# Blue Grass Living



# Thank You Veterans for serving our country and protecting our freedoms

## Message from the President

## Giving back, all year long

November and December are known as "the season of giving." Filled with the holiday spirit, people often give generously during this time of the year.

At Blue Grass Energy, we continue making life better, the cooperative way. We believe every day is an opportunity



to give because concern for our local communities is one of our priorities.

November 11, 2017

We're doing this by working to bring jobs and investments to our communities. Blue Grass Energy and Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Co-ops have pioneered the use of state-of-theart tools and technology that provide site selectors around the world with information they need to identify good development sites in our communities.

Leading the way for members wanting affordable renewable energy, our cooperative system, this

## Our offices will be closed Nov. 10 for Veterans Day and Nov. 23-24 for Thanksgiving.

month, will finish construction on Cooperative Solar Farm One which is one of Kentucky's largest solar farms featuring 32,300 solar panels. You can learn more about this opportunity at cooperativesolar.com.

We also support local charities. This year our corporate charity is Make-A-Wish. All year, we have been supporting them through fundraising and volunteering. Our 12 Days of Giving is a way you can assist in helping make wishes come true for some of our youngest members.

Continued on 32D

Michael I. Williams President & CEO

# **Safety First**

## What to do if you see a downed power line

Even if every home in your neighborhood loses electricity during a storm, a power line hanging loose could very well be

energized and may electrocute you if you touch it. Just because the electricity is out doesn't mean power lines are dead.

If you see one:

- Don't touch it—with your hand, body, a stick, a broom—not with anything. Stay as far away from it as possible.
- Call 911.
- If your car or another person is touching a downed line, don't touch your car or that person. The power could flow through them and into you.
- Don't drive your car over a downed wire.
- Teach your children about the dangers of fallen power lines.
- If the line falls on your car while you're



in it, stay inside. The ground around your car could be energized, so if you touch it, you could be electrocuted. Only exit your car in case of fire. For more information on what to do if your car comes in contact with a downed line, visit the Safety page at bgenergy.com.

# Blue Grass Energy's rates are competitive.

## ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

The cost of powering your home rises at a slower pace than many of your typical expenses. Compare the average price increase of these expenses each year over the last five years, and the value of electricity shines.

## National Average Annual Price Increase 2011-2016



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

# Are you using your 'Co-op Connections'?

## Get great deals, support local businesses

What's the best reason to flash your Co-op Connections Card? "It saves money!" says Tiua Chilton, Blue Grass Energy member and self-described smart shopper who uses the free card to receive discounts on everyday products and services.

The Co-op Connections program delivers added value to Blue Grass Energy members by offering a variety of discounts at participating local and national businesses. At the same time, it promotes economic development because participating businesses benefit from increased customer visits by co-op members.

Cardholders can save 10 to 85 percent on most prescriptions at over 60,000 independent pharmacies and national chains. Participating businesses also include healthcare providers (dental, vision, hearing, chiropractor, X-rays, lab work), restaurants, hotels, and many retailers.

Chilton's favorite Co-op Connections Card story involves the purchase of sunglasses needed to protect

her light green eyes during outdoor activities. She found the exact sunglasses she was looking for at a local vision center, and they were on sale. By showing her card, she saved a total of 41 percent on the sunglasses, which were originally priced \$188.

Chilton scored a great deal by using her "connections," and you can, too. Each Blue Grass Energy member can get a Co-op Connections Card free of charge. There's no catch — no signup, no annual fees. To get a card, download and print one from connections.coop or stop by your local Blue Grass Energy office.

Patronizing Co-op Connections merchants and getting your discount is just as easy. Download the Co-op Connections Card app by searching for Co-op Connections Card in your smartphone store. The app will help you find discounts offered by businesses in our area.



#### How to reach us

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Rachel Settles, Editor





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## President's message (cont'd.)

We are also supporters of an annual Honor Flight, the Washington Youth Tour, and local scholarships. In a variety of ways, we're doing what we can to give back, all year long.

So as we enter this season of giving and thankfulness, know that we here at your cooperative are thankful to have you as a member. I wish each of you a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.



Each year, Blue Grass Energy chooses a charity to work with for the year. We partner with a local nonprofit organization that benefits the communities in which we live and serve. Our fundraising efforts for the entire year go to that cause. This year, we are partnering with Make-A-Wish. We are excited about the opportunity of making wishes come true for some of our youngest members.

## Together, let's make wishes come true

Blue Grass Energy is hosting its annual holiday giving campaign the 12 Days of Giving.

From Dec. 1 through Dec. 18—the first 12 business days in December—please drop in to any Blue Grass Energy office and help us make wishes come true.

Some wish kids spend lots of time traveling to and from doctor's appointments. So, we're asking for specifics toys and other items that can help entertain them during these trips.



## Toys/Games

All Blue Grass Energy offices will be collecting items to entertain children, ages 2-18, when traveling. Books, games, electronics.



## Monetary donations

All Blue Grass Energy offices will be collecting money to benefit Make-A-Wish.

