REMC offers NEW scholarship

WIN Energy REMC continuously looks for ways to support our community and what better way to do so than to support and assist our young people in their pursuit of higher education.

A new scholarship program is being implemented and is currently available to high school seniors of WIN Energy REMC members. Scholarships will be awarded in increments of $500 and recipients will be recognized at the WIN Energy REMC Annual Meeting on March 31.

Applicants must meet the following qualifications:

- The parents or legal guardians of the applicant must be WIN Energy REMC members.
- Applicant must be a 2012 graduating senior and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of a C or higher.
- Applicant must provide a current high school transcript.
- **Applicant must submit application and transcript to WIN Energy's Vincennes office no later than March 1**. Mail to: WIN Energy REMC, Attn: Scholarship Program, 3981 S. U.S. Highway 41, Vincennes, IN 47591.
- Recipient must be able to enroll as a full-time student in the fall of 2012. Proof of enrollment must be presented to WIN Energy REMC before scholarship funds are dispersed.
- Full- or part-time employees of WIN Energy REMC; or a spouse, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandchild, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew of an employee or board director of WIN Energy REMC are ineligible to apply.

Applications can be picked up at any of the three WIN Energy offices, printed from our website, **www.winenergyremc.com**, or obtained from the guidance offices at the local high schools. Applications will be accepted through March 1 and recipients will be selected upon review of the applications by the scholarship committee. Scholarship funds may be applied toward tuition or course fees at any recognized two- or four-year college or trade school and will be dispersed upon proof of enrollment.

Directors to be elected at 2012 annual meeting

The credentials and election committee for the WIN Energy REMC board of directors will accept petitions for directors in districts 3, 8, and 9. Any WIN Energy REMC member whose primary residence is in a district up for election can become a candidate.

If you would like more information, please call the office and set an appointment with David Jones, chief executive officer. At that time, the qualifications needed to become a cooperative board member will be reviewed with you, and, upon verification, you will be given a board of directors petition. The petitions must be returned to the REMC office by Wednesday, Feb. 15, no later than 1 p.m., EST.

The following districts are up for election at the 2012 annual meeting which will be held Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. EDT at Vincennes Lincoln High School Ader Auditorium:

District 3:	Decker, Johnson, and Vincennes townships in Knox County; Clay, Logan and Madison townships in Pike County.
District 8:	Curry and Fairbanks townships in Sullivan County; Prairie Creek and Prairieton townships in Vigo County.
District 9:	Honey Creek, Linton, Pierson and Riley townships in Vigo County; Perry township in Clay County.

Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives
The power of human connections®

WIN ENERGY REMC

"The Energy Company Of Choice"®

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

VINCENNES OFFICE
3981 S. U.S. HIGHWAY 41
VINCENNES, IN 47591

PRINCETON OFFICE
106 N. 2ND AVE.
PRINCETON, IN 47670

SULLIVAN OFFICE
2044 W. STATE ROAD 154
SULLIVAN, IN 47882

PHONE NUMBERS & HOURS

Local.....812-882-5140
Toll Free.....800-882-5140
Outage Express 888-456-9876
Fax..... 812-886-0306
Website ..... **www.winenergyremc.com**
Office hours: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. local time Monday-Friday

WHEN YOUR ELECTRICITY FAILS

Check your house fuses or breakers, and the breakers on the meter pole if you have such. The REMC's responsibility is to deliver power to the meter.

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

Call WIN Energy REMC's Outage Express at **888-456-9876** 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Outage Express number is only for reporting outages. Please call 800-882-5140 for all other business calls.

UNDERGROUND LINE LOCATING

Please call 811 at least two business days before you plan to dig.

METER READING DATES

Cycle 1: Jan. 1; **Cycle 2:** Jan. 6; **Cycle 3:** Jan. 15; **Cycle 4:** Jan. 24; **Cycle 5:** Jan. 1; **Cycle 6:** Jan. 31.

WIN ENERGY OFFICE CLOSINGS

New Year's holiday, Jan. 2; Good Friday, April 6; Memorial Day, May 28; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 3; Veterans Day, Nov. 12; Thanksgiving holidays, Nov. 22 and 23; Christmas holidays, Dec. 24 and 25; New Year's holiday, Dec. 31.

Space heaters create hazards at home and at work

While space heaters are usually small devices, using them incorrectly at home or in the workplace can create big risks. That's why WIN Energy REMC recommends homeowners and employers understand the potential danger and take steps to keep problems from occurring.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, space heaters cause less than a third of home heating fires, but they're responsible for nearly four out of five heating-related fire deaths.

Space heaters tend to be small and portable, making them very convenient to use. Unfortunately, their small size and convenience lead many people to underestimate the hazards surrounding them. They concentrate a tremendous amount of heat. If the heater comes in contact with combustible materials, it can start a fire. If people or pets touch the heater, they can be burned.

If you need to use a space heater, you can protect yourself and those around you by following a few basic safety tips:

- Always put space heaters on level floors made from a hard surface. Don't put them on carpeting, rugs, countertops, or furniture. Choose a location where people are unlikely to walk, so they won't trip over the heater.
- Keep the space heater at least three feet from any materials that can burn, including curtains and drapes, upholstery, bedding, clothing, paper, cardboard, aerosol cans, and flammable liquids.
- If you're using an electric space heater, plug it directly into a wall socket. Plugging it into a power strip or an extension cord can cause dangerous overheating.
- Don't put any objects on top of or next to a space heater.
- Make sure that small children and pets cannot get close to the heater.
- Do not leave the heater on while you are asleep, when you leave your home or workplace, or when you're in another part of the building.
- Be sure that the space heater has a switch that will shut the device off if it tips over.
- If the space heater is not working correctly, or if it is missing knobs, feet, or other parts, either replace it or bring it to a professional for repairs. Do not attempt to repair it yourself.
- If your heater runs on liquid fuel, be sure to use the right kind. Putting gas in a space heater designed to run on kerosene is extremely dangerous and could lead to an explosion. In addition, heaters using liquid fuels or propane cannot be used in confined spaces and must be vented properly to protect you from carbon monoxide gas.

Most of all, make sure your space heater has been approved by a recognized agency such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL). That way, you can be confident it has been tested thoroughly for safety. If you plan to use it at work, be sure it has been approved for commercial use.

Finally, remember that space heaters tend to be costly to operate, and there may be more affordable ways to improve the comfort of a particular room or work area.

Rebates and incentives are available in 2012

WIN Energy REMC is please to continue to offer rebates to our members for the installation or replacement of water heaters, heat pumps, geothermal heat pumps and central air units. The rebate amounts will remain the same in 2012.

We are also adding a rebate incentive for heat pump, or hybrid, water heaters. Heat pump water heaters are very energy efficient and can be installed as an all in one unit or a heat pump can be added to an existing electric water heater. Below is a chart of the rebates available in 2012.

Rebate Incentive Program 2012

Equipment	Conditions	Specs	Rebate Amount
Electric Water Heater	New home construction or replacing a water heater	0.90 energy factor or higher on 40-, 50- or 60-gallon units	$50
		0.90 energy factor or higher on an 80-gallon unit	$150
	New home construction or converting from gas to electric	.90 energy factor on a 52-gallon unit	FREE if picked up at the WIN Energy office
Heat Pump Water Heater	New home construction or replacing a water heater	All-in-one units	$400
		Split systems or retrofit units	$300
Geothermal Heat Pump	New home construction or an existing home	Any size	$1,000
Heat Pump	New home construction or replacing a heat pump or existing home with fossil fuel as primary heat	14/15 SEER	$300
		16 SEER	$350
		17 SEER or higher	$400
	Existing home replacing a standard electric furnace	14/15 SEER	$800
		16 SEER	$900
		17 SEER or higher	$1,000
Central Air	New home construction or existing home installing a central air unit	14/15 SEER	$200
		16 SEER	$250
		17 SEER or higher	$300

All rebate requests must be made in person at one of our offices located in Vincennes, Princeton or Sullivan.
A bill of sale is required and must include the following information:

*Installation date
*SEER rating
*Size of equipment
*Model and serial number
*Previous type of heating system (if replacing existing system)
*WIN Energy account number where unit was installed

****

- FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE ABOVE INFORMATION MAY RESULT IN FORFEITURE OF REBATE
- BY RECEIVING A REBATE, THE MEMBER AGREES TO PARTICIPATE IN WIN ENERGY'S LOAD MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
- ALL REBATE REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON WITHIN 30 DAYS OF INSTALLATION/PURCHASE DATE
- ALL INSTALLATIONS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION AND/OR INSPECTION
- PLEASE CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE ABOUT THESE PROGRAMS OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT *www.winenergyremc.com*
- REBATE PROGRAM ENDS DEC. 31, 2012, AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Air is drawn into your home from low areas, so inspect your foundation for potential air infiltration points. Fixing these leaks makes a bigger impact on your electric bill than sealing doors and windows! Caulk all cracks and gaps around your home including spaces around wires for telephone, electrical, cable and gas lines, water spigots, and dryer vents.

Find more ways to save at *togetherwesave.com*.

— Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

Employees recognized for 25 years of co-op service

WIN Energy REMC employees Susan Bolyard and Jay Singleton were recognized Nov. 14 at the Indiana Statewide Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives' Annual Meeting in Indianapolis for their 25 years of service to the cooperative.

Bolyard began her employment with Sullivan County REMC on Jan. 6, 1986, prior to the merger of Sullivan County REMC and Knox County REMC. She currently serves as WIN Energy's director of finance and administration.

WIN Energy REMC's Director of Finance and Administration Susan Bolyard, center, was honored by Indiana Statewide Board President Rodney Hager, left, and Indiana Statewide CEO Bruce Graham, right, for her years of service to the REMC at the statewide association's annual meeting.

Bolyard and her husband, Blaine, live in Sullivan. They have two daughters, Suzanne and Victoria; and two granddaughters, Lillianne and Layne.

Singleton began his employment with Knox County REMC on June 16, 1986, as an apprentice lineman. He is currently WIN Energy's lead lineman in the Vincennes District.

Singleton resides in Vincennes with his wife, Jo. They have three children – Jared, Tyler (wife Leigh Ann) and Kristen.

WIN Energy's management and directors appreciate the years of dedication and service that these two employees have provided to the cooperative and its members. Congratulations Susan and Jay!

Jay Singleton, WIN Energy's lead lineman in the Vincennes District, is also celebrating his quarter century mark with the cooperative.

Beard graduates from unique cooperative leadership program

Leslie Beard, manager of marketing and communications at WIN Energy REMC, recently completed her second year of the Rural Electric Leaders-In-Training Exchange (RELITE) program. She was one of 20 facilitators that graduated during the 2011 Recognition Banquet at the Indiana Statewide Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives' Annual Meetiing on Nov. 14 in Indianapolis.

RELITE is an extensive two-year leadership program designed to create a network of leaders among the rural electric cooperatives. This nationally-recognized leadership development program is coordinated by Indiana Statewide Association and includes employees from electric cooperatives throughout Indiana.

Beard completed 24 professional development days focusing on leadership skills, team building, public speaking, personal mission statements, business ethics, community service, industry knowledge, and electric safety.

WIN Energy REMC Marketing and Communications Manager Leslie Beard, center, was recognized by Indiana Statewide Board President Rodney Hager, left, and Indiana Statewide CEO Bruce Graham, right, for graduating from the RELITE program at the association's annual meeting.

Revealing R-values

Peel back insulation and reveal layers of cost savings

by Kris Wendtland

When the weather's brisk, it's smart to wear a coat. Your home needs the same kind of protection, too — insulation to keep cold air out and warm air in. Just as a coat closet features thin jackets for fall and heavy jackets for winter, different types of insulation, ranked by R-value, exist to keep your home comfortable and your electric bills affordable.

R-value reflects the ability of insulation and other parts of your home, like windows, to resist the transfer of heat. The rating depends on material, thickness, and density. A higher R-value indicates more effective insulation. Multiple layers of insulation may be combined for a higher cumulative R-value.

How insulation works

Metals and liquids easily transfer heat, making them bad insulators. Air, however, does not conduct heat, making it a strong insulator when isolated in small pockets.

Just as fur keeps animals warm, insulation holds heat in (or out) of a building. Fur is a collection of hair — tiny hollow cylinders. Air fills the cylinders and spaces in-between. The smaller the space for air in between the cylinders and the more spaces there are (longer hair equals more space), the greater the insulation.

Building insulation works on the same principle. Fiberglass insulation, for example, exists as a collection of hollow fiberglass cylinders.

Be careful to preserve the air — the bulk of your home's protection — when installing insulation. When an installer squeezes three inches of insulation into a one-inch space, critical air pockets are eliminated. For this reason, actual insulating R-values may not always match the label. Insulation must be installed correctly to maximize protection — and electric bill savings.

The value of R-Values

The first layer of insulation pays for itself fastest, saving more than half of the energy dollars spent on heating or air conditioning. However, as more insulation is added, efficiency gains dwindle.

Boosting the R-value of a wall from 0 to R-10 cuts 90 percent of heat loss from one side of the wall to the other. This makes an immediate difference you can feel. Adding an additional layer of R-15 insulation (a total R-value of 25) only cuts another six percent of heat transmission. Further increasing insulation thickness from R-25 to R-35 helps only by a little more than one percent.

In some regions with several months of very cold winds, increasing attic insulation values from R-25 to R-35 or even R-50 can be worth the investment over the life of your home. In most seasonal climates, however, replacing single-pane windows saves more energy than adding insulation in your attic, floors, or walls (assuming R-25 to R-30 is common throughout the home).

A typical single-pane window boasts an R-value of 0.9. In contrast, a triple-glazed pane assembly with low-emissivity (low-e) insulated coatings have an R-value of 8.3. Based on an electricity cost of 10 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), a home with 18 single-pane windows (4 square feet each) could waste $94.32 in unnecessary expense across three months (assuming 12 hours per day of a 40 degree indoor/outdoor temperature differential). A more efficient window assembly would cost $10.20 over the same time. After a year, savings from switching out the windows could surpass $300.

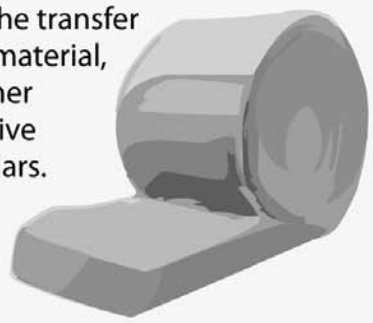
Energy auditors and electric cooperative staff are trained to discuss the pros and cons of energy efficiency upgrades. WIN Energy REMC also offers energy audits to reveal areas ready for improvement. To schedule an audit, call 800-882-5140. For additional insulation tips, visit **www.togetherwesave.com** and find out how little changes can add up.

— Sources: Jim Herritage, CEM, Energy Auditors, Inc.; Residential Energy: Cost Savings and Comfort for Existing Buildings by John Krigger and Chris Dorsi; University of Tennessee at Knoxville Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Kris Wendtland writes on energy efficiency issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

Comparing Insulation VALUE

Adding insulation? Check the material's R-value—the ability of insulation to resist the transfer of heat. R-value depends on material, thickness, and density. A higher R-value indicates more effective insulation, saving energy dollars.



Compare R-values and common uses for several types of insulation:

Type of Insulation	R-value per inch (range)	Common Uses	Installation Method
Batts, Rolls			
Fiberglass	3.17 (3.0-4.0)	Wall, floor, and ceiling cavities	Fitted between studs, joists, or rafters
Rock Wool	3.17 (3.0-3.7)	Wall, floor, and ceiling cavities	Fitted between studs, joists, or rafters
Cotton	3.2	Wall, floor, and ceiling cavities	Fitted between studs, joists, or rafters
Loose, Poured, or Blown			
Fiberglass	2.2 (2.2-4.0)	Ceiling cavities	Poured and fluffed, or blown by machine
Rock Wool	3.1 (2.8-3.7)	Ceiling cavities	Poured and fluffed, or blown by machine
Dry Cellulose	3.2 (2.8-3.7)	Ceiling cavities	Blown by machine
Wet-Spray Cellulose	3.5 (3.0-3.7)	Wall cavities	Sprayed into cavities
Perlite	2.7 (2.5-4.0)	Hollow concrete block	Poured
Polyurethane	6.2 (5.8-6.8)	Wall and ceiling cavities, roofs	Foamed into cavities
Open-cell Isocyanurate (Icynene™)	3.6	Wall and ceiling cavities	Foamed into open or closed cavities
Magnesium Silicate (Air Krete®)	3.9	Wall cavities	Foamed into open cavities

Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, E Source

For more information about making your home more energy efficient, visit togetherwesave.com.