

THE *Southwestern*

A utility worker in an orange shirt and white hard hat is operating a white bucket truck in a wooded area. The truck's boom is extended upwards, and the worker is positioned in the bucket. The background is filled with bare tree branches, suggesting a late winter or early spring setting. The overall scene is captured in a slightly blurred, dynamic style, emphasizing the work being done.

A SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE MEMBER MAGAZINE

JUNE 2023 • VOLUME 75 • ISSUE 6

Spring Storms

*MARCH LEAVES
LIKE A LION*

CANDIDATE
DEADLINE

WATER SAFETY

READER CONTEST

HOMESERVE

CO-OP KITCHEN

Serene Spaces

POCKET PARKS
POPPING UP

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27 Final Frame

A stately manor.

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CEO

Bobby Williams Chief Executive Officer

The Southwestern

Joe Richardson Editor
e-mail: joe.richardson@sweci.com
Mike Barns Art Director
e-mail: mike.barns@sweci.com
Nathan Grimm Media Specialist
e-mail: nathan.grimm@sweci.com

Satellite Locations:

St. Jacob Office
10031 Ellis Road, St. Jacob, IL 62281

St. Elmo Distribution Center
2117 East 1850 Avenue, St. Elmo, IL 62458

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Reader Contest

Our Hide & Seek reader contest works like this: We've hidden an image in the magazine. Your job is to find it. The image may be a photo, illustration, icon, logo — or any other graphic that catches our eye. This month's image resembles the station wagon pictured below.

The actual image may be larger or smaller than what you see here. We may change the color or make the image black and white. It may be reversed or upside down or reversed and upside down or — you get the picture.

If you find the image, email us or send a postcard with your name, address, phone number, and the page number where you found the image.

Please email us at thesouthwestern@sweci.com or send your postcard to The Southwestern Magazine, Southwestern Electric Cooperative, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246.

Entries must be postmarked or in our thesouthwestern@sweci.com inbox by the first day of the month following the month of publication. For our June contest, we'll need your entries in our inbox or postmarked by July 1.

Each month we'll choose one winner in a random drawing. Our winner will receive a \$25 credit on an upcoming electric bill. We'll publish the name of this month's contest winner in the September issue of The Southwestern.



RULES TO PLAY BY

- One entry per membership per month.
- A membership can only win once per calendar year.
- No phone calls, texts, social media posts walk-in traffic, carrier pigeons, singing telegrams or other clever means of communication that may occur to you.
- Please respond *only* by emailing us at thesouthwestern@sweci.com or by sending a postcard to The Southwestern Magazine, Southwestern Electric Co-operative, 525 US Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246.
- Entries submitted by other methods will be disqualified.
- Entries emailed to other Southwestern Electric email addresses will be disqualified, deleted, then disqualified again, just to be safe.
- Entries mailed to other departments or included with other correspondence will likely never find their way to the editor. If they do, they'll be disqualified. Also, he'll add you to his list of people who can't follow instructions. It's a long list and not one you care to be part of.
- June contest entries must be in our inbox or postmarked by July 1.
- We'll never hide the image on the front or back cover or on the page where we list the rules.

ON THE COVER

Ethan Fulk, Southwestern journeyman lineman, and Taylor Frost (back), journeyman lineman for J.F. Electric, Edwardsville, repair a transmission line near Brownstown after a March storm left 3,250 members without power. Our story appears on page 8.



CO-OP REMINDERS

June 12 Payment processing will be unavailable from midnight to 4 a.m., while we perform system maintenance. We will resume processing payments at 4:01 a.m.

July 4 Offices closed in observance of Independence Day.

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

For the latest news and notes, follow us on Facebook and Twitter. You'll find us at facebook.com/SWECI and twitter.com/sweci. Search for Southwestern Electric on YouTube and Instagram. You can listen to our podcast, Wireside Chat, on Apple Music, Spotify, Audible and anywhere podcasts are found.



APRIL WINNER

Congratulations to Elizabeth Newton of Bethalto! Elizabeth won our April Hide & Seek contest drawing. She found the bird's nest on page 17 of our April issue. Elizabeth will receive a \$25 credit on an upcoming electric bill. You'll find Hide & Seek rules and this month's image at left.

JUNE 26 DEADLINE TO FILE FOR CANDIDACY BY PETITION

Southwestern Electric members interested in running for a seat on the co-op's board of directors have a final opportunity to enter the 2023 race. While the deadline for standard nominations (May 25) has passed, the cooperative offers an additional month to file for candidacy by petition.

A valid petition must include the candidate's name, address, age and telephone number, along with the names, addresses and signatures of at least 15 other Southwestern Electric Co-op members. Petitions must be received at the cooperative's Greenville headquarters by Monday, June 26, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the 2023 ballot. For additional guidance on filing for candidacy by petition, please see Section 4(D)3 of the cooperative's bylaws.

The 2023 board election, which will take place at Southwestern Electric's 85th Annual Meeting of Members, will fill three seats on the cooperative's board of directors. Each director will be elected to serve a three-year term beginning on Sept. 9, 2023, and expiring on the date of the 2026 Annual Meeting. Any active member 18 years of age or older and in good financial standing with the co-op is eligible to serve on the board of directors, so long as he or she meets the qualifications set forth in Section 5(B) of the bylaws (available at sweci.com). If you have questions about board service or the election process, please contact Susan File, vice president of member services, at (800) 637-8667, ext. 5924.

Gas or Electric?

Used to be a question for kitchens.
Now it applies to your garage.

EVs aren't for everyone. That said, they're a sound choice for some. Your driving habits, personal preferences and priorities, your budget, and the availability of charging stations on routes you frequently travel play a significant role in how you see electric vehicles.

If you're considering an EV as your next automobile, you may have questions that need real-life answers.

Since August 2022, Energy Manager Julie Lowe has been traveling Southwestern's service area in a Tesla Model 3, keeping a journal as she commissions and recommissions hundreds of member-owned cogeneration projects connected to the co-op's 3,500 miles of power line. Under summer sun and in winter ice and snow, she's driven an EV over the interstates, highways and backroads we call home.

We'll share her experiences in coming issues of the magazine.

Our question for you is: What would you like to know? Are you curious about how an EV handles? If range anxiety is an ongoing issue? If there are unexpected benefits to driving an EV rather than a gas-engine automobile? Do you wonder about the biggest banes and blessings that come with an electric vehicle? We've collected data, experiences and impressions to answer those questions.

But you likely have questions of your own. Email them to Julie Lowe at julie.lowe@sweci.com. She'll do her best to answer them in honest, straightforward language. And we'll share some of your questions and her responses in the pages of our magazine.

Because we're not here to sell you a car. We're here to share our experience, so you can make an informed decision regarding a car that's right for you.

What would you like to know about EVs? Email your questions to Julie Lowe at julie.lowe@sweci.com.





Home Service Repair Plans Offer Assurance, Quality and Convenience

We've all experienced home mechanical and system failures. When breakdowns involve exterior home electrical lines, members sometimes call Southwestern to request repairs. Many members understandably assume all electrical lines outside their home are owned by the cooperative. But components that connect a member's home to the cooperative's distribution system — elements like the weather head, insulator, riser, meter base or loop, and service entrance conductor — are owned by the member.

When those elements fail, you find yourself facing bills you hadn't budgeted for. If the issue is related to aging parts and normal wear and tear on the system, your homeowners insurance may not cover the cost of repairs. That's why Southwestern partnered with HomeServe USA, an independent provider of home repair service solutions. HomeServe offers home service repair plans that protect a homeowner's budget from sudden, often significant expenses that come with water, sewer, electrical and heating and cooling home emergencies. Their external electrical line plan will pay for repair or replacement of items that your homeowners insurance may not cover when the components fail due to normal wear and tear.

If something goes wrong with a system or appliance covered by a HomeServe repair plan, the member can call HomeServe anytime, 24/7, at 833-334-1874. The company will dispatch a pre-screened, local repair technician to the member's home to diagnose the problem. The technician will fix the issue or replace the covered item as detailed in the home repair plan.

HOW HOMESERVE HELPS

HomeServe is available to take emergency repair calls around the clock. Technicians dispatched through HomeServe are local, licensed and insured. Their work is covered by a one-year HomeServe guarantee.

HomeServe lessens the financial burden of unexpected breakdowns by paying the bill on covered repairs up to the benefit amount, and eases the stress and inconvenience that

comes with the event. You don't have to research repair bids or vet and hire a technician.

And if the work doesn't measure up to your expectations? HomeServe will work to address the issue as quickly and comprehensively as possible.

HELPING US HELP YOU

Southwestern has partnered with HomeServe to offer home service repair plans as an optional member service. No one is obligated to buy a plan. Southwestern recommends that members interested in a plan speak with their insurance agent before buying, to make sure the terms and conditions listed in the plan aren't already addressed by your homeowners policy.

HomeServe will return a portion of the proceeds from plan sales to Southwestern Electric. The funds will be dedicated to support efforts like Southwestern Electric Cooperative's Power For Progress Scholarship Program.

You can read more about HomeServe at www.HomeServe.com and view nearly 100 informational videos on HomeServe's YouTube channel.



THE HOMESERVE CUSTOMER PROMISE

1. Before a customer joins, we'll make it clear what they're buying and what it will do for them.
2. When a customer joins, we'll tell them how much they're paying, what that buys for them, and how to make a claim.
3. When a customer becomes a member, we'll make life easy for them.
4. When a customer makes a claim, we'll solve their problem quickly and easily—their emergency is our emergency.
5. If a customer is not happy, we'll listen, apologize, and make things right wherever we can, as soon as we can.

PHOTO COURTESY MODERN FOTOGRAFIC BY DAVE NOONAN

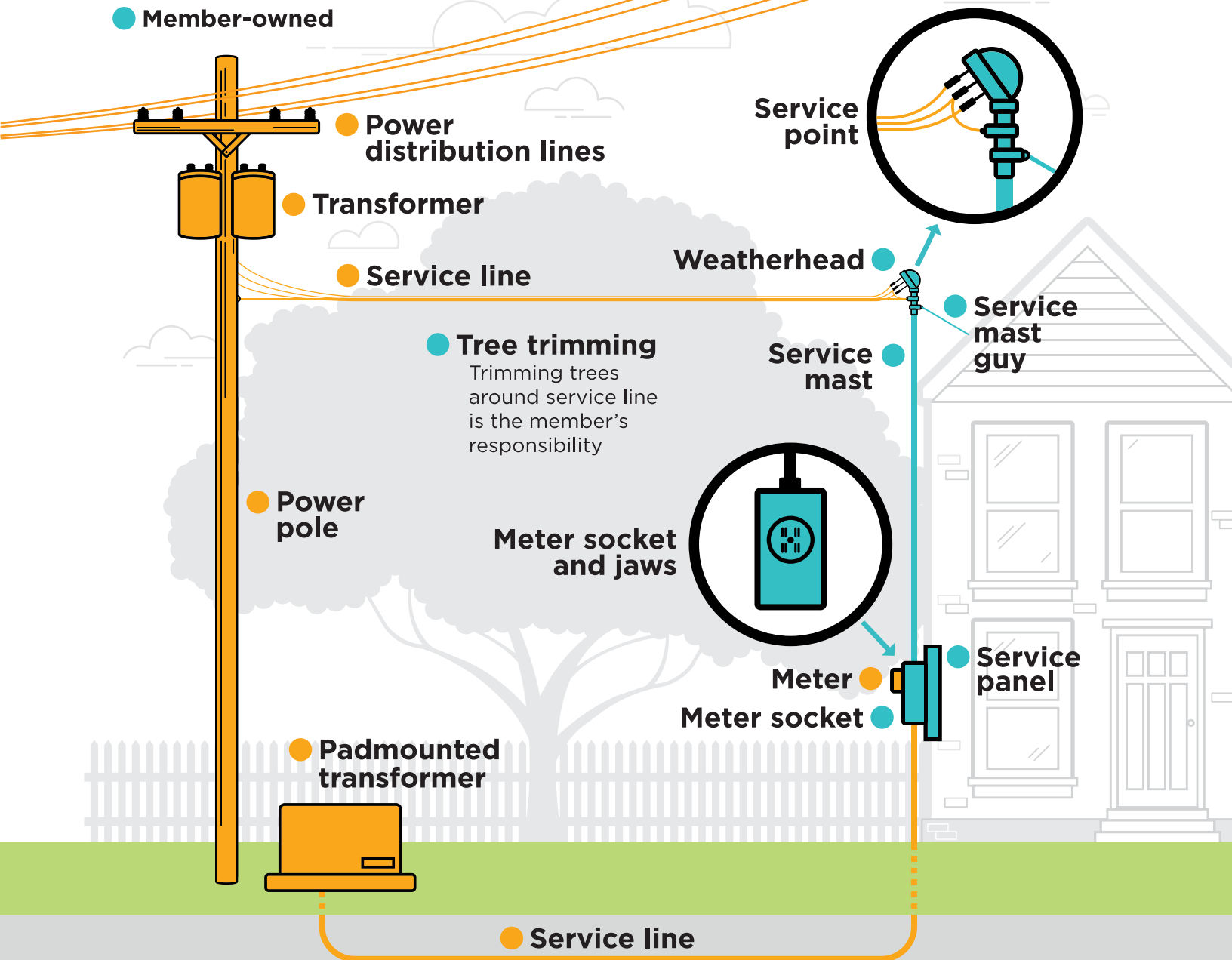
Who Owns What?

Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Repairs to member-owned equipment should be performed by a licensed electrician.

● Co-op owned

● Member-owned




Note: This graphic depicts overhead and underground service. Please be aware of which type of service you receive at your home or business.

MARCH LEAVES LIKE A LION

Spring storm snaps poles
and power lines across
Southwestern's service area

by Joe Richardson





On March 31, severe thunderstorms swept across much of the Midwest, uprooting trees, breaking poles, damaging structures and bringing down power lines in Missouri and Illinois. In total, nearly 3,250 Southwestern Electric members lost power as the storm crossed the I-70 corridor.

At 8 p.m., crews were responding to outages in Madison and Macoupin counties, where 225 members had lost service. By 9 p.m., the storm had pressed deep into Southwestern's service area, bringing down poles, trees and power lines, leaving about 3,000 members

without power, affecting 1,500 Madison County members, 800 members in Fayette County, 550 Effingham County members and 100 members in Macoupin County. Members in Shelby and Clinton counties were also affected by the storm. Crews were on site at locations throughout the co-op's service area, surveying damage and making repairs.

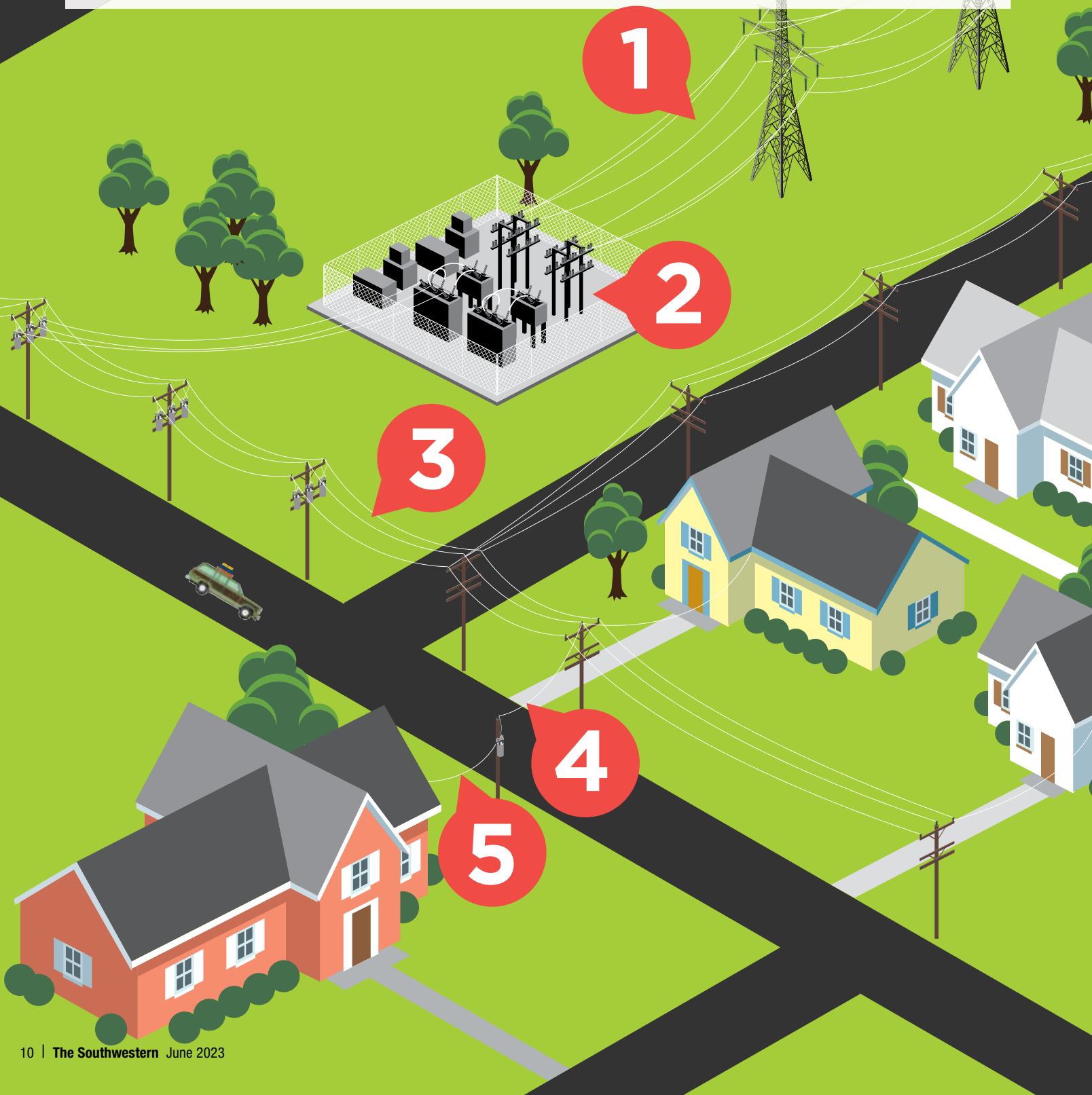
By 10:30 p.m., the storm had crossed the co-op's service area, leaving close to 3,250 members without power. The storm had interrupted service to 1,675 Madison County members, 940 members in Fayette County, 560 Effingham County members, and 100 members in

Continued on page 12 ►

Southwestern linemen and contract crews from J.F. Electric, Edwardsville, replace broken transmission poles north of Brownstown. The new poles were 70 feet long and weighed about 5,000 pounds.

Powering Up After an Outage

When the power goes out, we expect it to be restored within a few hours. But when a major storm or natural disaster causes widespread damage, extended outages may result. Our line crews work long, hard hours to restore service safely to the greatest number of members in the shortest time possible. Here's how we get to work when you find yourself in the dark:





1. High-Voltage Transmission Lines:

Transmission towers and cables supply power to transmission substations (and thousands of members), and they rarely fail. But when damaged, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.

2. Distribution Substation:

A substation can serve hundreds or thousands of members. When a major outage occurs, our line crews inspect substations to determine if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation, the substation itself or if problems exist further down the line.

3. Main Distribution Lines:

If the problem cannot be isolated at a distribution substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of members in our local communities.

4. Tap Lines:

If local outages persist, supply lines (also known as tap lines) are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers, either mounted on poles or placed on pads for underground service, outside businesses, schools and homes.

5. Service Lines:

If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your residence may need to be repaired. If you experience an outage, please give us a call so we can isolate the issue.



Crews place a new transmission pole. Pictured at right are (l-r) Southwestern Electric's Tyler Meseke, journeyman lineman; Kyle Hails, maintenance foreman; Ethan Fulk, journeyman lineman; and DJ Haarmann, construction foreman.



► *Continued from page 9*
Macoupin County. Isolated outages were also affecting members in Shelby and Clinton counties.

At that time, an Ameren transmission line issue had interrupted power to Southwestern Electric's Worden Substation, affecting 485 members, and crews were rerouting power to reenergize the sub. In Fayette County, the co-op's Sefton Substation was offline, affecting 700 members. In Effingham County, about 560 members served by the co-op's Altamont Substation were without power. Crews were on site at locations throughout the co-op's service area, surveying damage, clearing debris and making repairs.


By 11:30 p.m., linemen had restored power to nearly 2,450 members. Southwestern linemen prepared to work overnight as more than 800 members remained without power in six of the 11 counties served by Southwestern. The co-op's engineering and operations personnel enlisted contract crews to expedite repairs. Linemen made significant



Contract crews from J.F. Electric remove a broken transmission pole from Southwestern's right of way. The pole supported lines which delivered power to Sefton Substation, which serves about 700 members in Fayette County.

progress overnight and remained in the field on the morning of April 1. By 8:30 a.m., crews had restored power to more than 3,200 members affected by the storm, and about 30 members remained without service.

In the wake of the storm, sustained, strong winds hindered restoration efforts and caused additional outages for Southwestern Electric and neighboring utilities, including Ameren. An Ameren transmission line issue caused blinks, or momentary outages, for members served by Southwestern's Collinsville and Peters substations, affecting members from Horseshoe Lake east to Maryville, and from Route 162 south to Interstate 55. The co-op worked with Ameren to resolve the issue.

In total, the storm snapped more than a dozen utility poles, including two transmission poles near Southwestern's Sefton Substation, north of Brownstown. Southwestern and contract crews worked into the evening Saturday to replace broken transmission poles and restore power across the co-op's service area. 



After replacing poles, crews installed new cross-arms and conductor. Jake Tester (below), journeyman lineman for J.F. Electric, secures a pole for removal while DJ Haarmann (corner photo), construction foreman for Southwestern Electric, prepares a new cross-arm for installation.





TIPS TO REDUCE SUMMER ENERGY CONSUMPTION

Summertime is upon us once again! We are all welcoming the longer days, warmer weather, and sunshine. But as much as we are looking forward to those bright days, we aren't looking forward to the increase in our electric bills.

With pools being opened and A/C units being kicked on for the first time, your electric use and energy bills will be on the rise. Here are 10 tips to reduce your energy consumption this summer, while keeping your home cool and comfortable.

by Julie Lowe, Energy Manager

ONE. Schedule regular maintenance for your cooling equipment. Have a trained technician check your system each year before the cooling season begins to ensure it is in good working condition. Be sure to clean or replace filters monthly.

TWO. Set your thermostat as high as is comfortable. It may be helpful to install a programmable or smart thermostat to help you adjust temperatures when you are away from home. Set it to bump up the temperature when you are away, and set it to decrease the temperature a few hours before you're due home.

THREE. Keep blinds and curtains closed during the day. Blinds and curtains can be used during the day to keep the sun's light from heating up your home. During cooler evening hours, consider turning off the A/C and opening your blinds and windows if practical.

FOUR. Use ceiling fans to increase cooling efficiency. Remember, fans cool people — not rooms. Be sure to turn fans off when you leave the room. Use bathroom fans after showering to remove heat and humidity from your home.

FIVE. Minimize indoor heat in the afternoon. When possible, use an outdoor grill or microwave to prepare your meals on hot summer afternoons and evenings. Run your clothes dryer and dishwasher at night and let the dishes air dry.

SIX. Install efficient lighting that runs cooler — such as LEDs. Only about 10% of the energy that incandescent bulbs consume actually results in light — the rest is turned into heat! LEDs are energy efficient and long lasting.

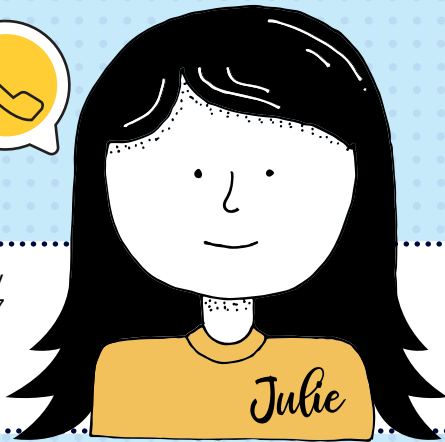
SEVEN. Lower your water heating costs. Water heating can account for up to 20% of the total energy expense for many households. You can lower your water heater's energy use by wrapping it in a water heater blanket, setting it no higher than 120 degrees, and washing your clothing in cold water.

EIGHT. Seal air leaks. Seal around interior doors and baseboards with caulking and install weather-stripping around exterior doors and windows.

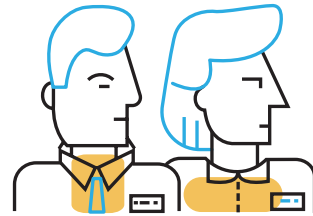
NINE. Consider adding insulation. Be sure your attic floor is well insulated to prevent hot attic air from heating your home. Also, your attic needs to be ventilated to expel the heat. Attic ventilation can come from soffit and gable vents, roof fans, or any combination of these.

TEN. If you have a pool, consider upgrading to a variable speed pool pump. Install a timer to control the pump's cycling. Be sure to keep intake grates clear of debris.

Steps to Solar Commissioning



Contact Julie Lowe, energy manager, at (800) 637-8667 or julie.lowe@sweci.com for our information and commissioning packet.



Contact your installer and insurance agent. Ask your installer for a one-line diagram. Request a certificate of insurance from your agent. They're welcome to send those documents to Julie Lowe at Southwestern Electric. Or if you'd like to review them, they can send them to you, and you can pass them along to Julie.



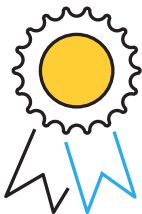
After your one-line diagram is approved by Southwestern Electric, you'll receive a \$500 invoice to cover the installation of your new dual register electric meter, a system inspection, and your array's interconnection to the grid. If your installer will be paying this invoice on your behalf, we'll send the invoice directly to them.



After installation is complete, contact us to schedule your system's on-site review and commissioning.



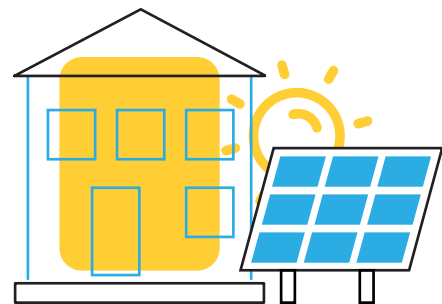
Our commissioning team will visit your site. We will inspect your system to verify it meets our safety specifications. A team member will review a memorandum of understanding with you. You'll sign this document for our files. Note: If you won't be present for commissioning, please schedule a meeting to review and sign the memorandum beforehand. After your system passes inspection, you go live! Your array is connected to Southwestern's distribution system.



We'll send you and your installer a certificate of completion. Your installer will submit this document for you, so you can receive your solar renewable energy credits, or certificates (SRECs).



Each year, you'll submit documentation to confirm you've renewed your insurance. You may add us as a certificate holder on your policy so the renewal will be sent to us automatically each year.



Every three years, we'll visit your system to confirm it's connected properly, well-maintained, and that your safety signs are in place.

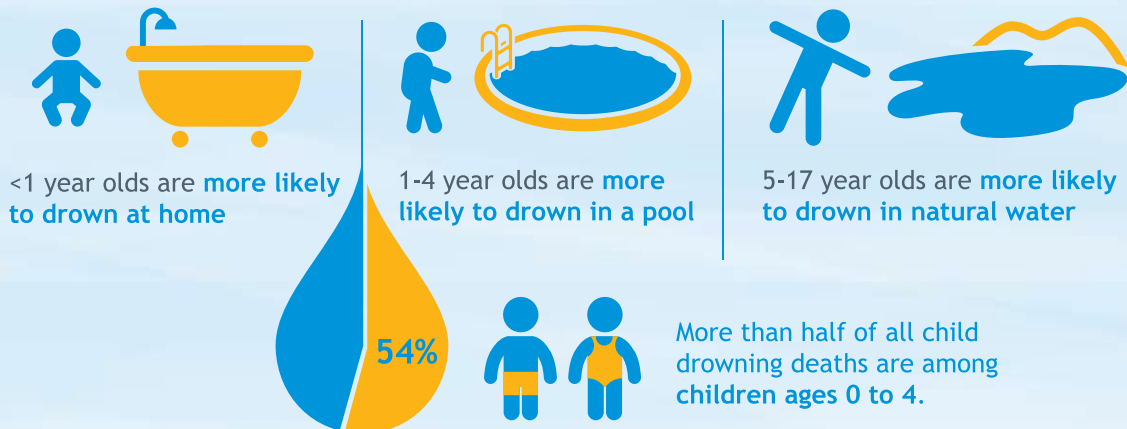
The Facts about Kids and the Danger of Drowning

Almost 800 children drown in the U.S. every year.

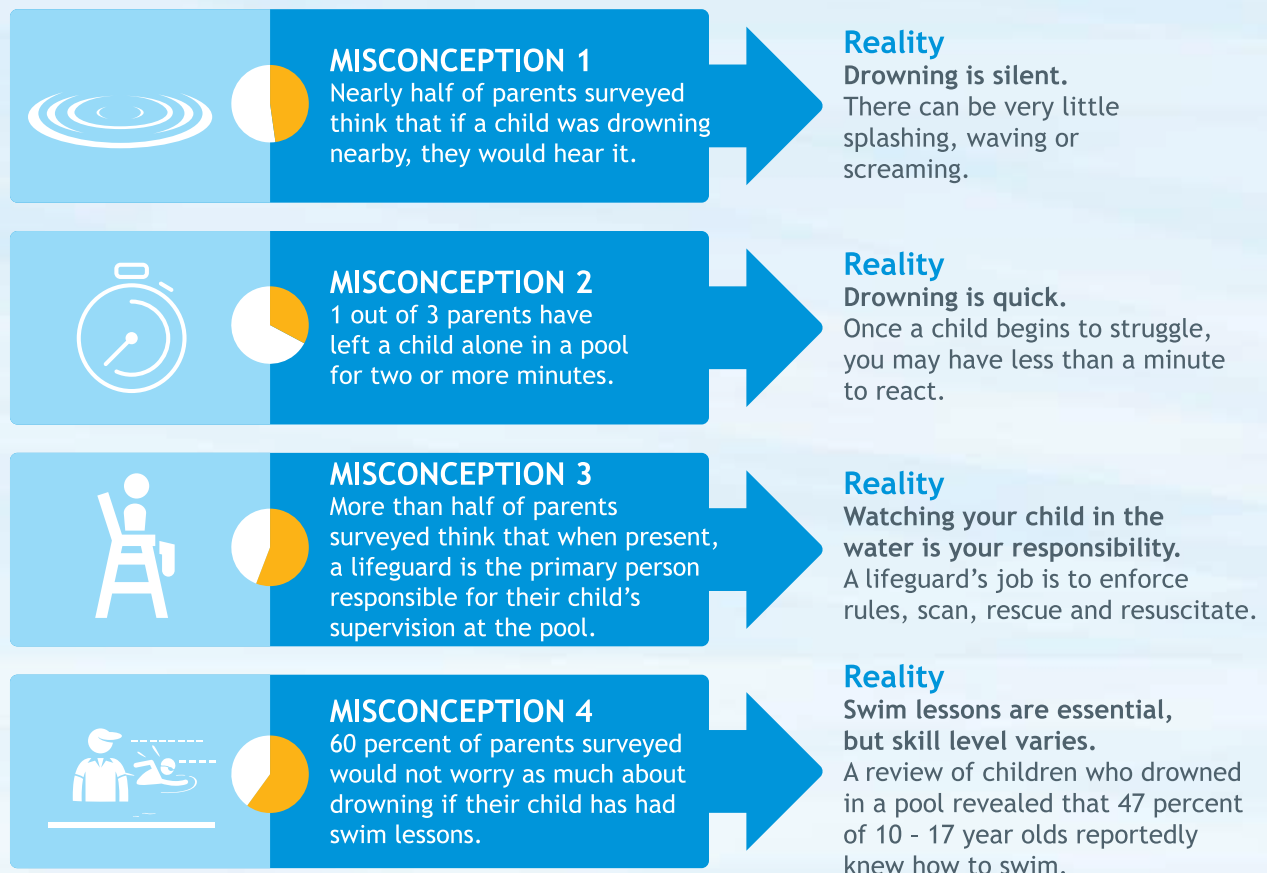


Two thirds of these deaths occur during May - August.

Drowning Risk Varies by Age



PARENTS' MISCONCEPTIONS



WATER SURVIVAL SKILLS

5 Survival Skills That Could Save Your Life in the Water



1 Step or jump into water over your head and return to the surface.



2 Float or tread water for one minute.



3 Turn around in a full circle and find an exit from the water.

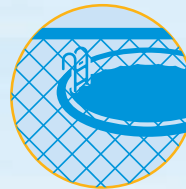


4 Swim 25 yards to the exit.



5 Exit from the water. If in a pool, be able to exit without using the ladder.

WATER SAFETY TIPS



- ◆ Watch your kids when they are in and around water, without distraction.
- ◆ Teach children to swim and the 5 Water Survival Skills.
- ◆ Learn CPR and basic rescue skills.
- ◆ Make sure pools have four-sided fencing at least 4 feet high.

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Learn more at safekids.org.

SAFE
KIDS
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Nationwide®

SKW Promotes Layered Approach to Water Safety

The information for this month's Health & Safety segment was provided by Safe Kids Worldwide (SKW), a nonprofit organization working to help families and communities keep kids safe from injuries. A 2016 study commissioned by SKW indicates nearly 800 children will drown in the year ahead, with close to 70 percent of those drownings occurring between May and August.

"Silence and speed are characteristics of childhood drowning," the study states. "Drowning prevention takes multiple

strategies and the approach used involves ensuring overlapping layers of protection. Active supervision is one of the most important layers of protection and is absolutely necessary when children are in and around water."

SKW recommends assigning a Water Watcher in settings where it's difficult for a parent to provide constant visual supervision.

"A Water Watcher is an adult who commits to watching children in and around water, so that while they are in the role, their eyes and attention are only

on that task," the report explained. "This only ends when the children leave the water and/or they turn over the responsibility to another Water Watcher."

Using the Water Watcher system for a certain amount of time (such as 15-minute periods) prevents fatigue and lapses in supervision.

To learn more about water safety and read the complete study, *Keeping Kids Safe In and Around Water: Exploring Misconceptions that Lead to Drowning*, go to safekids.org.

Pockets of Time

Pocket parks across Southwestern Illinois offer a brief but peaceful reprieve

Words by Nathan Grimm | Photos by Mike Barns & Joe Richardson

On a busy block of a revitalized Main Street in downtown Collinsville, a walkway cuts a path between two brick buildings.

A mural painted on the side of one of the buildings depicts a cloudy scene with a hot air balloon being blown as if by a strong gust of wind, an appropriate scene on a seasonal but windy mid-April afternoon. Further down the path, which is shaped by stone retaining walls on either side, red leaves, purple flowers and green shrubs provide pops of color. In just a few hours, when the sun goes down, the zigzagging overhead bulbs strung between the buildings will click

on, providing light and ambience to the park.

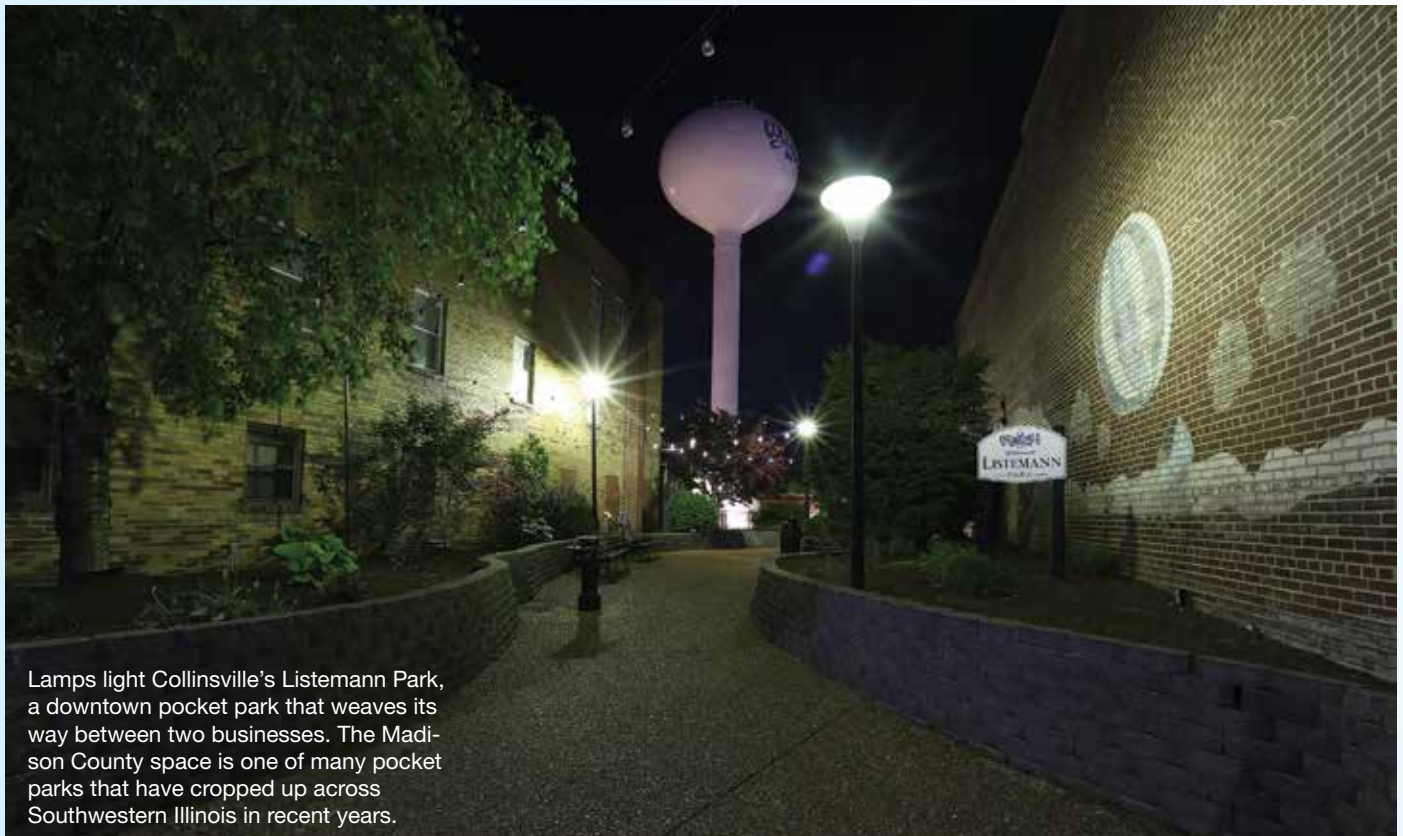
To passersby on foot, the whole scene may barely register amid storefronts and restaurants and the historic Miner's Theater just a few steps away; by car, blink and you might miss it entirely. And that's sort of the point.

Pocket parks like Listemann Park in Collinsville are becoming increasingly prevalent, and increasingly popular destinations for those seeking an oasis in a concrete jungle. Like a flower growing through the cracks in a sidewalk, parks like this one seem to exist in spite of their surroundings, not because of them.

Sixty miles east, a bronze statue of

Abraham Lincoln sits reading a newspaper in a park bearing his name. Lincoln Park, with the Vandalia State House serving as a backdrop, offers a wooden gazebo in which to sit and take in the view. In the moments when there's no traffic, it feels possible that you're viewing Lincoln sitting on a bench outside the state house as he might have done in that exact spot 180 years ago; when cars do come, cutting through the heart of the scene, it's a reminder of how far in the past those days actually are.

Pocket parks are not a new concept. They actually got their start in Europe in the wake of World War II, when war-torn cities turned to public parks and green



Lamps light Collinsville's Listemann Park, a downtown pocket park that weaves its way between two businesses. The Madison County space is one of many pocket parks that have cropped up across Southwestern Illinois in recent years.



spaces as a cheap and easy replacement for the urban buildings decimated during the fighting. A few years later, pocket parks began popping up in major cities in the United States, turning small urban spaces — usually vacant lots — into places the neighborhood could gather communally.

Today, not all pocket parks exist in the spaces between busy sidewalks and office buildings. At the corner of South Fourth Street and West Winter Avenue in Greenville, Bicentennial Park offers a greener getaway in a residential part of town. Unlike its more urban counterparts, the Greenville pocket park has playhouses — which look like something out of a real-life adaptation of “Alice in Wonderland” — and swings for children, as well as benches for those more interested in a moment of relaxation.

Given their relative inexpensiveness to develop and ability to exist in tight spaces, it’s likely we’ll see even more pocket parks begin to pop up in Southwestern Illinois in the coming years. In an increasingly busy and crowded society, those instances of respite will be welcome, even if fleeting.



Above: In case it’s not obvious, Lincoln Park in Vandalia is dedicated to the 16th U.S. President and former Illinois State Representative. Left: A bronze statue of Lincoln sits reading a Vandalia Whig newspaper in the pocket park bearing his name, which sits in the shadow of the old Vandalia State House.



Greenville’s Bicentennial Park eschews the cityscape feel of some other pocket parks in favor of the more traditional green spaces and playground equipment.

In April we challenged you to identify an old goat. This month we're turning our attention to a tougher puzzle.

The historical figure in the portrait on the opposite page is almost certainly a mystery to most of you. If he were here today, here's what he might say:

I was born in Jefferson County, Va., on September 12, 1806.

In my teens I moved to Harper's Ferry and later took a job at the United States armory there.

In 1835, I traveled west to St. Louis, where I became a merchant. I operated a dry goods and grocery business on the corner of Fourth and Olive Streets.

I didn't care to stay in the city, and after a few months, I moved from St. Louis to Slab Point, or Zanesville, in Montgomery County, Ill., to engage in general merchandising, farming and hotel keeping.

I sold my businesses in Zanesville and relocated to Carlinville, where once again I engaged in retailing groceries and supplies.

In 1838, I was elected sheriff of Macoupin County. I held the job for 12 years.

In 1874, I was elected to the State Senate.

I died at the age of 70 in 1876.

Can you identify our mystery figure? Since we break from our traditional format in August to bring you Southwestern's annual report, we'll share the solution to this month's puzzle in our September issue.

Meanwhile, we hope you enjoy the responses to our April item. Thanks to everyone who submitted a solution — and thank you for reading The Southwestern.

The picture is the DeMoulin bucking goat. It is one of the items, used in the past, for lodge initiations developed by the DeMoulin Company in Greenville. They had several bucking goats with names like Rollicking Mustang and Fuzzy Wonder. The company has a museum that can be toured. A video of the museum says there is one bucking goat who is the mascot of the museum and is called Wink a Dink. I have never been to the museum but my research makes me want to take a tour.

—Robert Diesbach, Maryville

You're very clever. At first, I thought it was an antique toy but I discovered far more than that. It's "The Bucking Goat."

Manufactured by DeMoulin Bros & Co, Greenville, Ill. In 1894 the first DeMoulin goats were manufactured by Erastus DeMoulin at the family blacksmith shop in Sebastapole, Ill., and shipped by wagon to Greenville.

It was used as a lodge initiation device. Now I understand why people would say after joining an organization, at least I didn't have to ride the goat.

—Scott Fischer, Staunton

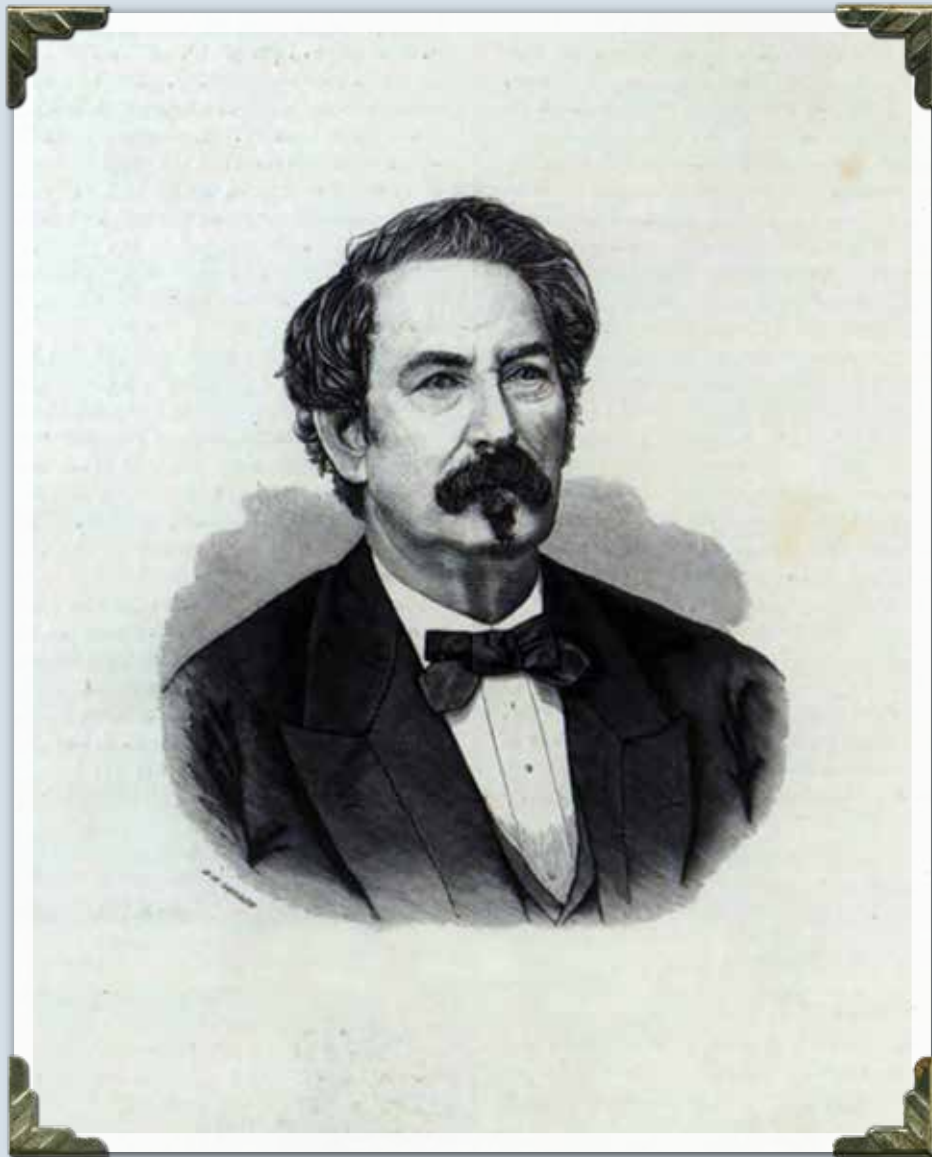
The contraption pictured as the April 2023 "What am I?" is an early prototype which later became bigger than ever imagined. In the early days riders would mount these wheeled rudimentary machines and with human pusher power joust with other similarly mounted opponents.

These vintage "Ram Chargers" were the namesake for the powerful pick-up trucks produced by Dodge that we see on our roads today. Their amazing evolution conjures up the old saying, "You have to walk before you run," only in this instance you have to push before you pull.

One last comment: Belated April Fools!

—Bill Malec, O'Fallon





Who am I?

Who-What-Where is a contest that challenges your knowledge of people, places and objects in and around Southwestern Electric Cooperative's service area. Here's how it works: Each month, we run a photo. Your job is to tell us who's pictured, what we've photographed, or where we shot the photo. You can email your response to joe.richardson@sweci.com or send it by mail to Joe Richardson, Southwestern Electric Cooperative, 525 U.S. Route 40, Greenville, IL 62246. Please include your name, mailing address, and hometown. If you have a story about our photo topic, include that as well—we love these! The puzzle solution—possibly accompanied by a few words from you—will appear in a future issue of The Southwestern.

Summer

This month's recipes are courtesy of Bond County Habitat for Humanity Cookbook (pinwheels), Edwardsville Garden Club's Favorite Recipes (avocado salad), and Fayette County Museum 35th Anniversary Cookbook (apple coleslaw, fresh fruit medley, and sweet and sour carrots).

Prepared &
photographed
by Mike Barns

FRUIT MEDLEY

Ingredients

- 1 (11 ounce) can Mandarin oranges drained
- 1 (8 ounce) can sliced peaches drained
- 1 (8 ounce) can pineapple chunks drained
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 4 ounces cream cheese softened
- ½ cup plain or vanilla yogurt
- ¼ cup sugar

Directions

1. In a large bowl combine oranges, peaches, pineapple, and marshmallows.
2. In a small bowl beat together cream cheese, yogurt, and sugar until smooth.
3. Pour cream cheese mixture over fruit and toss. Refrigerate before serving.

APPLE COLESLAW

Ingredients

- 2 cups shredded cabbage
- 2 apples cored and diced
- 1 (16 ounce) can crushed pineapple drained
- ¾ cup mayonnaise

Directions

1. Combine all ingredients, cover, and refrigerate at least one hour before serving.



Medley

AVOCADO SALAD

Ingredients

- 2 avocados peeled, pitted, and diced
- 1 sweet onion chopped
- 1 bell pepper chopped
- 1 large tomato chopped
- ¼ cup fresh cilantro chopped
- juice of half a lime
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Place all ingredients in bowl and gently toss until evenly coated.

SWEET & SOUR CARROTS

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup vinegar
- ½ cup oil
- 1 can tomato soup
- 1 cup celery sliced
- 1 medium green pepper chopped
- 1 sweet onion chopped
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- ½ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 cans sliced carrots drained

Directions

1. Mix together all ingredients except carrots.
2. Add carrots, stir together, and refrigerate overnight. Serve cold.

PINWHEELS

Ingredients

- 5 large tortillas
- 8 ounces cream cheese softened
- 8 ounces sour cream
- 3 chopped green onions
- 1 small can green chilies
- 1 small can chopped black olives
- 4 ounces shredded cheddar cheese

Directions

1. Mix together cream cheese and sour cream.
2. Combine remaining ingredients with cream cheese mixture.
3. Spread mixture evenly over entire surface of each tortilla.
4. Roll up tortillas and wrap them in plastic wrap.
5. Refrigerate at least 2 hours.
6. Unwrap and cut into 1 inch pieces using a serrated knife.

CURRENT EVENTS

June 1 - August 10 MUSIC IN THE PARK, Grafton. Bring your lawn chair or picnic blanket and listen to live bands and performers. Every Thursday 7 - 9 p.m. Admission is free. The Grove Memorial Park, corner of Market and Main Streets. Visit graftonilchamber.com.

June 3, 17 MOVIES IN THE PARK, Maryville. Enjoy outdoor screenings of Puss in Boots: The Last Wish (June 3) and Minions: The Rise of Gru (June 17). Movies begin at dusk. Drost Park, East Division Street. Visit vil.maryville.il.us.

June 6, 17; July 15 KAYAKING ON ELLIS BAY, West Alton. 1.5 hour beginner-friendly class. Learn water safety and review the basics of kayaking. Participants and guides will then launch their boats and set off to paddle around Ellis Bay. For 13 years of age and older. Choose from a 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. session. Admission is \$25. Pre-registration is required. Meet at the Picnic Pavilion on Riverlands Way (just down the road/past the Audubon Center at Riverlands, 301 Riverlands Way). To register, visit riverlands.audubon.org.

June 6-11 MACOUPIN COUNTY FAIR, Carlinville. 21368 State Route 4. Visit macoupin-countyfair.org.

June 7, 21 MUSIC IN THE PARK, Shiloh. Enjoy a summer of music featuring Short Mist, Vince K, Friends of Bluegrass, Little Known Facts, Frankie & Houseshakers, and Waterloo German Band. Bring your cooler, snacks and lawn chair.

7 - 8:30 p.m. Klucker Hall, 14 Park Drive. Call (618) 632-1022, ext. 119.

June 8 HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL, Hartford. The Lincoln Land Association of Bird Banders will catch and band hummingbirds. Experts will discuss hummingbirds, the banding process and how to encourage these gorgeous birds to visit your yard. Opportunities to "adopt" and release banded hummingbirds are on a first-come basis. A donation is suggested for each adoption. The adopters will receive updates when their banded hummingbird is found somewhere else. Bring lawn chairs, water and sunblock. 9 a.m. - noon. Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, One Lewis & Clark Trail. Visit campdubois.com.

June 8; July 25 CLASSIC FLICKS FOR CONSERVATION, Godfrey. Watch a classic movie on our giant inflatable screen. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets, as well as your own snacks. No alcohol is permitted. No pre-registration required. Limited parking is available, so arrive early. Watch The Snows of Kilimanjaro in June and A Bug's Life in July. 8:30 - 11:30 p.m. Event is free but donations are welcome. The Nature Institute, 2213 South Levis Lane. Call (618) 466-9930 or visit thenatureinstitute.org.

June 9; July 14; August 11; September 8 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES, Litchfield. Enjoy evenings of live music and good food. Performances include The Strugglers in

June, RetroRockitin July, B & B Strings in August, and Big Shake Daddies in September. 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Admission is free. Walton Park, 10207 Niemanville Trail. Go to visitlitchfield.com for more information.

June 9-11 SCHWEIZERFEST, Highland. A celebration of the city's Swiss heritage. There will be a large assortment of foods, beverages, live entertainment, rides, and games. Friday 6 p.m. - midnight; Saturday noon - midnight; Sunday noon - 10 p.m. Parade at 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free. Highland Square, 914 Main Street. Call (618) 304-9610 e-mail highlandiljaycees@gmail.com.

June 10 ROUTE 66 FESTIVAL, Edwardsville. Event will include 10K run, live music, great food, classic car show and cruise, food vendors, history tent, and local artists. 8 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. Admission is free. City Park, 101 South Buchanan Street. Call (618) 692-7538 or visit edwardsvillerroute66.com.

June 10 TRAIN SHOW, Greenville. See operating toy/model railroad displays, vendors featuring toy trains and other related items. Free train ride with paid admission. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Adult \$5; children under 12 years of age are free. American Farm Heritage Museum, 1395 Museum Avenue. Visit americanfarmheritagemuseum.org.

June 10 TWO RIVERS FAMILY FISHING FAIR, Grafton. Event will include fishing and water-safety seminars as well

June 16-19 FREE FISHING DAYS

This is the one time of year when it's perfectly legal to fish any (public) Illinois waters without a fishing license, inland trout stamp or salmon stamp.



as educational activities and prizes. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free. Pere Marquette State Park, 13112 Visitor Center Lane. Call (618) 786-3323, ext. 1.

June 10 & 11 QUILTS FROM THE HEART QUILT SHOW AND VENDOR FAIR, O'Fallon. Over 250 quilts on display, vendors, demonstrations, quilts of valor presentations, scrappy boutique, antique quilts and bed turning, raffle quilt and special exhibit "Be a Rainbow in Someone Else's Cloud". 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Adults \$7; children under 12 years of age are free. Whiteside Middle School, 111 Warrior Way. Call (618) 401-2196 or visit heartsnhand-squilt.org.

June 11 ALL-WHEELS DRIVE-IN CAR SHOW, Alton. Come out for the cars and stay for the live music, 50-50 drawing, vendor displays, merchant sidewalk sale, and great food. Expect between 150 - 200 classic cars, hot rods, and motorcycles. Registration for automobiles is from 8 a.m. - Noon. Trophies for thirty-seven classes plus five specialty

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Call to Confirm

Listings are provided by event organizers or taken from community websites. We recommend calling to confirm dates, times and details before you make plans. All are subject to change.

Submissions

To submit an event for consideration in our calendar, email your event information to joe.richardson@sweci.com. Please use our Current Events format (as seen on these pages) to write your submission. Include a contact number or email and submit your listing at least two months prior to your event.

FARMERS MARKETS

June 1, 15, 29 FARMERS MARKET, Maryville. The market offers fresh produce, honey, locally made crafts, art, and a variety of products ranging from home décor to holiday wares, skin-care products, and more. 8 - 11 a.m. 300 North Donk Street. Call (618) 304-8335.

June 1 - July 27 NIGHT MARKET, Alton. Enjoy live music in an outdoor setting, plus artwork and other handmade/homegrown products, as well as vintage and hip thrift items. Event is indoors at the Jacoby Arts Center and outside in the neighboring pocket park. Every Thursday night from 7 - 10 p.m. Jacoby Arts Center, 627 E. Broadway. Visit downtownalton.com.

June 1 - September 7 FARMERS MARKET, Maryville. Market offers fresh produce, honey, locally made crafts, art, and a wide variety of products ranging from home décor to skin-care. Every Thursday 5 - 7 p.m. Fireman's Park, 300 North Donk Avenue. Call (618) 304-8335 or visit facebook.com/MaryvilleILFarmersMarket.

June 1 - October 5 FARMERS MARKET, Brighton. Find home-grown, local produce, honey, crafts, and more. Every Thursday 4 - 7 p.m. Schneider Park, 414 North Maple Street. Call (618) 372-8860.

June 1 - October 26 FARMERS MARKET, Swansea. Locally grown fruits, vegetables, meats, baked goods, and intriguing handcrafted goods. Every Thursday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. rain or shine. Rural King parking lot, 2801 North Illinois Street. Visit facebook.com/SwanseaFarmersMarketInc.

June 3; July 1 MARKET DAYS, Carlinville. Locally-

made goods, crafts, antiques, vintage and new clothing, jewelry, tools, home décor, baked goods, and produce. This market is part farmer's market, part flea market, and part craft market. The first Saturday of the month through October. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. At the Downtown Square. Visit carlinvillemarketdays.com.

June 3 - September FARMERS MARKET, Effingham. Offers locally-grown food, art, live music and quality artisan goods. Every Saturday from 8 a.m. - noon. Effingham County Courthouse Museum lawn, 100 East Jefferson Avenue. Visit facebook.com/effinghamfarmersmarket.

June 3 - September 16 FARMER'S MARKET, Hillsboro. A great selection of locally grown produce, plants,



artisanal goods, and handmade crafts. The first and third Saturday of the month 9 a.m. - noon. Lincoln Plaza, South Main Street. Call (217) 556-2334 or visit imaginehillsboro.com.

June 3 - October 7 FARMERS' MARKET, Mascoutah. Market offers garden vegetables, seasonal fruit, jams and jellies, local honey, plants, baked goods, coffee bar and live music. Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 100 block of Railway (across from city hall). Visit mascoutahfarmersmarket.webs.com.

June 3 - October 14 LAND OF GOSHEN COMMUNITY MARKET, Edwardsville. Dozens of vendors sell locally-grown fruits and vegetables, local, farm-raised meats, cheeses, eggs, baked goods, and numerous non-food items. Expect live music, demonstrations of arts and crafts, and gardening tips. The market runs rain or shine and only cancels in extremely inclement weather. Every Saturday 8 a.m. - noon. Downtown Edwardsville, North Second Street. Visit goshenmarket.org.

June 3 - October 21 FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET, Alton. Local home-grown fruits and vegetables, hormone-free meats, baked goods, plants and flowers, and honey. Artists and makers will offer crafts, homemade



soaps and skin care products, jewelry, artwork, pottery, and art demonstrations. Every Saturday 8 a.m. - noon. Parking lot near Riverfront Park, corner Landmarks Boulevard and Henry Street. Visit downtownalton.com.

June 3 - October 21 VINE STREET MARKET, O'Fallon. Farmers and food makers bring produce, meats, dairy, wine, baked goods and sweet treats. In addition to local food our market brings live music, food trucks, and talented artisans together from the area to feature their hand made arts. Every Saturday 8 a.m. - noon.

O'Fallon Station, 212 East 1st Street. Visit ofallonstation.com.

June 3 - November OLD TOWN FARMERS MARKET, Belleville. Catch the morning's pick of fresh produce grown by local farmers and peruse the booths of local artisans. Every Saturday rain or shine. 7:30 a.m. - noon. South Charles Street (between East Main Street and East Washington). Visit bellevillemainstreet.net.

June 6 - July 25 HERALD SQUARE FARMER'S MARKET, Collinsville. Market features regional wares and produce booths, local art, crafts, food, and live music. Every Tuesday 6 - 8 p.m. 115 East Clay Street. Call (618) 304-8335.

June 4 - October 8 MARKET IN THE PARK Bethalto. Come enjoy the park, shop vendors, and enjoy live entertainment. The market sells a variety of local grown fresh produce and meats, honey, art and crafts, and more. Every Sunday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Central Park, 213 North Prairie Street. Visit bethaltomarketinthepark.org.

June 6 - October 24 FARMERS MARKET, East Alton. Seasonal vegetables, fruits, and flowers, as well as locally made honey, sauces, desserts, and breads will be available along with local artisan and crafted goods. Every Tuesday from 3 - 7 p.m. Eastgate Plaza, 625 Eastgate Plaza. Call (618) 530-1880.

June 30; July 28; August 25; September 29 FARMERS MARKET, Carlyle. Fresh produce, meat, eggs, and bread. Freshly cut flowers, plants, fudge, syrup... you never know what you'll find. Held rain or shine, only canceled for serious weather. 5 p.m. - dusk. Carlyle VFW, 1250 Franklin Street. Visit carlylelake.com.

► *Continued from page 24*
awards at 4 p.m. \$15 to enter the judging or just \$10 to display your wheels. Admission is free to public. Dash plaques and goodie bags are given to the first 125 participants. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. 112 West 3rd Street. For more information, visit downtownalton.com.

June 11; July 9; August 13; September 10; October 8 PICKERS MARKET, Litchfield. All items sold at this market are prior to 1980 including antiques, collectibles, vintage items, up-cycled items, and refurbished items. Live music each week. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 400 North State Street (intersection of Route 16/Union Avenue and State Street). Visit visitlitchfield.com.

June 13, 27; July 11, 25 HEARTLAND PRAIRIE HIKE, Alton. Join the Nature Institute at the Heartland Prairie at Gordon Moore Park. Walks will focus on identifying native plants and birds. We will discuss the plants in our newer sections at the observation deck until approximately 6 p.m. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes and bring water, binoculars and a plant identification book. 5:30 - 7 p.m. Event is free. Heartland Prairie, 4550 College Ave. Call (618) 466-9930 or visit thenatureinstitute.org.

June 16 & 17 HOMECOMING, Glen Carbon. The weekend will include carnival rides, games, food and drink, kid's climbing walls, local craft vendors, and the Yanda Log Cabin will be having an open house on Saturday. Friday 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. Music starts at 7 p.m. both nights. Saturday starts with 5K and 1-mile fun run at 8 a.m. across from covered bridge and parade at 5 p.m. South Main Street and Collinsville Street. Call (618) 288-2614 or visit glencarbonil.gov.

June 16 - August 11 MUNY BAND SUMMER CONCERTS, Highland. Join us Friday evenings at 8 p.m. for free summer concerts. On the square, 948

Main street. Visit highlandmunyband.wixsite.com/muny-home.

June 17 YOGA AT THE LODGE, Grafton. Join us for a free hour-long yoga session on our cabin lawn led by yoga guru, Madison Albert. This class is for everyone of all skill levels, just bring a mat and good vibes. Meet at the Father Marquette statue located on our cabin lawn. Ask a front desk team member for directions if you're unsure where this is. 9 a.m. Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center, 13653 Lodge Blvd. Call (618) 786-3323 or visit pmlodge.net.

June 17; July 15 FREEDOM TO EQUALITY TOURS Alton. Learn about Alton's significance on the Underground Railroad, discover the legendary abolitionists who fought against slavery and follow the stories of local Civil Rights leaders who made their mark on the city and the nation. The two-hour guided shuttle tours will stop at Rocky Fork Church, Elijah P. Lovejoy Monument, Union Baptist Church and the Miles Davis Statute. Tours leave at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Admission is \$32.50. Each tour will begin and end at the Alton Visitor Center, 200 Piasa Street. For more information or tickets, call (800) 258-6645 or visit riversandroutes.com.

June 18 SUMMER SOLSTICE SUNRISE OBSERVANCE, Collinsville. Join archaeologist Bill Iseminger at the Woodhenge reconstruction for a discussion about the discovery and significance of this Pre-Columbian structure. 5:20 - 5:50 a.m. Event is free. 1/4 mile west of the Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center on Collinsville Road. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street. Call (618) 346-5160 or visit cahokiamounds.org.

June 21 - 25 MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR, Butler. 300 Water Street. On Facebook @ Montgomery County Fair.

June 22-25 MOCCASIN CREEK MUSIC FESTIVAL, Effingham. Four-day music festival featuring folk, bluegrass, alternative country, roots rock, and blues music in an outdoor setting. Food and beverages sold on site. Larson's Landing, 8724 East Marine Drive. For complete schedule, visit moccasincreekfestival.com.

June 24 STOECKLIN'S ORCHARD HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL, Donnellson. The Lincoln Land Association of Bird Banders will catch and band hummingbirds. Experts will discuss hummingbirds and the banding process. Opportunities to adopt and release banded hummingbirds are on a first-come basis. A donation is suggested for each adoption. 3 - 6 p.m. 1709 Ayers Road. Follow Route 127 to Sorento Avenue. Turn east on Sorento Avenue and go 2 miles to the second crossroad, called Ayers Road (Don't take the first crossroad, which is West Ayers Road.). Turn north on Ayers Road and go about a half mile. Stoecklin's Orchard is located on the west side of Ayers Road. For more information see Stoecklin's Orchard on facebook.

June 24 PET MICROCHIP EVENT, Effingham. Bring your pet by for on-site microchipping. No appointment necessary. Just stop by between 10 a.m. - noon. Freewill donation. Effingham Animal Rescue Sanctuary (EARS) 408 East Fayette Avenue. Visit effinghamanimalrescue.com.

June 25 BREMER SANCTUARY OPEN HOUSE, Hillsboro. Learn about the sanctuary, take walks on the property, and enjoy self-led bird and wildlife watching throughout the afternoon. Event is free. 1 - 5 p.m. 194 Bremer Lane. Call (217) 532-2339 or visit bremersanctuary.com.

June 25; July 30; August 27; September 17 SYMPHONY CONCERT SERIES, Edwardsville. Family-friendly

free concerts performed by the Edwardsville Symphony. Free children's activities during each concert. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket. 6:30 p.m. Edwardsville City Park at the Cleaon Etzkorn bandstand, 112 South Kansas Street. Visit edwardsvillecommunitysymphony.com.

June 30; July 28 COMMUNITY BAND PERFORMANCE, Troy. Enjoy the sounds of the Troy Community Band. 7 p.m. at the gazebo in Tri-Township Park, 410 Wickliffe Street. Find us on Facebook at Troy Community Band.

July 1 HIT THE PAVEMENT 4 PAWS, Effingham. Help support the Effingham County Humane Society by enjoying our 5k Walk/Run or 10k run. If signed up by June 19 participants will get a bib, t-shirt, and medal. First-come first-serve the day of the race. All four legged friends are invited as long as they are friendly to all 2 and 4 legged runners. Must clean up after your pet. Packet pickup starts at 6:30 a.m.; race at 7:30 a.m. \$35 for 5k; \$40 for 10k. Teutopolis Community Park at Race Street and West Northern Row. For more information, call (217) 821-0425 or sign up visit runsignup.com.

July 3; August 1 MOONLIGHT HIKE, Godfrey. Join us on a night hike on the trails of the Mississippi Sanctuary and Olin Nature Preserve. The terrain is light to moderate and is appropriate for families. The hike will be about 2 miles with stops along the way. Meet at the Talahi Lodge. The hike leaves promptly at 8:30 p.m. Admission is free for members; non-members \$5. Registration is required. The Nature Institute, 2213 South Levis Lane. Call (618) 466-9930 or visit thenatureinstitute.org.



Abraham Lincoln invites visitors to sit a spell near a place he knew well on Gallatin Street in Vandalia.

THE FINAL FRAME

