



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



SOUTHEASTERN ELECTRIC

NOVEMBER 2026 VOL. 27 NO. 7

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

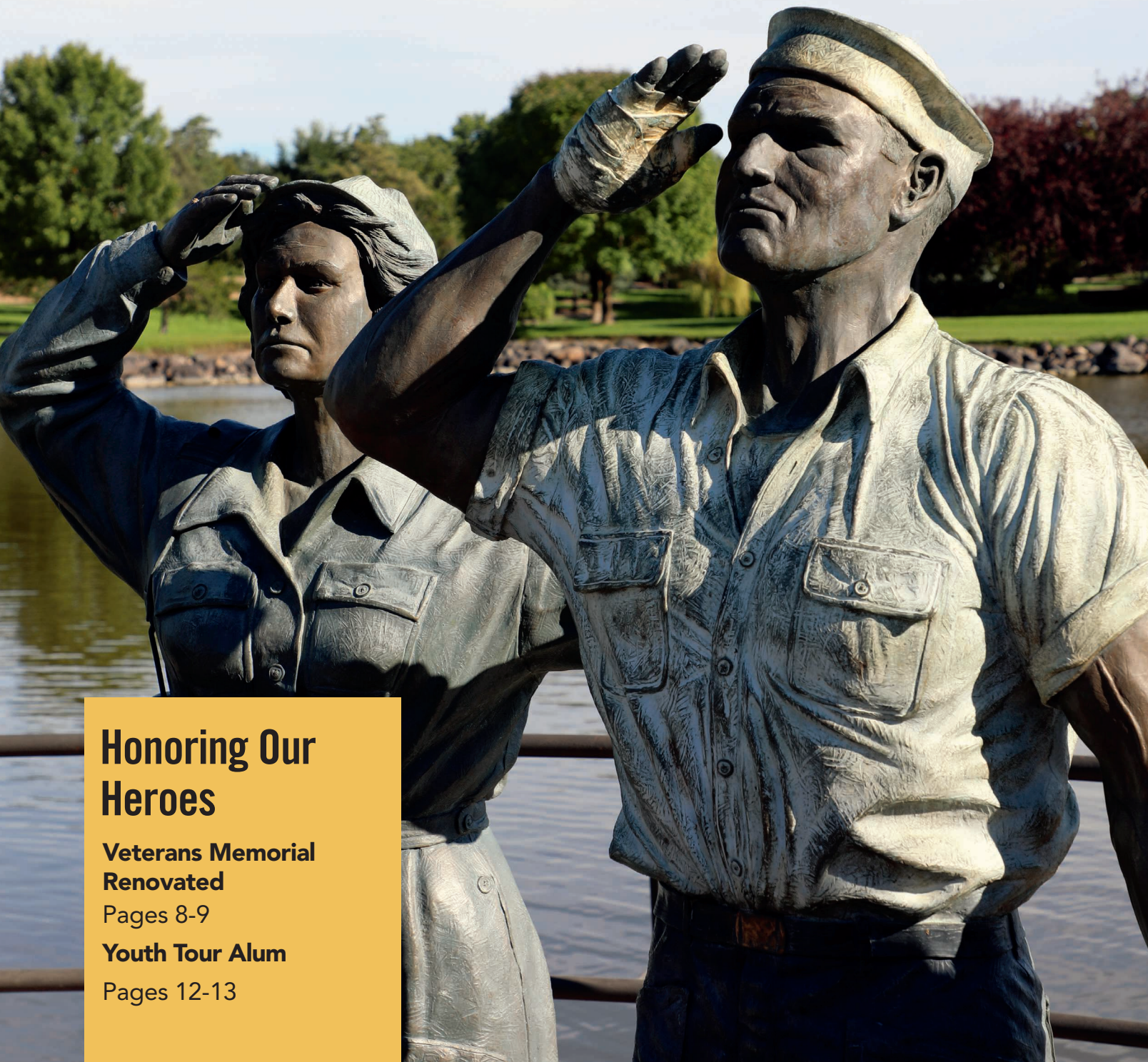
Honoring Our Heroes

**Veterans Memorial
Renovated**

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Youth Tour Alum

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INVESTING IN OUR WORKFORCE TO POWER OUR CO-OP'S FUTURE



Chad Kinsley
CEO/General
Manager

Southeastern
Electric
Cooperative
and Union
County Electric
Cooperative

As a cooperative, we live by the seven cooperative principles, one of which is **commitment to education**. To maintain the highest standards of customer service and reliability, we must continuously invest in our single greatest asset: our people. Professional development for our team is a strategic commitment to the long-term health and stability of our cooperative. Investing in ongoing learning delivers direct benefits across our entire organization.

Safety meetings, statewide co-op training, and other educational opportunities provide our team with up-to-date knowledge on emerging technologies, modern utility practices, and industry trends, ensuring our co-op remains proactive rather than reactive. Enhancing core skills and technical expertise directly improves daily operations, allowing us to deliver the reliable service and value our members expect and deserve. Providing opportunities for continuing education also helps us attract, retain, and develop the strong leaders who will guide our cooperative into tomorrow.

I am proud to highlight two employees who have recently earned major professional designations through our national cooperative organization, NRECA.

Jodi Van Emmerik - Cooperative Financial Professional Certificate (CFPC®)

Jodi recently completed the requirements to earn her CFPC® designation. This specialized program dives deep into key utility finance disciplines, including enterprise risk management, capital credit strategies, electric rate design, Key Ratio Trend Analysis (KRTA), and long-term stewardship. As part of her graduation requirements, Jodi completed a comprehensive capstone project aligned directly with our cooperative's strategic financial priorities. Her dedication strengthens

our financial positioning and helps safeguard our long-term economic stability.



Jeff Slack - Certified Loss Control Professional (CLCP)

Jeff earned his CLCP designation, reaching a major milestone after completing an intensive 2.5-year program. Achieving this distinction required multiple weeks of rigorous in-person and online instruction, extensive testing, and a final practical project. Through this coursework, Jeff mastered core competencies in loss prevention, hazard identification, regulatory compliance, and transformational safety leadership. His effort directly elevates our organizational safety culture, protecting both our crew in the field and the members we serve.



Please join me in congratulating Jodi and Jeff on these outstanding achievements. Their commitment to personal growth and professional excellence helps ensure our cooperative remains strong, safe, and ready to serve you for years to come.

COOPERATIVE

CONNECTIONS

**SOUTHEASTERN
ELECTRIC**

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SEPT. BOARD SUMMARY

The Board of Directors of Southeastern Electric Cooperative met in Sioux Falls on Thursday, September 24, 2026, with all directors present. Also present were CEO Chad Kinsley, Attorney Nadolski, and staff members Audri Carlson, John Euchner, Erica Fitzhugh, Todd Nelson, and Jon Wunder.

CFO Jon Wunder reviewed his written report, including the preliminary financial report, cost of service study, cash accounts, unclaimed property, hiring and staffing, compensation and benefits and employee committee meetings.

VP of Operations Euchner reviewed the operations written report, close calls, safety meetings, projects, large loads, substation work, RUS Operations and Maintenance review, Federated Loss Control and engineering projects.

VP of Technology Todd Nelson reviewed his written report, load control receiver update, technology roadmap update, distributed resource portal, cybersecurity, and other IT projects.

VP of Member Services Audri Carlson reviewed her written report, outage management, phone software upgrade, accounts receivable, disconnects, past due accounts, call volumes, and other projects.

Communications Manager Erica Fitzhugh reviewed her written report, member communications, advertising, Co-ops in the Classroom, events, water bottle program, internal communications, and social media.

CEO Kinsley reviewed his report and commented on the following topics: Basin financials, East River financials, SD Nuclear, Inc., PowerOn Midwest, Sioux Falls warehouse addition, Basin

rate cases and SDREA Dues.

Attorney Nadolski generally discussed coop related legal matters.

THE BOARD ACTED ON THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS:

- A motion was duly made and seconded to support the REED loan application and forward the application to the REED board for action. Motion carried.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the wage, salary and fringe benefit package. Motion carried.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the following amended policies: 104 Delegation of Authority to the CEO, 111 Services of Consultants, and 510 Safety Practices. Motion carried.
- A motion was duly made to enter executive session. Motion carried.
- A motion was duly made to exit executive session. Motion carried.
- A motion was duly made to donate to Forward Sioux Falls from 2027-2030. Motion carried.
- A motion was made and seconded to set the December board meeting for Monday, December 21, 2026 beginning at 8:30 AM. Motion carried.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2026, at the Sioux Falls office.

KEEP SAFETY AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

The holiday season, stretching from late November through mid-January, is widely considered the most joyous time of the year. Families gather, festive parties fill our calendars, and a spirit of generosity warms our homes. However, alongside the cheer comes a significant spike in travel, home decorating, and large-scale cooking. Consequently, preventable accidents and injuries dramatically increase during these months. To ensure your family and friends remain safe and injury-free throughout the festivities, keeping safety top of mind is crucial. Below is a comprehensive guide of tried-and-true advice to help you navigate the season securely.

Traveling for the Holidays? Be Prepared and Alert

For millions of people, the holidays mean hitting the road to visit loved ones. Unfortunately, car travel during this busy period carries the highest fatality rate of any major transportation form. Hundreds tragically lose their lives in crashes on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day alone. Alarming, alcohol impairment contributes to approximately one-third of these fatal incidents.

To stay safe on the roads, follow these essential guidelines:

- Winterize your vehicle: Prepare for harsh weather and keep a well-stocked emergency kit in your trunk.
- Rest up: Get plenty of sleep before departing to avoid the severe dangers of drowsy driving.
- Plan ahead: Leave early and anticipate heavy traffic to eliminate the dangerous temptation to speed.
- Buckle up: Ensure every passenger is properly restrained, regardless of the trip's length.
- Eliminate distractions: Put your cell phone away; it remains the primary driving distraction today.
- Designate a driver: Always use a completely sober driver. Alcohol and medications cause severe impairment.

Decorate with Caution and Care

Decking the halls instantly puts families in a holiday mood, but hospital emergency departments treat thousands of decorating-related injuries annually. Remember these safety tips:

- Keep poisonous seasonal plants, like mistletoe and holly berries, strictly out of the reach of children.
- If utilizing an artificial tree, verify it is clearly labeled as "fire resistant."
- For live trees, cut two inches off the trunk for better water absorption. Water daily and remove it when dry.
- Place your tree at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, and space heaters.

- Discard and replace light sets featuring broken sockets, frayed wires, or loose electrical connections.
- Turn off all holiday lights before going to bed or leaving the house.

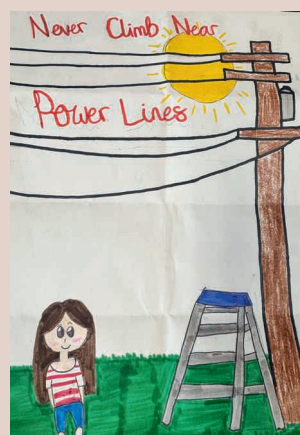
Watch Out for Holiday Fire-Starters

The glow of candles and fireplaces is a holiday staple, but combined with combustible decorations, house fire risks skyrocket. The National Fire Protection Association notes candles cause 46% of December home fires.

- Place candles in sturdy holders away from curtains and curious children.
- Store matches and lighters in a locked, high cabinet.
- Consider battery-operated flameless candles as a very safe alternative.
- Never burn pine branches or wrapping paper in fireplaces; they can cause flash fires.
- Use a protective screen for burning fires and never leave lit candles unattended.

Be highly alert to the extreme dangers of turkey fryers. Hundreds of fires and severe burns are linked to these devices. Consider using oil-less fryers or purchasing fried turkeys from professionals. If you must fry your own, strictly follow all U.S. Fire Administration guidelines.

By taking these simple, proactive steps, you can protect loved ones and ensure your holidays remain merry, bright, and safe.



"Never climb near power lines."

Penelope Poppen

Penelope warns readers to never climb near power lines. Thank you for sharing, Penelope! Penelope's parents are Brett and Megan Poppen, members of Black Hills Electric Cooperative.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

THE FAMILY TABLE

ENCHILADA CASSEROLE

Ingredients:

1 lb. hamburger
1 medium onion, chopped
1 green pepper, chopped
1 can (10 oz.) enchilada sauce
6 tortilla shells
1 cup shredded cheese
1 can pinto beans

Method

In a glass baking dish, put the browned hamburger, onion, pepper, beans and sauce in shells and roll up. Layer with shredded cheese on top. Bake 20 minutes in oven.

Optional: Use 1 cup of sliced black olives on top of cheese

Marla Gilbert
Southeastern Electric

PARTY IN A PAN

Ingredients:

1 1/2 lbs. hamburger, browned
1 can cream of celery soup
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 box Stove Top Stuffing Mix
1 can corn, drained
3 cups mozzarella cheese, shredded

Method

Combine the hamburger, celery soup and chicken soup in a bowl and set aside. Prepare the Stove Top Stuffing as directed on the box. Layer half the hamburger mixture, half the corn, half the stuffing, and half the cheese; repeat layers again. Bake 30-40 minutes at 350°F or until cheese is melted. Makes a 9x13-inch pan.

Kathy Zomer
Douglas Electric

BEEF TERIYAKI

Ingredients:

1lb. boneless beef sirloin steak
2 tbsp. cornstarch
14 oz. beef broth
2 tbsp soy sauce
1 tbsp. brown sugar
1/4 tsp. garlic powder
3 cups broccoli florets
1 1/2 cups rice
1 2/3 cups water

Method

Cook the rice in water according to the directions on the bag. Slice beef in very thin strips. In a large skillet, saute the beef strips until browned and the juices evaporate.

In a mixing bowl, combine cornstarch, beef broth, soy sauce, brown sugar and garlic powder. Mix thoroughly.

Add the liquid mixture and broccoli florets to the beef. Cook until mixture boils & thickens to a desired consistency, stirring frequently.

Serve over the cooked rice.

Karen Soulek
Charles-Mix Electric

Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2026. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

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G. Copies not distributed	0	0
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We thank all veterans for your service, your sacrifice and your unwavering commitment to our nation. We especially want to recognize the following Southeastern Electric employees for their service.

Brendon Schulte
5 Years • Air National Guard

Bruce Halverson
5 Years • Army National Guard

Cade Bruggeman
9 Years • Air National Guard

Devin Eppard
9 Years • Army National Guard

Joe Prusa
6 Years • Air National Guard

Troy Peters
21 Years • Army National Guard



Southeastern
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



MEMBER APPRECIATION DAYS

JOIN US FOR ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES AND SAUSAGES

NOV. 5 | MORNINGSIDE EVENT CENTER | 5 PM - 7 PM

307 E 6th St. - Alcester

NOV. 6 | VIBORG COMMUNITY CENTER | 5 PM - 7 PM

101 E. Sorenson St. - Viborg

NOV. 7 | SIOUX FALLS OFFICE | 10 AM - 1 PM

47077 276th St. (I-29 Exit 68) - Lennox

Please help us support our local food pantries by bringing canned food items. Recommended items include canned meats, vegetables, soups, cereals, paper products, cleaning supplies, diapers and personal hygiene items. Cash donations will also be accepted.



HONORING OUR HEROES

Veterans Memorial Undergoing Revamp

Jacob Boyko

jacob.boyko@sdrea.coop

Lee Leuning's father was about 80 when he sat in his son's sculpting studio to become the sailor at South Dakota's World War II memorial.

For three days, Leuning studied his face and shaped his features. His father slowly began talking about the war. After 50 years, the experience still weighed heavy.

Today, more than 25 years later, Leuning's father stands immortalized in bronze on the shore of Capitol Lake in Pierre, representing sailors like himself who served in World War II.

He stands among five other slightly larger-than-life statues representing members of the U.S. armed forces. The display, called "Why We Fought," depicts the service members in tattered uniforms saluting toward the American flag.

"It's soldiers in each individual moment stepping out of battle and recognizing the flag and what they fought for," Leuning said.

A member of Northern Electric Cooperative, Leuning created the figures

with fellow sculptor Sherri Treeby. Visitors to Pierre will find their work throughout the city, including statues along the Trail of Governors and a relief plaque commemorating the Lt. Cmdr. John C. Waldron Memorial Bridge. At Capitol Lake, their sculptures honor veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

Several of the World War II figures have family connections. Leuning used his mother's likeness for the army corps mechanic – she served as a plane mechanic in WWII – and his sons as models for the pilot and Marine. Treeby's father, an Army veteran, provided the face of the Coast Guardsman.

The WWII memorial was the first memorial unveiled, dedicated by Gov. Bill Janklow just four days after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Leuning recalls being amazed by the turnout – thousands of visitors were at the Capitol for the dedication.

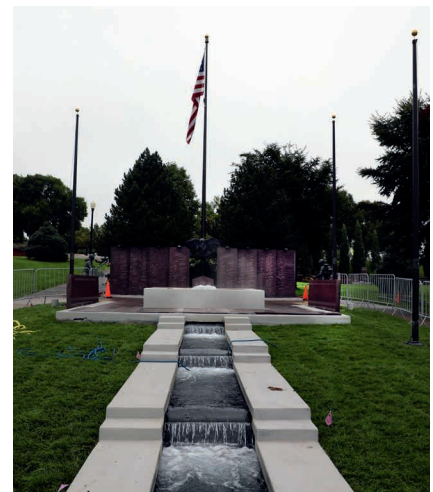
He remembers one Navy veteran watching the dedication parade from a hospital bed with an attendant.

The WWII memorial on Capitol Lake shows soldiers saluting the American flag after battle.

Later, after the Korean and Vietnam soldier statues and walls were added beneath the flag, the WWII veterans appear to salute them too.

Photo by Jacob Boyko

"Every time a flag came by with an honor guard ... that guy would have his aide get him out of the bed, and he'd snap to attention," Leuning said. "That, to me, showed this really means something to them."



Recent renovation improved water drainage. Previously, water under the granite tiles caused loosening. The tiles have since been replaced with sod grass. The stream bed was also replaced.

Photo by Jacob Boyko

Subsequent dedications for the Korean and Vietnam memorials during Gov. Mike Rounds' administration attracted even more visitors. The state estimated 32,000 people attended the two-day Vietnam dedication in 2006. Some veterans watched the ceremony from pontoon bridges on Capitol Lake.

Unfortunately, years of exposure have taken a toll on the site. Trapped water beneath the granite tiles caused some to loosen and crumble, explained Leah Haugan, Special Projects Coordinator for the South Dakota Bureau of Human Resources and Administration.

"Try as we might to keep it in great shape, you can't keep up with deteriorating stone," Haugan said.

Over the summer, the state began work on a renovation project for the memorials, which will bring some changes to the site.

Sections of granite have been replaced with grass. The military seals embedded in the walkway were lifted out and placed on pedestals. The stream from the Artesian well remains, but it's now bordered by a concrete curb. The granite tiles around the fountain were upgraded from $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick tiles to 2 inch thick tiles, and the fountain enclosure was remade with concrete and granite tiles around the top.

Restoring the site is part of the state's commitment to honoring veterans and their service, Haugan said.

"Words are words, but when you build something like that that memorializes their efforts and their sacrifice, I think that shows them there's proof positive that we recognize and honor them," Haugan said.

The renovation does not bring back the Flaming Fountain's flame. Methane rising from the artesian well that feeds Capitol Lake kept the flame burning for decades, but it went out around 2015 when the flow could no longer sustain it. Haugan said a more ambitious fountain project is among the ideas for the site, depending on funding.

A separate proposal would honor Native American code talkers who served in World Wars I and II using their native languages to transmit messages that enemy forces were not able to translate. Funding for that memorial also remains unresolved.

Visiting the memorials, Leuning has seen what that recognition can mean to a family. The day after the Vietnam memorial dedication, he returned to take photos and was approached by a woman asking him to take her picture. He obliged,

and the lady went up to the bronze statue and hugged it.

"She said, 'That's my Davy. It looks just like my Davy.'"

Then she pointed to her husband's name on the wall.



Leuning's Vietnam War memorial.
Photo submitted by Lee Leuning



Sculptor Lee Leuning with his dad, Donald Leuning, at the World War II Veterans Memorial dedication Sept. 15, 2001, in Pierre.
Photo submitted by Lee Leuning



An estimated 32,000 people attended the Vietnam War Memorial dedication in 2006.
U.S. Airforce Photo by 1st Lt. Carrie L. Kessler



Lennox High School senior Peyton Wright accepts her scholarship from Communications & Public Relations Manager Erica Fitzhugh.

PEYTEN WRIGHT

Selected as Touchstone Energy Scholar of the Week

Erica Fitzhugh

Communications & PR Manager

Southeastern Electric Cooperative and Lennox High School are pleased to announce Peyton Wright as the Touchstone Energy® Scholar of the Week winner for the week of September 27 - October 3, 2026. The scholar of the week program is a partnership between Dakota News Now Television, Southeastern Electric Cooperative, and other local Touchstone Energy Cooperatives that honor accomplished high school students. As a Scholar of the Week, Peyton was featured in a weekly segment on Dakota News Now and received a \$250 scholarship from Southeastern Electric Cooperative.

Peyten participates in several

extracurricular activities, including volleyball, softball, FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America), Student Council, FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes), HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America), NHS (National Honor Society), club volleyball and 4-H. One of her proudest achievements was receiving the American Legion Post #174 Bronze Medal Scholarship Award for academic excellence.

"I'm thankful for every opportunity I have been given and to be able to see the results of that is humbling," said Wright. "Thank you for the scholarship!" Next fall, she plans to pursue a degree in pre-medicine to become an emergency room doctor.

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are local, active members of their

communities, dedicated to building our communities and improving our way of life. Since the Scholar of the Week program began, more than \$100,000 in scholarships has been awarded to more than 750 students. The program is a great partnership between local Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and their members and truly captures the commitment that electric cooperatives have to the communities they serve.

Nominations for the weekly awards are submitted by area school principals and faculty, whose selections were based on excellence in the classroom and service in the community.

For more information about Southeastern Electric Cooperative or Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, please contact Erica Fitzhugh at 1-800-333-2859.

Youth Tour - Make Your Mark!

Every generation leaves behind a legacy, footprints that shape the future. The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is your chance to do the same. For over 60 years, electric cooperatives have sent high school students to Washington, D.C., to discover their voice, step into history and begin writing the story only they can tell.

This once-in-a-lifetime experience isn't just about seeing the nation's capital. It's about preparing students to lead, to grow and to make their mark on the world.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR STUDENTS?

Delegates from South Dakota will join more than 1,500 students from across the country in Washington, D.C., June 17 – 23, 2027. During the trip, students will:

- Develop leadership skills

through hands-on experiences and workshops

- Strengthen their resumes with a nationally recognized program that stands out to colleges and employers
- Connect with peers from 44 states, building friendships that last long after the trip
- Meet with elected officials and learn how government impacts their communities
- Experience history up close by visiting world-class museums and monuments
- Learn about cooperatives and how they support rural communities across America

The best part? All expenses—travel, lodging, meals, and program

costs—are covered by Southeastern Electric Cooperative. Students are required to provide their own spending money (for snacks, souvenirs, etc.). The program is coordinated by the South Dakota Rural Electric Association (SDREA) and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

DON'T LET THIS OPPORTUNITY PASS BY

Applications for Youth Tour will be open until December 4, 2026. If you know a high school junior or senior who is ready to grow as a leader and take the next step in their journey, encourage them to apply today.

For details, visit www.southeasternelectric.com or check out our social media channels.

This is more than a trip—it's a chance to leave your mark.

Apply for the Trip of a Lifetime

Reasons to Apply

- An all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.
- Hands-on leadership experience in the nation's capital.
- A standout on college and scholarship applications.
- Meet elected officials and see government in action.
- Connect with student leaders nationwide.
- Discover your voice and how to make your mark.

MAKE YOUR MARK!
Youth Tour 2027

YOUTH TOUR
NRECA



YOUTH TOUR 1969

How a Youth Tour Friendship Changed Marty Larsen's Life

Frank Turner

frank.turner@sdrea.coop

When Marty Larsen earned a spot on the 1969 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., through Turner-Hutchinson Electric Cooperative, he had every reason to believe dairy farming would remain at the center of his life. Turner-

Hutchinson, a predecessor of today's Southeastern Electric Cooperative, served the area around his family's dairy farm seven miles west of Hurley.

Youth Tour gives high school students sponsored by their local electric cooperatives the chance to spend a week in Washington, D.C., visiting historic sites, learning about

government and electric cooperatives and meeting students from across the country. South Dakota began sending students on the trip in 1963. Larsen went just six years later.

Back then, Turner-Hutchinson Electric selected its Youth Tour delegates through 4-H, rewarding young people for their accomplishments. In 1969,

The 1969 South Dakota Youth Tour group. Marty Larsen is pictured in the top row, seventh from the right. John Nordlie is pictured in the top row, fifth from the left.

Photo courtesy from the SDREA Archives

Larsen placed eighth at the national 4-H dairy judging competition in Ohio. The accomplishment earned him the cooperative's Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C.

But before Larsen could make the trip, an Army recruiter threw a wrench in his plans, warning him that he was likely to be called for service soon. Rather than wait to be drafted, Larsen chose to enlist, expecting to head to basic training and then Vietnam.

Not long after, Larsen received an induction notice, but first he had to complete a military physical. Larsen, who is hard of hearing, failed the hearing test and was disqualified from service. Had he passed, he said he would have left for basic training about a week before the 1969 Youth Tour departed.

"Somebody upstairs was looking out for me," he said.

With the Army no longer standing in the way, Larsen was going on the trip. To prepare, his mother bought him new clothes and a new pair of shoes. Even still, he returned home with the soles nearly worn through. At the Washington Monument, he and a small group of students climbed 897 steps rather than wait in the long elevator line, then rode the elevator back down.

Near the end of the trip, the group ate at a seafood restaurant along the Potomac River. Larsen persuaded the chaperones that the students ought to try lobster, something many of them had never eaten before. When the waitress brought lobster bibs to the table, Larsen passed his around and asked everyone to sign it.

His mother later saved the bib in the scrapbook she kept of his childhood, alongside years of 4-H ribbons, judging cards and other keepsakes. Larsen still has the scrapbook today.

The students took an evening cruise on a multilevel paddlewheel-style boat on the Potomac, complete with live music. South Dakota Youth Tour students continue the tradition of a river cruise today aboard the Cherry Blossom.

For Larsen, though, the most important part of Youth Tour was the people he met. One of them was John Nordlie of Sioux Falls, a young photographer who worked with the Argus Leader and later attended Augustana College.

The two became friends during the trip and stayed in contact after returning home.

"We stayed friends after we got back," he said. "I was in his wedding party when he got married. He was in my wedding party when I got married."

For the next several years, Larsen stayed close to the life he knew, working in dairy and welding. Nordlie, meanwhile, developed an interest in pipe organs. In 1983, he called Larsen and asked if he wanted to come work for him building organs for cathedrals and music halls.

Larsen agreed, bringing his experience as a welder, machinist and mechanical problem-solver into a trade he had never expected to enter. He spent the next 20 years working with Nordlie and became deeply involved in the mechanics of organ construction.

His work eventually went far beyond basic fabrication. Larsen built components, developed specialty tools and designed machinery for organ builders. One machine he created transformed a wire-bending process that had taken workers several minutes per piece, allowing them to produce several pieces per minute. Other tools he built ended up with organ companies elsewhere in the United States and overseas.

The work also took Larsen far beyond southeastern South Dakota. Over the years, he traveled throughout the country and to Japan, worked

on historic instruments and helped construct and restore pipe organs in churches, museums and other settings. More than four decades after entering the trade, he is still involved in restoration work.

Looking back, Larsen can draw a direct line from the Youth Tour trip to the career that followed. Without the trip, he may never have met Nordlie. Without that friendship, the call inviting him into organ building may never have come.

"It meant a lot to me to be able to go on that trip," Larsen said. "It changed me from a dairy farmer to a pipe organ builder."

More than 50 years later, Larsen still has the scrapbook his mother kept from the trip, along with the signed lobster bib and other reminders of that week in Washington. But the most lasting thing he brought home was the friendship that, years later, opened the door to a life he never could have planned.



Marty Larsen and his wife, Barbara.
Photo by Frank Turner

Interested in attending Youth Tour?
Contact your local electric cooperative to
learn more about the application process.



Have you heard about Prepay?



Take control of your monthly energy budget with prepaid electricity from Southeastern Electric Cooperative (SEC). By monitoring your account balance in real time, you can easily manage your spending and adjust your electricity usage to fit your lifestyle.

How does prepay meter billing work?

Prepaid billing works much like a pay-as-you-go phone. Instead of waiting until the end of the month to receive a bill, you add money to your electric account before you use electricity.

As you use electricity, your meter measures the amount of energy you consume. That usage is then calculated using the applicable electric rate, and the cost is deducted from your prepaid account balance. Other applicable charges, such as facility charges or security light charges, are also deducted from your balance.

For example, if you add \$100 to your account, that \$100 becomes your available balance. As you use electricity, the cost of that energy is deducted from the balance.

You can check your current balance and daily energy usage through SmartHub, giving you a better idea of how much electricity you are using and how quickly your balance is changing.

When your balance reaches your notification threshold, you'll receive an alert by your selected method of phone, text message and/or email so you have an opportunity to add funds before your balance reaches \$0.

Think of it as paying for your electricity as you use it, rather than receiving one bill with your total usage at the end of the month.

Prepaid service puts you in control of how and when you pay for electricity. It's a convenient alternative to traditional monthly billing for members who want greater visibility into their energy use and account balance.

Key Things to Know

- No security deposit is required for members participating in prepaid service.
- No paper monthly bill is provided.
- The minimum payment to establish or maintain a prepaid balance is \$50.
- The standard notification threshold is \$25, meaning members will receive a notification when their balance reaches that amount or lower. Members can choose a different notification threshold through SmartHub or by contacting Southeastern.
- Prepaid service is available only at locations equipped with remote disconnect technology, so it may not be available at every service location.

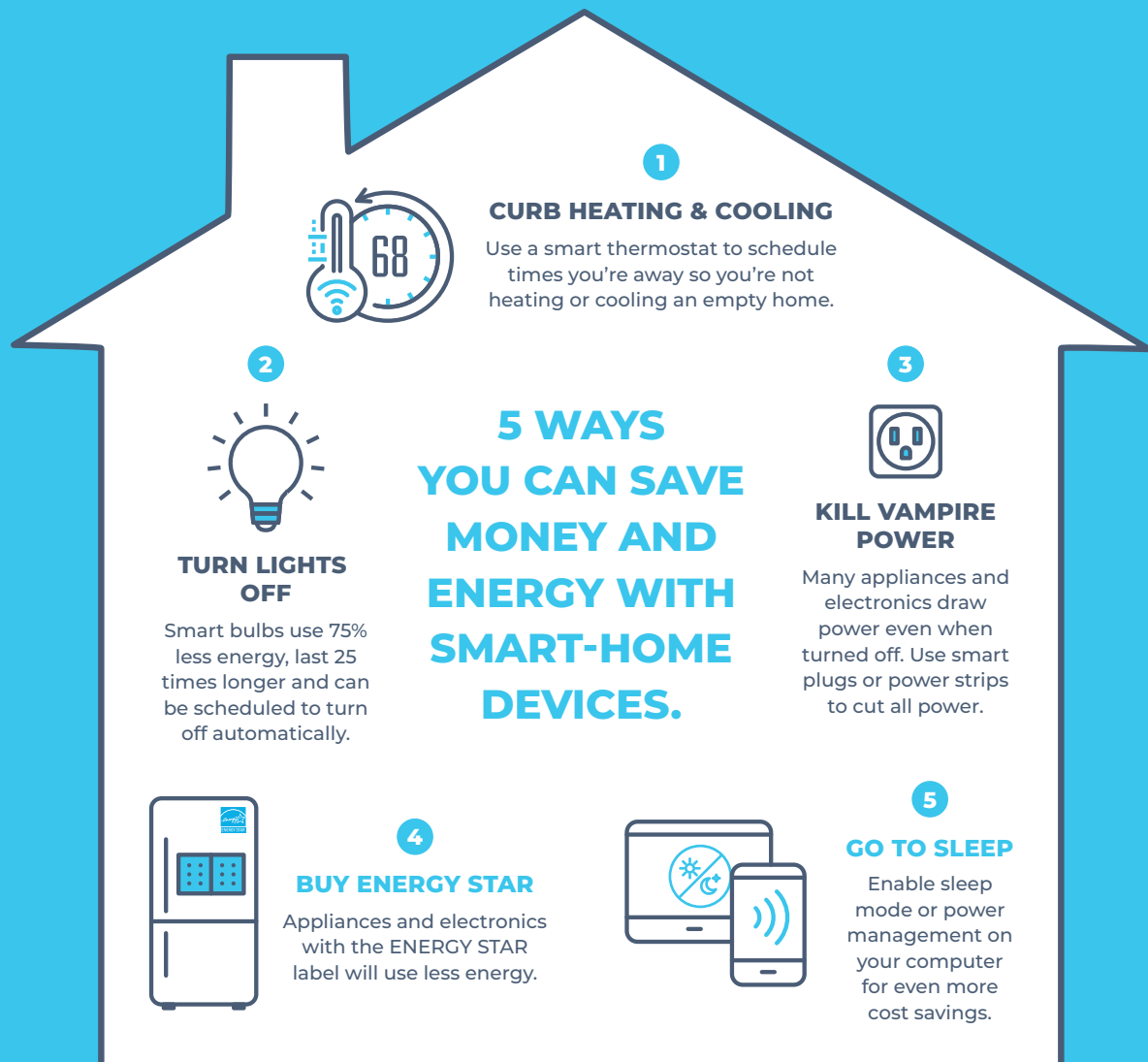
In Control Anytime from Anywhere

- Log in to your SmartHub account to check your daily account balance and usage information, see recent payments, and manage low-balance alerts through your SmartHub account.
- You can also call SEC's automated balance inquiry line at 1-844-961-2524.
- For more information, contact SEC's Member Services department Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 1-800-333-2859.

Sign Up by Phone by Calling 1-800-333-2859.

A Member Services Coordinator will give you a quoted amount to pay to establish your account on Prepay.

SAVE MONEY & ENERGY THE SMART WAY



RE-ENERGIZING COST SAVINGS

Learn more at YourCoopPower.com



OFFICES CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Our offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Our 24/7 outage phone will still be active (1-800-333-2859). Pay by phone will also be available at 844-961-2524. Bills can also be paid through Smart Hub online or in the phone app. We wish you and your family a blessed and happy Thanksgiving!



NOV. 7
Wine, Cheese & Chocolate Stroll
 Deadwood, SD
www.deadwood.com/events/

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

OCT. 31
Mortimer's Monstrous Halloween
 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
 Oakwood Lakes State Park
 Bruce, SD
 605-627-5441

NOV. 6-8
Hill City Girlfriends' Weekend
 Hill City, SD

NOV. 7
Fall Fling Craft/Vendor Show
 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Dakota Christian School
 Corsica, SD

NOV. 7
Black Hills Meat Fest
 Free Admission
 Central States Fairgrounds
 Nerdy Nuts Expo Hall
 Rapid City, SD
[Facebook.com/BlackHillsMeatFest](https://www.facebook.com/BlackHillsMeatFest)

NOV. 7-15
Rustic Designs & More Christmas Country Show
 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 41450 264th St.
 Ethan, SD
 605-770-2411

NOV. 8
32nd Annual Lutefisk, Meatball & Lefse Supper
 4-7 p.m.
 Trinity Lutheran Church
 Chamberlain, SD
 605-730-0553

NOV. 12
The Satin Dollz
 Patriotic Female Vocal & Dance Quintet
 7 p.m.
 Johnson Fine Arts Center
 Aberdeen, SD

NOV. 14
American Legion Bingo
 47410 258th St.
 Renner, SD
 605-310-5724

NOV. 14
Lake Campbell Lutheran Church Lutefisk Supper
 Seatings: 4:30, 5:45, 7 p.m.
 Volga, SD
 Reservations: 605-690-4868

NOV. 15, DEC. 20
VFW Pancake Breakfast
 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
 The Alliance - 1600 W. Russell St.
 Sioux Falls, SD
 605-338-0869

NOV. 16-21
Yelduz Shrine Festival of Trees
 Mon.-Fri. 4-7 p.m.
 Sat. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
 802 S. Main St.
 Aberdeen, SD
 605-225-4841
Yelduz.com

NOV. 20
Aberdeen University Civic Symphony Concert
 7:30 p.m.
 Johnson Fine Arts Center
 Aberdeen, SD
aberneencommunityconcerts.org

NOV. 27-28
Sip, Shop & Stroll
 Viborg, SD

DEC. 3
City of Yankton Holiday Festival of Lights
 4 p.m. Family Activities
 6 p.m. Lighted Parade
 Yankton, SD
 605-665-5234
CityofYankton.com

DEC. 5
Viborg Appreciation Day
 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Viborg Community Center
 Viborg, SD

DEC. 5
Christmas in the Valley
 2-7 p.m.
 Santa, Community Scavenger Hunt, Silent Auction, Tree Lighting, Kids' Games
 Viborg, SD

DEC. 5
Holiday Jam with the Hegg Brothers
 4 p.m.
 Yankton, SD
 605-665-5234
CityofYankton.com

Note: We publish contact information as provided. If no phone number is given, none will be listed. Please call ahead to verify the event is still being held.