

## Weather updates

Know when and where winter storms will strike. IMap Alerts notify you of severe weather conditions, school closings and more via text or email. Download IMap Alert at [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop). It's free!



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

### Tip of the Month

Sleek, flat-panel TVs can consume almost as much electricity as a refrigerator. In general, the bigger the screen, the more power it draws. Plasma screens use the most energy, while LCD TVs use much less. And remember to change your new TV's default settings to power saver mode, and turn down the LCD backlight to save energy without sacrificing picture quality.

—COOPERATIVE RESEARCH NETWORK



## BILL PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Kiwash Electric  
120 W. 1st Street  
Cordell, Oklahoma

Pay online:  
[www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)

Custer City Hall  
Custer City, Oklahoma

First National Bank  
Thomas, Oklahoma

# Video challenge focuses on heat pumps

Teens could win \$60,000 in college scholarships and grants

Through the use of video and social media, junior and senior high school students have a unique opportunity to showcase their creativity and compete for close to \$60,000 in scholarship dollars and grants.

The Go Go Geo Scholarship Video Challenge will officially be launched to schools on Jan. 7, 2013, with full details available on the contest website at <http://www.GoGoGeoChallenge.com/>.

The Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are the title sponsor for this event, with geothermal manufacturers ClimateMaster, Bosch and WaterFurnace as co-sponsors. Kiwash Electric Cooperative is a member of the Touchstone Energy Cooperative alliance.

Eligible students will be challenged to use their creativity to produce a one to three minute video. Seven message themes have been created for the contest, with each related to geothermal energy in some way. Information on the contest website provides participants with a general understanding of each theme.

The challenge consists of a regional competition, which will divide contestants into five regions based on zip code. The top winner from each region will advance

to the final competition to compete for even more scholarship dollars. In the final level of competition, the five winners will meet with judges in Oklahoma City for the final scoring and winner announcement.

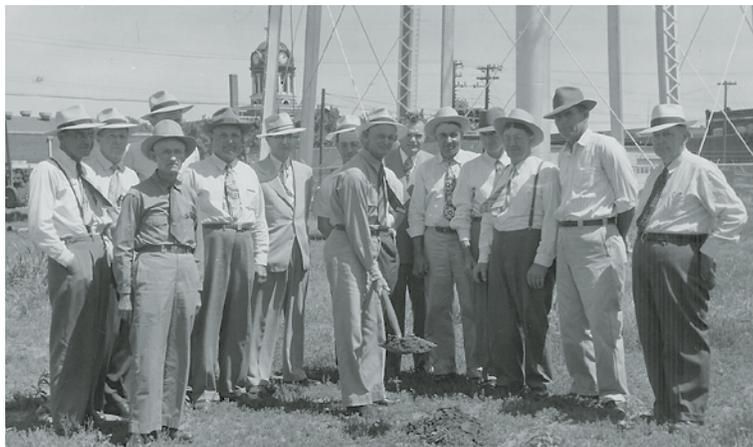


Any high school junior or senior residing in Oklahoma is eligible to participate. For team entries, scholarship funds will be distributed equally if their entry is designated as the winner. Teams are limited to three members.

"We're excited to promote this opportunity to southwest Oklahoma teens," said Lisa Willard, Kiwash Electric marketing

director. "With this contest, plus our own Kiwash Electric scholarship competition, teens stand a good chance of winning some real money to further their education."

Every year Kiwash Electric awards four \$500 scholarships to high school seniors whose parents are members of Kiwash Electric Cooperative. Scholarships may be used at any college, university or technical school. Students compete for funds by writing an original essay or submitting a video. Entries and applications will be accepted until April 15, 2013 at 5 pm at Kiwash Electric Cooperative in Cordell. Find more details about the scholarships on page 3, or contact Lisa Willard at **888-832-3362**.



## Happy 75th!

Seventy-five years ago local residents formed Kiwash Electric Cooperative to bring electricity to southwest Oklahoma. In 1949, they gathered for the ground breaking of the new co-op office building in Cordell. From left: R.L. Armitage; J.T. Bailey; Delmer Hawkins; K.J. Kliwer; Unknown; Raymond Schnider; W.R. Duggans; Warren, Potts; Artie Wiechel; FC Hawkins; Alvert Lenaburg; Bennit Deeds; and Ernest Martin.



KIWASH ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, INC.

*Providing the service  
that lights up your life.*

**Office Location**

PO Box 100  
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Cordell, Oklahoma

(888) 832-3362  
[www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)

 Find us  
on Facebook

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INSIDE YOUR CO-OP



**By Dennis Krueger**  
GENERAL MANAGER

# Great reasons to go geothermal

*Rising rates, improved rebates make geothermal a smart choice*

All indications out of Washington D.C. are that environmental issues on existing power plants will continue to be assessed, which will increase the cost of electricity. The cost of new construction for the next generation of power plants will also increase the cost of electricity. By 2017 we predict that electricity will cost 15 to 20 percent more than it does today. Kiwash expects a future rate increase will be considered by 2014 and again in 2017. It is time for consumers to begin the self assessment process by considering and implementing energy saving ideas.

In the past two issues of your co-op newsletter, I used my column to extol the positive benefits of geothermal or ground source heat pumps (GHP). A few highlights of these articles are listed below:

- Geothermal systems save up to 70 percent on heating bills and 40 percent on cooling bills
- A typical GHP system has a life expectancy of 25 years for the components inside the building, and more than 50 years for the pipes in the ground
- The cost of a typical GHP system in the US varies depending on design factors, but offers a payback period of between 3 to 10 years
- While wind and solar generators at your house may be tempting, the real win-win-win situation for your electric co-op, your electricity generator (Western

Farmers Electric Cooperative) — and you — is geothermal

In my opinion, the most environmentally sound move you can make is to install geothermal heating and air conditioning units in your home and business.

**Weighing the costs**

Nowadays, the cost to install geothermal system inside the home is similar to conventional air source heat and air equipment. This is good news. The drawback is the cost of the geothermal well system.

A four-ton geothermal system usually requires 950 feet of wells to operate under typical conditions. This is accomplished by placing a series of 300 foot wells in the ground with proper piping and a special grout mixture that holds the piping in place and allows interaction with the soil surrounding the pipe. Cooperatives are negotiating geothermal well installations pricing at \$7 per foot. The total cost of the well field is estimated at \$6,650 for a four-ton unit.

**Rebates make it affordable**

Kiwash Electric's revised geothermal rebate program for qualifying home or businesses states:

All electric geothermal (also known as ground source) heat pump units with a minimum 18.5 EER & 3.6 COP will be eligible to receive a \$1,000 per ton rebate. Units using a gas back-up system qualify at the air-source unit rebate rate. The geothermal rebate is available for new construction, conversion

from gas furnace, or an air-source upgrade. It is not available for replacing existing geothermal systems.

The maximum rebate for any heat pump system rebate is \$5,000 per home or business. All rebates are payable to the home or business owner based on a Kiwash Electric inspection and/or proper supplier installation. Other types of installations, or installations not meeting the minimum requirements, are not eligible for rebates.

With rebates, consider how the cost of a four-ton GHP unit changes to your favor.

950 ft geothermal wells field @	\$ 6,650
30% federal tax credit	- \$ 1,995
Kiwash rebate (\$1,000/ton)	- \$ 4,000
Cost to the consumer	\$ 655

Remember, the in-house cost of a geothermal unit is now very competitive with air source heating and air units. With Kiwash Electric rebates, the cost of geothermal wells is even more affordable. Maybe it's time to consider replacing your heating and air conditioning unit with a ground source/geothermal unit.

For more details on Kiwash Electric's heat pump rebates, please visit [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop).

For additional information on heat pumps, please visit these websites:

- [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov)
- [www.climatemaster.com](http://www.climatemaster.com)
- [www.geothermalgenius.org/](http://www.geothermalgenius.org/)



## Youth Tour inspires teens

*Apply now for the trip of a lifetime*

**K**iwash Electric is looking for two outstanding teens to represent the co-op on the Rural Electric Youth Tour on June 14 -20, 2013.

The all-expenses paid tour of Washington D.C. includes visits to famous historic sites, museums, memorials, cathedrals and cultural attractions in and around Washington D.C. Youth Tour teens learn about government, rural electrification, leadership and democracy while meeting other delegates from across the country.

Interested teens will be selected based on quiz scores and a brief personal interview. The quiz will test the applicant's knowledge of electric cooperatives. The four top-scoring finalists are invited to a special banquet where they will be interviewed by Youth Tour judges. Two winners will be announced at the conclusion of the banquet.

Youth Tour applications and resource material will be delivered to local high schools this month. For more details on Youth Tour, please visit [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop), or contact Lisa Willard at **888-832-3362**. You can also follow us on Facebook!

## Recipe Box

### Chicken Pot Pie

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb. skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cubed
- 1 cup sliced carrots
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- 1/2 cup sliced celery
- 1/3 cup butter
- 1/3 cup chopped onion
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon celery seed
- 1 3/4 cups chicken broth
- 2/3 cup milk

#### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 425°F. In a saucepan, combine chicken, carrots, peas, and celery. Add water to cover and boil for 15 minutes. Remove from heat, drain and set aside.

In the saucepan over medium heat, cook onions in butter until soft and translucent. Stir in flour, salt, pepper, and celery seed. Slowly stir in chicken broth and milk. Simmer over medium-low heat until thick. Remove from heat and set aside.

Place the chicken mixture in bottom pie crust. Pour hot liquid mixture over. Cover with top crust, seal edges, and cut away excess dough. Make several small slits in the top to allow steam to escape.

Bake in the preheated oven for 30 to 35 minutes, or until pastry is golden brown and filling is bubbly. Cool for 10 minutes before serving. Place cookies 2 inches apart on the prepared baking sheets.

Bake for 10 to 12 minutes in the preheated oven, until cookies are golden at the edges. Cool on wire racks. Yield: Makes one 9-inch pie.



## Kiwash scholarship contest highlights 75th year

**T**o coincide with Kiwash Electric Cooperative's 75th anniversary, the co-op is putting a new twist in its annual scholarship competition. This year, scholarship applicants are encouraged to produce a video commercial or write an original essay commemorating the co-op's 75 year progress. The theme is "Kiwash Electric celebrates 75 years: 1938 - 2013."

Four winners will be selected from contest entries with each winner receiving a \$500 scholarship. Scholarships may be used at any two or four-year college or university, or at any career training or technical school.

Applicants must belong to the co-op or be the child of a Kiwash Electric Cooperative member. Applicants must be senior-level students attending a high school in the Kiwash Electric service territory.

Students submitting videos should note the following rules:

- The video must be at least one minute in length and may not exceed three minutes in length.
- Participants must submit properly completed applications and release forms.
- The video cannot contain copyrighted music without written permission from

the copyright holder.

- Video shall not have been submitted previously in a promotion of any kind or exhibited publicly through any means.
- Only one video submission per applicant.
- Any submission that includes content that is deemed inappropriate, indecent or obscene will not be eligible.

Scholarship applications and consent forms are available at [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop), or contact Lisa Willard at **888-832-3362**. Essays and video uploads must be received by no later than 5 pm on April 15, 2013.

CO-OP VALUES

# NOW HEAR THIS:

*Deep discounts on hearing aids with Co-op Connections*



**Y**our Co-op Connections savings program includes a new benefit to help those with hearing loss save money on hearing exams, hearing aids and hearing aid service and repairs. Through participating providers, Kiwash Electric Co-op members can receive a 15 to 58 percent discount and a free hearing test at over 2,050 participating locations throughout the US. In addition, co-op members have access to a mail order program that offers discounts of 40 to 60 percent off average national retail prices on over 100 models of name brand hearing instruments.

Some preferred prices examples: are as follows:

■ Basic (100% digital, 2 channels, 2 memories). MSRP \$1,595. Co-op Connections card holders pay \$995, a saving of 37%

■ Medallion (100% digital, 7 channels, 3 memories, voice processing, feedback detection). MSRP \$3,595. You pay \$1,495, a saving of 58%.

■ Ultra (100% digital, 14 channels, 3 memories, feedback detection 6 compression areas, noise reduction, speech preservation). MSRP \$4,755. You pay \$1,995, a saving of 58%.

To receive these benefits, members must book an appointment with a participating provider near you by calling **888-851-9554**. You will receive an appointment confirmation along with a map to the clinic location. Take your confirmation letter to your

- **Save 35% on hearing aids**
- **Free hearing exams**
- **Over 2,000 participating locations nationwide**

scheduled appointment to receive full benefits.

In addition to discounts on hearing equipment, members also enjoy the following benefits:

- An excellent customer service call center to handle all questions and scheduling.
- Two-year warranty on all included products with an option to purchase an extended warranty.
- 45-day trial period with a money-back guarantee.
- Free hearing screening plus three (3) free visits to the hearing professional.
- Patient financing options.
- Large and rapidly expanding network of participating providers.

Co-op Connections also offers discounts on vision, dental and chiropractic care, as well as savings on prescriptions, MRIs, CT scans and lab work. For details about these benefits, please visit **www.connections.coop**.



Bald eagles soar near Quartz Mountain. PHOTO/SUSIE OSBORN.

## COMING UP in Kiwash Country

### ■ JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day. Kiwash Electric closed for the holiday.
- 5-6 In Search of Eagles, Quartz Mountain Nature Park, Lone Wolf
- 9 SWOSU classes resume
- 19-20 In Search of Eagles, Quartz Mountain Nature Park, Lone Wolf
- 22 Panorama Event: Reed Timmer, Storm chaser, 7:30 pm, SWOSU Fine Arts Center, Weatherford, 580-774-3063
- 25 Western Oklahoma Christian School Soup Supper, Frisco Center, Clinton, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and 5 pm-7:30 pm. Three types of soup, homemade bread and pies, and drinks. \$8 adult/\$5 children 10 and under. 580.323.9150.

### ■ FEBRUARY

- 2 German Feast and Auction, 208 E. Reimer, Corn. For details, please call 580-343-2262 or 580-774-4070.
- 2-3 In Search of Eagles, Quartz Mountain Nature Park, Lone Wolf
- 8 SWOSU Jazz Festival, SWOSU Fine Arts Center, Weatherford. 580-774-3217.

### SUBMISSION DETAILS:

Kiwash Electric Cooperative promotes local festivals, rodeos, fairs and other events in our monthly newsletter, *the Kilowatt*. Calendar listings are free.



Please send details to: Lisa Willard, Kiwash Electric, PO Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, or send e-mail to: [lwillard@kiwash.coop](mailto:lwillard@kiwash.coop). Please send event listings by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

If you have questions about submitting an event, or need to speak with a Kiwash representative about other matters, please call **888-832-3362**, or visit **www.kiwash.coop**.

# German Feast and Auction

February 2, 2012 • 208 E. Reimer • Corn, Okla.

Enjoy delicious Verenika smothered in onion gravy, zwiebach, smoked sausage, cherry mousse and New Year cookies. Auction items include furniture, farm supplies, quilts, tools, homemade food goods, and jellies.

**580-343-2262 • www.cornbible.org**