

STUDENTS HONORED WITH SCHOLARSHIPS

For over 55 years, SWRE has held the Youth Tour essay and speech contest for high school juniors in its 14-school service territory. Students write and present a speech over a topic related to electricity. Each year, SWRE sends the Oklahoma and Texas Youth Tour winners to Washington D.C. on a week-long all-expenses paid “trip of a lifetime.” SWRE also hosts an essay contest for 8th grade students each year in which the top Oklahoma and Texas students earn a trip to Youth Power Energy Camp in Hinton, Oklahoma.

Due to health and safety concerns, the Youth Tour and Energy Camp trips were cancelled this year. Winners were able to participate in the first-ever virtual camps this summer, but the SWRE board of directors wanted to go a step further and offer a scholarship to the winners in lieu of the cancelled trips.

“We are so proud to have these students representing the co-op,” said Rebecca Chambless, SWRE’s communications specialist. “It was important to us that each of their accomplishments were recognized, especially since the trip to Washington D.C. and Energy Camp didn’t come to fruition this year. We hope the students will use the scholarships to further their education and continue showing off the talent that our little communities bring to the table.”

Applications for high school juniors to enter the 2021 Youth Tour Contest are open! Visit [SWRE.com/YouthTour](https://www.swre.com/YouthTour) for more information on how to enter. The 2021 Energy Camp Contest for 8th graders will open in January and contest information can be found at [SWRE.com/EnergyCamp](https://www.swre.com/EnergyCamp).



CEO's Message



CEO, Jeff Simpson

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Rebecca Chambless, *Power Source* editor

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Bill Pay Options:

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833-890-9510, *Automated Bill-Pay Line*

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GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

// Over the years, you've probably heard or read about Southwest Rural Electric's concern for our community. This is one of the core principles that sets cooperatives apart from other types of utilities and businesses. We've always taken this mission and responsibility to heart. It's who we are as a co-op.

Over the past few months, like so many of you, we've risen to meet new challenges and strengthen the safety net for our community, particularly for those who are most vulnerable. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we've made numerous adjustments to programs and operations to maintain business continuity while staying focused on the bigger mission of helping our members during this time.

Now, with the holidays fast approaching, these recent events have made me pause and think about the role we play in our community. While our purpose is to provide safe and reliable energy to you, the members we serve, we have a greater mission—to be a catalyst for good.

You're probably aware of our Operation Round Up program, where we take donations from generous members like you who have "rounded up" the amount due on their electric bill to help our most vulnerable neighbors and distribute the funds to local nonprofits and charities.

We're proud of our youth and offer opportunities to eighth grade students and high school juniors in our service territory through the Energy Camp and Youth Tour contests. Each year, we send our community's brightest

students to Energy Camp to learn about the cooperative difference and to Washington, D.C. for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action.

We also have a strong commitment to safety—for our employees and the community—and provide our linemen top-of-the-line safety training.

SWRE invests in the economic development of the community through an active role in our local chambers of commerce. We have employees serving on local boards, coaching youth sports, volunteering at charitable events, etc. When you work at a co-op, you understand how important a strong community is—after all, without you, the co-op wouldn't exist.

We know that our core job is to keep the lights on; but our passion is our community. Because we live and work here too, and we want to make it a better place for all.

If there's anything we can do to help you—whether providing energy-saving advice to help lower your monthly bill or discussing payment plan options during these difficult times—please reach out to us at 1-800-256-7973.

Concern for community is the heart and soul of who we are. And no matter what the future brings, you can count on your electric co-op to care about you.

Jeff Simpson
 CEO

CO-OP PRINCIPLE # 6 COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES



WOOD & FLORES JOIN BILLING DEPARTMENT

Michelle Wood transferred from Oklahoma Electric Cooperative (OEC) where she worked in member services and billing for the last 3½ years. She has worked in the utility industry since she was in college and brings with her an associate degree in business and an accounting certification. Michelle enjoys photography, baseball and spending time with her son.

Lori Flores joins SWRE's team with over 15 years of experience at Tillman Producers Co-op where she served as the human resources director and two years of experience at Steven Ellis Tax Service. She enjoys reading, walking, nature and spending time with her granddaughter.

MCNEILL & PARTIDA RETIRE



Congratulations to Gina McNeill — 23 years of service — and Jonnie Partida — 19+ years of service — on their recent retirements!

YOUTH TOUR ESSAYS DUE DEC. 15!

SWRE.COM/YOUTHTOUR



MUTUAL AID AFTER HURRICANE LAURA

Three of SWRE's linemen served on a 14-day mission in DeRidder, Louisiana, to help restore power to Beauregard Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s members at the end of September. Beauregard's members were impacted by Hurricane Laura, a category 4 storm, leaving thousands without power. A big thanks to our linemen for sacrificing time with their families to help those in need!



PUMPKIN SPICE LATTE

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups milk (dairy or non-dairy)
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin puree, *or more to taste*
- 1 to 3 tablespoons sugar, *depending on how sweet you like it*
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice, *plus more for serving*
- 1/2 cup strong hot coffee
- Whipped cream, for serving

DIRECTIONS:

1. Add milk, pumpkin puree and sugar to a saucepan over medium heat. Heat until hot, but do not boil. Remove the saucepan from the heat and whisk in the vanilla, pumpkin pie spice and the coffee.
2. Divide the mixture between two mugs. Top with whipped cream and a sprinkle of pumpkin pie spice.

Source: Visit <https://www.inspiredtaste.net/8419/pumpkin-spice-latte-at-home-recipe/#itr-recipe-8419> to view the whole recipe and see more tips!

For Sale: 24" glass shower door, asking \$100 or best offer. Milk glass chandelier, asking \$75. Items located in Snyder, OK. Call 580-512-6674 and leave a message.

For Sale: Certified seed wheat. Green Hammer, Smith's Gold, SY Razor (awnless), SY Rugged, Bentley, and Iba in bulk. OK Seed License 08005320. Call 580-465-0564 or 580-482-4607.

For Sale: 1962 and 1963 Oklahoma State University Redskin yearbooks that are located in Ponca City. Call 580-763-7475.

For Sale: Guinea chicks, \$3, located west of Altus. Call 580-471-8056.

For Sale: Premium horse hay, OSU Midland 99 Bermuda, small bales (35-40 pounds each), \$7 each. Call 580-471-7284.

For Sale: Cord of very seasoned firewood. Asking \$85. Call 580-471-7284.

For Sale: Head-in wheat hay and Sudan hay. Last year's baling. 60 bales of each available at \$35/bale. Located in Mountain Park. Call 580-301-3952.

FREE classified non-commercial ad submissions are available for SWRE members only. Ads are also posted on SWRE.com.

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