

# OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

January 2025 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

## A new year, a renewed focus

### Serving our members with energy efficiency and transparency

As we turn the calendar to a new year, it's a fitting time to reflect on where we've been and to refocus our efforts on where we're headed. For us at Owen Electric Cooperative, our mission remains steadfast: providing safe and reliable electricity while supporting the communities we serve. We're placing renewed emphasis on three key areas: promoting energy efficiency information and programs to empower our members; providing clear, transparent communication about federal policies and market changes that may affect your electric rates; and enhancing our commitment to exceptional service.

Energy efficiency isn't just about reducing costs; it's about maximizing the power of every kilowatt-hour for the benefit of our members and the environment. Whether you're preparing to build or are settled into an existing home, Owen Electric offers a host of programs to help you make your home more comfortable and energy efficient. Our website features updated energy-saving tips, and our team is ready to provide personalized advice on how you can make small changes that result in big savings. Find out more at [www.owenelectric.com](http://www.owenelectric.com).



MARINELA WALCHEVA/DORBESTOCK

We've seen in recent years how dynamic the energy market can be, and federal and state policies are evolving rapidly. These changes can have a direct impact on the cost of power, and we understand how critical it is for you to stay informed. Our goal is to ensure you have a clear understanding of the factors influencing your electric rates, along with how Owen Electric is adjusting to cope with such factors.


Your voice is the heart of our member-owned cooperative, and we value your feedback. This year, we'll continue to focus on providing you with the

quality of service and satisfaction that has placed us among the top electric cooperatives in the country.

As we ring in the new year, I want to personally thank you for being a part of the Owen Electric Cooperative family. Your trust and support drive us to do better every day. This year, we're not just focused on electricity—we're focused on you.

President and CEO  
Michael Cobb



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# Build smart

## Take advantage of Owen Electric's Touchstone Energy Home incentive



As a builder, you play a pivotal role in shaping homes and apartment complexes that meet today's high standards for comfort, sustainability and energy efficiency. With energy costs at the top of mind for many home buyers and renters, incorporating energy-efficient solutions into home construction is an expectation. Partnering with Owen Electric can put money back into your pocket, increasing your bottom line and yielding a more comfortable, energy-efficient home for tenants.

Greg Bridges, owner of Heron Creek LLC, took advantage of Owen Electric's Touchstone Energy Home rebate program, which yielded him a \$9,750 check for his newly-constructed apartment homes.

"I met with Jude Canchola, the residential services manager, and he went

over the details of the program with me. I got him the specs and information he needed from the project, he looked at the blueprints, confirmed the rating of the insulation, and gave me some parameters—which were things we were doing already—and we went from there," Bridges says. "The whole process was very simple, and Jude was great—he was always in touch and communicating with me about each step, including the testing and inspections necessary throughout the building process."

Building to Touchstone Energy Home standards has the potential to yield a 30% annual reduction in energy costs. Owen Electric offers a rebate of up to \$750 for a new home that meets Touchstone Energy Home requirements. If you're a builder by trade or looking to build a home of your own, contact Owen

**Residential Services Manager Jude Canchola presents Greg Bridges, owner of Heron Creek LLC, with a check for \$9,750. Bridges received a Touchstone Energy Home rebate of \$750 for 13 apartment units equipped with a qualifying electric heat pump, electric water heater and approved tests for air and duct leakage. Photo: Whitney Duvall**

Electric prior to starting your construction project, as periodic inspections by cooperative representatives are required to verify compliance to standards in order to qualify for the rebate program.

Will Bridges take advantage of the Touchstone Energy Home program in the future?

"Absolutely, one hundred percent. I would recommend this program to absolutely anyone," Bridges says. "It's an easy process, and the tenant gets a very comfortable, cost-efficient unit."



# Giving back

Photos: Whitney Duvall

## Owen Electric employees deck the halls at Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass

Fifteen of Owen Electric's employees and family members gathered at Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass to decorate for Christmas. Annual service days such as this are just one example of how the cooperative enjoys giving back to the communities it serves.





**OWEN Electric**

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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[www.owenelectric.com](http://www.owenelectric.com)

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# Washington Youth Tour

## Get ready for the trip of a lifetime

Every year, Owen Electric offers high school juniors the opportunity to visit Washington, D.C., and learn about our country's history.

The Washington Youth Tour is an annual, weeklong event in June, during which about 1,400 high school juniors from across the country travel to Washington, D.C., to learn more about government, cooperatives and electrification.

During the Washington Youth Tour, delegates will get the opportunity to meet youth from across the country, interact with cooperative and government officials and visit historic landmarks.

The purpose of the tour is to provide outstanding young people with the opportunity to:

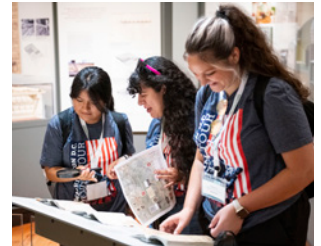
- Better understand the value of electricity and how it can be impacted by federal policies.
- Interact with political leaders and learn how government works.
- Become more familiar with the historical and political background of the United States.
- Better prepare for their future.

The application process is open to any high school junior whose primary residence is in Owen Electric's service territory. Applications are due January 24, 2025.

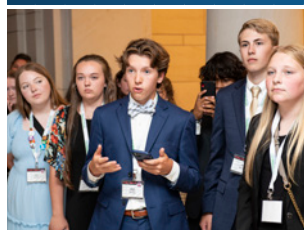
Applications can be picked up at any Owen Electric office, or online at [owenelectric.com/washington-youth-tour](http://owenelectric.com/washington-youth-tour).

# STEP UP AND LEAD

★  
**2025 YOUTH TOUR**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. | JUNE 16-21**



- MEET ELECTED LEADERS
- EXPLORE CO-OP ENERGY ISSUES
- MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE
- INCLUDES ALL-EXPENSES-PAID DAY TRIP TO FRANKFORT AND WEEKLONG TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.  
*(application required)*



PHOTOS: TIM WEBB