



**FREESTATE ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

The Outlet

FreeState Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

NOTICE

The FreeState offices will be closed on **MONDAY, SEPT. 4**, in observance of Labor Day. You can still call 800-794-1989 to report outages, or utilize the SmartHub app. Thank you!

FROM THE CEO

Powering You at the Topeka Zoo

FreeState's mission is to provide members with safe, reliable and affordable electricity, and on Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Topeka Zoo you'll get to see firsthand how FreeState powers you.

We are so excited to see you again this year from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. because we'll be powering you at the Topeka Zoo!

The Topeka Zoo is the perfect place for us to provide a fun-filled day that you and your family can enjoy — together — no matter what generation you are.

Crew at the Zoo is a day that FreeState employees and trustees celebrate you with free entry to the zoo, lunch and a chance to spend the day as a family. You will find your express entry pass in this issue, your August bill, or on our website. Just fill it out and bring it with you to the zoo to get your adventure pass and wristbands. If you'd like to get your wristbands and passes early, stop by either office during zoo week — Aug. 21-24 — and pick them up. Our offices are open from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

We will have a bucket truck, safety displays, energy efficiency information, and interactive activities you can check out while learning all about how FreeState powers your home. You'll get to learn about all the infrastructure that helps FreeState distribute power that is there at the flip of a switch.

We want to see as many of you as possible, and you'll have from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to stop by. You can find more information about our event at www.freestate.coop/zoo.

We hope you'll come out and join us because we are most excited to have the opportunity to talk to you, see you, and meet some of you for the first time.



Chris Parr

“If you'd like to get your wristbands and passes early, stop by either office during Zoo Week — Aug. 21-24 — and pick them up. Our offices are open from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.”

Back to D.C. Youth Tour Returns



Emma Murphy will be a senior at Pleasant Ridge High School. She is the daughter of Sam and Rebecca Murphy.

I would first like to thank FreeState for sending me to Washington, D.C. It truly was a once-in-a-lifetime experience I will never forget. I made new friends from around the state and others from across the country. Youth Tour was a chance to learn about what different co-ops are doing to make a difference in their community, our country, and the world while exploring Washington, D.C.

During my time on this trip, I traveled across Washington, D.C., and Baltimore to learn and experience what our country has fought to have and we today pay our respects to those from our nation's past. We visited many monuments and museums that were incredible. Some of my favorites were the Washington Monument, Smithsonian Museums, the White House, the Holocaust Museum, a riverboat cruise, the National Aquarium, and a Washington Nationals baseball game.

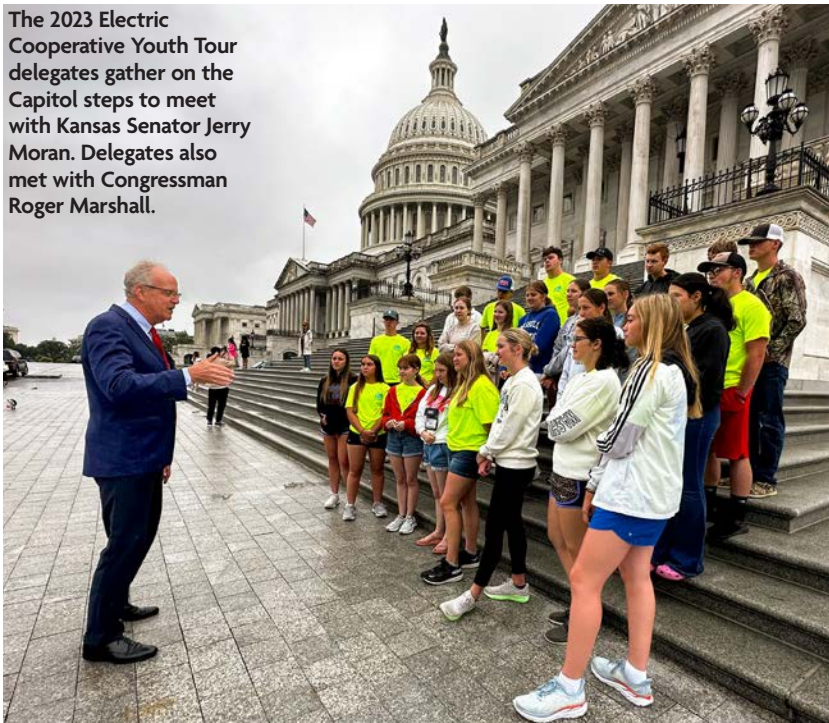
If I had to share a couple of things I learned or saw from these places I would say seeing the original Dorothy slippers (from "The Wizard of

Oz") in person is number one. I also enjoyed the Holocaust Museum because I went to the traveling exhibit in Kansas City, and going to the national museum made me appreciate the significance of this tragic event even more.

Besides these attractions, the youth delegation also got to listen to an incredible speaker talk about his journey and contributions to electric co-ops. The gentleman, Mat Kilgore, spoke about his trip to Guatemala, where he helped install power lines for a small community. Mat is from the Iowa Lakes Electric Co-op. He shared that it was a tough reality check because he realized how hard life would be without the things he was fortunate to have. Without co-ops, it's hard to imagine how life would be. No light, TV, heating and cooling, or being able to charge our cell phones! I think it is important to stop, take a minute, and appreciate all the things we are fortunate to have.

I want to say thank you to Aunty Shana, Aunty Shelly, and all the chaperones that took the time to spend eight days with this group of young adults. Their ability to make us laugh and have fun while feeling safe and comfortable contributed greatly to how amazing this trip was. Lastly, another huge thank you to FreeState, who works hard to ensure we have affordable, reliable electricity! I was honored to represent FreeState.

The 2023 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour delegates gather on the Capitol steps to meet with Kansas Senator Jerry Moran. Delegates also met with Congressman Roger Marshall.



“Seeing others who care about the future of co-ops and wanting to make a difference has inspired me! Touring these places has truly impacted how we are back in our communities and advocating for co-ops.”



The 2023 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour delegates gather at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka for a private evening tour before taking off for D.C.



Emma Murphy, along with other delegates, took part in a White House tour.



Delegates took a monument tour around D.C. Here Emma Murphy poses in front of the Lincoln Memorial.



Delegates tried new things while in D.C. Emma Murphy gave boba tea a try.



Visiting the White House was one of the highlights of the trip.



Murphy drives a car simulator during the visit to the Law Enforcement museum.

FREESTATE MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT

Saturday, Aug. 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WWW.FREESTATE.COOP/ZOO

Don't have time to pick up your tickets at either office Aug. 21-24? No problem! Fill out the form below, including your FreeState account number, and bring it with you to the zoo. Arrive any time between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Topeka Zoo (635 S.W. Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS 66606) and present this page to the registration table to receive your wristbands and adventure passes that will provide free entry to the zoo. Lunch will be served at the Security Benefit Pavilion starting at 11 a.m. until the food runs out. Visit www.freestate.coop/zoo for more information. **DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR POP TABS FOR THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE!**



NAME: _____

ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____



**WRISTBANDS
ONLY VALID
FOR ZOO
ENTRY ON
AUG. 26, 2023.**

