



# 2009 Richland Electric Cooperative

## From the Manager... Doing the right things

As the seasons change, especially from Fall to Winter, we all seem to have those things we want to get done before the weather changes. I find myself bringing in that equipment that normally sits outdoors through the summer, fixing those things that last winter gave me problems- such as that stock waterer that froze and broke, and the list goes on.

Too often, these last minute things to prepare for winter are left over from last year because I put them off back in April and May. But if I remember correctly, in April and May I was really busy and certainly I must not have had the time to get them done. It now occurs to me that maybe in April and May, I may have been doing things, but in hindsight were they the right things? Should I have fixed that stock waterer instead of doing something else?

I haven't been much of a list maker throughout my life, but that's changing- due in part to the sheer number of things that need to be done. What I've learned is that by making those lists, one- I don't forget things which happens much easier than it used to and, two- it helps me prioritize.

Managing your cooperative requires that we do the right things. Too often, we concentrate so hard on making sure we do things right that we don't spend enough time on doing the right things. In an ideal world we would do both, and that is what we strive for daily. For example, H1N1 is a real threat to our community. With a very small staff at Richland Electric Cooperative, it is possible that our operations could be crippled by a pandemic, leaving us without adequate staff to respond to outages, manage daily administration, and more.

We spent considerable time doing things right. We educated our staff about H1N1, took preventative measures such as increasing supplies of hand sanitizer, talked about the need to stay home if you were sick, and provided information about vaccinations. But, what if those measures didn't keep us from having all of our staff ill at the same time? Despite our best efforts and doing everything right, we could still be faced with a dilemma of having ill employees and power outages at the same time. Instead, we really needed to ask ourselves how we would

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## CALENDAR *of events*

### November

- 7 Paws for Holiday at Community Center
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 21 Jaycees Arts & Crafts Fair- Richland Center Middle School
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Day-REC and Genuine Telecom offices Closed
- 27 Create your own wine baskets- Weggy Winery

### December

- 4, 5 & 6 The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Richland Center City Auditorium
- 11, 12 & 13 The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Richland Center City Auditorium
- 25 Christmas-REC and Genuine Telecom offices Closed

### January 2010

- 1 New Year's Day-REC and Genuine Telecom offices Closed



## Holiday Movie Matinee Schedule

Show Time's are Saturdays at 1:00pm and at 3:00pm.

**Saturday, November 21st**

**"Ice Age (Dawn of the Dinosaurs)"**

**Saturday, November 28th**

**"Monsters Vs Aliens"**

*Sponsored by Richland Electric Cooperative*

**Saturday, December 5th**

**"Hotel for Dogs"**

**Saturday, December 12th**

**"Tale of Desperaux"**

**Saturday, December 19th**

**"Surfs-Up"**

**For each of these movies, please bring a canned food item for the food pantry.**



**This winter, save money and stay warm. Keep your energy bill and your pollution output low this winter by taking a whole-house approach to heating.**

- During the heating season, keep the draperies and shades on your south facing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.
- Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable when home.
- By resetting your programmable thermostat from 72 degrees to 65 degrees for eight hours a day (for instance, while no one is home or while everyone is tucked in bed) you can cut your heating bill by up to 10 percent.
- Weatherize your home—caulk and weatherstrip any doors and windows that leak air.
- Properly maintain and clean heating equipment.
- Replace furnace filters regularly.
- Check the insulation in your attic, ceilings, exterior and basement walls, floors, and crawl spaces to see if it meets the levels recommended for your area.

## **From the Manager...**

*(continued from cover...)*

## **Doing the right things**

ensure safety and keep the lights on in spite of H1N1. That was the challenge. Once we looked at this way, preventing H1N1 become one aspect of the larger goal and we were then doing the right thing.

There are a lot of things facing your electric cooperative right now. Cost is one of the largest. We could concentrate on rates, the rate

for each kilowatt-hour purchased, but don't we really want to make sure the energy bill is as low as possible? Maybe the energy rate goes up, but we help our members use less and therefore the bill goes down- isn't that more important? If we spend all of our time on keeping the unit price of energy down we would be doing things right.

But as I've illustrated, the goal should be doing the right things and often the end result will be much better for everyone.

I really enjoy listening to our members perspective and if you have comments or questions please feel free to call me at the office or send me an email to [sclark@mwt.net](mailto:sclark@mwt.net) .

# Electric Fireplaces

**R**ichland Electric Cooperative is proud to be your local provider of indoor and outdoor electric fireplaces and electric stoves by Dimplex®.

It's easy and affordable to add a fireplace to your home - when it's an electric fireplace. With realistic flames and logs, you can enjoy the beauty of a fire, without the cost and hassle of installing and burning wood or gas. Because you simply plug it into a standard electric outlet, you can easily move



**Fieldstone**

your electric fireplace or stove from one wall to another or even from one room to another.

With many styles and sizes to choose from, you're sure to find an electric fireplace or stove to fit your home decorating needs.

Electric fireplaces give you instant ambience with lifelike, patented flame technology. The indoor units operate with or without heat.

Some models have a built in air purifying system to clean the air in the room. All indoor models have a thermostat controlled heater and remote control.

Please visit [www.dimplex.com](http://www.dimplex.com) to view their complete line of electric fireplaces and electric stoves.



**Devon Oak**

Plus, now you can even get an electric fireplace or electric stove for your outdoor patio or deck! Some of the outdoor models have built in speakers and an audio jack hookup so you can easily enjoy music from your MP3 device while you relax.

We also invite you to stop in our office to see how realistic the flames and logs look on the floor models we have in stock. You can then look through our brochures to select the electric fireplaces or electric stoves you would like to order.

## COOK'S CORNER

### *Nighty- Nite Cinnamon Rolls*

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 cup vanilla ice cream
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 stick margarine
- ½ cup white sugar
- 12-15 frozen cinnamon rolls

#### **Instructions:**

- Bring first 4 ingredients to a rolling boil and pour into a 9x13 cake pan, add nuts, if desired.
- Place frozen rolls in pan, cover with a sheet of saran wrap sprayed with pam. Set something heavy on top, (bread board) to keep from rising too high.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes.

# Richland Community Players presents

## The Best Christmas Pageant Ever



Friday, Saturday, Sunday, December 4, 5, 6

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, December 11, 12, 13

7pm on Fridays, and Saturdays, and 3pm on Sundays.

At the Richland Center City  
Auditorium

 *Happy Holidays*  
 *from Genuine Telecom and*  
*Richland Electric Cooperative*  

Richland Electric Cooperative's Christmas coloring contest page is included, as a separate sheet this year. Color and send back to Richland Electric Cooperative by Friday, December 18, 2009.



**2009**  
Richland Electric Cooperative

1027 N. Jefferson Street  
P.O. Box 439; Richland Center, WI 53581

[www.rec.coop](http://www.rec.coop)

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Outages

Call (608) 647-3173; 24 Hours

### Board of Directors

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**Richland Electric  
Cooperative**

**Genuine  
Telecom**

A Tech Com Company

Genuine Telecom offers local phone, high-speed internet and digital tv.

One package, one price, one bill.  
It's that convenient.

Please call the office  
for more details.

**608-647-2345**

# Coloring Contest Open For Children of All Ages

With holiday time comes our annual coloring contest open to our members and their children. We divide the competition into age groups, so each entry is competing against their own ages. Sharpen your crayons and get your imagination worked up. The best picture in each age category is the winner.

**The deadline for entries is Friday, December 18, 2009.**

Please mail to:  
Coloring Contest  
Richland Electric Cooperative  
1027 N. Jefferson Street  
P.O. Box 439  
Richland Center, WI 53581

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

