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2013 BEACHES COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS: Introducing Bette Pearse, volunteer fitness and line-dancing instructor to a loyal class at the St. Paul's Catholic Church Family Center since 2004 and long-time advocate of staying on the move. Bette celebrated her 91st birthday, received nominations from 15 different members of her classes and has enjoyed teaching fitness workouts since 1976. Read more about Beaches Community Champions at www.beachesenergy.com.



BEACHES | ENERGY
SERVICES

Ride the Green Wave

Moving Together and Spreading Sunshine in the Beaches Community

Beaches Energy Services salutes Bette Pearse, who leads her loyal followers through fitness and dance classes three days a week, sharing the blessing of improved health, vitality and fellowship. Bette laughs about Father Kelly calling the class members the "LOLs" (for little old ladies). Bette is appreciative of the space that the Family Center provides the group, and attributes these classes for their improved overall health and a sunny outlook. General fitness and line-dancing classes are offered from fall to late spring, and water exercise classes convene in the summer. Beaches Energy appreciates Bette Pearse and her efforts to spread her brand of sunshine with our community.

Tidings Tips: Weatherproofing and Rebates Save-A-Lot!

Most homes will leak heated and cooled air, resulting in higher energy bills. Taking these simple steps to reinforce the weather tightness of your home will save you energy and money:

- **Caulking around your windows and door jams** will help to keep the temperatures more constant inside your home, reducing the loss of heated or cooled air and lowering your energy usage.
- **Adding insulation to your attic** is a great way to block heat gain in the summer and stop losing energy through your ceiling.
- **Take advantage of rebates!** Beaches Energy Services offers a total of **\$1,825 in energy saving rebates** for energy efficient home improvements such as A/C heat pumps, solar water heaters,



programmable thermostats and heat pump water heaters. For example, there is a rebate of up to \$300 for upgrading your attic insulation to certain specifications. You can find all of the rebate requirements, downloadable instructions and an application for each rebate on our website. Visit the rebates section at www.beachesenergy.com and Save-A-Lot!

Outages, Interruptions and Staying Prepared

Beaches Energy's conversion to underground power lines and the storm-hardening program helps us improve our ability to handle the challenges of lightning, wind and flooding rains during storm season. Our employees are dedicated to maintaining constant electric service you can rely on. Should you ever need to report an outage or interruption of your utility service, contact our **24-hour emergency line at 904-247-6171**. During hurricane season, it's important to discuss hazards that can affect your family, and to know your home's vulnerability when it comes to storm surge, flooding, and wind. Stock non-perishable emergency supplies, water and a **Disaster Supply Kit**. You can download a printable copy of recommendations for stocking your family's Disaster Supply Kit at beachesenergy.com/disaster-kit/.



Electric price for 1,000 kilowatt-hours

	August	September
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

Safe Use of Portable Generators

When stormy weather causes extended power outages, portable generators offer great benefits, but they can also be very dangerous. People die every year in incidents related to improper use.



Most of these incidents involve carbon monoxide poisoning from generators used indoors or in partially enclosed spaces. Always buy a battery-operated carbon monoxide alarm when using a generator. The second most common cause of deaths results from electric shock due to backfeed — caused by generators that are plugged in or connected to a home's internal wiring. This extremely dangerous practice presents an electrocution risk to utility workers and neighbors served by the same utility transformer. The only safe way to connect the generator to the house wiring is to have a licensed electrical contractor install a transfer switch in accordance with local electrical codes.

Safety Tips for Natural Gas Customers

Natural gas is one of the most reliable and cost-effective energy sources. Beaches Energy resolves to keep our customers safe by following state and federal regulations and performing



extensive quality control checks. It's also important to educate our customers how to recognize and prevent natural gas leaks. Be aware of the signs of a gas leak, such as the distinctive, rotten egg-like smell of natural gas. **If you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air LEAVE immediately and then Call 9-1-1!** DO NOT touch any-

thing electrical before you leave and DO NOT use a phone. DO NOT smoke, turn appliances or lights on or off, or operate any vehicle or equipment that could create a spark. Beaches Energy Services is available 24-hours a day to respond to natural gas emergencies. To find out if natural gas service is available in your area, call us at 904-247-6241.

Call Before You Dig!

It's a fact: Excavation work, including digging (even in the yard), is the most common cause of natural gas emergencies. Before excavation of any kind — even small projects like planting trees or shrubs, state law requires that you call 811 so all utility lines can be professionally marked prior to digging. If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, and may disrupt service to an entire neighborhood. For more information, visit callsunshine.com.



Hurricane Flood Protection

Hurricanes and other tropical storms are the primary source of flooding in our community. You can find additional information concerning flooding, flood insurance, and flood protection at www.jacksonvillebeach.org.