

Northwestern Electric News

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Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

July 2016

Inside

Watts Up Kids Camp2

Holiday closing2

Safe Fourth.....3

Recipe.....3

Co-ops Vote.....4

Energy Camp provides exciting summer fun *Northwestern Electric sends four teens to annual event*

What happens when you bring together almost 90 excited eighth-graders at a camp designed to teach them about electric cooperatives? You get YouthPower Energy Camp.

The students come from all across the state and are chosen by their electric cooperatives to participate in the four-day fun-filled adventure at Canyon Camp just east of Hinton. The students representing Northwestern Electric at the 2016 camp were Payton Gregory, D.W. Moffet, Morgan McGaha and Jasmine Hagemeyer.

The four students had submitted their winning essays about what they would miss without electricity and why back in March. After waiting two long months, they met early in the morning on the Tuesday after Memorial Day at Northwestern's office in Woodward. Once they loaded their belongings in the Suburban, they were off to have some summer fun.

After they arrived, the campers got settled in their cabins and then gathered together to meet their new friends, hear a few rules and listen to a presentation about life before electricity. They also heard about what it means to be a manager or a cooperative board member.

After a break to enjoy a little bit of free time swimming, playing volleyball, basketball and dinner, the campers gathered again to play some crazy games. The evening concluded with the formation of a Coke and Candy Co-op followed by an Energy Battle. The Energy Battle is a game of trivia questions about electric cooperatives and pop culture.



Payton Gregory, D.W. Moffet, Morgan McGaha and Jasmine Hagemeyer represented Northwestern Electric at the 2016 YouthPower Energy Camp.

The next couple of days were just as jam-packed as the first. Everyone got to try their hand at strapping on a set of lineman's hooks and belt to try and climb a utility pole. Payton Gregory said climbing the pole was one of the highlights of the camp for him. They also watched a high-voltage demonstration and took bucket truck rides high up in the air.

Even more fun was in store for the young teens as they made the annual trek to Celebration Station for an afternoon of go-carts, arcade games, miniature golf, water bumper boats, and pizza. Back at camp, they learned team-building and critical thinking

skills on the low-ropes course. And the final evening of camp ended with a pizza party and dance.

On the last morning, the campers wrote thank you notes and prepared to say goodbye to their new friends. After lots of hugs, a few tears, and exchanging cell phone numbers, they each went their separate ways.

Jasmine Hagemeyer had a great time and said she liked all the activities the camp had to offer. Morgan McGaha liked climbing the pole, meeting new people and said the counselors were great. D.W. Moffet said, "This was a great experience. I would go back again if I could."

NORTHWESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Operating In Beaver, Dewey, Ellis, Harper, Major, Woods and Woodward Counties in Oklahoma

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**IN CASE OF TROUBLE CALL:
24 HOUR EMERGENCY
1-877-9NOPOWER (877.966.7693)**

NOTICE

A copy of NWEK Bylaws will be made available for any member upon request.

**Web page: www.nwecok.coop
E-mail: nwec@nwecok.coop**

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NWEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Free camp for children of NWEK members

Northwestern Electric's Watts Up Kids Camp is a camp for 1st through 3rd graders which will be held at our main headquarters in Woodward on August 3. Camp hours are 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

The camp is free for the children of NWEK members. The three-hour session includes a variety of learning tools, games and activities to help kids learn about electricity, where it comes from and how to be safe around it.

To enroll your child, fill out the form and return it by July 15. For more details, call Jonna at 580.256.7425 or 800.375.7423. Space is limited (first 30 kids) so enroll today!

Watts Up Kids Camp

Wednesday, August 3

Student's Name (Print) _____

Age _____ Grade _____ T-shirt size _____

Parent Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ - _____

Work Phone (____) _____ - _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ - _____

Please mail form to: Jonna Hensley
Northwestern Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 2707, Woodward, OK 73802



Happy Fourth of July

**Northwestern Electric will be closed
on Monday, July 4.**

For emergencies, call 877.966.7693.

April 2016 Operating Report

	2015	2016
Revenue - Billing	2,568,686	2,394,485
Cost of Power	1,589,596	1,396,824
Miles of Lines	4,974	4,988
Members Connected	11,886	11,942
Density per Mile	2.39	2.39
Average Member KWH	2,157	1,966
Average Bill	216	201
KWH Purchased.....	26,213,174	24,082,527
KWH Sold.....	25,634,802	23,472,302
Income per Mile.....	519	482
Expense per Mile	526	495

Plan for a safe and happy Fourth

The month of July is a great time to plan activities with family and friends. It's the middle of summer, the kids are out of school and of we celebrate Independence Day!

Typically on the Fourth, we celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream and other sweet treats, and last but not least, fireworks. This is a time for fellowship with family and friends, but at Northwestern Electric, we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

To ensure you have the best Fourth of July possible, we would like to remind you about a few important safety tips from The American Red Cross.

Nothing says "Fourth of July" like a spectacular fireworks display! The safest way to enjoy this part of the celebration is to head to a local fireworks show. But, if you want to put on your own show at home, be sure to follow these safety tips:

- Always follow the instructions on fireworks' packaging and never give fireworks to small children.
- Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.

- Make sure to wear protective eyewear when lighting fireworks.

- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight "a dud."

- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.

- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.

Cookouts are a great way to bring folks together on the Fourth. Whether you are grilling in your back yard or at a community park, make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side helping of safety! We recommend the following safety tips:

- Supervise your grill at all times.
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill. (18132001)
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited.
- Always follow the manufacturers instructions when using grills.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't



Use fireworks with caution. Follow package directions and light only one firework at a time.

be complete without a sunny day.

Here's hoping we have good weather, and if we do, make sure you are practicing sun safety:

- Use a broad spectrum SPF sunscreen and reapply often.
- Protect your eyes by wearing sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke (hot red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; rapid, shallow breathing).

However you choose to celebrate, Northwestern Electric wishes you a safe and Happy Fourth of July!

Hidden account number contest

Last month's numbers went unclaimed. They belonged to Todd Moss and Jerry Janik.

We have hidden two account numbers somewhere in the articles in this newsletter. The numbers will always be enclosed in parentheses and will look similar to this example (XXXXXX).

If you recognize your account number, give us a call on or before the 8th of the current month and we'll give you a credit on your bill for the amount stated.

This month's numbers are worth \$100 each. Happy hunting!

Country cooking

Grain Free Chocolate Chip Cookies



- 3 cups almond flour**
- 1 teaspoon baking soda**
- 2 large eggs**
- 1/4 cup pure maple syrup**
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract**
- 1/2 cup coconut oil (softened, but not melted)**
- 1 cup bittersweet chocolate chips**

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Mix together the dry ingredients in a medium mixing bowl. Beat in the eggs, maple syrup, vanilla, and coconut oil with a hand mixer until well combined. Fold in the chocolate chips.

On a parchment-lined baking sheet, drop tablespoon-sized balls of cookie dough about 2 inches apart. Bake for 15 minutes. Remove from oven, cool, and serve.

Yield: 2 dozen

Become a co-op voter

When was the last time you voted?

As a member-owned electric cooperative, voting is already in our DNA. It's how we maintain an electric utility which is responsive to the consumers it serves. But voting also plays a crucial part in our representative democracy. Federal, state and local elections offer an opportunity to exercise a civic responsibility—to select the best leaders for our communities.

Yet in places all over America, even those served by electric cooperatives, citizens aren't exercising that right.

In the 2012 national elections, voter turnout dropped overall, but the decline in rural counties was 18 percent—twice that of the nation as a whole.

And when voters miss the chance to vote, they also lose the opportunity to communicate their concern to our leaders about the issues that matter to us, where we work, live, and raise families.

Reliable electricity, access to rural broadband and the quality of our healthcare system are just a few issues we all care about. Still, they only become priorities if enough people show elected officials that they are paying attention. Registering to vote and voting are the most effective ways to send this message. (14897002)

When we go to the polls with the cooperative principle of "Concern for Community" in mind, we instantly improve our political system. It's a system designed to produce a government

"of the people, by the people and for the people." People like us.

We invite you to join us in a new initiative to get every eligible person registered to vote—you, your family and friends—and take the pledge to **BECOME A CO-OP VOTER**.

Northwestern Electric has joined America's electric cooperatives in launching a campaign to help get out the vote and insert issues important to co-ops into the public discussion. Called "Co-ops Vote," this effort will help boost voter turnout in areas served by cooperatives across the country to ensure that our voices are heard loud and clear every day, and especially on Election Day.

Here's what you can do to help. Visit the Co-ops Vote web site, WWW.VOTE.COOP (or you can come by our office and pick up a pledge card), and take the pledge to **BECOME A CO-OP VOTER** to support your community and electric cooperative when casting your vote in 2016. The web site will give you information on your elected officials and candidates, the voter registration process, election dates and



I pledge to become a Co-op Voter, and to support my community and my electric cooperative when casting my vote this year.

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

(Please validate this pledge by providing your e-mail address)

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MY CO-OP / PPD _____

SIGNATURE _____

I authorize America's Electric Cooperatives to communicate on my behalf regarding America's electricity challenges.

LEARN MORE AT VOTE.COOP

Sample pledge card

locations, and background about eight key co-op issues we want our elected leaders to understand: rural broadband access, hiring and honoring veterans, low-income energy assistance, cybersecurity, water regulation, rural health care access, affordable and reliable energy, and renewable energy.

Co-ops Vote is a non-partisan program developed by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). With 42 million members across the nation, electric co-ops are a powerful voice on national issues that have a local impact.

If you have any questions, please visit WWW.VOTE.COOP or contact us directly at 580.256.7425. We hope to see you at the polls!

OKLAHOMA
CO-OPS VOTE
 A PROGRAM OF AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
WWW.VOTE.COOP