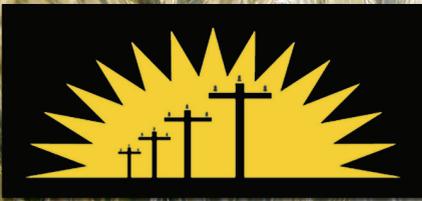


P.O. Box 220, Wellington, KS 67152
888-326-3356
www.sucocoop.com

**SUMNER-COWLEY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

News from the Wheat Capital



Sumner-Cowley Electric Co-op, Inc.

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Like Us on Facebook

Join us on Facebook for updates from Sumner-Cowley Electric. Simply search for Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative and click the "like" button.



FROM THE MANAGER

This Magazine Cost-Effectively Fulfills Several Cooperative Principles

What's delivered to your home each month, provides something for everyone in your household and costs less than a cup of black coffee at McDonald's? *Kansas Country Living* magazine, and it's the most cost-effective way to share important business information with our consumer-members along with interesting features about this great state and the communities in which we live, work and play.

As a consumer and a member of Sumner-Cowley Electric, you are entitled to know and understand how your cooperative operates. Cooperative Principle No. 2, Democratic Member Control, means our consumer-members participate in setting policies and making decisions for the electric co-op. It is Sumner-Cowley's responsibility to keep you informed of the co-op's business in

a timely, and hopefully interesting, manner so when it's time to vote on issues and for representation on the board of directors you will have the knowledge to make informed decisions. By doing so, we fulfill Cooperative Principle No. 5—educate our members about their electric cooperative so they may effectively contribute to its development.

So, for less than the cost of a decent cup of coffee, Sumner-Cowley keeps you abreast of annual meeting details, legislative issues potentially affecting our rural way of life, cooperative youth programs, and outage and construction activities. Through the magazine, we introduce you to co-op employees—your neighbors—who work to maintain safe and reliable electricity

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Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Routinely replace or clean your air conditioner's filter. Replacing a dirty, clogged filter can reduce your air conditioner's energy consumption by 5-15%.

Source: energy.gov



ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR

**Turek
Explores
Nation's
Capital,
Witnesses
Government
in Action**

RACHEL TUREK represented Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative during the 59th Annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour with more than 1,800 peers from across the nation. Youth Tour was held June 13-20.

To earn this trip, Turek completed an application, submitted a letter of recommendation, wrote an essay and interviewed with cooperative representatives.

Turek joined teens from across Kansas and Hawaii to spend a week touring Washington, D.C. There, these student leaders learned more about our history and government, the co-op business model and how to become community leaders.

While in D.C., the students toured the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Smithsonian museums, Mt. Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, the National Cathedral and many memorials and historical sites. They participated in a simulation at the new National Law Enforcement Museum. The students also attended a professional baseball game, a theater performance at the John

F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and saw the pandas at the National Zoo.

"Touring the National Law Enforcement Museum was very impactful. We watched a video on first responders during 9/11 and when we turned around, we met two NYPD men who assisted civilians during the attack," said Turek. "It made me realize how much terrorism can change the mood in America and how it changed our law enforcement."

As part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Youth Day program on June 17, all of the state groups convened to learn from inspirational speakers. This year's keynote speaker is Mike Schlappi, a four-time Paralympic Medalist and two-time world wheelchair basketball champion, who shared his inspiring message, "Just because you can't stand up doesn't mean you can't stand out!"

"Listening to motivational speaker Mike Schlappi at the NRECA program was extremely inspiring," said Turek. "He chose to pick himself up from the depths of depression to live a successful life with forgiveness. If someone can be that close to death but choose to recover, I have no room for excuses in my life."

"Sumner-Cowley is proud to support our local student leaders through the Youth Tour program," said Cletas Rains, CEO.



1. Rachel Turek poses at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.
2. Forty students from Kansas and Hawaii traveled to Washington, D.C. in June for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Sumner-Cowley Launches Co-op Connections

Sumner-Cowley Electric's commitment to you goes beyond providing safe, reliable and affordable electricity, and that's why we are excited to announce the launch of the Co-op Connections Program in our service territory.

Co-op Connections is a program that benefits Sumner-Cowley members by offering exclusive offers from participating businesses and helps you—our members—save on daily expenses. These participating businesses include locally and nationally owned businesses that offer deals on health, travel, entertainment, shopping and more.

The Co-op Connections Program gives Sumner-Cowley the opportunity to support our communities and local businesses. To help promote shopping locally, any business throughout Sumner-Cowley territory can sign up as a participant at no cost. We hope local businesses participating in the Co-op Connections program benefit from increased traffic from Sumner-Cowley members.

Starting in September, members can contact Sumner-Cowley to request a physical Co-op Connections card be sent to them via mail. Members can download the Co-op Connections app on their mobile phone or tablet to search for online deals on groceries, travel and more.

All it takes to get started is a quick visit to www.connections.coop to create a free account to access thousands of deals at your fingertips. These exclusive deals include:



- ▶ healthy savings discounts for prescriptions, dental and more
- ▶ cash back online shopping at over 3,000 retailers
- ▶ hotel savings at over 400,000 hotels
- ▶ saving 10% on all concerts, sports events and theaters

A complete list of participating businesses can be found in the Co-op Connections app or by visiting the program website, www.connections.coop.

Sumner-Cowley will officially launch the Co-op Connections program in September when physical cards can be requested. Members can, however, access the exclusive deals offered through the program immediately on the Co-op Connections app.

Sumner-Cowley strives to serve our members according to four core values: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. Our Co-op Connections Card is one of the ways we live up to those values.

We're eager to answer any questions you have about the card and how to take advantage of the discounts it provides. Call us at 888-326-3356 to find out more, or log onto sucocoop.com

Cost-Effectively Communicating

Continued from page 16A ▶

and bring you safe electricity tips for around the farm and home, plus ways to use electricity wisely. By law, some of this information must be received by members and verified, and the magazine fulfills that requirement in the most cost-effective way possible.

Sumner-Cowley is one of 24 Kansas electric cooperatives providing *Kansas Country Living* to their consumer-members. By combining forces with other electric co-ops, the cost to produce our local co-op pages and the magazine make it our main communication vehicle of choice to get substantive information to you, which relates directly to Cooperative Principle No. 6—Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

Our social media channels—Facebook, as well as our website—enhance what we provide in *Kansas Country Living* and offer immediate response for outages and other time-sensitive announcements. All of these communication channels work together to meet all of our consumer-members where they choose to access their information.

This month, more than 131,000 magazines will be mailed to electric cooperative consumer-members in Kansas, including those representing us in Washington, D.C., and at the Kansas Statehouse. By keeping our policymakers informed of rural and cooperative issues, we help fulfill Cooperative Principle No. 7—Concern for Community, which arguably is the most important of the Seven Cooperative Principles as we all work for the sustainability of our communities.

HAPPY LABOR DAY

Hats off to our staff! In observance of Labor Day, our office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 2.



Peak Shaving Saves You Money

Sumner-Cowley's Peak Shaving program is an effort to help members become energy aware and lower their power bills by reducing the energy consumed during peak periods when prices are higher.

The Peak Shaving program runs from June 1 through Sept. 30 between the hours of 3-8 p.m. when demand for electricity is greatest.

To meet the demand for power needed at peak times, electric suppliers must produce the power themselves or purchase it on the market. Consequently, the costs are greater during peak time when demand is high. These higher costs are reflected in the power cost adjustment applied to the monthly electric bill for Sumner-Cowley and its members.

The peak period window does not change from day-to-day. However, members will hear our Peak Alert announcements on 100.3 KLEY and receive notification through Facebook and our website. Peak Alerts are not a notice of a power shortage; they are simply a load management effort used

to reduce the demand for electricity and keep your cost of power as low as possible. By keeping high electrical demand levels to a minimum, members reap the benefit in the form of a lower cost of power.

A Peak Alert occurs when Sumner-Cowley is extremely close to demanding more electric power than usual. Your cooperative pays for power based on the total number of kilowatt-hours of electricity we use and the largest demand for electric power during any one-hour increment. If we set a new peak demand, it can mean we have to pay thousands of dollars more throughout the rest of the year. That means higher electric rates for you, our members.

From 3-8 p.m. each day, and especially on Peak Alert days, find ways to lower your usage by:

- ▶ Raising your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher.



- ▶ Turning off lights and appliances you aren't using. (It's a waste of energy and your money.)
- ▶ Doing laundry, running the dishwasher or using other major appliances later in the evening.
- ▶ Using the outdoor grill to keep cooking heat outside.

By working together, we can curb the demand for electric power. This is a win-win for the membership and the cooperative, as Sumner-Cowley strives to keep the cost of power as low as possible. Contact us at 888-326-3356.

Use SmartHub to Manage Your Electric Account

Sumner-Cowley Electric offers its members a powerful account management tool called SmartHub—a web and mobile application that delivers accurate, timely account information and the ability to quickly pay your electric bill.

SmartHub will serve as Sumner-Cowley's safe and secure electronic payment system and will give members more control over their account. Using SmartHub on your computer, phone or tablet, you will be able to:

- ▶ Pay your bill
- ▶ View billing history
- ▶ View electricity usage and history
- ▶ View account information
- ▶ Receive notifications
- ▶ Access Sumner-Cowley social media

"This is a tremendous tool for our members," said Clete Rains, Sumner-Cowley CEO/General Manager. "We want to provide our members with the ability to lower their bills and increase energy efficiency. The data provided through the SmartHub website and phone application will give Sumner-Cowley members the power and information needed to better control their energy consumption."

SmartHub will not only give Sumner-Cowley members more power to control their energy consumption, but it will do so at no additional cost to the cooperative.

To register for SmartHub, visit sucocoop.smarthub.coop or download the application on your mobile device

in the Apple App Store or Google Play for Android devices.

For more information about SmartHub, please visit our website or contact Sumner-Cowley Electric at 888-326-3356.

