

# BRIGHT IDEAS

**BELD**  
Braintree Electric  
Light Department  
and  
BELD Broadband

*A monthly newsletter for BELD customers, October 2006*

***It's autumn in New England, and another season of high energy costs will soon be upon us***  
***BELD wants you to know about several programs and services that can help you save dollars and conserve energy this winter***

### ***BELD Budget Plan***

Our Budget Plan helps you manage your monthly bills by spreading your payments out over 12 months. We look at your past electricity use and come up with a plan that lets you pay equal installments each month. Call BELD Customer Service at 781/348-BELD (2353) for more information.

### ***Senior discount***

BELD offers a discount on electric service for residents 65 and over and on broadband services for residents 62 and over. Senior electric customers can get an additional 5% discount if payment is received within 15 days from date of bill. Senior cable and Internet customers are entitled to special rates as well. Call BELD Customer Service at 781/348-BELD (2353) to sign up.

### ***Appliance rebate program***

Our customers can save up to a total of \$150 on ENERGY STAR® labeled refrigerators, washing machines, and air conditioners. And you'll continue to save for years to come, because energy-efficient appliances consume up to 50% less electricity than standard models. Download a rebate application form at [www.beld.com/Electric/Programs.asp](http://www.beld.com/Electric/Programs.asp) or pick one up at the office.

### ***Free home energy audits***

If you're thinking about making home energy improvements, BELD's Energy Advisor can visit your home to evaluate your heating and hot water systems, shell insulation, appliances, windows, doors, and lighting. After conservation work is completed, we'll send an inspector to your

home to make sure the job was done correctly. Call BELD's Energy Advisor at 781/348-1032 to set up an appointment.

### ***Appliance Calculator***

It's quick, it's easy, and it's available on the BELD website at [www.beld.com/Electric/Programs.asp](http://www.beld.com/Electric/Programs.asp). The Appliance Calculator gives you the means to determine precisely how much it costs to use a specific appliance in your home or apartment, based on BELD's residential energy rates and the number of hours of usage.

### ***Good Neighbor Energy Fund***

Administered by The Salvation Army, the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund (GNEF) helped more than 3,000 families pay an electric, gas or oil bill last year. The fund is often the last resort for families who have not qualified for other energy assistance programs. If you're unable to pay your electric bill because of financial hardship and you'd like to request energy assistance from the Good Neighbor Energy Fund, please call 800/334-3047.

### ***Quincy Community Action Programs***

Low-income Braintree residents can get help with their winter heating bills at Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc. (QCAP). Homeowners and renters—even those whose heating costs are included in their rent—may apply for QCAP's Fuel Assistance program. And BELD has partnered with QCAP to offer a home weatherization assistance program to Braintree residents. Call QCAP's Energy Program at 617/479-8181, ext. 101, to find out whether you qualify for these programs.

## ***Increase in Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) effective October 1***

***BELD works hard to keep Braintree's electric rates affordable, but high energy prices have necessitated a restructuring of rates to more accurately reflect our costs.***

***Effective October 1, BELD has increased the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) portion of your bill to \$.0275 per kWh, resulting in an increase of approximately \$3.75 on a 500 kWh monthly bill.***

***Always looking for new ways to reduce costs to our customers, BELD is proactively addressing rising fuel costs by building a new power plant—scheduled for completion in 2009—which will help stabilize future rates.***

## Fall for movies from Starz!

Fall for hit movies you won't find on any other premium movie service...and save!

Enjoy more than 300 Starz movies including Chicken Little, The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe and more—FREE for one month. **Get up to 13 digital channels, plus get access to Starz On Demand, at no extra charge!**

The entire family will enjoy tremendous variety with BELD Broadband Digital cable and Starz—there's always something for everyone. **Don't wait—this special offer is available only for a limited time.**

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

### Giant Craft Show November 4...

The Braintree Women's Club will hold its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Giant Craft Show **Saturday, November 4**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Braintree High School—admission is \$1. Contact: Marta Googins (781/848-4768).

### ...and a Holiday Fair

South Congregational Church ("The Church by the Lake") invites you to a Holiday Fair **Saturday, November 4**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Breakfast will be served 8:30-11 and a light lunch 11:30-2:20. There will be a silent auction, raffles, baskets, baked goods, candy, crafts, knit and crochet items, heirloom treasures, white elephant, and much more! Call the church at 781/843-5155 for more information.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Taste of Braintree" event

Join the Parent Involvement Program (PIP) on **Sunday, November 5**, 12 noon-4 p.m. at the Sheraton Braintree (across from the Plaza) for a family event to support math, science, and technology programs in Braintree. There'll be food tastings, a silent auction, and many kids' activities. Family tickets are \$45; individual tickets are \$20. For tickets or information, call 781/843-2454 or visit [www.parentinvolvementprogram.org](http://www.parentinvolvementprogram.org).

### Fashion Show by Dress Barn

A Fashion Show by Dress Barn will be presented by The Braintree Catholic Women's Club **Sunday, November 5**, 12 noon-4 p.m., at the Sons of Italy Hall in Braintree. A chicken luncheon will be catered by Fasano's. Tickets are \$25, and proceeds benefit the BCWC scholarship fund. Contact Marie Connelly at 781/843-1965.

### Harvest Faire Fundraiser

A Harvest Faire Fundraiser will be held **Saturday, November 11**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Emmanuel Parish, 519 Washington Street. Featured will be: holiday decorations, quality craft items, homemade baked goods, a raffle, a silent auction, and pictures with Santa Claus. Breakfast and lunch will be served at very reasonable prices throughout the Faire. Admission is free, and we are handicapped accessible. Contact the church at 781/843-0170.

So call our Customer Service office at 781/348-BELD (2353) before November 15 and order BELD Broadband Digital cable with Starz!

Limited offer expires 11/15/06. Monthly cable TV and equipment fees are additional. Introductory premium service subscription offers are good only for the time as specified; thereafter, standard monthly premium service fees apply. Limited cable required to receive optional services featured. Offer does not apply to premium services already subscribed to by customer. Offer applies to standard installation/connection on one TV set in wired serviceable areas; other installation/connection or relocation fees may apply to additional TV sets. Offer may vary and other restrictions may apply. Not all services available in all areas.

### St. Francis of Assisi Holiday Bazaar

The St. Francis of Assisi Parish Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held **Saturday, November 11**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., in the church hall, 856 Washington Street. Tables include: crafts, knitted items, white elephant, jewelry, baked goods, kids' corner, religious items, and jams, preserves, and fudge. Coffee, muffins, donuts, and soft drinks will be available, and lunch will be served at 11:30 until sold out. Contact the church at 781/843-1332.

### All Souls Church Dickens Festival

All Souls Church, 196 Elm Street, will hold a Dickens Festival **Saturday, November 18**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Find Tiny Tim in the kids' corner when he's not singing with our Dickens Carolers or chatting with our Victorian Santa. Unique crafters, pies and baked goods, gift baskets, silent auction. Lunch on Chef Manar's famous stuffed turkey sandwiches. The church number is 781/843-1388.

### AARP meeting November 21

Braintree AARP Chapter #4042 will hold its next meeting **Tuesday, November 21**, 1:30 p.m., at the D.A.V. Hall, 788 Liberty Street, Braintree. Guest speaker will be Dr. Charles Desmond, President of Massachusetts AARP. Call Frank Bocchino at 781/848-4293 for more information.

### Curbside recycling bins available

If you've never had a recycling bin, we have a free bin for you; if you'd like a second bin or a replacement bin, there is a \$5 charge. We also have recycling "bags" for condos/apartments. Where? Recycling Drop-Off Center, Ivory Street, M, T, Th, F, 1-4; Sat. 9-2. Call 781/794-8237.

### Park Department trips

**Sunday-Tuesday, November 12-14:** Atlantic City's Tropicana Hotel & Casino and Radio City Christmas Show (\$329/person, twin)  
**Friday, December 15:** Holiday Pops Concert at Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., first balcony seating, call for further information.  
**For information and reservations, call Maryanne at the Park Department at 781/794-8901.**

# BELD

[www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com)  
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Braintree, MA 02184  
781/348-BELD (2353)

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### PAYMENT LOCATIONS

#### 150 Potter Road

Our office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Customer Service is open until 7 p.m. on Thursday.

#### Drop boxes

Top of Potter Road & Town Hall.

#### Braintree Cooperative Bank

1010 Washington St.

372 Washington St.

#### Direct Payment

Call BELD at 781/348-2353.

#### Online payments

[www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com)

### BROADBAND HELP DESK

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sat-Sun: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

### COMMISSION MEETINGS

Public Meetings are usually held monthly. Call 781/348-2353 or check [www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com) to confirm time and date.

### COMMISSIONERS

Thomas Reynolds, Chair  
Anthony Agnitti, Vice Chair  
James Regan, Secretary

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Monday, October 9

Columbus Day

Friday, November 10

Veterans' Day (observed)



**Tune up your heating system!**

**Before the heating season starts, make an appointment to have a qualified technician clean and tune your boiler or furnace. If the distribution pipes or ducts are accessible, consider wrapping them in insulation to get more heat to your living space.**