

# The Circuit!

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www.se-coop.com

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ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

## \*REWARD\*

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ourenergy.com  
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## Help Your Co-op Stop Copper Crime!

Copper thefts are a growing problem for your cooperative. Over the last year, Southeastern Electric has fallen victim to nearly 20 incidents of theft totaling **over \$100,000.00** in damages and losses. In order to help manage costs, we are asking for your help to knock copper thieves off the wire.

During the August meeting of the Board of Trustees, it was agreed upon that a reward should be offered to try and deter thieves. Guidelines were adopted stating that a hefty \$5,000 reward may be granted to anyone who reports legitimate information leading to the identity, arrest and conviction of a person(s) stealing copper from any SEC infrastructure.

Employees at SEC are excited to see the results of such a reward. When asked how he felt about offering a bounty to help stop copper theft, James Fox, Administrative Assistant at SEC commented, "I think it will be beneficial in the respect that it is going to make our members aware of the problem and get them involved in stopping this growing crime."

Over the past 10 years, the price for copper wire has increased dramatically therefore making the urge to steal the precious metal nearly irresistible to some. Thieves everywhere are not only putting themselves in risk of death or serious injury, they are putting the lives of innocent people in danger as well.

For instance, in 2009, a hospital in San Francisco was forced to operate on backup generators after the theft of copper from a transformer caused a power outage. In Arizona the same year, kids on a playground were put at risk when hot electrical lines were left hanging from light poles where crooks had literally yanked the wire out.

When a copper thief strikes, the effect impacts everyone involved. For the members of the cooperative, the theft can be responsible for large scale power outages or cause significant grounding issues for household equipment and appliances. In addition, copper theft repair requires SEC line crew to respond quickly to the damaged lines; taking them away from scheduled work and maintenance that the members rely on.

(See Copper on pg. 2)

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## Tip of the Month

Pre-heat ovens only for baking. Avoid opening the oven to check progress. Turn oven off before food is done and use retained heat to finish cooking. Use microwave whenever possible---it saves energy.

Source:  
[www.101waystosavemoney.com](http://www.101waystosavemoney.com)

## Copper

Fox stated, "The main effect that copper theft has on the co-op and the members is the costs to replace what was stolen. The price of material, labor and equipment are huge compared to the few dollars the thieves get for stolen copper." *The average cost of a theft from the cooperative is \$6,000.00.*

Copper thieves can steal from anywhere there is electric infrastructure. The main areas of interest are in isolated locations. The majority of the copper crimes involving SEC have occurred in the central eastern portion of Bryan County.

Anyone who thinks they may have information or have seen a copper theft take place in their area is encouraged to call and report it to both law enforcement, and to the cooperative at 580.745.9463. According to the guidelines, the information **must** result in the arrest and felony convictions of the person(s) responsible for the theft of the copper wire to be considered for the reward. The determination of whether a person meets the criteria for a reward and the amount of the reward is at the sole discretion of the Cooperative.

Southeastern Electric Cooperative is not encouraging or soliciting the breaking of any laws in gathering evidence relating to the prosecution of individuals for criminal conduct. For a complete list of the guidelines, please contact Member Services at 580.745.9463.\*\*\*

## Raking Up the Summer

Due to the excessive summer heat, trees are losing their leaves much sooner than in previous years. This can put a frown on faces since it also means the need for raking will come much sooner as well. It might be a welcomed fact to know that raking can be very beneficial. While you are out working to uncover your blanketed yard, know that the hard work will likely pay off.

When beginning the process of clearing the foliage, make plans to find a rake that works for you. There are many different kinds of rakes on the market, and believe it or not, using the correct one for your body can make a huge difference of how you feel the next day. Pace yourself! Since raking can be considered an aerobic exercise and give you quite a workout, you don't want to overdo it.

Before you decide what to do with your pile of leaves, consider these options:

**Recycle your leaves.** You can collect them either by raking or using the bag attachment that comes

on some models of lawn mowers. Move them to another part of the yard as mulch or collect them easily and haul them off.

**Start a leaf compost.** Leaves can add carbon to soil for planting. Rake your lawn and then spread out to needed areas or places intended for a garden.

**Leave some areas alone.** Keep the leaves under trees and shrubs for compost that can be beneficial during the spring season.

With exceptions to the areas that you are intending to keep the leaves for mulching purposes, raking can also be done for sanitary reasons. Water and wetness from the winter months can build up under the beds of leaves. This can cause bacteria and mildew to grow which is bad for the areas of grass that you want to show off in the spring.

Always keep in mind safety when you are outdoors and planning on being physically active for any period of time. When you have a plan for raking, it can be a fun and rewarding experience! \*\*\*

## Co-op Connections Card Business of the Month

# Marie's



L to R: Sherry Smith, Annette Armstrong, Marie Morrow, Mary Hitchcock

Each month, The Circuit will feature a business that is participating in the new Co-op Connections Card program. This month, we are proud to present Marie's from Durant.

Marie's is co-owned by Marie Morrow and SEC member, Annette Armstrong, a mother-daughter team. They are accompanied by long term sales associate of 16 years, Sherry Smith who is also a co-op member, as well as their five year associate Mary Hitchcock. The quartet likes to refer to themselves as "*Team Marie*."

Morrow had always been a stay-at-home mom. Armstrong graduated from SMU in May of 1977 with a degree in Elementary Education. "My mother and I had always loved clothes," said Armstrong. In the fall of 1977, the opportunity came along for the mother-daughter pair to purchase a clothing business. "We took a leap of faith and went into the clothing business in December of 1977."

Morrow and her daughter purchased Wella's Fashions from Wella Williams and Dorothy Spencer. It was located at 201 W. Main. At the time they purchased the business, Wella's Fashions had been in business at that location for 14 years. In July of 1988, the team relocated the business to its *current* location, 134 W. Main, and gave it the ever-popular name of Marie's.

Today, Marie's sells ladies apparel that range in size from 2-20. They offer popular brands such as: Foxcroft, Pendleton, Christine Alexander, Sharon Young, and Jag Jeans to name a few. Marie's also carries one of the largest selections of Brighton accessories in the area which includes handbags, footwear, belts, jewelry, sunglasses, fragrances, luggage, home décor and watches.

"I hope we get an opportunity to serve new customers as well as our existing customers with the use of the new Co-op Connections Card," stated Armstrong when asked how she felt about the program offered through her co-op. She is also looking forward to being able to use the card herself as a co-op member.

Marie's is offering a 10% discount on regular priced clothing to Connections Card holders. Armstrong is excited to see the results from the card and "thinks this is a good program for the consumers and the area merchants."

Marie's is located at **134 W. Main** in historic downtown Durant. *Customers are welcome to park on Main Street or at the back of the business in Market Square.* "Team Marie" would like to thank all the wonderful customers and friends that have shopped at Marie's throughout their 34 years in business and hope to see you soon!

## Questions about SEC's Rebates or Programs?

Get answers  
by calling  
Member Services  
Direct Line:

**580-745-9463**

Ask for  
**Jim Coleman**  
or  
**Kevin Ashley**

ATTENTION  
BUSINESS  
MERCHANTS

If you are interested  
in participating  
in our *free*  
**Co-op**  
**Connections**  
**Card**  
program,  
please contact:  
Kevin Ashley at:  
580.745.9463

or

kashley@se-coop.com

# Co-op Connections Card Participating Merchants

## Durant

**Rick's Shoe Center**  
10% off any  
regular priced item

**Sunday's Cafe**  
Free dessert with  
purchase of two entrees

**Taco Casa**  
Taco Tuesday:  
10 tacos for \$5 on Tuesdays  
(Limit one Taco Tuesday Special  
per member, per Tuesday)

**Advanced Medical  
Equipment**  
15% off co-pay  
and all cash sales

**Roby's Hallmark  
and Flowers**  
10% off total purchase

**Bar-W-Wholesale**  
10% off total purchase

**Bob's Family Restaurant**  
10% off total purchase

**Rhynes & Rhodes Furniture**  
Free delivery

**Wilson Ross Flower**  
10% off total purchase  
(Excludes wire orders & existing balance)

**Blue River Books**  
10% off total purchase

**Advanced Pest  
Control Services**  
10% off any  
pest control service

**The Frame Up**  
10% off total purchase

**TNM Automotive**  
Free 35 point inspection  
with purchase of oil change

**Welborn Music Company**  
10% off all purchases

**Curtis Jewelry & Personal  
Touch Gifts**  
30% off all gold  
and diamond

**Marie's**  
10% off regular  
priced apparel

**Mackey Home Appliance**  
15% off all regular priced  
furniture  
(Excludes mark-down items)

## Caddo

**Craighead's Five & Dime**  
10% off total purchase

**Norma's Jean & Boots**  
10% off total purchase

## Atoka

**Personal Touch  
Floral & Gifts**  
15% off total purchase

**R&B Sports**  
Buy a minimum of  
1 dozen embroidered caps  
get 2nd dozen 50% off  
(Offer limited to one use per logo design.)

**Standing Rock  
Christian Book Store**  
20% off any one  
regular priced item

## Tishomingo

**The Rose Petal**  
10% off purchase



Jerry Lowry taking advantage of Taco Tuesday at Taco Casa in Durant.



Flora at Personal Touch Floral & Gifts in Atoka.



Come see Roby at Roby's Hallmark and Flowers!