



# Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

# News

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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## Youth Tour and CYCLE Winners

For over fifty years Rural Electric Cooperatives have been sponsoring trips for high school juniors to tour Washington, D.C., and learn what our American Flag truly stands for.

It is a wonderful opportunity for local youth to experience our nation's capital in a fun filled, action packed, and inspirational way.

Juniors throughout Sac Osage Electric Cooperative's nine county territory entered the cooperative's Youth Tour contest by filling out an application.

Four finalists were chosen from the entries received. Hard work and creativity has paid off for four area high school juniors.

Congratulations to Nehemiah Simmons of Osceola High School and Abigail Klaiber of El Dorado R-II High School, who were awarded an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.. Nehemiah and Abigail joined more than 100 Missouri students and over 1,500 students from across the U.S. on this week-long tour of D.C., visiting memorials, museums, cherished monuments, and getting a firsthand look at our government at work.

These fortunate high school students represent their local cooperative on a whirlwind tour of the nation's capital. All the while they are learning about electric cooperatives and their role in the community.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C., every June since the late 1950s.

Congratulations to Laney Long of El Dorado Springs R-II High School and Taten Janes of El Dorado Springs R-II High School, who were awarded an all-expense paid trip to attend the Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience (C.Y.C.L.E) in Jefferson City, Missouri.

The C.Y.C.L.E Program's main focus is to show the student more about electric cooperatives, teach leadership skills, and experience the Missouri State Government.

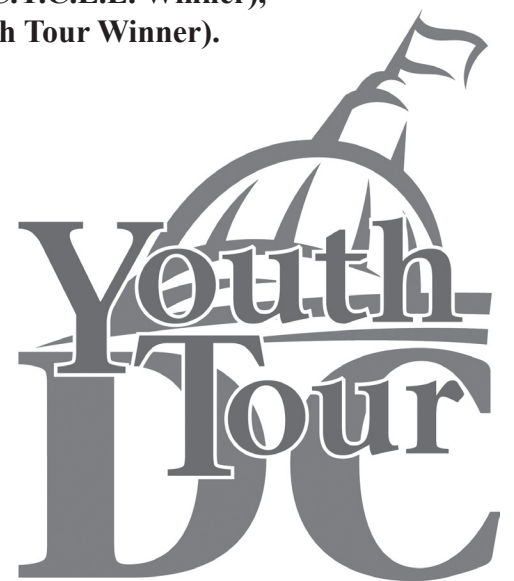


Left to right: Taten Janes (C.Y.C.L.E. Winner), Nehemiah Simmons (Youth Tour Winner), Laney Long (C.Y.C.L.E. Winner), and Abigail Klaiber (Youth Tour Winner).



This program includes nationally known speakers, a day at the state Capitol, and some of the brightest young leaders from across Missouri.

We hope all of the finalists enjoy these great opportunities and use them as tools to grow toward tomorrow's leaders. We also want to thank all of the students who participated in our contest this year and encourage everyone who knows an upcoming high school junior to check out our contest next January, 2020.



**Offices will be closed  
on Thursday, July 4th  
in celebration of  
Independence Day.**



### Energy Efficiency

### Tip of the Month

Thermostats have gotten smarter, but many of their owners need education on using them. Don't drive up your bill by cranking down the dial when the heat is on. For every degree above 72 you set the thermostat, you can cut up to 3 percent off your cooling bill. That can be significant given that air conditioning is one of the biggest energy users in your home.



## Sac Osage holds safety presentation to local first responders

On a nice Saturday morning in May, Jerico Springs Fire Department met in the Jerico Springs Community Building to hear a safety presentation from Sac Osage Electric Cooperative. Jim Davis, Engineer/General Manager, and Aaron Ash, Marketing Representative met with several volunteer fire fighters to present the dangers of live electrical lines.

The presentation included prepared safety videos and real world situations as well as the Cooperative's Live-line Display. First responders were given the opportunity to ask the cooperative experts questions about emergency situations, and learned about the electrical distribution system and high voltage lines.

Sac Osage is happy to provide safety demonstrations free of charge as a community service. If you have a civic group, or organization interested in the program, please contact the cooperative.

## Teaching kids about electrical safety What you can do at home

One of a parent's highest priorities is to protect their children. One way to do this is by teaching them about safety around electricity in your own home. Start teaching kids at an early age about electrical safety.

**Teach children that water and electricity do not mix.** Children should never play with or use electronics around water. Make sure GFCIs are installed anywhere electricity and water could meet to help prevent shocks. GFCIs detect and prevent dangerous situations where an electric shock could occur.

**Inform kids that the only objects that go into outlets are electric plugs.** Sticking other items in an electric socket can lead to an electric shock or death. As a parent, you can help prevent this by having tamper resistant outlets (TROs) installed. A TRO has a shutter system that only accepts electric plugs. Another option is to use simple outlet plugs, however these can be easily removed.

**Tell children that electric cords should be left alone.** A curious child may put a cord into his or her mouth and could potentially suffer an electric burn. Additionally, kids should be taught to never pull a plug out of the socket by the cord. This could damage the cord. It is a good idea to leave cords out of sight so children are not tempted to play with them.

**Emphasize that electronics and their accessories have to be handled with care.** Also advise kids to never stick fingers or objects into toasters or any other electrical appliance. Encourage younger children to ask for help when they want to use an electronic device.

**Include utility emergency numbers with other posted emergency phone numbers,** and instruct children how to call for help in an emergency.

## How Sac Osage can help

If you're interested in having a safety presentation for your classroom, Sac Osage Electric can put together a program catered to your group's age and needs. This is a service Sac Osage Electric provides in order to remind our youngest members about the importance of electrical safety. Contact Member Services at 417-876-2721 to schedule your safety demonstration. For more information on keeping your children safe around electricity, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).



## Photo Contest

We would like to invite our members to participate in Sac Osage Electric Cooperative's photo contest. Thirteen photos will be selected for display in our 2020 Calendar. We would like photos for all seasons. Start looking through those memory cards and have your cameras ready so you can capture just the right picture for our contest. Photos can be any appropriate subject or scene, but must be taken in the general service territory of Sac Osage. Judges will select a photo for each month and one for the cover. Each winner selected will receive a \$25.00 credit on their bill.



*Janna Dody, Communications Coordinator presents live line demonstration to Stockton Elementary kids in May.*

