

September 2025 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

### Prepared for the season ahead

September brings a welcome change of pace. With school back in session and the days getting a little shorter, many of us are returning to routines—and maybe even looking ahead to fall.

Here at Owen Electric, that seasonal shift also brings a renewed focus on reliability and readiness. September is National Preparedness Month, and while we work year-round to keep your power safe and dependable, this is a good time for all of us to take stock.

Our crews are continually working to strengthen our system—from upgrading infrastructure to trimming rights-of-way. These efforts, paired with smart technologies like automated metering and outage management tools, help us respond quickly when the unexpected happens. And when storms do roll in, know that Owen Electric is ready. We've got a solid plan—and a dedicated team—behind every outage response.

We also encourage our members to prepare at home. If you haven't already, download the OEC Mobile app to report outages and manage your account from anywhere. Keep basic supplies on hand, and make sure we have your most up-to-date contact information so we can keep you informed during emergencies.





As routines settle in, you might notice your electric use shifting, too. That's where our energy efficiency programs can help. Whether it's a free energy audit, rebates for high-efficiency upgrades or online tools to monitor your usage, Owen Electric offers resources to help you save without sacrificing comfort.

We know our members are facing rising costs in many areas of life. That's why we're committed to delivering affordable, reliable electricity—and

practical ways to make it go further.

As always, thank you for the trust you place in us. Whether you've been a member of Owen Electric for decades or just joined this year, we're here to serve you with the cooperative difference—neighbors looking out for neighbors.

President and CEO Michael Cobb



## The trip of a lifetime

### Kentucky Electric Co-op Students Experience D.C.

Kentucky's electric cooperatives sponsored 61 high school seniors on the trip of a lifetime in June. A delegation of rising leaders visited the nation's capital for the 2025 Washington Youth Tour, experiencing the city's rich history and nonstop energy. Students enjoyed a front-row seat to the stories, service and sacrifices that have shaped our country and cooperative communities—all while making unforgettable memories of their own.

Owen Electric proudly sponsors the statewide youth tour program, which gives students the chance to explore our nation's history, meet elected leaders and see cooperative principles in action. "We believe in giving young people opportunities to lead," says Mallory Wafzig, manager of cooperative outreach for Kentucky Electric Cooperatives. "The youth tour helps students build confidence, expand their network and develop the leadership skills they'll carry into the future."

This year, Masen Chandler, Carroll County High School, along with Ava Hegge and Gabriella MacAdams, both of Williamstown High School, represented Owen Electric on the youth tour.

Trip highlights included a tour of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, a visit to Arlington National Cemetery, where students took part in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon, the Marine Corps Sunset Parade and a walking tour of D.C.'s iconic memorials and monuments. Students also spent time exploring the Smithsonian museums and experienced the power of language at the Planet Word Museum.

For the first time, Kentucky's delegation toured the White House, with some students catching a glimpse of President Donald Trump as he oversaw a flagpole installation on the lawn. At the Capitol, students asked questions and



Students on the youth tour take in history during their visit to Washington, D.C., stopping at the Jefferson Memorial and the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial (Iwo Jima Memorial) as part of their educational journey through the nation's capital.



Riley Maddox, a 2022 Owen Electric Washington Youth Tour alum and current intern in U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell's office, spoke to the group about how the program impacted her life. Photos: Tim Webb

explored how government works. They met with Sen. Rand Paul and engaged in thoughtful conversations about the farm bill, artificial intelligence and the role of Congress in shaping national policy. Staff from the House Energy and Commerce Committee, as well the

offices of Rep. James Comer and Rep. Thomas Massie, offered a behind-thescenes look at the legislative process.

"It was an incredibly fun, engaging and educational experience, as I met many good friends and visited many incredible landmarks," says Chandler. "The experience was overall incredibly engaging, and I learned a lot about the history of electric co-ops, our government and how I can serve my community in the future. I am incredibly grateful to have been given the opportunity to go on this trip."

Hegge adds, "The Washington Youth Tour changed my life. This experience inspired me to share my own story and influence other youth with their journey in life. The program provided me with an opportunity to connect, share and learn valuable life lessons to improve my own skills in public speaking, communication and leadership. Without this experience, I would be in my shell, still scared to speak out about my own story and terrified to speak in front of anyone. The Kentucky Electric Cooperatives Youth Tour program will forever hold a special place in my heart."

The Washington Youth Tour program continues to demonstrate the value of investing in leadership development and meaningful experiences for young people.

"As part of our commitment to community, Owen Electric invests in the leaders of tomorrow," says Owen Electric President and CEO Michael Cobb. "The Washington Youth Tour is an experience that stays with them for life."

# Out and about in our communities

A few of our employees—
including spouses and
children—spent Saturday,
June 6, volunteering at the
Special Olympics Summer
Games, cheering on athletes,
lending a helping hand and celebrating the spirit of inclusion
and determination. Pictured are
Jude Canchola, left, Drew Long,
Connor and Kendall Deaton
and Gabrielle and Kallie Welsh.
Photo: Tim Webb



Crew Leader Simon Peters visits Gallatin County Elementary School as a part of its Touch a Truck event. While the weather forced them inside, students were still able to learn the importance of electrical safety and what lineworkers use to help protect them while on the job.

Photo: Cody Beckham



Members of our team rolled up their sleeves and spent the day volunteering at Owen County Youth Services GO Pantry, helping provide food for local children in need. Pictured are Pam McAlister, left, John Fitzgerald, Sherra Dunlap, Scott Osborne and Christel Buffin. Photo submitted





We had a great time visiting with students at the Williamstown Schools Touch a Truck event! Crew Leader Danny Clemons and Service Technician Bobby Von Bokern talked to students about what it's like to have a career in linework. Students were also able to try out some of the tools of the trade and safety equipment. Photos: Whitney Duvall





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## Upcoming branch closures announced

In response to changing member needs and increased adoption of digital services, Owen Electric Cooperative will permanently close two branch office locations later this year.

These changes reflect our continued efforts to serve members more efficiently, adapt to evolving service preferences and invest in resources that support broader accessibility and convenience.

The affected locations are:

#### **Boone County Office**

Florence Government Center 8100 Ewing Blvd., Suite 220, Florence, KY

**Final day of operation:** Friday, October 31, 2025

#### **Pendleton County Office**

10599 US Hwy. 27 N., Butler, KY Final day of operation: Tuesday, December 30, 2025

We are deeply appreciative of the opportunity to have served members at these locations and thank the communities of Florence and Butler for their continued support.

While these branches will close, members still have access to a full range of account management and payment options, including:

• Online: Access your secure Member Portal at www.owenelectric.com

- **Mobile:** Use the free OEC Mobile app for 24/7 account access
- Phone: Call us at (800) 372-7612 for assistance or to make a payment
- Mail: Send payments using the return envelope provided with your bill
- In-person: Visit our full-service offices in Dry Ridge or Owenton
- Heritage Bank locations: Starting August 1, 2025, members may make payments at any of the 17 Heritage Bank branches located across Boone, Kenton, Campbell, Grant and Pendleton counties. Please have your blue bill stub with you; no late payments will be accepted. Other remittance or paperwork will not be accepted with payments. Payments made at a Heritage Bank location may take up to two days to apply to your account. For immediate payment, please use the online or mobile payment options, or visit/ call an Owen Electric location.

If you have questions or need help transitioning to a new service method, please contact us at (800) 372-7612, option 4. We're here to help.

Thank you for your continued trust in Owen Electric Cooperative. We remain committed to providing flexible, accessible, and reliable service—now and in the future.



Owen Electric offices will be closed Monday, September 1, for the Labor Day holiday.

For outages and emergencies, please call (800) 372-7612.