

Electra and Snyder students named Youth Tour winners

Deanna Duensing of Electra High School and Timothy Jacobson of Snyder High School have been named winners of Southwest Rural Electric Association's 2018 Youth Tour Contest.

As Youth Tour winners, Deanna and Timothy will receive all-expense-paid trips to Washington, D.C. this summer with delegations of other co-op students from their respective states.

Deanna is the daughter of Jason and Tracie Duensing of Electra.

Timothy is the son of Robert and Kari Jacobson.

During their trip to Washington, D.C., the two Texoma youth will visit the U.S. Capitol, Mount Vernon, the capital city's many memorials and museums, and Arlington National Cemetery. They will also have the opportunity to visit with numerous elected officials.

Runners-up in the contest are Jamie Jannaman, Frederick High School, and Ronna Dennis, Vernon High School. Jamie is the daughter of Carol and Michael Jannaman, Frederick. Ronna is the daughter of Ronny and Lynn Dennis, Vernon.

As runners-up, Jamie and Ronna will have the opportunity to represent SWRE at the 2019 high school Touchstone Leadership Summit to be held next January in Oklahoma City.

Other 2018 contest finalists were Destiny Barnard, Frederick High School, daughter of Sherri Barnard; Lincoln Muller, Navajo High School, son of Matt and Kellie Muller; Kaitlyn Thomas, Northside High School, daughter of Denise Thomas; Ragan Fieldhouse, Vernon High School, daughter of Mary and Stephen Fieldhouse.

All finalists received certificates and \$250 cash prizes.

The SWRE Youth Tour Contest is open each



Texoma students who participated as finalists in SWRE's 2018 Youth Tour Contest are: (back, l to r) **Destiny Barnard**, Frederick HS; **Timothy Jacobson**, Oklahoma winner, Snyder HS; **Lincoln Muller**, Navajo HS; **Jamie Jannaman**, Oklahoma runner-up, Frederick HS; **Deanna Duensing**, Texas winner, Electra HS. Other finalists are (front, l to r) **Ragan Fieldhouse**, Vernon HS; **Kaitlyn Thomas**, Northside HS; **Ronna Dennis**, Texas runner-up, Vernon HS.

year to all 11th grade students who live or attend school in the SWRE service area.

Students were required to research and write a 500-750-word essay on the statement "The National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association has brought electricity to over 120 million people in 43 developing countries through its international program."

Nine contest finalists were chosen based on their essays. Eight finalists presented their essays as extemporaneous speeches at a dinner held Thursday evening, February 15, at SWRE headquarters in Tipton. A panel of judges determined contest winners based on the presentations.

The annual SWRE Youth Tour Essay Contest for high school juniors is an annual tradition that began in 1964.

Contest essays were received this year from students in thirteen Texoma schools.

SWRE Manager's Report



Journey to Journeyman: Appreciating our Linemen

There aren't many people who are willing to stand inside a bucket the size of a storage tote and be lifted 40 feet in the air. There are even less who are willing to do that while handling 25,000 volts of electricity. Add to that the responsibility of keeping safety first while others are operating heavy machinery and you have the basic job description of a Journeyman Lineman.

If this were the extent of a Journeyman's job, that would be more than enough reason to "appreciate" the courage of these men, however, there is another requirement of a Journeyman's career that is relatively unknown. Not only do Journeymen Linemen need courage, strength and a focused-eye for handling electricity, but they also need four years of electric education and test scores to prove it.

At SWRE, we require our Apprentice Linemen to take over 40 tests through Northwest Lineman's School, in addition to their first four years on the job. The material in these tests include detailed information about metering, framing, transformers and other information such as safety and legal guidelines through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

All of this hard work and training ensures that our team will always deliver the best service

available in the safest way possible. When the lights are out at your house, you can bet that there is a highly qualified Journeyman Lineman working his hardest to get your power restored, even if that means missing holidays or family events to do so.

Currently at SWRE there are five Journeyman Linemen. We also have four Apprentice Linemen who are mastering manual labor in the day and absorbing mental information in the evening so they can achieve certification as a Journeyman Lineman. These are the heroes of our coop story, the men who deserve our utmost respect.

Without the commitment of our Apprentice and Journeyman Linemen, our cooperative would not function. Our offices would not be connected to electricity and our homes would be dark and silent. It is for this reason that I hope you will join me in showing gratitude and appreciation for our SWRE linemen on Monday, April 9th as we celebrate Lineman Appreciation Day with rural electric cooperatives across the nation. Reach out and say, "thank you" to those who are working hard to keep our power on. I know I will.



Lineman Appreciation Day *April 9*

Kelby Boyd, Apprentice Lineman
(and proud new father)

Operation Round Up – New opportunity for members begins this June!

Beginning June 2018, Members of SWRE will be enrolled in Operation Round Up. By rounding up electric bills to the next highest dollar, our member's accumulated small change adds up to create big change within our own communities.

Those able to be helped by Operation Round Up funds include volunteer fire departments, senior citizens centers, educational programs and youth assistance.

What is Operation Round Up?

Operation Round Up is a charitable foundation of Southwest Rural Electric. The program gives SWRE members an opportunity to help out their neighbors in crisis.

Members participate by rounding up their electric bills to the nearest dollar amount (an average of 50 cents per month) and allowing the change to be donated to the separate charitable foundation. This change is accumulated and then given back in the form of grants to charitable organizations who meet grant qualifications and guidelines.

The program is administered by the SWRE Charitable Foundation board, an independent board made up of community leaders who establish the policies for granting Operation Round Up funds.

How will the funds be used?

Operation Round Up funds stay right here in SWRE service area. Funds are never used for political or administrative purposes. Operation Round Up does NOT help individuals or families with electric bills.

The program serves the needs of five categories of assistance: communities, education and youth, senior citizens, emergency assistance and individuals effected by a catastrophic event.

Can I donate more than the change from my monthly bill?

Those who would like to donate more than the round-up cost of their monthly bill, can participate in Operation Round Up PLUS. With Round Up PLUS, members can choose the amount they would like to donate in addition to that amount already being rounded up. Non-members who wish to benefit their community can also donate to Operation Round Up PLUS. More information on how to donate will be available soon.

Do I have to participate in Operation Round Up?

No. Members are not required to participate in Operation Round Up. Although the typical cost for members is less than \$6.00 a year. Members may opt-out by contacting the Cooperative at 1-800-256-7973.

For more info on Operation Round Up, visit: www.swre.com/roundup

What's Cookin' in the SWRE Kitchen

Garlic Parmesean Bacon Knots



Ingredients:

- 16 strips raw bacon
- 4 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 1/4 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 tbsp finely chopped parsley

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees and line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Tie one strip of bacon into a loose knot, and then tie another knot on top to prevent shrinkage. Place onto baking sheet and repeat with remaining bacon.
3. Sprinkle bacon knots with 1/16 tsp minced garlic. Place baking sheet into oven and cook 10-15 minutes or until bacon is cooked.
4. Sprinkle bacon evenly with cheese and then parsley. Cook another 5-10 minutes until bacon has reached desired consistency.

24-Hour Dispatching

Emergency Service

1-800-256-7973

Bill Payment Options:

- ✓ SWRE App
- ✓ www.SWRE.com
- ✓ 1-855-980-6821
Automated Line
- ✓ 1-800-256-7973
Tipton Office
- ✓ SWRE Office
*700 North Broadway,
Tipton, OK 73570*

Area Banking Institutions:

- Altus* – Frazer Bank, National Bank of Commerce
- Blair* – Peoples State Bank
- Chillicothe* – American National Bank
- Crowell* – State Bank
- Electra* – Waggoner National Bank
- Frederick* – BancFirst, Frazer Bank
- Snyder* – All American Bank
- Vernon* – Herring Bank, Waggoner Bank, Bank of the West

NOTE: When paying at a bank, allow 10 days prior to the bill's due date.

SWRE News

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SWRE Trading Post

Ads are online for 45 days & updated daily at www.swre.com

ISO: Looking for a VERY gentle kid horse. Not too old. Need at least 15 hands. Call 940-886-6529.

For Sale: Registered Dexter cattle, young cattle and heifers for sale. Excellent beef, very low cholesterol. Call 580-301-1793 or 580-738-5720.

For Sale: 2013 Mahindra tractor for sale. 50 hp, 4 wheel drive, shuttle shift. Has only 200 hours. Skid steer on front for easy change of implements. Comes with 7' brush bull, box blade, front bucket, front and rear hay forks, plow blade, small chisel plow, box blade, auger attachment with two augers. Only \$20,000. Near Blair, OK Call Carole at 580-471-9204.

For Sale: 1995 CASE Magnum 7240, 195 HP PTO, 9,555 hours, Tires: 75%, FWD, Quick Hitch, 3 point, Front-end Weights, Remote Hydraulics, A/C, Heat, Radio, CAB. This tractor has been maintained very well. Asking price = \$36,000 Call 972-814-9842 or 940-886-6529.

For Sale: Angus bulls 18-20 months old. 1st and 2nd calf, black and black bakely pairs. Call F.O. Bradshaw at 940-852-5181 or 940-839-5551.

ISO: Looking to purchase as tall, A-frame for pulling out a motor. Call 940-655-3355.

For Sale: Black aluminum pick-up-bed tool box with key. Paid \$270 but selling for \$100; just like new; has been stored in barn. Call 580-335-5848.

For Sale: Red Angus bull and heifer sale. April 25, 2018. www.superiorlivestock.com or attend live at Altus, Oklahoma Expo Center located at 412 Todd Lane. Call Cody Cribbs for more details: 580-481-9449 or 580-482-7423.

For Sale: 1 liberator 75 R16 and 4 goodyear tires; 275-55p20. Also selling used pipe. Call Doris at 940-552-0747 or 940-838-8608.

For Sale: 1965 Thunderbird. Complete. Needs interior work. Also, old square-shaped gas pump. 580-305-2194.

For Sale: Jazzy 1100 electric chair. \$150, OBO. Call Doris at 940-552-0747 or 940-838-8608.

NOTE: To be included in the print issue of SWRE News, ads should be received by the 10th of the previous month.

FREE classified non-commercial ads available for SWRE members only

MAIL ADS TO HALEY HOOVER AT P.O. BOX 310 TIPTON, OK 73570. E-MAIL THEM TO HALEYHOOVER@SWRE.COM, OR CALL 1-800-256-7973.