

Co-op Comments

May 2017

REC donates money to rural fire departments to assist with needs

In REC's service area, there are 23 rural fire departments with over 440 men and women volunteering their time to help protect their families, neighbors and friends. Not only do these individuals fight fires, but they also help construct buildings to house equipment, perform maintenance and work fundraisers to have the necessary money to purchase fuel and equipment to protect homes and properties in their area. These services survive because of the dedication of volunteer firefighters.

For the 27th year, firefighters in REC's service area gathered for recognition for their efforts in protecting lives and property.

This year 21 fire departments were in attendance at the banquet and REC present-

ed each department with a check to assist in purchasing equipment and supplies. REC's grant program awarded \$14,750 to the area departments bringing the program's total donated funds to \$341,900.

"It is important to support our local rural fire departments as they are first responders protecting our lives, businesses and property," Dale Nye, CEO, said. "REC's grant program is designed to assist these departments in being better equipped to handle fires in rural areas. The service rural fire departments provide is invaluable and we cannot thank them enough for the work they do every day."

REC recognizes the importance of the tasks these men and women perform and

the obstacles they must overcome to do their jobs. The grant program is the Cooperative's way of expressing thanks for their hard work protecting the people in rural communities and their property.

Departments receiving grants include: Acme, Alex, Bailey, Bradley, Bray, Cox City, Dibble, Doyle, Elmore City, Farwell, Katie, Lindsay, Maysville, Naples, Ninnekah, Paoli, Payne, Pernell, Purcell, Rush Creek, Rush Springs, Washington and Wayne.

Collectively, the 23 departments have 441 firefighters trained to fight wildfires as well as structure fires. During 2016, the departments went on 2,029 runs.



REC donated money to rural fire departments to assist with purchasing equipment and supplies. First Row: Ray Gibson, Paoli; Kenny Keith, Washington; Greg Cypert, Purcell; Earl Henderson, Doyle; Royce Henry, Payne; Larry Lam, Bradley; Matt Williams, Acme; Austin Thompson, Alex; and Representative Tim Downing. Second row: Richard McCarty, Rush Creek; James Anderson, Pernell; Brian Thompson, Alex; and Senator Paul Scott. Third row: Meghan Claunch, Wayne; Jaelyn Fox, Cox City; Whitney Heney, Naples; Will McLin, Elmore City; Darin Hayden, Lindsay; and Allen Hensley, Katie. Back row from left to right: Brad England, Dibble; Jesse Bearce, Bailey; Brian Gensamer, Bray; Jimmy Miracle, Ninnekah; Jacob Reed, Farwell; Maci Carnes, Naples; Anthony Duffle, Bradley; and Amber Savage, Field Representative for Congressman Tom Cole's office.

Electric cooperatives' policy priorities



As a member of Rural Electric, you know providing you with safe, affordable and reliable electricity is our top priority 365 days a year. Our employees are dedicated to this mission, whether they work on a line crew or spend most of their time behind a desk. But it might surprise you to know just how much the work we perform in the communities we serve can be greatly affected by what lawmakers and regulators are doing in Washington, D.C. Which is why co-ops all across the country join together in making sure our leaders in Washington know what's important to co-ops and their members.

We do this, in part, through our membership in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national service organization representing the interests of the nation's more than 900 electric cooperatives on Capitol Hill and before federal agencies.

Electric cooperatives built and improved the infrastructure to bring electricity to people living in rural America who were being left in the dark and left behind. Today, co-ops provide power to 42 million Americans in 47 states. Growing a vibrant rural economy is essential to America's success and prosperity, and we count on the federal government to help. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has long been

a partner in helping co-ops fund a wide variety of activities, including electric infrastructure improvements and expansion of rural economic opportunities.

Electric cooperatives strongly advocate for public policies driven by consumers' interests and needs—not a “Washington knows best” mentality. Overreaching federal regulations have a significant negative impact on rural America, so co-ops are asking Washington policy makers to revisit a number of federal rules hurting rural communities and threatening co-ops' mission to provide affordable and reliable electricity.

We're also looking ahead to future rules and actions under major environmental laws, such as the Endangered Species Act and Clean Air Act, to ensure they carefully balance the nation's environmental and economic goals without imposing undue burdens on rural America. 1675400

One of the themes running through last year's presidential campaign is the need to improve the nation's infrastructure. Electric co-ops have been improving and developing infrastructure for decades and hope to work with leaders in Washington to continue this important progress.

Co-ops continuously improve the cyber and physical security of our systems and have been leaders in developing and using smart grid technologies. Here again, a strong public-private partnership remains essential, particularly in the area of cyber security. Electric cooperatives also support a wide range of research activities to help improve our nation's future energy infrastructure. The U.S. Department of Energy and other agencies remain key partners in advancing this research, as well.

These are just a handful of examples of co-ops' major policy priorities over the next couple of years. It is by no means an exhaustive list. But hopefully it demonstrates electric cooperatives are working just as hard in Washington as we are here at home to keep the electricity flowing and improve the quality of life for our members.

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May 2017

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REC's youth program winners

Rural Electric Cooperative recently awarded and recognized 24 area students with trips and scholarships. Ten high school seniors shared \$11,000 in scholarships assisting with their college expenses. Six high school juniors received all-expense paid trips this summer- three won trips to Washington D.C. for Youth Tour and three won trips to Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs. While eight eighth graders won a trip to Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperative's YouthPower Energy Camp at Canyon Camp near Hinton, Oklahoma.

Both the Youth Tour and Energy Camp competitions were open to REC's membership and all students attending a school within REC's service area. Whereas, only high school seniors whose parents or legal guardians are members of REC were eligible to apply for the ten scholarships.

To compete in the scholarship contest, students were required to complete an application, and from all applicants, a committee of REC's Board selected 10 finalists to interview. All finalists were selected as winners. Two students received \$1,500 scholarships and eight received \$1,000 each. Winners of the \$1,500 scholarships were Shante Seals of Maysville and Emma Hayhurst of Dibble. Scholarships of \$1,000 each went to: Austin Fisher of Bray-Doyle, Katelyn Persinger and Adalia Wilson of

Lindsay, Justus Harris of Maysville, Elizabeth Haskins of Rush Springs, Cayli Ring, Nicholas Sager and Jacob Talkington of Pauls Valley.

High school juniors competing in the Youth Tour contest wrote an essay as the first step of the competition. Judges selected the top six essays as finalists. The finalists competed in a speech contest to determine the trip winners. Judges selected Tyler Wilkinson of Cement, Cody Smith of Lindsay and Jessica Zalewski of Rush Springs as winners for Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. These students will travel to Washington, D.C. with approximately 70 other juniors from across Oklahoma to tour our nation's capital.

The three runners-up won a trip near Steamboat Springs, Colorado for the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp hosted by the Colorado Electric Cooperatives. Local winners will join students from Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming for the week-long camp. REC's winners include Seth Combes, Valerie Smith and Hannah Williams of Elmore City-Pernell.

REC's winners to YouthPower Energy Camp were selected from a large group of essays submitted by eighth graders from several area schools. The group will attend the camp with 80 other eighth graders across Oklahoma. Winners include: Kye Heldermon and Jelani Newton of Alex,

Aiden Davis, Kalisa Kay and Gerardo Lopez of Lindsay, Mattie Richardson, Blake Robbins and Rhylee Tucker of Whitebead.

Student winners, parents, school teachers and administrators were honored at a banquet hosted by REC recently at the Cooperative's Multi Purpose Center in Lindsay.

REC has offered these programs to area students since 1989. Over the past 28 years, REC has provided: 294 scholarships; sent 83 high school juniors to the Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.; sent 75 high school juniors to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp; and sent 188 eighth grade students to the YouthPower Energy Camp.



Energy Camp winners (back row from left to right) Jelani Newton of Alex, Aiden Davis of Lindsay, Kye Heldermon of Alex and Kalisa Kay of Lindsay. Front row (left to right) Gerardo Lopez of Lindsay, Blake Robbins of Whitebead, Mattie Richardson of Whitebead and Rhylee Tucker of Whitebead.



Scholarship Winners (back row from left to right) Justus Harris of Maysville, Jacob Talkington of Pauls Valley, Elizabeth Haskins of Rush Springs and Adalia Wilson of Lindsay. Front row (left to right) Shante Seals of Maysville, Katelyn Persinger of Lindsay, Austin Fisher of Bray-Doyle and Cayli Ring of Pauls Valley. Not pictured: Emma Hayhurst of Dibble and Nicholas Sager of Pauls Valley.



Youth Tour Finalists (back row from left to right) Jessica Zalewski of Rush Springs, Hannah Williams of Elmore City-Pernell and Valerie Smith of Elmore City-Pernell. Front row (left to right) Seth Combes of Elmore City-Pernell, Cody Smith of Lindsay and Tyler Wilkinson of Cement.

Classified Advertisement

AUTOMOTIVE –

FOR SALE: 350, 1 ton with Skid Steer Bobcat on 20' trailer, a package deal, all in excellent condition, \$42,000.

PH: 405-919-3946.

FOR SALE: 1989 Isuzu ext. cab pickup with flatbed, toolbox, 4-cylinder, 4WD, needs minor repair, \$1,200. PH: 405-207-0228.

FARM EQUIPMENT –

FOR SALE: 27' Javorsky field cultivator, new sweeps, \$6,500; 1985 International, 22' box and hoist, \$8,500; 4450 John Deere tractor, \$27,000; CrustBuster offset disc, \$4,000; 22' Allis-Chalmers chisel, \$3,000; Vermeer 504 Super 1 round baler, \$5,500; 875 Insley Trackhoe, \$8,000.

PH: 405-615-9660.

LIVESTOCK & PETS –

FOR SALE: Angus bulls, 16-24 months old, guaranteed sound and fertile, \$2,500 each or lease for \$300 a year. Bred and open heifers available as well.

PH: 405-207-1243 or 405-665-2502.

FOR SALE: Registered Angus bull, top bloodlines, gentle disposition, low birth weight, ready to work. PH: 405-227-3452.

RECREATIONAL –

FOR SALE: 10' Jon boat with trolling motor, \$375. PH: 405-919-3946.

FOR SALE: 5th Wheel with one slide-out, inside is like new, no children, pets or smokers have ever been inside, just two

Account number worth \$10 bill credit

Locate your account number in an article of this issue; it will be good for a \$10 credit on your electric bill. To claim the prize, you must locate the account number - if the number is yours, contact REC by the 10th of the month and we will credit your account. Only the member assigned that number is eligible for the prize. If you don't know your account number, it can be located on your electric bill.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Keep warm summer air outside where it belongs. Add caulk or weather-stripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows. Learn more at www.energy.gov

older people. Must see to appreciate, used very little. \$8,500. PH: 405-756-3488.

FOR SALE: 1991 Dutchman Classic 29' 5th wheel travel trailer with 5th wheel hitch. Nice floor plan, sleeps six, \$5,200. PH: 405-207-0228.

MISCELLANEOUS –

FOR SALE: Several hundred feet of irrigation pipe, 2" and 3" quick coupling PVC pipe, quick coupling hose, Rainbird

sprinklers. PH: 405-331-9746.

FOR SALE: Precious formal brand, turquoise blue with sequins prom dress; Dillard's royal blue prom dress, sizes 3-4, \$99 each. PH: 405-756-4277.

FOR SALE: Rustic Western style, wooden dining table with six padded chairs, \$450. PH: 405-613-8840.

FOR SALE: Weathered barn wood, all sizes and lengths, PH: 405-756-4277.

CFC donates to REC's Youth Summit



National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation's Regional Vice-President, Billy Kulwicki (middle) presents Board of Trustees Vice-President and Youth Committee Chair Scott Christian (left) and Board of Trustees President Gary Jones (right) with a donation for REC's Youth Leadership Summit.

Local Co-op Connection Card Deals

Backroads Boutique, Lindsay -

5% off everything excluding special order and sale items

Best Western, Chickasha -

15% Off Regular Room Rate

Blue Moose Outdoor

Portable Rentals, Elmore City -

5% Off Septic Tank Pumping, Tent Rental and Special Event Toilet Rentals

Chickasha Diesel Services, Chickasha -

\$50 off any big diesel oil change

Edwards Canvas, Pauls Valley -

5% Off

Jenny's Pics Photography, Lindsay -

10% Off \$50 or More Purchase of Pictures

Lindsay Tire and Lube, Lindsay -

\$5 Off Any Full Service Oil Change;

M & M Furniture, Chickasha -

10% Off Any Purchase

Mazzio's Italian Eatery, Purcell -

10% Off Purchase

Photos by Ginger, Pauls Valley -

1 Free 8x10 Print With First Order (\$25 Minimum)

The Leopard Lasso, Wynnewood -

10% Off Purchase

4 Seat Saddles, Boots and Hats -

10% Off \$100 or More, or 5% Off Repairs

Western Fuel Co., Maysville -

2 Cents Off Per Gallon of Propane on a Minimum of 125 Gallons. Cash Sales Only. (No Other Discounts Allowed)

Pharmacy Discounts -

Check out the discounts available using your Co-op Connections Card at participating pharmacies throughout our area. For a complete list of pharmacies, visit REC's website to see if your pharmacy is offering discounts to Co-op Connections Card holders.