



July 2016

RURAL
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Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

News

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Youth Tour



For over fifty years Rural Electric Cooperatives have been sponsoring trips for the 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. The student wrote an essay challenging them to think about "What sets Electric Cooperatives apart from Investor Owned Utilities?"

Congratulations to Rachel Jones of El Dorado Springs Christian School, who was awarded an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.. Rachel 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.

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

We hope Rachel enjoys this great opportunity and uses it as a tool to grow toward tomorrow's leader. We also want to thank her for participating in our contest this year and encourage everyone who knows an upcoming high school junior to check out our contest next January, 2017.

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

July 2016

Where were you?

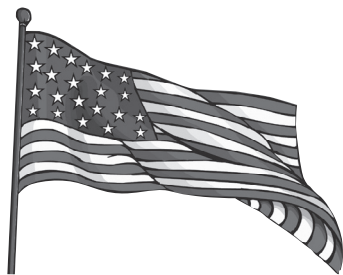
On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. walked on the surface of the moon. President Nixon proclaimed it the greatest moment since Creation. The Apollo 11 mission answered President Kennedy's 1961 State of the Union challenge to safely send a person to the moon and



back before the end of the decade. In the next Apollo landing (November 1969), Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. referred to Armstrong's statement, "That's one small step for (a) man, one giant leap for mankind," by saying, "Man, that may have been a small step for Neil, but that's a long one for me."

Have fun on the 4th!

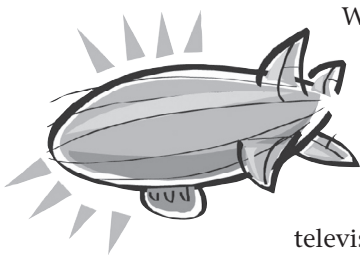
Not only is July 4 the birth date of our nation, it is also the birthday of those letter-writing twins, Abigail Van Buren ("Dear Abby") and Ann Landers. George M. Cohan was born on July 3, 1878, but he always celebrated it on July 4. In 1906, he wrote the popular



patriotic song, "You're a Grand Old Flag," which he followed in 1908 with "Yankee Doodle Dandy." In Hannibal, July 4 is Tom Sawyer Fence Painting Day. So, write a letter, sing a song or two, then paint the fence.

Birthday of the Blimp

July 8, 1838, was the birthday of the German Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, inventor of the airship called the zeppelin. It also is known as a blimp, a word that some believe comes from its airship classification as a "Type B-limp." Von Zeppelin put an engine on his airship in 1900, three years before the



Wright brothers designed their plane, but the zeppelin was lighter than air, which distinguished it from heavier-than-air craft such as planes. Today, blimps often float above many major sporting events, offering televised broadcasts.

For recipes, gardening tips and weather forecasts, visit:
www.almanac.com

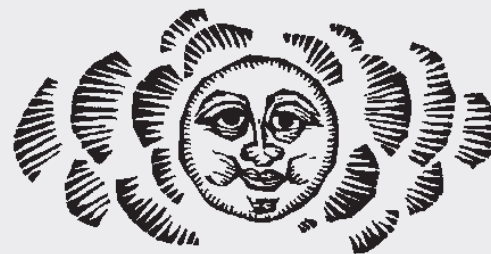
Recipe for Sweet Coleslaw



4 cups cabbage, shredded
1 medium carrot, shredded
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
4 teaspoons sweet pickle relish
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1 to 2 tablespoons sugar

In a large bowl, mix the shredded cabbage and carrot. In a separate bowl, combine the mustard, relish, mayonnaise and sugar. Pour the mixture over the carrot and cabbage and stir well. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Makes about 5 servings.

THE OLD FARMER'S



WEATHER PROVERBS

**If the first of July
it be rainy weather,
it will rain more or
less for four weeks
together.**

**Forked lightning at
night, the next day
clear and bright.**

**Rain is likely to com-
mence on the turn of
the tide.**

**When the sun sets
sadly, the morning
will be angry.**

**Old moon mist ne'er
died of thirst.**

**When cattle remain
on hilltops, fine
weather to come.**

**A southerly wind
with showers of rain
will bring the wind
from west again.**

**If birds be silent,
expect thunder.**



photo courtesy Freeimages/Julia Eisenberg

Wash the energy waste out of laundry

Keep your clothes clean the energy-efficient way

Dear Pat: We have two kids, which means we do a lot of laundry. It never ends! What are some ways we can reduce our energy use in the laundry room? — Frank

Dear Frank: The average American family washes about 300 loads of laundry per year — and all that laundry uses a lot of energy. However, there are some easy ways to reduce your energy use in the laundry room.

Consider purchasing more efficient appliances: One of the biggest changes you can make is to purchase a new Energy Star-certified washer and dryer. Washers with this certification use about 40 percent less water and 25 percent less energy than standard washers. Energy Star washers can be top-loading or front-loading machines; however, front-loading machines are generally more water and energy efficient, helping offset any additional upfront costs. Energy Star dryers use 20 percent less energy than standard dryers. Visit EnergyStar.gov for more information about estimated water and energy use of all of their certified products.

Get out of hot water: The easiest source of energy efficiency in the laundry room is to stop using hot water. Almost 90 percent of the energy consumed by your washing machine is used to heat water — but most loads of laundry can be just as easily cleaned with cold water. Using cooler water is also easier on your clothes. If you need to use hot or warm water on a particularly dirty load of laundry, a well-insulated water heater will help decrease the costs of using warmer water.

Do fewer loads: When possible, wash a full load of clothes. However, when you must do a smaller load of laundry, remember to adjust the water level settings on your machine.

Help your dryer out: One of the best ways to reduce the amount of drying time is to get as much water out of the clothes as possible in the washing machine — use a higher spin setting to wring the extra water out of your laundry. When you are ready to dry, remember not to overfill the dryer so there is enough room for drying air to reach the clothes.

Use your dryer's features: If your dryer has a moisture sensor, use it rather than guessing how long each load of laundry will need to dry. A dryer's cool-down cycle uses the residual heat to finish drying your clothes, without using as much energy.

Dry like with like: Heavy fabrics, like towels and blankets, should be dried separately from lighter fabrics, like T-shirts. When using a dryer's moisture sensor, the dryer will keep running until the wettest (and probably heaviest) item is dry. Rather than one towel extending the drying time for each of your loads of laundry, dry the towels together.

Live lint free: Clean the lint trap on your dryer regularly to help air circulation. Periodically use a vacuum nozzle to clean the area under or behind the lint filter, where lint can also get caught. If you use dryer sheets, scrub the filter clean about once a month — dryer sheets can leave a film on the filter that reduces air flow.

Remember safety: Your laundry room extends from the back of the dryer, down the dryer duct and all the way to the end of your dryer vent. Inspect your outside dryer vent regularly to make sure it is not blocked, and periodically work with a professional to clean your dryer ducts. Making sure the duct and vent are clear not only helps your dryer work more efficiently, but can also prevent a fire — more than 15,000 fires each year are sparked by clogged dryer ducts and vents. If possible, move the dryer closer to an exterior wall to shorten the length of the dryer duct and make sure the duct is as straight as possible — this helps reduce the opportunities for clogging and increases efficiency.

Use your solar-powered dryer: Going “old-fashioned” and air drying your clothes will definitely reduce your energy use! You can also tumble dry clothes until damp, then line dry them until fully dry — taking this step can prevent the “crunchy” feeling that line dried clothes can sometimes have.

There are many ways you can wash the energy waste out of your laundry routine. Try a few of these simple tips and load up on the savings.

This column was co-written by Pat Keegan and Amy Wheeless of Collaborative Efficiency. For more information on how to make your laundry room more efficient, visit www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips or email Pat Keegan at energytips@collaborativeefficiency.com.

Have questions about your home's energy efficiency? Contact your local electric cooperative for more energy-saving tips.



Statewide Outage Map Available for Members

You can now track outages for Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, as well as statewide outages for those served by Missouri Cooperatives.

The Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives (AMEC) and your local cooperative worked in conjunction with Global Reach Internet Productions to develop a map that will report outages statewide, with information “refreshing” every 15 minutes.

You can view the map by county or by cooperative. Summary details by county and cooperative are also available below the map. A color legend illustrates the number of outages. With the outage map, you can follow along and track our programs while gaining a better understanding of what our crews are up against.

You may access the map by going to SOEC’s website at www.sacosage.com. Click on the “Statewide Outage Map” link.

The screenshot shows a map of Missouri and parts of Illinois and Kansas. The map is overlaid with a grid representing service areas. On the right side, there are several control panels:

- Service Area Layer:** A dropdown menu set to 'Cooperatives'.
- Cooperative:** A list with 'Sac Osage' selected and highlighted.
- Highlight/Reset:** Two buttons for toggling the map view.
- Weather Layer:** A checkbox that is currently unchecked.
- Legend:** A color-coded legend for outage counts:
 - 1-99 (lightest shade)
 - 100-499
 - 500-999
 - 1,000+ (darkest shade)

 The map interface also includes 'Map' and 'Satellite' tabs at the top left, and a Google logo at the bottom left. Map data is attributed to 2016 Google and TerraMetrics.

Details By County

Outages by County Highest Outages by County

Details By Cooperative

Outages by Co-op Highest Outages by Co-op

SAFETY FIRST!

Make safety a priority when doing home improvements and projects. Always be aware of overhead lines, especially when using long tools such as ladders, pruning poles and pool skimmers. Be sure you call Missouri One Call at 1-800-DIG-RITE, 811 or www.mo1call.com before you dig.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

When replacing appliances, be sure to choose one that is Energy-Star certified. A refrigerator that is Energy-Star certified uses 9 to 10 percent less energy than one that meets the federal minimum energy-efficiency standard. You will find similar savings for other Energy-Star models. For more info visit <https://www.energystar.gov>.