

the Kilowatt

MAY 2008

published monthly for members of
Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

*Send Mom flowers
at a savings!*

- OUR ENERGY FUTURE IS AT STAKE
- NEW CARDS COMING IN AUGUST



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

A well-designed landscape not only adds beauty to your home, but it can also reduce heating and cooling costs. On average, landscaping for energy efficiency provides enough energy savings to return an initial investment in less than eight years.

SOURCE:
U.S. DEPT. OF ENERGY



BILL PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Kiwash Electric
120 W. 1st Street
Cordell, Oklahoma

Custer City Hall
Custer City, Oklahoma

First National Bank
Thomas, Oklahoma



Allee
Blackburn



Kaylin
Didier



TOP SCHOLARS

*Four teens earn \$500 college
scholarships from Kiwash Electric*

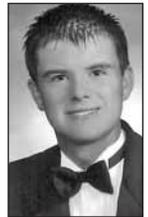
Kiwash Electric Cooperative (KEC) supports the educational goals of southwest Oklahoma youth by offering scholarships to qualified teens.

This year KEC is pleased to announce the recipients of four \$500 college scholarships. Congratulations to Allee Blackburn, Cordell High School; Kaylin Didier, Thomas Fay-Custer High School; Courtney Harper, Weatherford High School; and Max Ringo, Burns Flat/Dill City High School.

The teens submitted winning essays in the annual essay contest sponsored through Kiwash Electric Cooperative's youth program. Essays addressed the question, "What is my part in energy conservation?"



Courtney
Harper



Max
Ringo

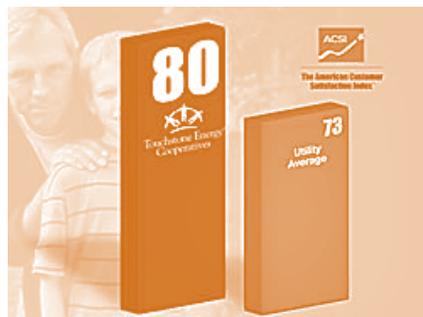
Kiwash Electric began its scholarship program in 1986. The program is open to any graduating senior who attends high school in Kiwash Electric service territory and whose

parents are members of Kiwash Electric Cooperative. Scholarships are applied to cover tuition expenses at any two- or four-year university or technical school.

Parents of the 2008 scholarship winners are Bobby and LeeAnn Blackburn (Allee); Grant and Dixie Didier (Kaylin); John and Christine Harper (Courtney); and Jeff and Darla Ringo (Max).

For more details on Kiwash Electric college scholarships, please visit www.kiwash.coop, or contact Lisa Willard at 888-832-3362.

CONSUMER SATISFACTION SURVEY RANKS CO-OPS BEST



Touchstone Energy co-ops continue to distinguish themselves from other utilities and other industries, confirmed by the 2007 scores from the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI). The ACSI measures consumer satisfaction across 43 industries and more than 200 companies. Touchstone Energy notched a score of 80 out of a possible 100, placing co-ops well ahead of the utility industry average of 73. The score also eclipsed the airline industry (63), cable TV (62), and the U.S. Postal Service (73), among others.



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

KIWASH ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Providing the service that lights up your life.

Office Location

PO Box 100
120 W. 1st Street
Cordell, Oklahoma
(888) 832-3362
www.kiwash.coop

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INSIDE YOUR CO-OP



By Dennis Krueger
GENERAL MANAGER

It's time to get off the couch and get into action. Kiwash Electric Cooperative faces a serious energy challenge ahead and we need your help.

Oklahoma like the rest of the nation needs new sources of affordable electric generation to meet our growing energy needs. As utilities plan new generation facilities, the U.S. Congress is considering climate change legislation that could greatly increase generation costs.

As your electric cooperative, it's our job to find solutions that keep costs down and provide plentiful electricity. At the same time, we must address the problems that surround global warming. You can help by contacting your U.S. senators and congressmen and voicing your opinion.

Now is the time to ask the tough questions. Begin the dialogue today. Together we can find balanced solutions, however, we must ask our leaders the right questions. Ask candidates running for federal office as well as your elected officials to state their position on these issues:

1. Oklahoma's electricity demand will grow well beyond what renewables, conservation and efficiency can provide. *What is their legislative plan to ensure we have the electricity we need in the future at an affordable price?*

Coal and nuclear generators are by far a cheaper source of future energy fuels than natural gas or wind. *Will your elected representative support the construction of nuclear and coal-fired generation facilities in Oklahoma? As a member-owner of Kiwash*

Electric Cooperative, will you support the construction of new coal and nuclear plants in Oklahoma? If not, are you willing to pay higher energy bills to support other fuel-based generation plants?

2. Last year the *Washington Post* estimated that electricity bills could rise 25 percent to 33 percent just to "stimulate and pay for new technologies." *What is Congress doing to fund the research required to make emissions-free electric plants an affordable reality? Can we as consumers afford to allow electric companies to fund this research?*

3. "It is an unpleasant and inescapable truth," noted the *New York Times*, "that serious efforts to fight global warming will require everyone to pay more for energy." *How much will these efforts increase your electric bill? What will Congress do to make sure electricity remains affordable?*

Global warming and climate change are problems that won't be solved easily or at a

small price. It is the electric cooperative opinion that the Lieberman-Warner climate change legislation before Congress could add as much as a nickel per kilowatt-hour (kwh) to your electric bill. In 2007, the average all-electric residential consumer on Kiwash lines used 1,850 kwh per month. If the Lieberman-Warner climate change legislation is enacted in its original language, it could add \$92.50 per month to your bill.

Are you ready to pay this much more to address global warming? If not, send your senator and representative a letter or email and tell them your opinion on passing legislation that will affect your utility bills. To it easy, we have a Web site that will send an email for you. Go to www.ourenergy.coop and plug in your address.

Remember, our energy and our future is at stake. Let the dialogue between all Oklahomans and our elected officials begin. The time to act is *now* before Congress debates us into debt.



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

Our energy future is at stake

If the Lieberman-Warner climate change legislation is enacted as originally submitted, it could add \$92.50 per month to your bill.

If this news concerns you, please visit www.ourenergy.coop to send your elected officials a message.



BRIGHT IDEAS

New Co-op Connections cards

New savings on products, services, and discounts on prescriptions

Want to save money on your prescriptions? You can save up to 60 percent on prescriptions with the new and improved Touchstone Energy Co-op Connections card. You will receive your new Co-op Connections card in August. Your new card will still offer discounts on products and services at local businesses, and at more than 9,000 businesses nationwide. To receive the discounts, all you have to do is use your card.

Remember to carry your Co-op Connections card with you as you shop for products, eat out, travel, and pay for services. When preparing to travel, be sure to check Co-op Connections discounts on hotel, entertainment and travel. (In some cases you may need to make your reservations online in order to receive your discounts.)

You'll find a list of local, state, and national participating businesses at www.kiwash.coop. Check this web page frequently for new deals and discounts.

For an advanced preview of prescription discounts you'll receive with your new card, visit www.rxpricequotes.com. Search for participating locations at

www.locateproviders.com. (Remember, Co-op Connections pharmacy discounts are not intended as a substitute for insurance.) Approximately \$578,000 has been saved since May 2007 on prescription medications by cardholders nationwide.



Coming your way in August!

Honor thy mother—
and save up to 20 percent

Mother's Day is May 11th.

Use your Co-op Connections card and save from 10 to 20 percent on gifts, flowers and clothing from the following local participants:

Dean's Greenhouse (all locations); The Country Store, Weatherford; Butcher's Clothing Co., Weatherford; Jack's Flowers and Gifts, Cordell; Mozell's Gift Gallery, Burns Flat; and The Small Gift Shop, Clinton. Visit www.kiwash.coop for more details.



Just before serving, drain asparagus, reserving vinaigrette. Arrange on a serving platter and sprinkle with lemon zest, parsley, salt, and pepper. Serve reserved vinaigrette in a small dish on the side.

Yield: 4 servings.

This valuable benefit is available to you because you are a member of Kiwash Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative. Look for your new card—and new discounts—in August!

RECIPE BOX

Zesty Marinated Asparagus

INGREDIENTS

2 lbs fresh asparagus, trimmed and cut into 2 ½ inch pieces
1 ½ cups balsamic vinaigrette salad dressing
2 tsp grated lemon zest
¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
½ tsp kosher salt
½ tsp ground black pepper

DIRECTIONS

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Blanch asparagus just until tender, about 1 minute. Plunge into a bowl of cold water to cool. Drain asparagus and place in a large resealable plastic bag. Pour in vinaigrette and seal bag. Refrigerate at least 3 hours, turning bag occasionally.

May is electrical safety month.

KEEP THEM SAFE.

Whether at home or in the workplace, many of the injuries and property damage caused by electrical hazards are preventable. Improved product safety standards and electrical codes all reduce electrical hazards. So does safety awareness.

If you are concerned about an electrical issue in your home, please contact a licensed electrician. Outside your home, please report the situation to Kiwash Electric at **888-832-3362**.

The water company uses electricity to purify water and pump it through your pipes. You use electricity to heat water for showering, washing dishes and doing laundry.

You can save energy—and your energy dollars—by conserving water at home. With summer coming on—and the likelihood of hot, dry weather—using water wisely is even more important.

Step 1: Buy water-saving low-flow toilets and showerheads when it's time to replace your old ones. Look for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense label on products that meet EPA performance and efficiency standards. These typically save at least 20 percent more water than comparable products.

For additional water savings:

- ▶ Rig your lawn sprinkler to a timer and cut the length of watering after it rains or the weather cools.
- ▶ Find out how much water each plant in your garden needs. Over-watering certain types of plants can kill them.

Want to save energy? SAVE WATER.



▶ Invest in a swimming pool cover. It will keep heat in your pool and prevent water evaporation.

▶ Don't do laundry until you have a full load of clothes. Even smaller cycles waste energy and water compared to full, large loads.

▶ Wash your clothes in cold water as often as possible. Use warm and hot water cycles for whites or extremely dirty clothes only.

▶ To save energy and water, avoid taking excessively long showers. For greater savings, lower the thermostat on your water heater to 120°F. (Try 115°F. and see if anyone notices!)

▶ Run the dishwasher only when it's full. Keep a bowl of soapy water in the sink for quick dishwashing.

COMING UP in Kiwash Country

■ MAY

- 1 Writer's Festival, Public Library Weatherford
- 2-3 Car Show & Cruise, Altus
- 3 Tapestry Class, Public Library Weatherford
- 5 Line Dancing Class, SWOSU 580-774-7010
- 11 Mother's Day
- 20 Leadership Weatherford Graduation, Conference Center SWOSU
- 24 Arts on the Square, Hobart
- 24 Hobart Fly-in, Hobart Airport
- 26 Memorial Day
- 30-June 1 Southwest Playhouse produces "Nunsense," Clinton
- 30-June 1 Route 66 Days Celebration Elk City

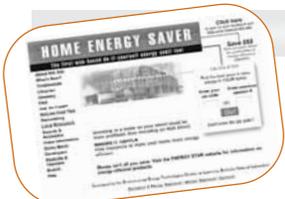
■ JUNE

- 6-7 Southwest Playhouse presents "Nunsense," Clinton
- 8-9 Justin McBride Professional Bull Riding Championship, Elk City
- 13-14 Heartland Cruise & Car Show Weatherford Radar Park
- 14 Flag Day
- 15 Father's Day
- 27-28 Route 66 Festival, Clinton

SUBMISSION DETAILS:

As your Touchstone Energy Cooperative, Kiwash Electric believes in supporting southwest Oklahoma's communities. One way we can help is by promoting local festivals, rodeos, fairs and other events in our monthly newsletter, the *Kilowatt*. Listings are free and it's easy to submit your information.

Simply send details to: Lisa Willard, Kiwash Electric, PO Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, or send e-mail to: lwillard@kiwash.coop.



Do-it-yourself energy audits

Understanding how and where your home uses—and loses—energy is the first step to lowering your electric bill. Kiwash Electric and Touchstone Energy Cooperatives provide an online energy audit that calculates energy use in your home and helps you identify ways to save. To complete the audit, or simply learn more about how you can save energy, please visit:

www.touchstoneenergysaver.com

TALK TO US

about our special member services and programs. Kiwash Electric offers bill payment plans, heat pump and water heater rebates, long distance telephone service, security lights, economic development loans for small businesses and towns, youth programs, college scholarships and more. **888-832-3362 • www.kiwash.coop**

