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**It's Time
for Your
Fireplace**



**Get Your Heating
System Ready
for Fall**



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IEC Holiday Hours

**Closed for
Thanksgiving
Weekend**

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Co-op Will Soon be able to Read Meters Using Remote Technology

Electric Cooperatives Lead Industry in Automated Metering

Indian Electric Cooperative is beginning an automated meter reading (AMR) program with the installation of equipment in the Hissom and Alpine areas, in the southeastern portion of the service territory. Contract personnel are replacing current meters with meters that can be read from the co-op's headquarters facility.

"This new technology is based on the installation of digital meters that transmit electricity usage to receivers over a secure radio frequency," explains Rick Davis, IEC's manager of operations and engineering. Digital meters are more accurate, convenient, and more member-friendly than dial meters. Meter readings will be clearly displayed on the meter face and will eliminate the confusion associated with dial readings."

"The new meters will improve accuracy

and reduce time in meter reading," he says. "Meter readers will no longer need to come on your property to get your meter reading. This saves time and aids in safety. Instead, digital meters can be read remotely using electronic technology."

The automated meter reading program removes the possibility of a member accidentally sending us an incorrect reading, which affects the amount of their bill. The meter will be read at the same time every month, which relieves members from having to read their meter and possibly affecting the number of days in their billing period. The accuracy and efficiency of these meters makes it easier for us to bill the member for the correct amount of electricity used. Ultimately,

Continued on page 4.

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*The official
publication
of the members of
Indian Electric
Cooperative*



*IEC Will Again
be a Site for the Salvation Army*

Angel Tree

Angels will be available at IEC's Cleveland facility beginning Monday, November 20. For more information call Clara Eulert, IEC Angel Tree coordinator, at (918) 295-9558 or Teresa Smith, with Pawnee County Oklahoma Department of Human Services at TeresaSmith@okdhs.org.

Enjoy Your Fireplace, Stove Safely This Winter

Heating fires account for 36 percent of residential home fires in rural areas every year. Often these fires are due to creosote buildup in chimneys and stovepipes. All home heating systems require regular maintenance to function safely and efficiently.

Keep Fireplaces and Wood Stoves Clean

- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials.
- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces. Leave glass doors open while burning a fire.
- Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures.
- Keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces. Otherwise you may cause creosote buildup that could lead to a chimney fire.
- Use fire-resistant materials on walls around wood stoves.
- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire.

Safely Burn Fuels

- Use only seasoned hardwood. Soft, moist wood accelerates creosote buildup.
- Build small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- Never burn cardboard boxes, trash or debris in your fireplace or wood stove.
- When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace on an adequate supporting grate.
- Never leave a fire in the fireplace unattended. Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Soak hot ashes in water and place them in a metal container outside your home.



THE LAMP

INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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(918) 358-2514
www.iecok.com

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(918) 358-2514 or 1-800-482-2750

24-hour Service Center

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Tune Up Your Furnace for Fall



You can save energy this fall and winter by having your furnace tuned up. Electric, gas and propane furnaces can go approximately three to five years between service calls and longer, if you change the filters regularly. Oil furnaces need to be serviced once a year, because they get dirty and need an annual adjustment.

As many know, changing filters regularly is one of the key maintenance tasks to keep any type of furnace running efficiently. Make sure you know where your furnace's filter is located and what size it is. Inspect it periodically, and replace it when it is dirty. How frequently you need to change the filter depends on the amount of dirt in the house and around the furnace and also how much time the furnace runs.

Duct air leakage is one of the largest energy-wasters in your heating system. Heating contractors can check your ducts for air leakage, and seal the biggest leaks. Contractors start by sealing the larger joints near the furnace, and then work out toward the branch ducts as access allows. Believe it or not, duct tape is not a good choice for sealing ducts because its adhesive usually fails after a short time. Duct mastic, available in cans or buckets, is an effective and permanent material for sealing duct air leaks.

Stealing Copper can be an Act of Terrorism

Electric utilities across the country have experienced an increase in the theft of copper wire in recent months.

This is dangerous in more ways than one.

First, a person can be electrocuted by attempting to remove the copper from a subst-

tion or any type of electric equipment.

Also, if the wire is stolen from generation and transmission facility equipment (such as KAMO Power), it is viewed as an act of terrorism and can be prosecuted as such.

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RECIPE



OU Tailgate Beef Sandwiches

- 1 4-lb. chuck or rump roast
- 1 Tbsp. garlic salt
- 1/2 Tbsp. Oregano
- 1/4 Tbsp. Rosemary
- 3/4 Tbsp. seasoned salt
- 2 beef bouillon cubes
- Dash of crushed red pepper
- Freshly ground black pepper to taste

Combine the roast with water to barely cover in a Dutch oven. Add remaining ingredients; bake, covered, at 250 degrees for 8 hours or until fork-tender. Shred the roast and serve on buttered toasted buns or French rolls. Serve the pan drippings in small bowls for dipping.

YIELD: 10-12 sandwiches.

**For an OSU tailgate recipe, see our September issue.*



IEC Holiday Hours

IEC offices in Cleveland and Fairfax will be closed Thursday, Nov. 23 and Friday, Nov. 24 to allow employees to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with their families.

Dispatchers and service personnel will

still be on duty throughout the weekend if you should experience an interruption in electric service.

Call (918) 358-2514 or 1-800-482-2750 to report an outage.

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

RECAP

Annual Meeting took place Saturday, Oct. 21, after this issue of *The Lamp* went to press. So a recap of the meeting will be included in our December issue.

Automated Meter Reading Program Begins

Continued from page 1.

the program will allow us to bill members in a more timely fashion.”

Davis points out there is no charge to members for this program.

“Our contract personnel will need access to the meters,” says Davis. “It won’t take but just a few minutes to make the change. Our personnel will be carrying identification provided by IEC and any member with questions can call me at 295-9518 or call the co-op at 358-2514.”

“Electric cooperatives are dedicated to making advancements in technology and innovation, as well as serving co-op members with integrity and accountability,” says IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale. “Because demand response is a critical cost and risk management tool for electric cooperatives, it is an important part of the cooperative strategy to provide safe and affordable electricity.”

Davis says this is the beginning of the meter change-out program. He anticipates it will take personnel between 12 to 18 months to change out all of the more than 18,000 meters throughout IEC’s service territory.

