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Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

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News

Visit us on the Web - www.sacosage.com

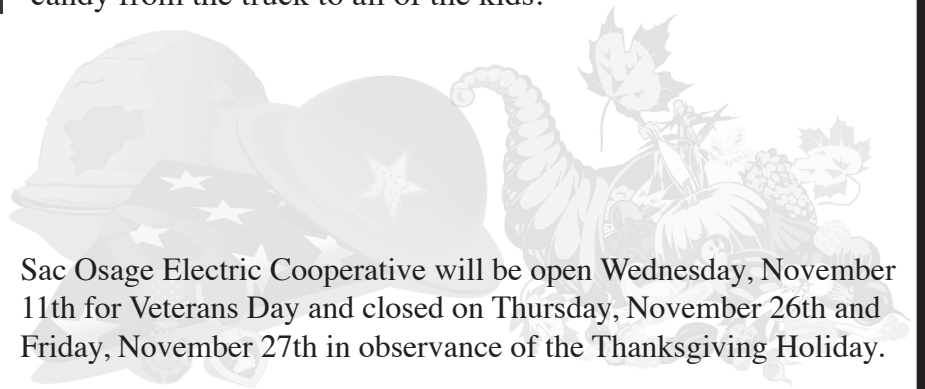


Sac Osage Electric Cooperative is proud to participate in community events like the Stockton Walnut Festival and El Dorado Springs "Bulldog" Homecoming Parades. Kids at the parade enjoy seeing the cooperative's trucks and scoop up the candy thrown. Special thanks to Mark Frieze, senior service lineman, along with his daughter and grandchildren for participating in the 55th annual Walnut Festival Parade. Thanks to Brian Fugate, journeyman lineman, along with Brian's son Aidan and his friends for participating in the El Dorado Springs "Bulldog" Homecoming Parade and throwing candy from the truck to all of the kids.

Longer nights on the way



Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 1st. That means long nights and extra hours of darkness. Don't forget to fall back an hour on Sunday, November 1st.



Sac Osage Electric Cooperative will be open Wednesday, November 11th for Veterans Day and closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Choose your celebration

Nov. 11 is not only Veterans Day, but also St. Martin's (Martinmas in Germany and England) and the commencement of Indian summer, a period of unseasonably warm weather. Veterans Day marks the World War I armistice in 1918.



Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day in 1954 and dedicated the holiday to world peace. St. Martin was the patron saint of drunkards, beggars and outcasts. Indian summer marks a period of warm weather following a cold spell. Choose your occasion and celebrate accordingly.

High time?

Let your clocks "fall back." Daylight saving time ends Nov. 1. In the continental United States, we owe our four time zones to the development of the great east-west railroads. Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific times came into national use in 1883, although the limits of the zones were not standardized until 1918. Before the railroads made rapid transit possible, simple "local time" was the standard, where it was noon in any region when the sun was at its highest point in the sky and shadows were cast in a north-south line.



A good day for music

Two men born on Nov. 6 made a great impact on the world of music. Adolphe Sax, a musician and inventor, was born in 1814; and John Philip Sousa, composer and band director, was born in 1854. Sax invented the saxophone and a family of brass wind



instruments for band and orchestra, the saxhorns. Sousa, known as "The March King," employed some of those instruments to create his stirring marches. After leading the U.S. Marine Band for 12 years, Sousa formed his own band in 1892. The best known of his many pieces is "Stars and Stripes Forever."

For recipes, gardening tips and weather forecasts, visit:
www.almanac.com

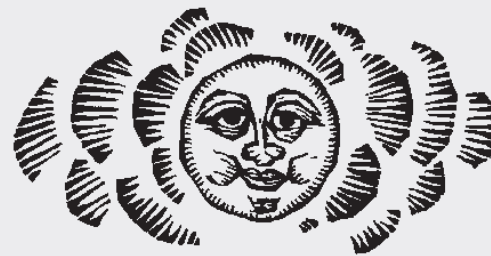
Recipe for Chocolate Bread Pudding



1 cup soft bread crumbs
2 ounces baking chocolate
1-1/4 cups sugar
1-1/3 cups milk
2 tablespoons butter
2 eggs
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
2/3 cup milk

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and grease a 1-1/2-quart baking dish. Combine the first four ingredients in a double boiler; cook until smooth. Stir in the butter and remove from the heat. Beat the eggs; stir in the remaining ingredients and add to the chocolate mixture. Cook over hot water until thick. Pour the mixture into the prepared pan and bake for 20 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

THE OLD FARMER'S



WEATHER PROVERBS

**A bad winter betide,
if hair grows thick on
the bear's hide.**

**A severe autumn
denotes a windy
summer; a windy
winter, a rainy
spring.**

**A heavy November
snow will last until
April.**

**Thunder in
November, a fertile
year to come.**

**If snow begins at mid
of day, expect a foot
of it to lay.**

**Anvil-shaped clouds
bring on a gale.**

**Full moon in October
without a frost, no
frost till full moon in
November.**

Made in the Shade

Insulated window shades save energy and increase comfort

Dear Jim: When it's cold outside, my home feels very chilly, especially near the windows. I can't afford energy-efficient replacement windows right now, so can you offer other options? — Cara M.



by Jim Dulley

Dear Cara: If you feel chilly sitting near a window, you're likely losing energy, which drives up your utility bills. This is also true during the summer when heat transfers in and forces your air conditioner to run longer. If replacement windows will exceed your budget, window shades are a reasonably priced option that will help.

Remember to caulk and weatherstrip your windows before making any other window efficiency improvements in your home. Move a lighted incense stick near all gaps and watch the trail of the smoke to find air leaks. Do this during windy weather, or briefly switch on an exhaust fan to draw outdoor air in through the gaps.

Installing insulated window shades will provide the most improved comfort and energy savings year-round. Several years ago, I installed Warm Window shades with a R-6 insulation value in my home office. This increased the overall R-value from R-2 to R-8 and improved comfort immensely.

When selecting insulated window shades, there are important factors to consider such as the R-value, how well they seal when closed, ease of operation and appearance. Before you make a purchase, try to operate a sample insulated shade that's similar in size to your needs. If the shade is difficult to open and close, you are less likely to use it as often as you should.

Almost all commercially available window shades list the R-value on the packaging. They typically include some type of air barrier film sewn inside the shade to block air flow through it. An aluminized or other type of low-emissive film is best to help block the radiant heat transfer through the shade material.

There should be deep vertical tracks, which mount on the sides of the window opening, for the edges of the shade material. Deeper tracks create a longer path for air leakage to travel, so they provide a better seal. Adhesive-backed vinyl tracks are often included with the shades. Also, look for brush or foam weatherstripping on the bottom edge where it rests on the windowsill when closed.

If you buy insulated shades that do not have vertical tracks, it is possible to make your own. Buy long pieces of aluminum U-channel. Most home center stores carry them in the hardware aisle. Stick them to the wall with a strong double-sided tape, or drill small holes and mount them with screws. Aluminum is easy to saw to length and easy to drill.

Cellular shades are a less expensive option and are best to use where you want some natural light to get through. The double-cell shades create an additional air gap for better insulation. Since their width grows as they are pulled up and collapsed, side channels are not very effective with this option.

The most common type of do-it-yourself window shade is a Roman shade design. The key to efficiency is to make them as thick as possible, while still being able to fold them up when opened. Include a reflective air barrier between the center layers. Reflective Mylar film works well for this and is very flexible.

If you do not want to install or make insulated shades, try closing the drapes at night. Some drapes, which are opaque and have a silvery backing, offer more efficiency improvement than plain fabric drapes.

Do you have an energy-efficiency question for Jim? Email him at contact@dulley.com or write to: James Dulley, Rural Missouri, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244.

To see beautiful window shade treatments with great insulating features, check out www.hunterdouglas.com.



This insulated weavers cloth roll-up shade is 72-inches long and available in many widths. This shade is raised and lowered by the use of a cord, which cleanly attaches to woodwork. It is made of 45 percent cotton and 55 percent polyester with foam insulated backing.

photo courtesy of Country Curtains



photo courtesy of Warm Company

This is a corner section of material from an insulated Roman shade kit. Notice the reflective film in the center between the insulating layers.



THANKFUL

As the seasons change and the bright colors of fall begin to give way to winter's gray, it's a good time to pause and give thanks for the many blessings we have. Some obvious blessings which come to mind are our friends and family, the great country we live in, the roof over our heads, and the ability to make a decent living. Unfortunately, we sometimes overlook some wonderful conveniences we are fortunate to have in a rural community.

One such incredible blessing we often overlook is the marvel of electricity and all the uses and comforts it affords to our everyday lives. These days, though, keeping this energy source available at a price that members can afford is becoming a challenge.

We realize that, over time, costs tend to go up, but certain government agencies and special interests groups are now pushing hard to implement expensive requirements that will hurt our most vulnerable Cooperative members. If no one objects to these requirements, many members who have taken affordable electric energy for granted may be forced to make significant unwanted changes to their budgets.

You can be thankful that in spite of environmental pressures, rising costs, and the challenges of providing ever-higher levels of service, your energy requirements are being met by a caring Board of Directors and by employees who are dedicated to providing you safe, reliable and affordable electric energy that can power our lives and provide comfort to our homes.

So, as you pause to count your blessings this Thanksgiving, we hope you remember:

- The lineman who works in heat, cold, rain or snow so that you can be comfortable
- The Board Member you elected who spends hours studying the electric industry in order to make wise decisions on your behalf
- The Tree Trimmers who work year-round ensuring reliability by clearing limbs from your power lines
- The employees who stand ready to help solve your problems and answer your questions
- The energy industry advocates who work behind the scenes with legislators to ensure that your best interests are served, and
- The Cooperative leaders of the past who established a three-tier system of generation, transmission and distribution which provides rural Missouri members with affordable energy

Together, we still have the ability to make a difference...and for that we can also be thankful!
Happy Thanksgiving from the Board and Employees of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative.