



**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

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co-opNews

Information from your electric cooperative

Only a few days remain to pick up director petitions

The 2004 annual meeting is scheduled for April 17th. There are three directors' seats up for re-election. Those seats are District 2, District 6, and District 9. Richard Nixon represents district 2. Nixon's district covers those areas in Greene, Jefferson, Richland, Wayne and Pike townships in Jay County bounded on the east by State Road 27, on the south by the Jay-Randolph County line, on the west by State Road 1, on the north by State Road 26.

District 6 is represented by Ron Smithson. Smithson's district encompasses the entire Randolph County area.

District 9 is represented by Diane Antrim. District No. 9 is all of the area that the Jay County REMC serves in Adams County east of

U.S. 27. This area is bounded on the west by U.S. 27, on the east by the Indiana-Ohio state line, on the north by Adams County Road 450 N and on the south by the Jay-Adams County line.

Interested parties need to pick up a petition at the Jay County REMC and return the petition by Jan. 12. Any qualified member of the Jay County REMC may run for a seat on the board of directors by getting 15 Jay County REMC members to sign a petition of support.

To qualify you must take electric service at your primary residence in the district that is being contested in order to be an eligible candidate. The member who signs the petition does not have to live in the district up for election.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the REMC at 1-800-835-7263 or 260-726-7121.

REMC receives safety accreditation

Jay County REMC received high marks during its recent safety accreditation.

Safety accreditation is a peer-review safety and loss control evaluation of electric cooperatives. It is an organized analysis of a cooperative's safety and loss control program that measures overall effectiveness. Management's role and commitment to achieve and maintain high safety standards for the protection of its employees and the community served, is critical in ensuring a credible safety program.

Based upon a three-year review period, the accreditation process is a three-part process consisting of two separate evaluations.

- The first step is the completion of an application that represents a collaboration record of the cooperative's safety policies and procedures.

- The second step is an on-site field observation to evaluate the physical aspects of the cooperative.

- The third step includes submitting the application and completed observation forms to the Rural Electric Safety Accreditation Committee for review.

The application covers 22 specific categories. These categories are outlined in a tab format containing instructions to be used as a guide when compiling information. All questions should be answered carefully, and a brief statement should be provided for any questions not applicable.

The observation team is normally coordi-



Lineman Ron Laux and Apprentice Duane Monroe demonstrate how a circuit board operates.

nated through the area administrator and should consist of a minimum of three individuals, all of whom must have completed the REAP Observer Training course as either a trainer or an observer. Provisions and requirements for the on-site observation such as: length of the inspection, and materials and equipment needed will be coordinated by the team leader. Actual site locations, facilities and equipment to be evaluated by the team are usually determined on the day of the observation.

Advantages of Safety Accreditation

- Help reduce injuries
- Promote a safe work environment
- Enhance safety awareness
- Help reduce insurance premiums
- Aid in preparedness of regulatory compliance
- Increase employee productivity
- Increase efficiency in operations
- Promote more accurate inventory controls
- Promote cohesiveness among departments
- Promote teamwork

Jay County REMC received an overall score of 90. Congratulations to the employees, management and board for their valiant safety efforts.

Extreme Chaos: Extreme fun

by Cindy Denney

- E**xtrême Chaos is
- A. The Denney girls' bedrooms.
 - B. My checking account balance
 - C. The top kitchen drawer
 - D. Skateboarding store owned by an extremely young entrepreneur
 - E. A haircut the next day

If you picked any of the answers above you would be correct. Luckily for you, the Extreme Chaos I am going to be writing about is a store started by young entrepreneur, Cameron Barber. Cameron is a 14-year-old freshman at Jay County High School and the son of Jay County REMC members Glynn and Julie Barber. Extreme Chaos was an idea of Cameron's because he enjoyed the sport of skateboarding. He discovered that his passion took him to distant places to compete, but it also took him to distant places to obtain parts and equipment for his skateboarding gear.

Cameron knew that he was not the only one with a passion for skateboarding. He wanted to be able to provide fellow skateboarding enthusiast with easy access in obtaining quality parts and equipment. He discussed the idea with his parents about opening a store in Portland. Cameron was able to convince his parents that there were a lot of kids who enjoyed skateboard-



Cameron Barber installing trucks on a custom made skateboard.

ing and that it would be providing a service to an untapped market in this community and surrounding communities. "We were in the truck just thinking about what we could call the store and we thought Extreme Chaos we be a good idea", said Cameron.

With the New Year just beginning, now would be the time to check out this extreme facility. The current home of Extreme Chaos is 730 S. Meridian St. in Portland. In less than a month 415 W. Water St. will be the new home for Extreme Chaos with a new name ETC. The new

facility will continue to have clothing, skateboarding and paintball paraphernalia. The new facility will be taking the extreme to a higher level by including a paintball arena and indoor skate park.

Cameron and his father Glynn agree on the importance of keeping fit and keeping grades above C level. The father and son team have decided to offer discounts to students who improve their grades and to those students who already have good grades. Cost for admission to the paintball arena, skateboard park and equipment rental have not been determined. Group discounts will be available. The Barbers are trying to find ways to provide an extreme yet safe place for the kids in our community to release some energy all year' round. These extreme programs are for KIDS of all ages.

Want to gear up for some extreme fun in the new year? Call Extreme Chaos at 726-3888 and discover what new adventure awaits you in Portland. Do you want to gear up for some extreme savings on your long distance? To discover how you can save money on your long distance just like Cameron did during the Gym City Fundraiser to support his sister Jenna in her extreme sport of gymnastics call 888-610-4529. For details on how your non-profit organization can participate in a TWN fundraiser contact Cindy Denney at 800-835-7362 or 260-726-7121.

Cindy Denney is director of marketing and customer services for Jay County REMC.

The father and son team have decided to offer discounts to students who improve their grades and to those students who already have good grades.



This sign equals Extreme Chaos

Sign up to win Free Field Fee at ETC

Courtesy of Cameron Barber and Extreme Chaos

*Equipment rental not included

Name: _____

Address: _____

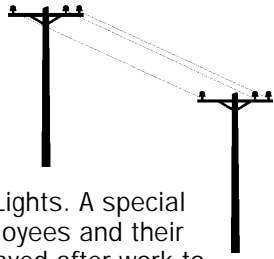
_____ Zip _____

Account # _____

Phone #(_____) _____

Mail entry to: Jay County REMC, P.O. Box 904, Portland, IN 47371.
Drawing will be held on Jan. 30 at 4:30 p.m..

SIDE LINES



Congratulations

Jay County REMC won best-lighted vehicle at the Portland Parade of Lights. A special "thank you" to the employees and their family members who stayed after work to decorate the truck and take all the lights off after the parade.



Parade of Lights



The best lighted vehicle in the Parade of Lights



Calendars available

The 2004 Cooperative Calendar of Student Art is available in the REMC office. Please stop in and pick up a copy of this beautiful calendar.

Winners

Congratulations Greg Clevenger of Ridgeville, winner of the Thanksgiving Turkey from Fisher Packing. Rita Andrews of Dunkirk won the movie given away by Yesterday's Treasures owned by Jay County REMC member Jenny Bricker.

REMC visitors

The Jay County Home School Association recently visited the Jay County REMC. The students and their parents discovered many interesting facts about electric cooperatives. The program also included information on renewable and non-renewable energy sources, how electricity is distributed, how electricity is measured, the dangers of electricity, what causes an outage and the specialized equipment worn by the lineman at the Jay County REMC. The students were also given a tour of the facility, bucket truck rides and participated in an electrical version of Bingo.



Trees Are Us employee goes out on a limb to keep the lights on in the country.

Why does the Jay County REMC trim trees?

- **Safety:** Power lines carry high voltages of electricity. These wires can be deadly. Only trained professionals should attempt to trim trees near power lines. By pruning trees we can help assure that our members do not climb into trees and accidentally make contact with the power lines.

- **Electrical reliability:** Trees and other vegetation are the cause of over 25 percent of all power outages. By pruning trees, cutting down trees, cutting rights-of-way and cutting vines of utility poles that might damage the power lines and poles we can improve your electric service and keep you tuned into your favorite TV show and make sure that alarm wakes you up in the morning.

- **Tree health:** Trees are an important part of our environment. They shade our yards, act as homes to all sorts of birds and animals, and are a beautiful and valuable part of our surroundings.

Tree pruning is necessary to "keep the lights on." At the same time Jay County REMC wants to keep your trees healthy for years to come. By using nationally recognized arboricultural pruning techniques we can prune your trees in the ways to assure that they heal and continue to grow.

Proper arboricultural standards include:

- Removing at the most one-third of a tree's crown.
- Making sure all the limbs are trimmed back to a lateral branch at least one-third the diameter of the removed limb.

If you have a tree that is in power lines, do not try to trim the tree. Call the Jay County REMC at 800-835-7362 or 260-726-7121 and we will trim the tree for you.

CO-OP NOTES

Important dates

Electric bills due Jan. 5.
Read meter Jan. 20

\$50 cash drawing winner

The \$50 cash drawing winner for the month of November was Helen M. Shawver of Portland. Congratulations from Jay County REMC.

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

\$50

Don't get snowed by your long distance company!

6.5¢
per minute



Long Distance from your Electric Cooperative!


With long distance from Jay County REMC, pay just 6.5¢ for every call you make in the continental United States. This includes both in-state and out-of-state calling! There are no time of day restrictions, no hidden fees and no cost to join. Plus, you receive:

- ❄ Personal 800 number for only 6.5¢ per minute
- ❄ Calling Card benefits at only 9.5¢ per minute
- ❄ 6.5¢ to 16 international countries + Canada
- ❄ No monthly service charges or minimum monthly fees
- ❄ Available to business as well as residential customers
- ❄ You don't even have to be a Jay County REMC member to join!

Long Distance from your Electric Co-op...
Savings that won't melt away.

Jay County REMC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

*Taxes and other regulatory charges not included. US calling excludes Alaska & Hawaii. Certain restrictions may apply. Please call for details. In partnership with  TWN TransWorld Network

Call now to sign up! **1-888-610-4529**