

# May 2014 LOT Wats Published by Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative





### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

A well-designed landscape provides both energy efficiency and curb appeal for your home. The type of vegetation you choose is as important as where they are planted. Sunlight streaming through windows and bearing down on the roof can drive up air conditioner use. Using shade trees and shrubs in your landscaping plan can help reduce cooling costs. In the winter, deciduous trees lose their leaves and let in warmth.

Source: Energy.gov

Congratulations! **Thomas Schubert**is our online survey winner.



Offices Closed

CHEC will be closed May 26th in observance of Memorial Day.

# Youth Tour Finalists Announced

The 2014 Youth Tour essay contest finalists were honored at a banquet on April 1, 2014, at the Kiamichi Technology center in Stigler. The annual event, hosted by Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc., (CHEC), recognizes four students whose written essays earned them an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. this summer.

The finalists competed with students from 14 area schools. The students wrote an essay on the topic "Why is renewable energy important for electric cooperatives to invest in? Describe what makes it challenging for cooperatives to invest in renewable energy." From the essays entered, judges selected the four finalists.

The trip will begin on June 13, 2014, when they join 70 other students from across Oklahoma for a "Get Acquainted Banquet" in Oklahoma City. The delegates will board a plane the following morning and fly to Washington D.C. to embark on an educational and fun filled week.

This unique trip will give the students an opportunity to see history come alive as they explore the museums, memorials and

monuments. The students will tour the Capitol, will join Oklahoma's congressional delegation for breakfast, and will enjoy many other points of interest.

CHEC is pleased to announce these students who will represent the Cooperative for the 2014 Youth Tour: Payton Marr from Muldrow High School, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Marr; Mason Hamby from Gans High School, son of Mr. & Mrs. Sean Hamby; DJ Sustaita from Stigler High School, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lupe Sustaita; and Sefton Shrum from Porum High School, son of Mr. & Mrs. Keith Shrum.

Teachers of the winning students this year are: Renee Claborn from Muldrow High School, Elizabeth Weisenfels from Gans High School, Alisha Vincent from Stigler High School, and Leah Spradlin from Porum High School. We extend a special thank you to all the teachers, staff, and administration for participating and supporting the Youth Tour program this year.

If you would like more information about Youth Tour, please visit our website at www.cooksonhills.com.



Pictured left to right: Kendall Beck, CHEC General Manager, Payton Marr, Sefton Shrum, Mason Hamby, DJ Sustaita, and Donna Rhodes, Youth Tour Coordinator.

#### **Hot Watts**

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Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Hot Watts informs members in parts of
seven Eastern Oklahoma counties about
Cookson Hills' programs and issues.
Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative
continually strives to provide quality
electrical service at a reasonable cost
for its members.

 Headquarters:
 Branch Office:

 P.O. Box 539
 P.O. Box 587

 Stigler, OK 74462
 Sallisaw, OK 74955

 Phone: 800-328-2368
 Phone: 918-775-2211

Pay-by-Phone: 1-888-678-1937 Home Page: www.cooksonhills.com E-Mail: drhodes@cooksonhills.com

Toll-Free: 1-800-328-2368

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Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. welcomes members to submit photos, and articles which will be subject to editing. Cookson Hills reserves the right to publish or modify any article. Companies and individuals featured in the Hot Watts newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official policy, position, or view of Cookson Hills.

If You Find Your Account Number
Hidden in This Issue of the *Hot Watts*You'll Receive a \$25 Credit on
Your Electric Bill

# **Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks!**

The names listed below are member accounts that have capital credit refund checks available to them. The owners of these checks received service from Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) and were issued a check which was returned by the postal service as undeliverable, or was never cashed. If your name appears on the list, or if you are the surviving heir of a name listed below, please contact CHEC about the capital credit refund check. Below is an alphabetical listing of names (A-Kir). The second half of the list will appear in the June issue of the Hot Watts. If you have any questions about capital credits, please contact CHEC at 800-328-2368.

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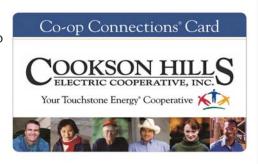
## **CO-OP CONNECTIONS**

Did you know that being a member of CHEC has another perk? As a member, you have access to the Co-op Connections Program that provides discounts on many products and services.

CHEC, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, joined the Co-op Connections Program in 2012. Since that time members have received benefits on dental and vision services, hearing aids, and chiropractic care. Please note not all dentists, chiropractors, or hearing and vision providers participate in the program. The most beneficial use of the card is the pharmacy discount which saved CHEC members over \$10,000.00 in 2013. Present your Co-op Connections Card to your local pharmacy to see if you can save on your next prescription.

Additionally, local businesses offer discounts on goods

and services when you show them your Co-op Connections Card. For a participating business directory, and for information on how your business



can join the program, please visit our website www.cooksonhills.com and click on the "Co-op Connections Card."

Each member was mailed a Co-op Connections Card when we initiated the program. All new members are issued a card when applying for electric services. You may visit our website and print a card if you have misplaced or lost your card. Also, you can carry the card electronically by downloading the Co-op Connections Card app to your smart device. Go to the Apple Store or in the Android Market and search for "Co-op Connections Card."

You may also obtain additional information by visiting www.connections.coop. Use the search engine to find discounts right here at home or anywhere you travel. If you have any questions concerning the Co-op Connections Card or its services, please contact Donna Rhodes at 800-328-2368 or 918-775-2211.

#### NOTE:

The phone number in the Sentinel Directory for Haskell County is incorrect in the yellow pages and white pages. Please call 800-328-2368.



# Pole Inspection Crews in Nicut

CHEC has contracted with Osmose Utilities Services, Inc. to inspect and treat power poles owned by CHEC in the Nicut area. The project began in early April and will continue until approximately June.

Osmose crews will inspect and test poles making sure they have the proper strength requirements. The poles that pass all the strength requirements will be treated to prevent future decay. Those that do not have the proper strength requirements will be replaced. The process will involve excavating around the poles by inspection crews. Crews will need access to all poles that have been identified as needing inspection.

Pole maintenance can save money by reducing unnecessary replacement costs and by adding many additional years of service life to poles. The project



will greatly enhance 1763800 the reliability of CHEC's power system in the Nicut area.

Osmose's vehicles will be identified by an Osmose logo on the door of the vehicle as well as a magnetic placard of CHEC. Osmose personnel should be

wearing safety vests, and the foreman will be wearing a white hard hat. Osmose

They will have a letter identifying them as working on behalf of CHEC.

Any questions regarding the project should be directed to Brett Orme, Director of Engineering, at 800-328-2368.