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December 2012

Hot Watts

PUBLISHED BY COOKSON HILLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Did you know a computer can draw as much electricity as a new refrigerator? Turn it off when not in use or switch on its energy-saving mode. Also, cell phone and mp3 player chargers as well as plasma TVs and entertainment centers pull power even when they are off. Unplug these and other appliances to save on your electric bill.

Source: Touchstone
Energy Cooperatives

Congratulations

Nell Mathot
is our online survey
winner!

Offices Closed

CHEC will be
closed December
24th & 25th in
observance of
Christmas.

Remembering Teresa Shaw



Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) is mourning the recent loss of their Office Manager. Teresa Shaw passed away, unexpectedly, October 30, 2012 at the age of 43. Teresa Shaw worked for CHEC for 16 and a half years. She held the position of Office Manager for 9 years where she was responsible for managing the Billing Department and Customer Service, including implementation of new billing programs and customer service features. Teresa Shaw also served on the CHEC scholarship committee for many years.

Continued on page 4

Members Who Bought Electricity During 1993 Will Receive a Capital Credit Check



When you signed up to receive electric service from Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) you became a member. This month, people who were members of CHEC in 1993 are receiving a capital credit check. These funds helped us keep the lid on rates, reduced the amount of money we needed to borrow from outside lenders to build, maintain, and expand a reliable electric distribution system, and covered emergency expenses.

Investor-owned utilities return profits back to their stockholders who may not live in the same region or even the same state. Electric cooperatives operate locally and are non-profit organizations. As a member, you share in the profits in the form of capital credits. CHEC allocates and periodically retires capital credits based on how much electricity you purchased during a year.

The CHEC Board of Trustees has authorized the distribution of \$676,315.13 in capital credits. Checks will be mailed by the second week of December to active and past members who received electric service from CHEC in 1993.

Hot Watts

is published monthly by Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. *Hot Watts* informs members in parts of seven Eastern Oklahoma counties about Cookson Hills' programs and issues. Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative continually strives to provide quality electrical service at a reasonable cost for its members.

Headquarters: P.O. Box 539
Stigler, OK 74462
Phone: 918-967-4614

Branch Office: P.O. Box 587
Sallisaw, OK 74955
Phone: 918-775-2211

Toll Free: 1-800-328-2368

Home Page: www.cooksonhills.com
E-Mail: marketing@cooksonhills.com

Cookson Hills Staff

Kendall Beck
General Manager

Eric Johnson
Assistant General Manager

Dalen Garner
Director of Operations

Juli Orme
Manager of Finance and Administration

Brett Orme
Director of Engineering

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Cookson Hills welcomes members to submit photos, and articles which will be subject to Cookson Hills editing. Any submissions must be received before the 12th of the month prior to the publication date.

If You Find Your Account Number Hidden in This Issue of the *Hot Watts* You'll Receive a \$25 Credit on Your Electric Bill

Calling All Youth Tour Alumni!

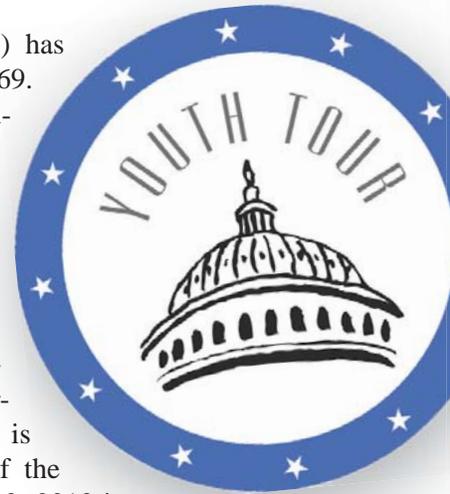
Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) has participated in the Youth Tour program since 1969. CHEC has sent 105 high school juniors on the Rural Electric Youth Tour, a week-long all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. This year's trip will be the 50th anniversary of the event.

“Time for a Youth Tour reunion!”

The Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC), in conjunction with the participating electric cooperatives across the state, is coordinating a 50 Year Reunion Celebration of the Washington, D.C. Youth Tour program on July 20, 2013 in Oklahoma City. OAEC coordinates the Youth Tour trip each year and is planning the 50 year reunion. The date has tentatively been set for July 20, 2013.

All former Youth Tour alumni are invited to the reunion in Oklahoma City. The exact location is yet to be determined but updates will be published in the Hot Watts newsletter as soon as plans are confirmed. There is no charge for former Youth Tour participants to attend the reunion and only a small fee for their guests.

If you need further information or would like to share the contact information of a former participant please call 918-967-4614 or e-mail kcash@cooksonhills.com.



Diann Bryant
J.L. Sloan
William Marshall
Leslie Webb
Cindy Calavan
Faron Hurst
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Lindsay Prentice
Cindy Skaggs
Phillip Wood

Jake Basden
Cortney Breedlove
Misty Jackson
Brittany Jones
Amber Cowan
Hillary Forrester
David Roberts
Raegan Rogers
Heather Barnes
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Crystal Turner
Gentry Henry
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Matthew Land
Madison Cotherman
Chance Fletcher
Aubrey Hale
Hunter Hume
Heather Deere
Hannah Franklin
Katlyn Leach
Elizabeth Mouser

You can also join the Facebook group Oklahoma Youth Tour 50 Year Reunion.

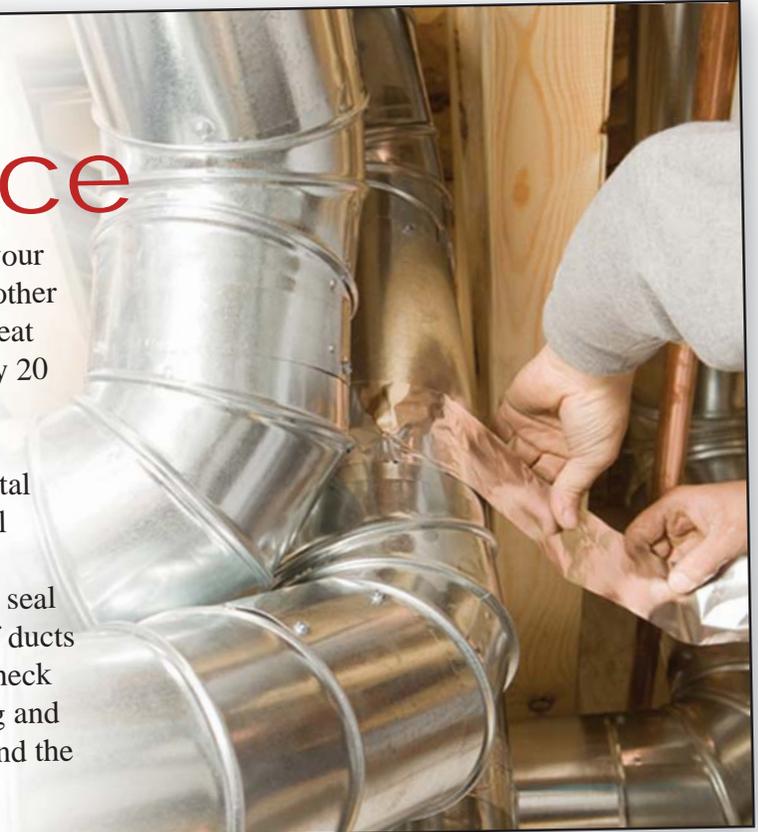


Sealing your Ducts makes a **Difference**

Leaky ductwork can reduce the overall efficiency of your heating or cooling system by as much as 20 percent. In other words, you could install an energy efficient furnace or heat pump, but leaky ductwork could reduce the efficiency by 20 percent.

The solution can be simple, use metal-backed tape or duct mastic (a paint on sealer) to seal all the seams in metal ductwork that runs through unheated spaces (attics, crawl spaces, and garages).

If your ducts are easily accessible, you may be able to seal some leaks on your own. An easy first step is to check if ducts have become disconnected and reconnect them. Next, check the duct connections for leaks by turning on your heating and cooling system fan. If you 1556502 feel air leaking around the duct joints, apply a proper sealing material.



Operation Round-Up Helps Support Angel Tree



Through a giving program known as Operation Round-Up, Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) members

will help to make the holidays brighter for underprivileged children with a grant to the Haskell County Angel Tree Program.

Operation Round-Up is a community outreach program that is funded by CHEC members who round-up their electric bills each month. The small change that results from "rounding-up" monthly electric bills, 50 cents on average, has made a big impact in the cooperative's seven county service area.

The Cookson Hills Electric Foundation, which meets every quarter to review applications, has approved a \$5,000 grant to help assist with the Haskell County Angel Tree Program. This grant will help with purchasing wishes for any

remaining Angels.

The last three years, Stigler Health and Wellness Center has coordinated the Haskell County Angel Tree program. This year they are partnering with Haskell County DHS and Wal-Mart. The Angel Tree will be set up in the front entrance of the Stigler Wal-Mart.

"Families interested in registering a child for the Angel Tree may go to the Haskell county DHS office and fill out an application for the program. DHS will review the application and present the family with an Angel Coupon, which will be placed on the Angel Tree, if they meet the requirements," said Lindsey Apple, Angel Tree Coordinator.

The Haskell County Angel Tree program provided nearly 800 children with gifts last year.

The Stigler Wal-Mart will have the Angel Tree decorated with paper angel tags listing a child's age, gender and toy suggestion as

well as the child's clothing sizes. Anyone wanting to participate can select an angel tag from the tree and purchase a gift for a child. The purchased items for the angel can be dropped off at the Stigler Health and Wellness Center.

If you would like more information about the Haskell County Angel Tree Program call 918-967-3368.



Remembering Teresa Shaw

Continued from page 1

“Teresa began working at Cookson three months after me. We relied heavily upon each other when questions or problems would arise. She was more than just a co-worker. She was also a friend. We’ve laughed together and we’ve cried together. I will miss her greatly,” said Juli Orme, Director of Finance and Administration.

Teresa Shaw was a hard worker and cared about her employees and customers. She loved the Lord and cherished her family. She went above and beyond to complete the task at hand. Loving and caring towards all people. She loved and was very proud of her son, Ethan.

“The Billing Department is a team and she was our leader. We will continue to perform our jobs to the best of our ability in order to provide the best customer service to our members. Teresa was the heartbeat of the billing department and she will be forever missed,” added Dru Bird, Billing Department.

Outside of work, Teresa Shaw loved to sing and spend time with her family. Her family spent many years traveling and singing at many churches across the state. She loved roller coasters and loved to relax in water either on the lake or at a pool.

Teresa Shaw is survived by her husband, David Shaw, son Ethan Shaw, her parents Delena Williams and Kenneth and Mary Kindle, and her four sisters as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Standard Fees

New service connect.....	\$25.00
Normal disconnect (if needed immediately).....	\$25.00
Normal reconnect.....	\$25.00
Return check fee.....	\$50.00
Disconnect for non-payment of electric service.....	\$75.00
Reconnect for non-payment of electric service (during normal office hours).....	\$75.00
Trip charge for non-payment of electric service if not disconnected.....	\$50.00
Meter reading or read out if member requests meter to be physically read.....	\$50.00
Security light connect (if needed immediately).....	\$50.00
Meter reseal if called in by member.....	\$25.00
Meter reseal if found by CHEC representative.....	\$50.00
Destroyed residential meter	\$200.00
Destroyed residential meter with remote disconnect.....	\$235.00
Meter test.....	\$25.00
Tampered service.....	\$200.00
After-hours reconnect for non-payment.....	\$250.00



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HOW MUCH
MONEY CAN
SQUEEZE
THROUGH A
CRAWLSPACE.**

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