THE LAMP

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GROSS RECEIPTS TAX

August is upon us. School will be starting soon and children everywhere cry out in dread. But, education is important for children and IEC believes stongly in supporting school districts within its territory.

Many people may believe that since IEC is a non-profit organization, we aren't required to pay taxes. IEC doesn't pay income taxes, but we do pay what is called a Gross Receipts Tax. Ninety-five percent of the dollars paid to the gross receipts tax goes directly to our local schools.

IEC contributes two percent of its total gross receipts. Each school receives an amount determined by the miles of line in its district. The charts show a breakdown of 2009 per school district.

In 2009, IEC paid $783,178.00 on 3,506.59 miles of line to 28 schools in its seven-county territory.

Taxes Paid

School	Miles of line	Taxes
Allen Bowden	0.66	$147.00
Billings	0.13	$29.00
Bowring	15.04	$3,359.00
Bristow	28.81	$6,435.00
Cleveland	562.96	$125,734.00
Cushing	59.67	$13,326.00
Depew	0.04	$9.00
Drumright	58.09	$12,974.00
Frontier	160.73	$35,899.00
Glencoe	4.47	$999.00
Hominy	181.98	$40,645.00
Jennings	59.35	$13,255.00
Kellyville	3.55	$794.00
Keystone	173.56	$38,763.00
Mannford	280.5	$62,649.00
Morrison	56.65	$12,653.00
Oilton	57.31	$12,799.00
Olive	205.47	$45,890.00
Pawhuska	93.07	$20,786.00
Pawnee	474.89	$106,064.00
Ponca City	48.59	$10,852.00
Pretty Water	45.69	$10,203.00
Prue	46.49	$10,383.00
Sandsprings	92.03	$20,555.00
Shidler	105.68	$23,603.00
Woodland	409.96	$91,563.00
Wynona	110.65	$24,714.00
Yale	170.57	$38,096.00
	3,506.59	$783,178.00

BRINGING HOME THE MEMORIES

BY CLARA EULERT

The suitcases are finally empty and the laundry is all caught up. The memories from this summer's travels are still being discussed at dinner tables, on Facebook and in Tweets to friends. IEC's Youth program winners attended Energy Camp, Washington DC and Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Colorado.

Pictured Top: Gerad Poole, Lane Brumley, and Cole Brumley

Bottom: Cassie Roberts, Kadie Cardwell, Lillie Syverson

Reminiscing with the Energy Campers they all remembered June 3rd together; the 3rd day at Camp Canyon. Following a morning of bucket truck rides and pole climbing under the instruction of cooperative lineman, the campers boarded buses bound for Celebration Station in Oklahoma City. The afternoon was full of arcade games, miniature golf, go-carts and water fights in a huge pool of bumper boats equipped with water cannons.

Gerad Poole will always remember his 14th birthday on this day as a very special birthday. Being away from home on his birthday wasn't his first choice. However, Energy Camp proved to be very surprising. Gerad and company joined the other campers inside the arcade. Over the intercom came the announcement for all Energy Campers to come to the pizza party. Waiting for Gerad was more than pizza. Much to his surprise were party hats and a huge decorated birthday cake celebrating campers who had birthdays during camp. "Awesome Day" was Gerad's response. Kadie Cardwell, Cassie Roberts, Lillie Syverson also of Oilton along with Cole and Lane Brumley of Ralston all agreed, Energy Camp was awesome and just didn't last long enough.

Pictured: Kyle Caldwell, Sarah Fielding, Nick Cody

IEC's Youth Tour winners were next to arrive home. Sarah Fielding of Cleveland, shared her memories of the Washington D.C. Youth Tour. "In my opinion, the most exciting part of the trip was touring the Pentagon. Seeing the Sept. 11th Ground Zero memorial there and learning about the function of the Pentagon," said Sarah. Personally touring the Pen-

tagon is the only way to see it as regulations do not permit any photographs inside the Pentagon. Following the group's visit to Arlington Cemetery Nick Cody remarked, "Seeing the thousands of tombstones made me realize what our soldiers are willing to sacrifice for us and our country to be free." Youth Tour participants leave Oklahoma as excited teenagers, ready to see places they have only read about. From their first stop to the last, their tour through Washington D.C. enlightens them and whets their appetites for more information. Kyle Caldwell of Pawnee chose his DC favorites as the Air and Space Museum and the Museum of American History at the Smithsonian along with the Newseum, remarking, "DC was great and I would go back in a heartbeat." Everyone shared with me that DC must be experienced. They return to Oklahoma, proud Americans, having made many new friendships and memories they will have forever.

Pictured: Mason Parker, Mariah Boitel

The most recent group to return was Mariah Boitel of Pawnee and Mason Parker of Fairfax from Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Clark, Colorado, near Steamboat Springs. At the Kansas bus stop and during the drive home I heard about the highlights of their trip. Mariah shared with me her experience of white water rafting on the Yampa River. "Despite the water feeling like it was freezing, the rafting was exciting", said Mariah. Experiencing the rapids in a huge rubber boat with several of her new friends was like riding a roller coaster without the track. The white water rafting was a new addition to the camps itinerary this year and it was a success. Mason Parker was impressed by the HawkQuest – Live Raptor demonstration, "the wing span of the American Bald Eagle and the power the birds posses is amazing", said Mason. Raptor handlers brought an owl, hawk, falcon and bald eagle into camp for a classroom in the wild. They taught the students about the birds of prey habits in the wild and the need to preserve their natural habitats. During the week of camp the group also traveled to Mt. Werner and experienced a gondola ride to the top of the peak.

These are only a few of the memories made during the summer Youth Program trips of 2010. Students are encouraged to watch for the details of the next year's Youth Program Essay contests, to be published in a future edition of The Lamp. You could be one of the next lucky winners of an all-expenses paid trip on an adventure next summer. ♦

MAKE SAFETY PRIORITY ONE WHEN DOING HOME IMPROVEMENT AND REPAIR PROJECTS

If summer weather is sprouting thoughts of home improvement projects, you are not alone. Rising temperatures traditionally give rise to more remodeling, repairs, maintenance, landscaping and construction projects both inside and outside of the home.

Safety tips to keep in mind include:

- Look up and around you. Always be aware of the location of power lines, particularly when using long metal tools like ladders, pool skimmers and pruning poles, or when installing rooftop antennas and satellite dishes or doing roof repair work.
- Be especially careful when working near power lines attached to your house. Keep equipment and yourself at least 10 feet from lines. Never trim trees near power lines – leave that to the professionals. Never use water or blower extensions to clean gutters near electric lines. Contact a professional maintenance contractor.
- If your projects include digging, like building a deck or planting a tree, call 800-522-OKIE before you begin. Never assume the location or depth of underground utility lines. This service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted, and can help you avoid serious injury.
- Electricity + water = danger. If it's raining or the ground is wet, don't use electric power or yard tools. Never use electrical appliances or touch circuit breakers or fuses when you're wet or standing in water. Keep electric equipment at least 10 feet from wet areas.

Make certain home electrical systems and wiring are adequate to support increased electric demands of new electric appliances, home additions or remodeling projects. Also, energy use is greatest in the hot summer months when air conditioning use peaks. An older home may be inadequately wired for today's electrical consumption, putting your family at risk for fire and electrical shock. Replace worn and outdated circuitry and add enough outlets for appliances and electronics. IEC strongly recommends do-it-yourselfers leave this project to the professionals.

Recipe: Chicken Salad with Peaches and Walnuts

2 large fresh peaches
2 cups chopped, cooked chicken meat
1/2 cup thinly sliced red onion
1/2 cup poppyseed salad dressing
6 cups mixed salad greens
1/2 cup toasted walnuts, chopped

Chop 1 peach into 1/2 inch pieces; place in large bowl. Add chicken and onion; toss with enough dressing to coat.

Add greens and walnuts to bowl and toss to coat. Mound salad on large plate. Cut remaining peach in thin wedges and place on top to garnish.

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