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2013 BEACHES COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS: Introducing Valerie Zevens, President of Sisters of the Sea. Valerie heads up this enthusiastic group of women who work with various organizations, including the Women's Center of Jacksonville's "Bosom Buddies" initiative and Wounded Warriors.

Based in Jacksonville Beach, the group includes members throughout the Sunshine State.

Read more about Beaches Community Champions at www.beachesenergy.com.



BEACHES | ENERGY
SERVICES

Ride the Green Wave

Sharing Sunshine and Celebrating Life in the Beaches Community

Valerie Zevens and the Sisters of the Sea, a volunteer organization in our Beaches community, raise funds to fight breast cancer, perform beach clean-ups and partner with organizations like Wounded Warriors. Valerie sees surfing as therapy, offering people a respite from sometimes challenging circumstances. In one group event "Life Rolls On," members surf with paraplegic and quadriplegic members of the community, all enjoying the therapy of the sea. Not all Sisters of the Sea members surf, but they enjoy beach-centered activities and the shared spirit of volunteering. Beaches Energy commends Valerie and her sisters in service for all they contribute to our community.



Tidings Tips: Insulation is Easy!

Earth Day, on April 22, reminds us to conserve energy and resources. Most American homes leak heated and cooled air. Taking simple steps to reinforce the weather tightness of your home is an effective way to save energy. Caulking around your windows and door jams works immediately to keep the temperatures more constant inside your home, reducing the loss of heated or cooled air and consequently, your energy usage. Adding insulation to your attic is another way to stop losing energy through your ceiling, and Beaches Energy offers a rebate of up to \$300 for upgrading your attic insulation to certain specifications. On our website, you can find the rebate requirements, downloadable instructions and an application for the insulation rebate, as well as other ideas to help make your home more energy efficient.

Showing That You CARE

Occasionally elderly, disabled or low-income members of our beaches community are simply unable to pay their utility bill because of a sudden or temporary financial crisis. The Beaches Energy Services CARE Program is designed to help until they can sort out their situations.



The CARE Program depends on your help to make it work. We encourage our customers in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Ponte Vedra Beach, and Palm Valley to donate a small amount each month to the CARE Program. It's easy to be a friend and donate. You can volunteer to make monthly contributions by simply completing a sign-up form, which you can download from www.beachesenergy.com. Beaches Energy Services will match all contributions, doubling the impact of your generosity.

Electric price for 1,000 kilowatt-hours

	March	April
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$75.57	\$75.57
Power cost adjustment	\$44.84	\$44.84
Total	\$124.91	\$124.91

Registration for Our Customers With Special Needs

Beaches Energy Services offers special services to customers with certain special needs.

Florida Relay Communications.

Our hearing and speech-impaired customers may contact us through the Florida Relay Center. The voice line is 800-955-8770; the TTY (text telephone) is 800-955-8771.

Medical Support Notification Program. Customers with serious health problems requiring the use of specialized electric equipment should know about the **Medical Support Notification Program**. Through this program, we identify customers with special needs and do everything possible to restore their electric service quickly. Equipment examples are apnea monitors, nebulizers, and oxygen machines. With a doctor's verification, we will place your name and address on our **Medical Support List**. If a scheduled service outage is expected to last an extended period of time, we will contact you so that you can make an informed decision about whether to leave your home during the outage. To receive more information about this program, call (904) 247-6241.



Don't Throw Money Out the Window!

An energy efficient home is something we all strive for. Not only can small steps be taken to lighten our energy use but our actions conserve resources for future generations.

Things as simple as changing out the most used light bulbs in our homes to energy efficient CFLs or LEDs is a positive step. With summer fast approaching, take the time to do an energy tune up. Some steps you can take:

- Change your HVAC filter
- Clean the outside coils
- Outside unit should be clear of plants and debris
- Seal leaks in your air handler
- This is a good time to have the unit serviced by an HVAC professional
- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows
- Check all your timers to make sure they are set properly
- Repair any leaking faucets



At Beaches Energy Services, we offer a free energy audit for your home that will assist you in identifying your energy problems. Give us a call to set up this free and educational inspection of your home. Call 247-6241 and let one of our customer service professionals set up your appointment today.