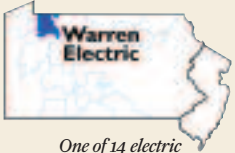


# Warren Electric Cooperative



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Warren Electric Cooperative  
320 East Main Street  
Youngsville, PA 16371  
814/563-7548  
OR  
1-800-364-8640  
FAX  
814/563-7012  
E-mail  
wec@westpa.net  
Web site  
www.warrenec.coop

STAFF

**Gary W. Franklin, General Manager/CEO**  
**Alan D. Fuller, Engineer/Load Mgt/Member Services/Right-of-Way**  
**Todd M. McClain, Data Processing/Finance/Administration**  
**Martin J. Hoffner, Line Superintendent**  
**Christopher N. Evans, System Engineer**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Dave Turner, Chairman**  
**LeRoy Wells, Vice Chairman**  
**Gerald G. Bensink, Secretary**  
**Harry Weaver, Treasurer**

**John Barnes**  
**James Goodrich**  
**Don Johnson**  
**James Marshall**  
**Esther Reynolds**

EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBER

814/723-9460

OFFICE HOURS

7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FROM THE MANAGER

## The Warren Electric Cooperative Employees and Board of Directors wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year!



### Office happenings

The cooperative welcomed 40 new members in August and 35 new members in September. That brings our membership up to 7,866 and our connected accounts to 8,860.

The cooperative office will be closed on Dec. 24 and 25 for the Christmas Holidays and on Jan. 1 in observance of the New Year's Holiday.

### Winter outage kit

Winter is here and that brings storm-related outages. You should consider preparing an "outage kit" to help you cope with any outage situation. The kit could include such items as: candles, matches, flashlight and extra batteries, manual can opener, canned and other easily prepared foods, windup or battery clock, camp-type stove and fuel or barbecue grill (use outdoors only), extra blankets or sleeping bags, battery powered lamp, emergency phone numbers, and one phone that does not require electricity to operate. These are just some suggestions for your outage kit. Being prepared is the key to coping with any outage situation.

### Christmas tree safety tips

When you get your fresh Christmas tree home, make a fresh cut on the butt end of at least one inch. A flat cut is best. Then place the tree in a 5-gallon bucket of water.

Your tree stand should hold at least one-half gallon of water. A fresh tree can soak up a gallon of water each day.

Trees should be placed away from hot air registers, space heaters and fireplaces to minimize fire hazards as well as rapid tree drying.

Use only UL-approved Christmas lights on the tree.

### Christmas humor?

What do you call Santa's Helpers?  
*Subordinate Clauses.*

How come you never hear anything about the 10th reindeer Olive?

*Yeah, you know, "Olive the other reindeer, used to laugh and call him names!"*

What do elves learn in school?  
*The Elf-abet!*

Merry Christmas,  
**Gary W. Franklin**



# Allegheny Musarium, the future of Warren

**THE SCHOOL** buses roll past Youngsville, filled with students from the Pittsburgh area on their way to the Allegheny Musarium for their May 2011 class



**VISION:** An artist's rendering of the proposed "Musarium."

trip. As they enter this 130,000-square-foot attraction the students realize they have encountered a world that will entertain them on their level — with advanced animation, robotics, sensorama, computer science, virtual reality and 3-D holograms.

The "Musarium" is a setting for living history (museum) and aquatic life (aquarium). In a glassed-enclosed time capsule/elevator, years race by on the elevator calendar as students absorb the high-tech visual excitement. The first stop takes the students into a cooled Ice Age exhibit with computer graphics and holograms that give them a sense of actually speed walking through our glacier life cycle. Moving ahead in time, the path leads them to the ever-flowing river, winding over, under and around, the students look up to see the river flowing overhead.

Divided into groups, one group of the seniors is taken into a prehistoric Native American village to interact with the inhabitants, while another group partic-

ipates in a battle during the French and Indian War, dodging bullets and smelling gunpowder. Still another group floats down the Allegheny River on a raft of logs just harvested from our forests.

The sound of hundreds of youths is intense, revealing their excitement and amazement. Abruptly the voices are hushed ... then a distant train whistle and suddenly the hologram train emerges from a tunnel just a few feet ahead, its whistle screaming, the ground trembles from the power of steel against steel and the smell of sulfur fills the air.

The activities for the day have just begun as students are sent off to see the atrium, aviary and IMAX Theater. They are given lunch in the Allegheny Belle restaurant overlooking the Allegheny River before starting in the hands-on discovery center and archeological dig. The last stop is the gift shop for "everything Warren County" before heading out to the RV park to board the busses for home. This senior class trip will be a memory etched on these youths forever.

*The goal of this venture is to see 1 million visitors within five years, making the Musarium self-supporting from opening day.*

In just a few years the Allegheny Musarium will be fact, not fiction, thanks to a group of dedicated individuals, growing in number and working to establish the financial base for this great adventure.

"About 6 years ago I was visiting in Chattanooga, Tennessee and went to see, at that time the brand-new Tennessee Aquarium," recalls Nancy Mooney, Musarium board president and founder. "I fell in love with the idea and found out that it was funded by the Coca-Cola Company. On the way home I thought this would be perfect for Warren. So I put a package together, didn't

really get anywhere with it, but a few years later, (local artist) Irish (Smith) and I were sitting in my garden and looking at a painting she had done of our house and started discussing the idea of a museum and aquarium and decided to go ahead with the idea."

Their mission for the Allegheny Musarium is to restore, through tourism, the economic prosperity of the region with a venue that promotes education and environmental conservation. Their vision is to be the best and largest museum/aquarium in the world. The Allegheny Musarium Association (AMA) is a 501c3 non-profit organization governed by a board of directors,



**LOCAL ATTRACTION:** The 30-acre site along Route 6 for the future Allegheny Musarium.

formed and incorporated in 2004.

The AMA was formed to build and operate a Musarium that will serve as a historic, scientific and educational center for the general public. Visitors will learn about aquatic life, wildlife, plants, trees, Native Americans, past and present logging, oil, tanning, manufacturing, the historical significance of the Underground Railroad, logging locomotives, and the first oil well. The AMA has already completed a set of bylaws, a website and an awareness program. It has also formed a core group of volunteers as well as an advisory board with scientific, tourism, marketing, government and planning expertise. The association has obtained a 30-acre parcel on Route 6, west of Warren.

The next steps are to have a feasibility

ty study done, select a professional fundraising organization, complete the Musarium design, obtain the donations and gifts to build the site, and begin construction. They hope to have it completed by May 2011.

The goal of this venture is to see 1 million visitors within five years, making the Musarium self-supporting from opening day. Supporters also hope to create over 200 jobs, generate \$100 million in revenues for the region, assist with the development of the Route 6 West corridor and make Warren a destination site.

Figures show 50 million people live within a six-hour drive from Warren, 13 million within a three-hour drive, making it feasible for return trips throughout the year. In Pittsburgh alone there are approximately 107 schools with almost 50,000 students. Cleveland has around 114 schools with over 55,000 students. Then there are the school districts from Erie, Buffalo, Rochester, Harrisburg, Detroit, Columbus and Toronto — not to mention the vast number of visitors available through the senior center tours, Girl and Boy Scouts, 4-H groups, colleges, and recreational tours.

The potential economic impact of this project will be comparable to similar aquariums around the country. Monterey Bay Aquarium in California generates \$250 million a year to the state with approximately \$170 million of that directly to Monterey County from aquarium and tourism spending. The Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga generates \$133 million in direct and indi-



**DONOR ART:** This certificate represents a sponsor for the Mallard Duck exhibit.

rect spending and has created 1,600 jobs within its first 12 months of operation. More than 100 stores and restaurants have opened near it. The aquarium has brought about a revitalization of the city's riverfront, with an estimated economic impact of \$1 billion.

Radio City Music Hall in New York City was built from a dream. In its 75 years of existence, through the recession and strikes, from a film stage to live the-



**CITYSCAPE:** Local artist S. Irish Smith is donating proceeds from her work to help fundraising efforts.

ater, it stands as a symbol of determined success. The Allegheny Musarium is that kind of dream and venue. The many organizers and stakeholders know this will make a mark in Warren County history.

Essential fundraising is being conducted to gain community, state and international support. Local contributors like the DeFrees Foundation have made generous donations to the Musarium's fundraising committee.

The Adopt-an-Exhibit program presents the donor with a beautiful certificate, featuring original artwork on acid-free paper for longevity. The program gives local and regional artists national

and worldwide exposure for their art. A certificate of your choice is available for \$25, with a bio of the artist.

Local artist S. Irish Smith has created a series of prints and cards of the historic, newly refurbished Hickory Street Bridge in downtown Warren, with proceeds being donated to the AMA.

This initial fundraising effort is to support the groundwork expenses: supplies, engineering and environmental studies as well as legal and feasibility studies. No funds are being used to pay employees — all services are being done by volunteers.

The website for the Allegheny Musarium is updated regularly with the progress of the project, [www.allegheny-musarium.com](http://www.allegheny-musarium.com). Tax deductible donations can be mailed to Allegheny Musarium Association, P.O. Box 554, Warren, PA 16365. Questions and further information can be obtained by calling 814/726-0837, 814/723-3002 or emailing [alleghenymusarium@yahoo.com](mailto:alleghenymusarium@yahoo.com). ☀

## Energy Credits

There is still time to save energy and save money on your taxes by making your home more energy efficient. A federal tax credit is available for homeowners that implement energy efficiency measures by Dec. 31, 2007. Home improvements, such as windows, roofing, insulation, water heaters, and heating and cooling systems that meet or exceed the criteria established by the 2000 Energy Conservation Code may qualify you for a tax credit of up to \$500 on your 2007 tax return. For more information, go to [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) and keyword search Energy Policy Act of 2005.



**GIVING:** DeFrees Foundation Board Member Mary Garvey presents a \$25,000 donation to Musarium Business Manager and Chairman of the Fundraising Committee John Fitzgerald.

## Knowing where to go, before you need to go

**THE UNTHINKABLE** always happens when we are least prepared. This time of year is when we need to think about those winter surprises, the bone-chilling cold, blizzards, impassable roads and utility outages. It is always a good idea to keep an emergency kit of supplies handy for just such occasions.

These kits should include a three-day supply of water, food, medications, flashlight, radio, extra batteries, blanket, work gloves, rain poncho, personal first aid kit, first aid and preparedness instructional booklet, light sticks, tow-

lettes, duct tape, a water container, whistle, breathing mask, and emergency information cards.

Nancy Rudolph, American Red Cross Mass Care coordinator, informs us that shelters have been established ahead of a disaster, with a set amount of space per person and a set number for emergency sheltering capacity.

“The Emergency Management Agency (EMA) requires us to open a shelter when emergencies occur and be prepared for changes related to each type of emergency,” she says.

Mass Care and Sheltering instructor and Disaster Action Team (DAT) volunteer Cal Bushey adds, “We are responsible for getting the word out that a shelter




is available, whether through emergency services workers or door-to-door DAT volunteers. In case of an extend-

ed utility outage, shelters are set up in all communities to provide food, water and warmth for families affected by the outages.”

Health and Safety Administrator Nicole Drozdiel says every family should have a plan.

“Every household needs to implement a three-step plan for how they will respond in the event of an emergency,” she urges. “First, they should have ready an emergency preparedness kit, complete with everything they need for the first 48-72 hours. Next, they should develop a family disaster plan that has been practiced. This plan will address what steps to take in the event family members are not at home when the emergency happens. Finally, be informed, through radio, television or internet about the location of the disaster, what steps you need to protect your household, and what help is available. In addition to taking these three steps remember, having a family member trained in first aid and CPR, as well having an extra few days’ supply of required medications is important if you are ever not able to leave or get help for some time. By implementing these few steps and knowing what to do in an emergency will help you protect your family, your household, and your community.”

Before you find yourself in need of emergency shelter, call the American Red Cross to locate a shelter site near you. Preparedness kits can be purchased, with necessary supplies, in a heavy duty and portable backpack. For kit purchases or shelter information, please contact the Warren County Chapter of the American Red Cross at 814/723-6000. 

### Give a Warren Electric Cooperative Gift Certificate

On average, holiday shoppers spend over two hours selecting the right gift for each person on their list. Give Warren Electric Cooperative gift certificates this year and use all that time to enjoy the holidays. After all, Mom, Dad, Grandma Kate, and Aunt Jean have everything they need. No one has space for any more salt and pepper sets or ties. We want our friends and families to have the comforts of life – something to warm their hearts, souls, and toes.

#### The Warren Electric Cooperative gift certificate is the perfect way to show you care.

To purchase a gift certificate, simply complete the form below, indicating the person to receive the certificate, your name, and the amount of your gift. If you would like to send more than one, please list the name, account number, address, and amount for each member on a separate sheet. Then mail or drop off your form with your check or money order for the total amount to: Warren Electric Cooperative, 320 East Main Street, Youngsville, PA 16371. When we receive your payment, the cooperative member’s account will be credited with the amount you have specified. The gift certificate may be mailed directly to the recipient, or it can be sent to you for personal delivery, so please check your preference.

#### Warren Electric Cooperative Gift Certificate

Recipient’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Gift (\$5.00 minimum with check or money order made out to WEC) \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one of the following choices:

Return gift certificate to me  Send gift certificate directly to recipient  I wish to remain anonymous