.

A qualified service repair dealer should recondition electrical equipment that has been wet. Certain equipment will require complete replacement, while a trained professional can recondition other devices.

Portable generators

Take special care with portable electric generators, which can provide a good source of power, but if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can back-feed along power lines and electrocute anyone coming in contact with them, including line workers making repairs. A qualified, licensed electrician should install your generator to ensure that it meets local electrical codes.



Thunder and lightning rolling your way?

All thunderstorms produce lightning and all have the potential for danger. Those dangers can include tornadoes, strong winds, hail, wildfires, and flash flooding, which is responsible for more fatalities than any other thunderstorm-related hazard.

In the United States, lightning kills 300 people and injures 80 on average, each year. And lightning's risk to individuals and property increases because of its unpredictability—it often strikes outside of heavy rainfall, up to 10 miles away.

Ready America, a national public service campaign from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), champions the 30/30 Lightning Safety Rule. ***Go indoors if, after seeing lightning, you cannot count to 30 before hearing thunder. Stay indoors for 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.***

It's also important to be familiar with the terms used to identify thunderstorm hazards. For instance, a thunderstorm watch means there is a possibility of a thunderstorm in your area. A thunderstorm warning means a thunderstorm is occurring or will likely occur soon. If you are advised to take shelter, do so immediately.

There are several things you can do to prepare your home for summer storms:

- Remove dead or rotting trees and branches that could fall and cause injury or damage during a severe thunderstorm.
- Secure outdoor objects that could blow away or cause damage.
- Shutter windows and secure outside doors. If shutters are not available, close window blinds, shades, or curtains.

Finally, as with all emergency situations, listen to the instructions given by local emergency management officials. For more tips on weathering storms safely, visit www.ready.gov.

Sources: Ready America, ESFI, and NRECA

A Capitol Tour



The 2010 Washington Youth Tour participants are: (front, left to right) Mariha Morgan, Ashley Gilmore, Destiny Nowlin, Danielle Wise, and Leah Carter. Middle, left to right: Robert Meekins, Lauren Kinser, Hanna Alcock, Mallory Chaney, Carly Brashear, and Michael Huff. Rear, left to right: Cameron McGaw, Taylor Sheeran, Emily Cooper, Elisabeth Hinkle, Kayla Doyle, and Meghan McCoy. Also participating in the competition but unable to make the trip to Frankfort were Alex Skillman, David Adams, Krystal Charles, and Amanda Casoni.

The Nolin RECC Washington Youth Tour was well-received this year by high school juniors as 21 students vied for one of five seats on a chartered bus heading for Washington, D.C., June 11.

A portion of the competition involved a complimentary trip to Frankfort in April for all participants. Students and chaperones spent the day touring the Capitol Building, the Governor's Mansion, and the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Lunch was provided at the Kentucky History Center and participants heard from various speakers, including The Honorable Alecia Webb-Edgington, State Representative (63rd District); The Honorable Sara Combs, Chief Judge, Kentucky Court of Appeals; Ms. Renee Shaw, producer and host, Kentucky Educational Television; and Ms. Megan Cummins, KEES coordinator, Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority.

Based on a personal interview, essay, and test, five students were awarded an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., on June 11-18. Those students were Emily Cooper, Michael Huff, Lauren Kinser, Destiny Nowlin, and Alex Skillman.

The Washington trip is packed with tours of historical monuments, buildings, and museums like the Smithsonian Institution, U.S. Capitol, Arlington National Cemetery, Jefferson Memorial, Ford's Theatre, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and many others. In addition, the teens enjoyed an evening of sight-seeing and dancing as they cruised along the Potomac River.

Nolin continues to stress higher education and is dedicated to the growth and development of youth. We stay active in our communities and schools by sponsoring programs like college scholarships, electrical safety classes, and business and economics seminars. The Washington Youth Tour is just one program that allows us to help local teens experience a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. ■



Ashley Gilmore (left) and Carly Brashear share a hug at Baskin-Robbins. Traditionally, Nolin treats the students to ice cream before heading home from Frankfort.

Touchstone Energy Honors Rick Ryan

The power of human connections... is the slogan for the brand Touchstone Energy, but Nolin RECC has been promoting *human connections* in our community since we first energized power lines 72 years ago.

Nolin was one of the first rural electric co-ops to join Touchstone Energy more than 10 years ago. Today, there are more than 700 cooperatives affiliated with this national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric co-ops providing affordable, reliable, and safe energy to members large and small.

One reason Touchstone Energy has become so recognizable locally as well as nationally is due in part to the efforts of co-op employees like Nolin RECC Vice President Marketing and Member Services Rick Ryan.

Rick was honored as a recipient of the 2010 Touchstone Energy Cooperatives Brand Champion award in May during the National Rural Electric Cooperatives Connect Conference in Kansas City. The Brand Champion award is a prestigious honor presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to the development, growth, and success of the Touchstone Energy brand.

Under the direction of Rick Ryan, Nolin is the leading Kentucky supporter of the Touchstone Energy Co-op Connections Card. Last year alone, nearly \$100,000 was saved by Nolin members using the Co-op Connections pharmacy discount for prescription drugs. The card is also honored at several local, state, and

national restaurants and businesses. Rick supports and promotes numerous community events under the Touchstone Energy banner, and continuously works to build brand recognition through co-op sponsored programs.



2010 Theme Park Discount Tickets



Nolin RECC members can save money by purchasing theme park tickets at discount prices. Parks include Kings Island and Holiday World. Discount tickets may be purchased at the cooperative offices in Elizabethtown and Radcliff during normal business hours.

	Nolin Discount price	Regular price
Adult	\$23	\$48.99
Children under 48"	\$23	\$31.99
Senior 62 and up	\$23	\$31.99
Children under 3	FREE	

These tickets are available only to members of Nolin RECC.



	Nolin Discount price	Regular price
Adult (one day)	\$35.50	\$41.95
Children under 54"	\$30.50	\$31.95
Senior 60 and up	\$30.50	\$31.95
Children under 3	FREE	

Admission to park includes free soft drinks while in the park. These tickets are available only to members of Nolin RECC.

Look out Below: Call Before You Dig

Whether it's a dreamed-of deck addition or a landscaping masterpiece, summer weather is a great time for outdoor improvement plans.

But if your planned projects include digging, like planting a tree or bringing in a backhoe for trench work, you'll have to wait a few more days so the job can be done safely. Underground utilities, such as buried gas, water, and electric lines, can be a shovel thrust away from turning a summer project into a disaster.

A few days prior to digging, call 811 to find out where utility lines run on your property.

Your call will be routed to a local "one call" center. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig and what type of work you will be doing, and affected local utilities will be notified.

In a few days, a locator will arrive to designate the approximate location of any underground lines, pipes, and cables with flags or marking paint so you will know what's below. After markings are in place, you can begin the project safely.

Although many homeowners tackling do-it-yourself digging projects are aware of "Call Before You Dig" services, the majority don't take advantage of the service. A national survey showed that only 33 percent of homeowners called to have their lines marked before starting digging projects, according to the Common Ground Alliance, a federally mandated group of underground utility and damage prevention industry professionals.

Although light gardening typically doesn't call for deep digging, other seemingly simple tasks like planting shrubs or installing a new mailbox post can damage utility lines. A severed line can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm diggers, and potentially result in fines and repair costs.

Never assume or guess the location or depth of underground utility lines. There's no need: the 811 service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted, and can help you avoid serious injury. For more information about local services, visit www.call811.com.

Sources: *Common Ground Alliance, SafeElectricity.org*



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

40-01-4259-00

Swimming Pools And Power Lines: A Dangerous Combination

Most people installing a swimming pool think about price and quality—not the overhead and underground power lines. PLEASE, before you even begin to think about location, consider the safety of your family and friends. Power lines directly over pools are not allowed by Nolin RECC, and all other overhead lines must be no less than 15 feet from the inner edge of the pool. Underground wiring shall not be located under the pool or under the area extending 5 feet horizontally from the inside wall of the pool. We must all abide by the rules and regulations of the National Electric Safety Code. Members are responsible for relocating pools not in compliance with safety codes.

The best advice we can give you about pools is to call the Nolin RECC office before selecting a pool site. A swimming pool located too close to an electric line can result in potentially hazardous situations involving shock or even electrocution.



HARDIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FAIR AND HORSE SHOW

Nolin RECC Member Discount: Opening Night Only—Monday, July 5

Demolition Derby • Mark Cromley • Miss Hardin County Fair Pageant • Miniature Horse Show
Parent-Child Lookalike Contest • Rides provided by Meyers International Midway

\$1.00 OFF REGULAR ADMISSION PRICE OF \$9.00

Opening Night Only • Limit one coupon per member • Additional fair coupons are available at the Nolin office



We've Got Your \$25 Number! \$25

WIN \$25 Worth of FREE Electricity

Nolin News features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are two randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at 765-6153, and win a \$25 CREDIT on your electric bill. You must identify your number and call by the 15th day of the month's issue containing your number. Account numbers could be anywhere in your *Nolin News*!

New Member Credits

All members signing up for new service with Nolin receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Nolin are automatically eligible to win a \$20 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Nolin member receives a bill credit on their next statement. Congratulations to our latest winner, **Mary L. Banfield, of Radcliff.**

Online payments

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at www.nolinrecc.com. Click on "YourAccount" to check your consumption history and make payments by debit card, Visa, or MasterCard. To apply for budget billing and automatic draft online, click on "Residential Bill Payment."

GRILLS!

Free Rotisserie with purchase of Large Grill

15-14-0031-01

We will be glad to assemble the grills for our customers with a 48-hour notice.

Stop by the Nolin RECC office in Elizabethtown to make your purchase. Visa and MasterCard accepted.



Come in and get your grill today!

Two sizes available!



The offices of Nolin RECC will be closed **Monday, July 5** in observance of Independence Day

HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC

ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

RADCLIFF OFFICE

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 351-2199
(Office closed from 12:30-1:30 daily)

TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER — (270) 769-6396

EMERGENCY TOLL-FREE CALLS — 1-800-572-1147

Web site: www.nolinrecc.com
e-mail: comments@nolinrecc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David P. Brown
Gene Straney
A.L. Rosenberger
Lawrence Ireland
Rick Thomas
Linda Grimes

ATTORNEY

John J. Scott

President & CEO

Michael L. Miller

