



CURRENT NEWS



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**KEM
Electric Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Chair....Victor “Chuck” Wald
Vice Chair....Carmen Essig
Secretary-Treasurer.....Carter Vander Val

Directors:

John Beck
Dean Dewald
Dean Hummel
Neil Meidinger

Co-General Manager/CEO:

Donald A. Franklund

www.kemelectric.com

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KEM Electric Cooperative is dedicated to providing affordable, reliable energy and services that support and unite our member-owners.

We also aspire to meet the Touchstone Energy® Cooperative core values of integrity, innovation, accountability and commitment to community.

KEM Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

TOGETHERWE SAVE.COM

Youth Tour: A worldly experience close to home

Washington, D.C., is an international metropolis far from home — but it’s a small world, after all.

That’s what Austin Cusey discovered on the 2017 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Austin was one of 16 North Dakota high school students to attend the 53rd annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. In the weeklong adventure in June, Austin joined a record 1,800 students from around the nation to learn about history and American government; visit with area congressional delegation; become more knowledgeable about the cooperative business model; and tour museums, national monuments and memorials. While on the tour, students also develop leadership skills and a national network of peers.

Austin was certainly impressed by the massive size and architecture of the various memorials and monuments while on the tour — but he was most influenced by some of the nation’s treasures that reminded him of home. In the September local pages of *North Dakota Living*, read how local connections were made at the U.S. Holocaust Museum, the Pentagon Memorial, and Congressman Kevin Cramer’s office.

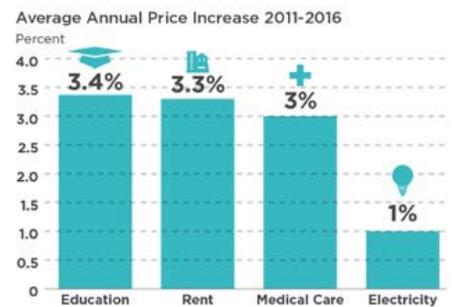


Austin Cusey

ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

The cost of powering your home rises at a slower pace than many of your typical expenses. Compare the average price increase of these expenses each year over the last five years, and the value of electricity shines.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Consumer Price Index



Also in the SEPTEMBER issue of *North Dakota Living*:

- KEM sponsors the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile
- Board meeting highlights & more

Operation Round Up grants awarded; applications being accepted



In July, the five members who serve on the Charitable Trust representing KEM Electric Cooperative met and awarded an Operation Round Up grant to the following recipients:

- ✓ **The Kidder County District Health Unit**, for a new machine called PlusOptix. It will be used for vision screening at schools in the cooperative service area.
- ✓ **The Napoleon Public School Playground**, for updated playground equipment that will greatly benefit students with special needs.
- ✓ **Clipper Tots Daycare** in Strasburg, for heating and air conditioning units.

Operation Round Up is a voluntary program in which electric cooperative members round up their monthly utility bills to the nearest dollar and donate their change to local individuals, groups or charities with a specific need. The money pools and accumulates, and an elected board of co-op members reviews the grant applications that have been submitted and determines grant worthiness.

The next Charitable Trust meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at co-op headquarters in Linton. The next application deadline will be Wednesday, Sept. 30. Any person or group in the KEM Electric Cooperative service area may apply to receive an Operation Round Up grant.

To request an application, call KEM at 701-254-4666 or 800-472-2673, or download at www.kemelectric.com (click "Your Community" and "Operation Round Up").

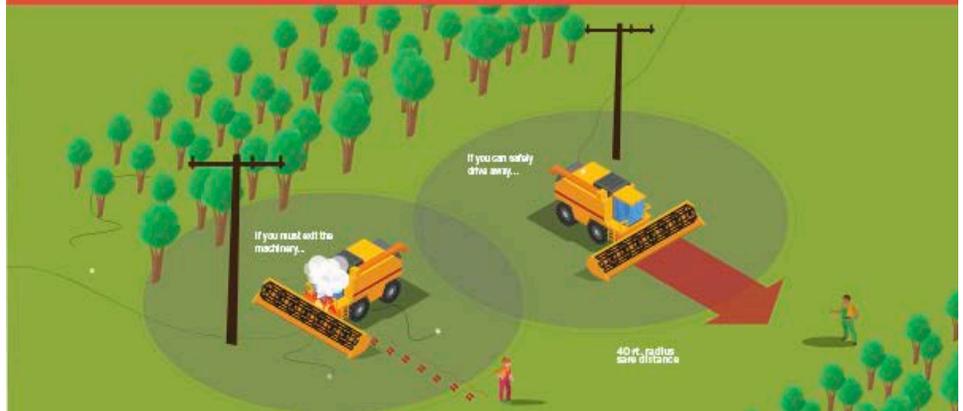
Meet the co-op members who serve on the Charitable Trust

Veteran board members are Michael Knoll, chair, and Kellie Wikenheiser (vice chair) and Susan Wald (secretary-treasurer).

New to the board are KEM Electric Cooperative members Susan Meidinger and Tami Naaden.

ALERT TODAY, ALIVE TOMORROW: HEADS UP FOR FARM SAFETY

Stay safe around downed power lines. Consider all lines, equipment and conductors to be live and dangerous.



Fall/Winter Energy Tip: When you are asleep or out of the house, turn your thermostat back 10° to 15° for eight hours and save around 10 percent a year on your heating and cooling bills. A programmable thermostat can make it easy to set back your temperature – set it and forget it!

Win/win

KEM Electric Cooperative hired two apprentice linemen as temporary help this summer. Braden Klose and Tyler Schummer have been helping KEM add new services, patrol line and maintain the system. KEM's experienced line crews have been helping Klose and Schummer, by teaching them a variety of processes and techniques, and giving them the opportunity to log the hours they need to become journeymen linemen.

In the cooperative spirit of working together for the greater good, KEM Electric Cooperative is proud of this partnership that exhibits the fifth cooperative principle: Education, training and information.



KEM Lead Lineman Kevin Horner (center) helps mentor Apprentice Linemen Braden Klose (left) and Tyler Schummer.