



Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

News

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Jordanne Steuck Wins 2020 Youth Tour

The Cooperative Youth Tour program has honored deserving students for many years. Across the nation, youth tour winners have prospered and fulfilled their potential. They can be found at all levels of government and civil service as well as on farms and running small businesses. Being selected by a local cooperative is a great sign of future outcomes. This year is no different with Sac Osage Electric Cooperative's Youth Tour Winner, Jordanne Steuck.

Jordanne finished her junior year at El Dorado Christian School. She is the daughter of Gerard and Michelle Steuck. She is an accomplished athlete, singer, and has won the prestigious Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy contest at the local and state level.

The Youth Tour program was started in the late 1950s. It allowed rural students to see the nation's capital up close, learn about the political process and interact with their elected officials. Nearly 50,000 students from across America have participated in the program over the years. More than 1,500 students now participate every year.

2020 is a unique year. Because of COVID-19, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) who coordinates the pro-



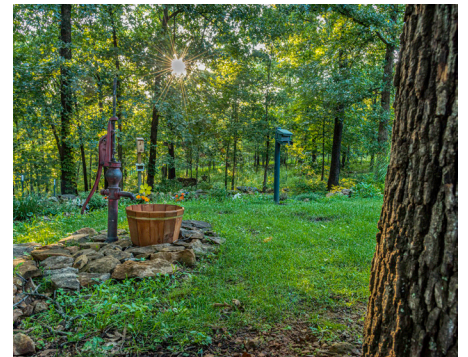
gram made the decision to cancel the trip to Washington D.C. It is unprecedented in the programs history; however, with the uncertainty of travel availability, the lack of lodgings and the closing of attractions, canceling the trip became inevitable.

The loss of the trip is a sad thing, but it does not diminish the accomplishments of this year's winner. Jordanne Steuck was a deserving applicant whose hard work should be recognized. The board of directors in lieu of the trip have decided to provide a scholarship as this year's Youth Tour award.

Cooperatives across the country including Sac Osage are looking forward to a return to the long-standing Youth Tour tradition in 2021. Students entering their Junior year can find more information and an application on the Sac Osage website.



**Sac Osage Headquarters
Will Be Closed
Friday, July 3rd For
Independence Day**



2021 Cooperative Calendar Contest

Members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative are eligible to enter the 2021 calendar photo contest. Photos taken within the cooperative territory can win a place in the complimentary calendar distributed to members at cooperative headquarters. Winners will receive a credit on their electric bill. More details can be found at www.sacosage.com.



What You Need to Know About Distributed Generation

Distributed Generation is when a member is producing power through a renewable energy source such as wind or solar and transmits excess energy into the grid. An interconnected system allows the member to use energy from the grid when their system is not providing enough to supply their needs.

On January 1, 2008, the State of Missouri's Net Metering Law took effect, requiring all electric utilities to offer a net metering program to customers generating up to 100 kilowatts of electricity. These systems can generate electricity using wind energy, solar-thermal energy, hydro-electric energy, photovoltaics, fuel cells using hydrogen produced by one of the aforementioned resources and other sources of energy certified as renewable by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Systems must be intended primarily to offset part or all of the member's electricity requirements and must be located on property owned, operated, leased or otherwise controlled by that member. The Net Metering Law states that any power that is not used by the member generating the power (commercial or residential) will be credited to their utility bill at the utility's avoided-cost rate each month. Credits from net metering must be used within twelve months of generation or they expire.

Credits will not be applied to the service availability charge or demand charges. As Sac Osage has a four part rate, a member will see the credits applied to the "ENERGY CHARGES" portion of their bill. If the member is connected they will still have a service availability charge each month. If they are using power when their system is not supplying enough to meet their demand, they will have the demand charges as well. A residential member who produces enough energy from a distributed system to have net energy usage of zero but an on-peak demand of 5kW and an off-



peak demand of 5kW, would have a bill for that month of \$69.30.

Members looking to save on their electricity bills, should carefully examine all financial aspects first. Consider reducing their energy use by making their home more energy efficient. Many efficiency measures have a faster return on investment, and the initial investment is often less. Sac Osage has rebates on efficiency measures and home energy audits that can provide real savings.

If a member decides to pursue a renewable energy system, they should do their homework. Check out a list of reputable, long-term

providers. Always get references and learn as much as possible about the companies they are considering. Because there are often a variety of systems and payment plans, it is always a good idea to get multiple quotes before choosing a vendor.

Members interested in the requirements for installing a distributed generation system on Sac Osage lines can find the distributed generation agreement on www.sacosage.com. Members can also call the office to get a personalized idea of the kind of savings they would expect from installing a generation system.