

# VOLUME 2 ISSUE 4

VOLUME 2

**SEE PAGE 4** 

## **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

NineStar honors scholarship winners, supports derby.

PAGE 6



## 4-H FAIR **ACTIVITIES**

NineStar continues its proud involvement in annual events.

**PAGES 10-11** 







#### **OUR EMPLOYEES MAKE THE** DIFFERENCE. HERE'S A CUSTOMER **REVIEW FOR ANGIE FREEMAN.**

ANGIE FREEMAN ROCKS! YOU SHOULD PROBABLY GIVE HER A RAISE FOR PUTTING UP WITH OUR CONSTANT CALLS ASKING WHEN OUR FIBER WOULD BE **INSTALLED! MY HUSBAND & I BOTH RUN BUSINESSES FROM OUR HOME & CONSISTENT** RELIABLE, HIGH-SPEED INTERNET **ACCESS HAS BEEN LACKING** FOR US FOR 15 YEARS! WE ARE SO THRILLED WITH THE SPEED & CONSISTENCY OF OUR NEW SERVICE. THANKS TO NINESTAR FOR SERVING US.

- SHIRLEY M.

### **HAVE A STORY IDEA?**

Contact David Spencer at dspencer@ninestarconnect.com

**2** MAY-JUNE 2013

#### DERBY DAYS

NineStar Connect had a car in that race, and many

PAGE 7 NineStar Connect gave a tour and shared industry information with the subsidiary of a fellow co-operative.

#### **MARKETING AWARD** PAGE 8

NineStar Connect earns national industry awards for one of its communications efforts (Hint: You are reading it right now).

Just in time for the start of the school year, get some lunchtime tips about how to assemble a healthy mid-day meal.

### PAGE 6

**ACTIVITIES** 

NineStar Connect

helped judge the Electric Project at this year's fair, and sponsored one

of the event's signature competitions.

PAGE 10-11

## CO-OP SHOWS ITS COLORS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

hope this edition of the NineStar Connection finds you well and enjoying a much cooler summer than last year. As most of you know, NineStar Connect is a cooperative, which means we operate by a unique set of principles and we are owned by our member customers. This special business model operates on the belief that a rising tide lifts all ships and we are here for our neighbor in times of need, as we know they will be in turn for us. There are many ways NineStar demonstrates this philosophy.

One such way our cooperative gives back is through our scholarship program. The opportunity to award scholar-

ships to graduating seniors of our members is an added benefit of the cooperative. Last month, we held a reception at our corporate office for 15 seniors and their families. The event offered an opportunity to hear the students' goals and aspirations for the future but also their gratitude for growing up around a cooperative.

Another way we as a cooperative collectively give back is through the Operation Round Up program. While this program has been a fix-



TIM HILLS

ture on the electric side for years, recently it was expanded to include communication customers. To date, more than 90 percent of you have agreed to participate in the program! First off, let me say thank you to everyone who has agreed to participate. I am thrilled to death with these numbers, but it once again confirms my belief in the cooperative spirit that it is alive and well.

I personally participate in the program, and while it seems like small change, and a tiny amount by itself, when it is pooled together with our neighbors, it becomes a tremendous amount that will change lives in our communities. I am excited these funds can now benefit our entire cooperative in areas such as Sulphur Springs, Cadiz and Markleville.

In closing, thank you for being members of NineStar and thank you for embracing and appreciating what it is that makes you and your cooperative special.

NineStar Connection

**EDITOR** 

David Spencer

**BOARD OF** 

**DIRECTORS** 

## NineStar CONNECTION

The NineStar Connection is a publication of NineStar Connect servicing retail and residential customers. Nearly 15,000 families and businesses receive this newspaper as part of their membership. NineStar Connection provides news, information and features about people, places and

issues related to readers.

#### Volume 2 No. 4

Published Bi-monthly Greenfield, IN 46140 Postage Paid at NineStar South Campus

2243 E. Main St. POSTMASTER: Send Greenfield, IN 46140 address changes to: 2243 E. Main St.

(317) 326-3131 Greenfield, IN 46140 (765) 533-4303 Annual subscription price is \$3; available to members of NineStar Connect ninestarconnect.com

#### ADDRESS: NineStar North Campus 2331 E. CR 600N

PHONE

www.ninestarconnect.com

Director District 1 Darrell H. Thomas (A) Thomas Kirby (B)

> **Director District 2** Doyle S. Baker (A) David G. Heller (B)

**Director District 3** Stephen Vail (A) Joseph Paxton (B) Director District 4 Don Shaw (A) Kim Cronk (B)

Director District 5 Richard C. Parker (A) Mark Evans (B)

Director District 6 Ronnie Mohr (A) Philip M. Hayes (B)

Director District 7 James E. Cherry (A) James Gillett (B)

District At-Large Robert Glazier

## MEET YOUR NINESTAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### DIRECTOR DISTRICT 1



DARRELL H. THOMAS (A)



THOMAS KIRBY (B)

DIRECTOR DISTRICT 2



DOYLE S. BAKER (A)



DAVID G. HELLER (B)

#### DIRECTOR DISTRICT 3







**JOSEPH PAXTON (B)** 

DIRECTOR DISTRICT 4

DIRECTOR DISTRICT 5

NINESTAR CONNECTION



RICHARD C. PARKER (A)



KIM CRONK (B)

MARK EVANS (B)

DIRECTOR DISTRICT 6



COUNT



PHILIP M. HAYES (B)

JAMES E. CHERRY (A)



DIRECTOR DISTRICT 7

COUNTY

JAMES GILLETT (B)

LIS HIGHWAY

CORPORATION LIMIT

1:50.000

1 0.5 0 1 Miles

this in NOT an Engineering or Survey grade map and should not be used as such. This is NOT an Engineering or Survey grade map and should not be used as such. This does is distributed "as is" without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied and NineSi Connect is not responsible or liable for any use, derivative use or misuse of this map.

ROBERT GLAZIER

DISTRICT AT-LARGE

COUNTY

MAY-JUNE 2013 **3** 



HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ALLI FRAZIER AND BRENDA KIDDER REFLECT ON THEIR TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

reenfield-Central High School senior Alli Fraizer said touring the nation's capital, as a representative of NineStar Connect, was the trip of a lifetime and one she will never forget.

"I can't thank Ninestar enough for giving me this opportunity," she said. "I made memories and

WRITTEN BY JULIE YOUNG

friendships that I will cherish forever. It was the best experience I have ever had."

Fraizer and Pendleton Heights High School senior Brenda Kidder,

17, were among the 77 delegates from around the state chosen to participate in the Indiana Electric Cooperative's annual Youth Tour of Washington, D.C.



ing with kids who were all at the top of their class, which made for a great group," Kidder said. "Not only that, but I am really into travel and history, so it was doubly exciting for me."

have hosted the youth tour since 1960, providing hundreds of young Hoosiers the opportunity to visit the District of Columbia, develop their leadership skills, and learn about the federal govindustry. During the weeklong tour, the students visited historic

sites, toured national monuments, visited with congressional leaders and met peers from 46 other states, all representing coops across the nation.

Frazier said one of her favorite parts of the trip was the stop at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa. She said unlike other significant moments in history, such as Pearl Harbor, the Kennedy assassination or the Space Shuttle Challenger explosion, 9/11 is one that she lived through first hand.

stand in the same place where the plane crashed on such an infamous day," she said.

Victorian photo shoot where the students dressed up in period costumes and snapped pictures.

"The whole town of Gettysburg was a lot smaller than I thought it would be, but it is steeped in so much history that it's hard not to be awed by it," she said. Both girls said unlike a traditional class trip, their visit to Washington allowed them to couple tourism and history with plenty of fun. The students took part in a "D.C. Under the Lights Tour," which included visits to the Roosevelt, Jefferson, Washington and Pentagon 9/11 memorials. They stopped by Arlington National Cemetery, where they saw the Changing of the Guard and Changing of the Wreath ceremonies at the

The Smithsonian Institute also proved to be an exciting adventure for the girls. Although Frazier has traveled to the D.C. area several times in the past, seeing the museums was a new experience for Kidder, who took pictures of the dinosaurs for her brother in the Museum of Natural History and spent a lot of time at the aquarium area because of her interest in marine biology.

"Even though I plan to major in occupational therapy in college, marine biology is a passion and a hobby of mine, so I was grateful to experience the exhibit the Smithsonian had to offer," she said.

Frazier, too, enjoyed the infamous institute, especially the Air and Space Museum, but she was moved more by the tour's visit to the World War II memorial, where they met up with a group of veterans who were seeing the memorial as part of an Honor Flight trip.

"That was really special," Frazier said, noting that the Honor Flight Organization is committed to helping provide every veteran the chance to see their memorial. They give top priority to veterans who have served in World War II and those with terminal illnesses, and transitions to other campaigns based on chronological order. "We took the time to talk with them and thank them for their service and they seemed really happy to talk with us about their experiences and answer all of our questions. Some of them even had tears in their eyes."

Both girls said the trip was well worth it and they would recommend that any Indiana junior whose parents or guardians are members in good standing with an electric co-op should apply for this experience. Fraizer said when her tennis coach (and Director of Marketing for NineStar Connect) David Spencer suggested she turn in an application, she hesitated, but is now grateful that he suggested it.

"He said that it had been a while since a student from Greenfield-Central had been chosen, and that's what prompted me to do it, but I plan on telling everyone in the junior class to apply. It was a deeply personal experience and an opportunity unlike any other," she said.

Two students from each cooperative were selected based on his or her class rank, cumulative GPA, scholastic record and SAT/ACT scores. "It was really neat to be travel-

Indiana's electric cooperatives ernment and its role in the utility

NINESTAR CONNECTION

"It sent chills down my spine to

Kidder said she enjoyed seeing the battlefields of Gettysburg. the museum and enjoyed the

**Brenda Kidder and Alli Frazier** toured Washington, D.C., posing together at many of the sights.

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Their walking tour led them past

Einstein Memorial, and they had

the opportunity to tour the U.S.

Capitol Building, where they ate

men and women who represent

Indiana in the House and Senate.

"Touring the Capitol building

was one of my favorite parts of the

see some of the behind-the-scenes

representatives in a way that you

wouldn't ordinarily if you were

just on vacation with mom and

stuff and meet with our local

whole trip," Kidder said. "We got to

lunch and met with eight of the 11

the White House as well as the

JULY-AUGUST 2013 5

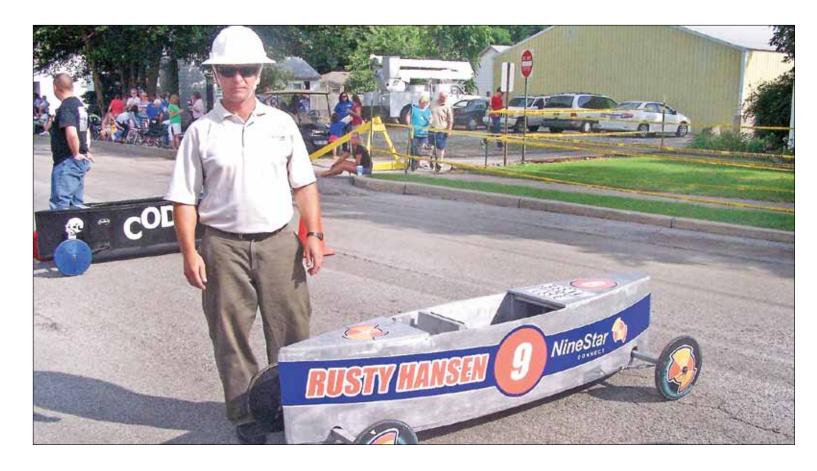
## NINESTAR SPOTLIGHTS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

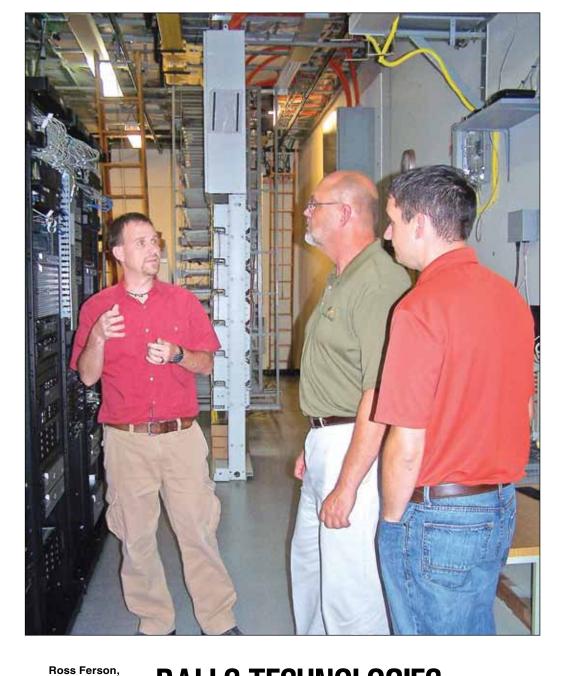
n June 24. at the NineStar Connect corporate offices, the company hosted a reception for all of its 2013 scholarship recipients. These students won their scholarships based on a drawing conducted at the annual meeting in April. In attendance were NineStar corporate officers as well as the board of directors for the company. Students and their parents enjoyed cookies and punch and also had the opportunity to share with the group their future educational plans. NineStar wishes all of this year's scholarship recipients the best of luck as they embark on the next chapter in their lives.

COMMUNITY EVENT

## NINESTAR SUPPORTS MORRISTOWN DERBY DAYS

he weekend of July 26-27 saw NineStar involved in the annual Morristown Derby Days celebration. In addition to having a booth manned by customer service representatives and a vehicle in the parade, the company also fielded a derby car in the adult race. NineStar's own Rusty Hansen drove the No. 9 car in Friday night's race. While the car was eliminated after two heats, a good time was had by the close to 20 employees of the company who showed up to cheer Rusty on!





Network Operations at NineStar, shows Lynn Hodges and Bob Winsel from Ralls Technologies. the central office located at **NineStar North** campus. The quests were visiting recently to learn how NineStar deploys advanced communication services.

Director of

# RALLS TECHNOLOGIES VISITS NINESTAR

ast month, NineStar hosted executives from Ralls Technologies, a subsidiary of Ralls County Electric Cooperative, located in New London, Mo. Lynn Hodges, Chief Operating Officer and Bob Winsel, System Administrator spent two days at NineStar visiting with key NineStar personnel and touring the campus to learn more about the company and how it deploys broadband, digital television and unlimited voice. Currently, Ralls Technologies offers multiple services including Internet over Ralls County Electric Cooperative's infrastructure. Lynn stated that the visit resulted in a greater knowledge in how services are deployed and he is thankful for NineStar's Hoosier hospitality.

## GREATER ENERGY SAVINGS, BY DESIGN

he Power Moves energy efficiency programs brought to you by NineStar Connect have been saving homeowners and business owners energy and money for several years. We are excited to introduce a new Power Moves program – the Business New Construction Program.

A new building for your business is an opportunity to make a real difference to you bottom line and to your community. Power Moves and NineStar Connect bring new ways to save on new construction and major renovation projects for business. Install energy efficient equipment and get your money back. Then start saving every month.

Get in touch with NineStar Connect as soon as your design team has been assembled. We can help connect you with established incentives or create a custom incentive that meets the specific needs of the project.

#### Lighting

Start with the right design to ensure appropriate light levels and reduce energy costs. Earn Power Moves incentives of up to \$400 per 1,000 square feet of efficient lighting and \$15 per sensor.

- Compact fluorescent lamps
- Ceramic metal halide lamps
- Lighting occupancy sensors
- High-performance linear fluorescents
- Qualified LED lighting

#### HVAC

Keep your business comfortable and your heating and cooling costs to a minimum. Power Moves will give you up to \$75 per ton for simple and efficient heating and cooling systems, including geothermal heat pumps. Earn further saving from equipment like ventilation fans and variable frequency drives.

■ Packaged – and split-air conditioning systems

- Air-source heat pumps
- Ground-source heat pumps
- High-performance economizers
- HVAC variable-frequency drivers
- Packaged terminal heat pumps
- Other heating and air-conditioning systems

#### Refrigeration

Cut your refrigeration costs with energy-efficient refrigerators, freezers, ice machines and more. Power Moves incentives of up to \$150 per unit take the chill out of the investment.

Our team of design professionals will work with you and your design and construction team to create a custom rebate. Talk to us, whatever your energy goals – from a more efficient chiller to cutting-edge integrated design. Our Business New Construction Program offers rebates for equipment that saves energy each month. Its good business, and that's nothing new. Contact Darrin Couch of NineStar

Connect at 317-326-3131 to find out more about

designing for maximum savings.

6 JULY-AUGUST 2013 NINESTAR CONNECTION NINESTAR CONNECTION JULY-AUGUST 2013 7

#### ENERGY OPTIONS

## THIRD QUARTER MEMBER **SERVICES SEMINAR**

enewable Energy Products – What makes sense?
There is a great deal of talk these days

about renewable or alternative sources of energy, and much of the talk focuses on claims of the money that can be saved by installing renewable energy products. For anyone interested in renewable energy products, such as those that use solar or wind energy to produce electricity, NineStar Connect will be hosting a "Making Sense of Renewable Energy Products" workshop from 8-10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.

This intent of this seminar is to help people who are interested in renewable energy products make informed buying decisions and develop realistic expectations regarding the return on investment, installation expenses and maintenance expenses associated with solar and wind generator installations. NineStar Connect personnel will present information related to the company's interconnection policies, including metering, purchased power and safety standards. Featured speaker and Certified Energy Manager Mark Frost will present "Solar 101" and discuss the ins and outs of renewables for residential energy production.

The seminar also will feature product samples as well as vendors, who will be on hand to answer questions and showcase their equipment. Plan to come for doughnuts and coffee at 8 a.m. Seating will be limited to the first 100 people who register by calling Brad or Darrin at 317-326-3131.

SPACE AVAILABLE

### **CONFERENCE CENTER AVAILABLE**

eeding a place to conduct a business meeting? What about a birthday party for your close friend? Searching and searching for the perfect spot for your upcoming wedding reception? Let NineStar Connect help you! NineStar Connect Conference Center is available for public events. Our state-of-the-art conference center holds up to 100 people and has various room setups that fit your needs. From banquet style to classroom style, we can make sure your event is a

Also available if needed are double video screens and a speaker podium with microphone for easy communication in larger groups. An accessible kitchen area is also present; however, catered food must be brought in, as preparation of food is not permissible.

If you are interested in holding your next occasion at our conference center (South Campus: 2243 E. Main St., Greenfield), please log onto www.ninestarconnect.com under "Our Community." There is an appointment locator for easy-to-use calendar availability.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

## NINESTAR CONNECT MARKETING RECEIVES TELECHOICE AWARD



avid Spencer and Christa Riggs recently traveled to Orlando, Fla. where they accepted an award for their marketing creativity. The award, presented by NTCA – The Rural Broadband Association, is part of the annual TeleChoice Marketing Awards NineStar received the award for the NineStar Connection newsletter. The competition was fierce in that 10 newsletters were submitted for consideration by companies across the United States. The awards are anonymously judged by public relations and marketing professionals.

NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association, is the premiere nonprofit association representing more than 560 small and rural telephone cooperatives and commercial companies across America.

The association offers an array of member services, including a highly effective government affairs program, expert legal and industry representation, a broad range of educational services, a comprehensive assortment of regular and special publications, and public relations

MEMBER BENEFITS

## COOP CONNECTIONS CARD MAKES PROGRESS

hank you to those who have faithfully used your NineStar Connect's Coop Connections Card. Every month, we receive a spreadsheet of the savings people have received in our territory regarding the Healthy Savings portion of the card. This number continues to rise as far as how many members are using it and how much they are saving. We are thrilled to see this number increase!

Additionally, we apologize that not more local discounts have been posted to the site and we understand the need for this. We have some prospects on the horizon and they should be posted soon; however, we are pleased to announce that Strike Force Lanes in Greenfield has been added. Please log onto



www.ninestarconnect.com or www.connections.coop to check out the latest deals. As a reminder, you will start to see more local offers to help you save money and in turn help local businesses achieve more customer visits. It is 100 percent free advertising and as a member, you receive the discounts that you deserve. We think this

program is a great way to help make this a win-win solution for everyone!

If you or your business is interested in promoting an offer on www.connections.coop for NineStar members, please contact Christa Riggs at criggs@ ninestarconnect.com or 317-323-

We have more in the works, so please don't hesitate to keep checking the site for more values and offers that will save you



## SCHOOL LUNCH BAGEL SANDWICH

This sandwich mixes the goodness of bagels with the crunch of dill pickles. I came up with this sandwich for my son, who loves bagels and cream cheese, but I felt his favorite needed something extra to really make it a lunch. This is kid-tested good, and you can alter the veggies according to what your child likes.

Prep Time: 10 Min Cook Time: 5 Min Ready In: 15 Min

Original Recipe Yield 1 sandwich

#### INGREDIENTS

1 tablespoon herb and garlic flavored cream cheese

- 1 multigrain bagel, split and toasted 2 thin slices Cheddar cheese
- 2 slices dill pickle
- 1/4 cup shredded carrot
- 1 leaf lettuce

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Spread the cream cheese on the toasted bagel. Layer the Cheddar cheese, pickle slices, carrot, and lettuce onto one half of the bagel, then top with the remaining bagel half. Cut the sandwich in half and wrap with plastic wrap or aluminum foil. Place the sandwich in a lunch bag with an ice pack.

### **LUNCH BOX HOT DOGS**

When the kids need a break from sandwiches, why not send them with a hot hot dog to warm their bellies before going out to play?

Prep Time: 5 Min Cook Time: Ready In: 25 Min

Original Recipe Yield 1 hot dog

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 all-beef hot dog
- 1 hot dog bun
- 1 packet ketchup
- 1 packet prepared yellow mustard
- 2 tablespoons shredded Cheddar cheese

Prepare your child's lunch box

#### by packing the hot dog bun, ketchup, mustard and Cheddar cheese. Preheat your child's insulated

beverage container by filling with boiling water. Let stand for 15 to 20 minutes. I put the kettle on when I get up and let it heat while the kids get ready for school. Right before they leave, dump out that water and replace with more boiling water. The preheating keeps it hot for a longer time. Place a hot dog into the water and close the lid.

When your child is ready for lunch, they can take the hot hot dog out of the container and place it on the bun. Top with ketchup, mustard and cheese to make a hot lunch from home.

### **PEANUT BUTTER CUP COOKIES**

Prep Time: 25 Min Cook Time: Ready In: 1 Hr 35 Min Original Recipe Yield 40 cookies

INGREDIENTS

- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 cup butter, softened 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup peanut butter 1/2 cup packed brown sugar

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract 2 tablespoons milk
- 40 miniature chocolate-covered peanut butter cups, unwrapped

#### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Sift together the flour, salt and baking soda; set

Cream together the butter, sugar, peanut butter and brown sugar until fluffy. Beat in the egg. vanilla and milk. Add the flour mixture: mix well. Shape into 40 balls and place each into an ungreased mini muffin pan.

Bake at 375 degrees for about 8 minutes. Remove from oven and immediately press a mini peanut butter cup into each ball. Cool and carefully remove from pan

## HEALTHY PACKED **LUNCH HOW-TO**

onfrontations focusing on diet between children and parents have been around U seemingly since the beginning of time. Many children start off as cooperative eaters, anxious to try different types of foods. As they get older, the number of foods they're apt to eat diminishes, which can make choosing healthy items for lunches and dinners more difficult. It also can make packing lunches for school more challenging.

Considering school lunches must compete with far less healthy yet widely available alternatives, parents will need to be creative in their creation of homemade lunches. Here are some ideas to get you started.

so squashed it's

unrecognizable.

Have your child

make a list of his or

Once the list has been

made, see how you can

make the foods health-

her favorite foods.

#### Purchase a new **INGREDIENTS** lunch container. There 4 apples - peeled, cored are many different new and chopped and innovative lunch 3/4 cup water containers that can make separating school

1/4 cup white sugar 1/2 teaspoon ground lunches easy. Few kids want to dig into a brown paper sack and pull out DIRECTIONS something that has been

**HOMEMADE** 

Original Recipe Yield

4 servinas

In a saucepan, combine apples, water, sugar, and cinnamon. Cover, and cook over medium heat for 15 to 20 minutes, or until apples are soft. Allow to cool. then mash with a fork or potato masher

ier. For example, if chicken nuggets make the list, prepare your own nuggets with white meat chunks that are baked, not fried.

Get creative. Children may not be inclined to eat loose pieces of fruit. But if the fruit is stuck on skewers or served with a low-fat dipping sauce or caramel, it may look more appealing.

Hide healthy foods within others.

There are entire recipe books that teach you how to mix fruits and vegetables into desserts to increase nutritive value. Everything from spinach to tofu to beets has been included in items like cake, cookies and brownies. So if kids are reticent to dig into their greens, try a clever hiding

Cut foods into fun shapes. Kids may be more inclined to eat a turkey and cheese sandwich if it's cut into star shapes or their favorite cartoon characters.

Don't let the time of day dictate what you serve. As long as kids are eating healthy items, it doesn't matter when they

There are many different ways to improve homemade lunches for the better.

NINESTAR CONNECTION NINESTAR CONNECTION 8 JULY-AUGUST 2013 JULY-AUGUST 2013 9 NEWS

# NINESTAR HELPS WITH SCHOOL WORK

t's hard to believe that it's back-to-school time; parents and children alike are hustling around to get school supplies and all the things needed to prepare for this upcoming school year. We, here at NineStar Connect, want to help make your school year as enjoyable and stress free as possible. With services such as our adorable NineStar Nerds, our innovative fiber optics, our home security and other state-of-the-art conveniences, NineStar can help you achieve success this year and for years to come.

These days, most school assignments are done on a computer, and there are several things that can go wrong with a computer that the average person doesn't know how to fix. Leave the stress to us! Our NineStar Nerds provide many network/PC installation and repair services using highly qualified technicians. With just one call, we can be at your doorstep relieving the anxiety of missing that important homework project.

Additionally, with our blazing fast internet speeds, you don't have to worry about tapping your fingers on the desk waiting for your files to download. And because fiber is directly linked to your home, no need to worry about others slowing down that connection. Each time you log on, your Internet connectivity will be so quick and reliable, you won't believe your eyes!

Procrastinator? Planning on working an all-nighter? We can't fail to mention our 24/7 call center. Any hour of the day or night, we can be reached if you are having a problem with our services.

Finally, as most of us are working parents, we might not be able to be there right when our children get home from school. Let us free your worries. With our dependable home security system, we can help you feel better about your children being safe until you arrive home.

NineStar Connect knows that education, safety and reliability are all important. These three characteristics are key to building a child's future. We might not be able to do the homework for your children, but we can certainly help make it easier for them! Please call our offices at 317-326-3131 today!

BEING THE JUDGE



# **CHARGED ATMOSPHERE**

NINESTAR TAKES PART IN 4-H ELECTRIC PROJECT JUDGING

udging for this year's Hancock County 4-H Electric Projects took place June 18. This year, more than 70 projects were judged in five divisions. Volunteer judges from Boone County REMC, Decatur County REMC and Rush/Shelby Energy were on hand to provide their expertise in judging the project's this year. Throughout Indiana, the 4-H Electric Program is supported by many electric cooperative employees as well as the Indiana Statewide Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives. The countless hours of support from these groups continues to make the 4-H Electric Program a great success. Through this program, experts are able to share their knowledge of electricity and electric safety with hundreds of participants in the 4-H Youth Program. NineStar Connect is a proud supporter of the 4-H Youth Program and provides leadership for the 4-H Electric Projects both in Hancock County and on the state 4-H Electric Program committee.



GREAT CUSTOMER SERVICE JUST
GOT BETTER. NINESTAR CONNECT'S
TECH SUPPORT CALL CENTER IS
OPEN AROUND THE CLOCK.
317-326-HELP
NINESTARCONNECT.COM

The Grand Champion and
Reserve Grand Champion projects came from the Advanced
Division projects this year. Adam
Shanahan won Grand Champion
with his Word Clock, and Alexis
McMahan won Reserve Grand
Champion with her Solar Powered
I-pod charger. Other winners by
Division were:

Division I: Rachel McCartney, Champion; Kaden Schutt, Reserve Champion

Division II: Sommer Studebaker, Champion; Nathan Hummel, Reserve Champion

Division III: Logan Overman, Champion; Matthew Paarlberg, Reserve Champion

Division IV: Katie Gunn, Champion; Maddie Mills-Craig, Reserve Champion

A new project this year was the

Farm Model Project. This project allows participants to construct a model farm scene utilizing a wide variety of materials, including toy tractors, soil, grass and other items. NineStar Connect provided a special award to participants for adding utility distribution equipment in their models, such as power poles, wires and transformers. A winner was selected from each division. This year's winners were Ryan Kihlstrum in Division I and Luke Horner in Division II. The two winners were awarded a NineStar Connect toy bucket truck to congratulate them on their efforts.

Congratulations to all of this year's participants!



# NINESTAR CONTINUES TRADITION OF SPONSORING QUEEN CONTEST

or many years, NineStar Connect has been a proud sponsor of Hancock County's 4-H Fair Queen Pageant; and this year was no different. At the conclusion of a wonderful evening Paige Carroll, a 10-year 4-H'er was selected the 2013 Fair Queen. She is an 18 year-old Mt. Vernon High School graduate who plans to attend Ball State University this fall to major in business management.

Paige was selected from a field of 25 girls who are all 4-H members who answered a series of questions from a panel of judges before the night of the crowning. The evening of the event, all the contestants then walked down

the runway with their business attire followed by their formal wear. With a mountain of nerves, the anticipation of calling the name of this year's queen is always an exciting moment for the participants and spectators alike.

Along with Carroll, the evening's other favorites were runner-up, Princess Lindsey Werking and the Queen's Court: Gabrielle Guerra, Samantha Gulden and Morgan McKinney (who also won the peer vote of Miss Congeniality).

Congratulations to all the winners and good luck to Paige as she competes at this year's Indiana State Fair.

## NINESTAR BOOTH MEASURES UP

big thank you to all of those who visited our booth at the Hancock County fair. This year, we incorporated the help of our Customer Service Representatives to help answer questions and enroll those wanting to sign up for NineStar services. We were pleased with the number

of people who stopped by to look at what we had to offer and to grab one of our handy yardsticks!

Additionally, every evening we were lucky to have the Queen or a member(s) of her court to take pictures with passersby. The photos were taken and uploaded to our website where they could be downloaded or shared with family and friends. It was a lot

of fun for all and gave a mean-

ingful token to commemorate

this year's county fair.

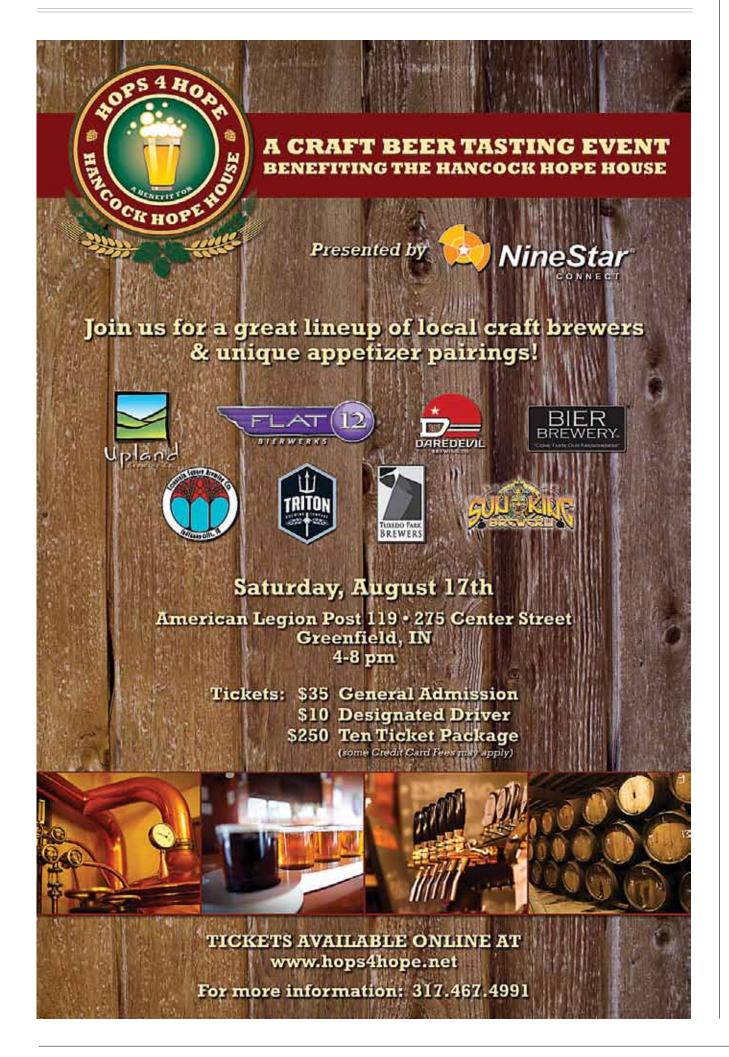
If people have questions that weren't answered at the fair, they should not hesitate to give us a call at 317-326-3131. We would be more than happy to assist you. Thanks again, and we will see you next year!



Hometown, High-tech,



10 JULY-AUGUST 2013 NINESTAR CONNECTION NINESTAR CONNECTION JULY-AUGUST 2013 11





### NINESTAR PRESENTS AWARD AT WILL VAWTER ART SHOW

The 2013 Will Vawter Art Show and Competition kicked off June 28 with a well-attended reception at the Creative Arts & Event Center in downtown Greenfield. Thirty-eight central Indiana artists submitted more than 100 art pieces created in oil, watercolor, acrylic, pastel and other media. NineStar Connect was proud to present the People's Choice Award to Greenfield resident Barb Anton for her work "Into The Shade." Pictured to Barb's left is NineStar Marketing Coordinator Christa Riggs who presented the award. This painting and all of the other Vawter competition paintings will be on display on the main floor of the Creative Arts and Events Center, in the Walker Room and a new gallery located to its north.

#### SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes.

See ninestarconnect.com Facebook page for last edition's solution.

		1		6		4	2	
2	6		3	7		5		
9	8		2				6	
	7				1		4	
			7				5	2
	4	8		5				3
		7						6
1		3	6			9		
					3	2		5