

Energy efficiency seminar draws a crowd

Each year Southern Indiana Power, Dubois REC, and Daviess-Martin County REMC host a seminar to promote energy efficiency and explain the advantages of electricity. Home insulation dealer Superior Insulation also partners with the co-ops to put on the event at the Ferdinand Community Center.

Energy Specialist Bob Geswein is the seminar's featured speaker. Geswein is an approved Energy Star home rater who has presented his fast-paced energy efficiency and building science seminars to numerous Home Builders Associations, the University of Kentucky School of Architecture and even the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's New and Emerging Technology Conference in Orlando, Fla.

The topics Geswein covers include effective caulking, effective basements, crawlspaces and slabs, effective insulation and effective windows and doors before moving on to the topic of heating, cooling and ventilation equipment.

"Many people think the answer to energy savings is in a new piece of equipment to heat or cool their home, but you cannot get the right

heating and cooling system until you've made the correct decisions for those first four topics. Those other issues dramatically affect the size of the HVAC equipment needed and how efficiently it does the job," said Geswein.

In addition to Geswein's presentation, the event featured booths and exhibits displaying products from construction and remodeling vendors; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; plumbing; windows and doors; insulation; and appliances. "We appreciate all the vendors who participated and helped us with this event," said Southern Indiana's Don Etienne. "We think this information is valuable to our members, and we couldn't put on a free seminar of this size without the vendors who participated."

After the seminar, Geswein stayed for several more minutes answering questions from attendees. Nearly 300 people attended the event, which was held at the Community Center in Ferdinand. Lisa Striegel of Schnellville was the winner of the grand prize, a Marathon lifetime guaranteed water heater.



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More than 300 people filled the Ferdinand Community Center to learn energy-saving strategies at the free seminar hosted by Southern Indiana Power and other southern Indiana electric cooperatives.

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A seminar attendee takes time to get more information from one of the vendors.



Energy Efficiency Specialist Bob Geswein begins his presentation at the Ferdinand Community Center.

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