

OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

September 2023 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Taking flight

On Saturday, Sept. 16, Owen Electric members and Army veterans Kenneth Dabbelt of Union and Howard Chipman of Dry Ridge will join other Kentucky war veterans embarking on an Honor Flight. This annual Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., is sponsored by Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives. Both are veterans of the Vietnam War. Dabbelt was stationed in Germany and worked on tanks, while Chipman repaired helicopters.

This year's Honor Flight itinerary includes seeing the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Military Women's Memorial. The group will also view monuments dedicated to those who served in the Air Force and Marine Corps. The day includes attending a Changing of the Guard Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

Before the flight home, the veterans will experience "mail call." Each receives notes of appreciation and cards from friends, family, school children and electric co-op employees thanking them for their service.

When the group returns to Lexington's Blue Grass Airport that



Veterans on the 2022 Honor Flight watch the Changing of the Guard ceremony at Arlington Cemetery. Photo: Whitney Duvall

evening, they'll be greeted by enthusiastic friends and family in a welcome home ceremony. We invite you to join us and your fellow Owen Electric members at the airport on Sept. 16 at 8:15 p.m. for this memorable occasion.


Honor Flight is a critical part of Owen Electric's commitment to our community. It's a privilege to be able to send these veterans to their

memorials, and it's a small way to honor those who so selflessly served us.

For more information about Honor Flight, go to <https://www.owenelectric.com/honor-flight>.

President and CEO
Michael Cobb



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

Supporting young leaders

Owen Electric sponsors students on Washington Youth Tour

When you hear about Owen Electric investing in the communities we serve, it's not just in electrical infrastructure, economic development or the local events we support. We also have a national reach, sponsoring local students each year on the Washington Youth Tour.

In June, three local rising seniors joined 56 other students from electric co-ops across the commonwealth for a weeklong, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. The trip gives Kentucky's next generation of leaders the chance to meet with their senators and representatives and to participate in civic engagement activities with students from across the country.

Students were joined in Washington, D.C., by more than 1,800 delegates representing electric co-ops from across the country. Marking its 58th year, the Washington Youth Tour educates students about the issues facing co-ops, encouraging them to come home to Kentucky and help lead their communities in the future. "The Washington Youth Tour was

absolutely amazing. Don't pass up this opportunity if you're eligible to apply," says Claire Epifanio from Gallatin County High School.

The busy itinerary included stops at national memorials, Smithsonian museums, the Holocaust Museum, International Spy Museum, Arlington National Cemetery and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. At the U.S. Capitol, Owen Electric students interacted with Kentucky's congressional delegation, including Sen. Rand Paul and representatives Brett Guthrie, Thomas Massie, James Comer, Andy Barr and Morgan McGarvey. Students also heard from staff members representing Sen. Mitch McConnell and Rep. Hal Rogers.

"I made priceless memories and friendships I will never forget while also learning about this great nation that I call home," says Tobias Rice from Simon Kenton High School.

Coordinated by Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, the Washington Youth Tour gives students the unique opportunity to witness our government in action. "This trip is designed to give students a personal understanding of American history and their role as citizens by meeting their representatives and senators," says Mallory Wafzig, the statewide association's cooperative outreach manager and youth tour director.



"I've never experienced anything like this before. I made so many amazing friends," says Hannah Campbell from Owen County High School. "Thank you, Owen Electric, for this opportunity. I will never forget it!"

Kentucky's co-ops have sent rising high school seniors on the Washington Youth Tour since 1972. "We are investing in our local students because we believe it is important for young leaders to see our nation's capital and gain a greater understanding of what it means not only to be a Cooperative member, but to be a citizen of this great country," says Michael Cobb, Owen Electric's president and CEO.



Photos: Tim Webb

Hey Jude

Q: I converted my garage to a bonus room and want to add some heat for the winter. Should I use electric baseboard heaters or space heaters?

A: First, let's understand that both of these systems are electric resistance heating sources. Basically, a coil or wire gets hot and either radiates heat or a fan blows over the coil, pushing heat into the room.

When calculating costs, the typical electric baseboard heater uses 0.25 kW of electric per foot. So, a 6-foot baseboard heater uses 1.5 kW, or 1,500 watts. The typical electrical space heater also uses 1.5 kW or 1,500 watts, so the cost to operate is about the same. Also note that 1 kW produces 3.412 BTU, so both of these units will also produce the same amount of heat- $1.5 \times 3.412 =$ approximately 5100 BTU.

Another consideration is space and use. Typically, you would mount the baseboard heater to the wall, which re-

quires 6 feet and about 3 inches of floor space, next to the wall. Plus, you'll need electric service to the unit. Of course, the space heater is mobile and could also be used in different areas. Your baseboard heater would have a thermostat that could either be on the unit or mounted to the wall just like your standard HVAC thermostat. Higher-end space heaters will have the thermostat built in, while some simply offer low/medium/high settings.

One thing to remember about both of these units—they only heat. There is no air conditioning with either, and I would suspect that you will be using your new space during the summer as well.

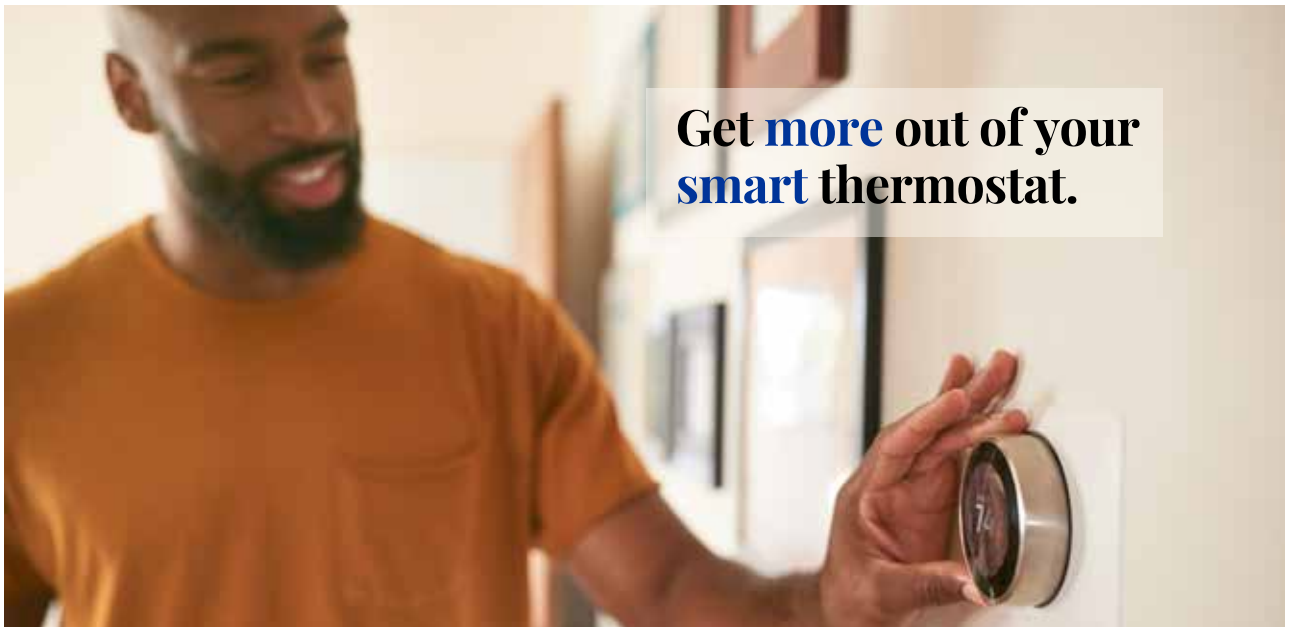
Considering all of this, my conclusion is if you really want to use this space all year, long term, with the most



ASIAN ALPHAN FROM GETTY IMAGES SIGNATURE/CANVA PRO

comfort, the ductless mini split heat pump is the way to go. It will provide excellent heating and cooling, quiet operation, can be mounted through the wall and comes in multiple styles.

Have a question for our Energy Expert? Send it to info@owenelectric.com.



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Out and about in our communities



Sherra Dunlap and Pam McAlister had a great time at Three Rivers District Health Department's Longest Day of Play event on June 21. The event was organized to encourage local youth to be active and stay healthy. Photo: Whitney Duvall



Residential Services Manager Jude Canchola visited Walton-Verona Elementary School's summer school program to talk about electric vehicles and energy conservation. Students were fascinated by the comparisons between a gas-powered truck and the electric battery-powered vehicle. Photo: Whitney Duvall



Owen Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. All online services will be available. Report power outages using the OEC Mobile app, online account portal, or by calling (800) 372-7612.