



**LANE-SCOTT
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

Connections

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In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call 800-407-2217. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. After-hours calls will be answered by the dispatch and standby personnel.

24-hour Electrician Service

If you are without electricity or have an electrical emergency on your side of the meter, we have a master electrician on staff available 24 hours a day.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

How Much Air Can You Blow into a Soft Drink Bottle?

BY DOUG RYE

Well, the answer is none unless the air has a way to get out of the bottle. You have probably never been asked that question before, and you may be wondering what that has to do with energy efficiency.

The answer is simple—understanding the basics of airflow can help you understand an important aspect of home comfort.

An example is the wood-burning fireplace. An equal amount of incoming air must replace the amount of warm air that is moving up and out of the chimney. The replacement air may be coming from other rooms within the home, plumbing and electrical penetrations, from around switch and outlet covers, attic access doors, poorly sealed doors and windows, and from numerous unsuspecting sources of air infiltration. That's why a home heated with a wood-burning fireplace usually is cozy near the heat source and chilly in the surrounding rooms.

Understanding the nature of

airflow can help you improve the comfort within your home and lower your utility bill. Folks often ask if it is beneficial to close off rooms that are not regularly occupied.

Usually, they are referring to closing the supply-air registers and the entry doors into those unoccupied rooms. I understand that the idea seems logical, but the answer is almost always "no." Closing off the air supplies and doorways are almost always detrimental to energy savings and comfort.

That statement usually catches most peoples' attention. "How can this be Doug?" they ask. A properly installed forced-air heating and cooling system is designed for balance. A balanced system will efficiently deliver the proper amount of airflow and the desired temperature into every room within a home.

Continued on page 16-D ▶



Doug Rye

Nominating Committee Meeting Notice

The Board appointed nominating committee will meet on Monday, June 3, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lane-Scott Electric Board room for the purpose of nominating Trustees.

The Trustees whose terms expire in 2013 are **RAD ROEHL**, representing Lane and Gove counties; **ERIC DOLL**, representing Finney and Hodgeman counties; and **BRUCE WILKENS**, representing Logan and Scott counties.

Essays from Lane-Scott's 2013

Lane-Scott Electric has selected four local youth to attend leadership trips through our annual youth competition for area high school juniors.

This year, students were asked to write an essay that answers the question: "How

have the services from Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative make our lives better?"

Below you will find the essays from the winners of this year's competition.

Each year, Lane-Scott sends two students to the "Government in Action" Youth

Tour in Washington, D.C. The 2013 winners are **TAYLOR GABEL** and **RUTH HAIR**.

They will join 33 Kansas youth and travel to Washington, D.C., June 13-20. They will join about 1,500 other youth seeing the United States "Government in Action".



Taylor Gabel

TAYLOR GABEL—DC Winner

Lane-Scott Electric services became available in my hometown, Ness City, after their purchase of Aquila. Prior to this, Ness City received its electricity from an investor-owned, for-profit company that looks out for their stockholders first. This purchase by Lane-Scott allowed the customers to become member-owners who now receive the many benefits of an

electric cooperative.

As a member of an electric cooperative, we now have a voice in how it is run. An electric cooperative is owned by the customers it serves. Lane-Scott exists not to generate a profit, but to provide a valuable service at the lowest possible cost for us, the members. The revenue generated by the cooperative stays in our community instead of being sent to stockholders. All profits are put back into the cooperative to help run the business efficiently or are returned to the members.

An important part of the cooperative is giving back to their communities. Lane-Scott remains active in the Ness City community and surrounding area in many ways. They sponsor the Lane-Scott Electric Junior Board of Trustees, of which I am a member. They also support 4-H, FFA programs, Relay for Life, offer scholarships and free trips to local high school students, supply backpacks with food for needy students, and hold annual health fairs. Ness County directly benefits through donations to the Historical Society and Amusement Company.

Lane Scott joins other local businesses and organizations to help support economic growth in our community. Through Rural Economic Development grants and loans, Lane-Scott contributes to growing the economic base in Western Kansas and continues to provide jobs and services in our communities.

Lane-Scott not only offers all the modern conveniences of heating, cooling, lighting and entertainment, but has also become a great asset to our community through the funding and support they return to their customers.



Ruth Hair

RUTH HAIR—DC Winner

Electricity is a major part of our lives. From the time we get up in the morning until we go to bed at night we use electricity. Even while we are asleep, electricity is making our lives easier.

We depend on electricity for almost everything we do. Without it, even the simplest of things would take so much longer and be so much harder to do than

they are now.

People used to have to go to the stream or if they were rich enough to have a pump then they would have to pump the water into a bucket and carry the buckets in by hand. If they wanted to take a bath, they had to heat each bucket of water and fill the tub one bucket at a time. Then the water had to be reused. Most people didn't even get fresh water to bathe in after all that hard work of just filling the tub. Laundry took an entire day and was back-breaking work.

Today, though, thanks to electricity our job is made easier and only takes a fraction of the time which then leaves more time to spend with family, watching television or even, maybe, doing some homework.

Another way, electricity makes my family's farm work easier is the way we move our grain. Electricity runs our augers getting the grain to and from the trucks which is less scooping for us. It also makes our job of grinding cattle feed less labor intensive.

Before electricity, schoolwork, reading, office work, bookkeeping and more were done by using kerosene lamps, which provided limited light for a short amount of time. Now, because of electricity we can work on these things late into the night.

Now, thanks to electricity, many of us have a little time throughout the day to relax. We can use a computer, we can watch television, or many other things, all of which are powered by electricity.

Electricity makes our lives so much easier. It controls much of our daily lives. Many everyday tasks are done using items run by this huge source of power. It provides us with so many different, helpful, tools that we can use to make ourselves better people. I also thank Lane-Scott for the service they provide to my family and our communities.

Youth Competition Winners

They will visit their Congressmen, various government agencies and sites of historical significance.

The cooperative also sends two students to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO.

This year's winners are **BRADEN MISHLER** and **LAUREN SARGENT**.

They will join approximately 100 youth from a four-state area participating in the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp July 13-19.

During their stay, the youth will form their own mock cooperative, become acquainted with energy challenges, visit sites around Steamboat Springs, Mt. Werner, and tour one of the largest electrical generating plants in the Rockies.



Braden Mishler

BRADEN MISHLER—*Camp Winner*

Electricity has made a massive impact on my life. It has made life on my family farm easier and more profitable than it ever could have been before. The services of Lane-Scott have paved the way to the use of technology on my family farm.

Welding is just one example of how the services of Lane-Scott have affected me. When we have something that is metal and breaks often, we can weld it together and fix it while saving money. With the electricity provided by Lane-Scott Electric, we are able to use welders to make the repairs on our machinery, something we would be unable to do without the electricity.

Also, on our farm we have a metal lathe. This lathe makes it possible for us to manufacture parts for our machinery accurately. Without it we would have to spend hundreds on a repairs, we can do for twenty. When we purchased our lathe, though, we realized that we needed a three-phase electrical line to power it, something that wasn't offered here yet, so Lane-Scott advised us to purchase a phase converter, which made it possible to run the lathe. Now, we are able to operate our lathe and other tools, thanks to Lane-Scott.

Record keeping on our farm now is quicker and more efficient than ever with our new computers. Before we had to keep our records in actual books with a pen and paper. Now, our farm uses computers powered by the electricity of Lane-Scott. These computers allow us to keep records quickly and efficiently.

A final example of how electricity has affected my life is the 1,000-watt light that is placed on our grain bin. We use this light to keep our yearling cattle from getting out. In past years, whenever a deer would run by, it would scare the cattle through the fence. Because of this, we needed a new fence every year. This light allows our cattle to be safe and secure, saving us time and money on fence repairs. This was once again made possible because of the electricity provided by Lane-Scott.

These services of Lane-Scott have allowed my family farm to be efficient and productive. Anywhere from a light to a metal lathe, Lane-Scott Electric is the producer and supplier of the electricity that powers my life and family farm.



Lauren Sargent

LAUREN SARGENT—*Camp Winner*

If we didn't have electricity in western Kansas we would be lost. Fortunately for us, we don't have to worry about that, because Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative is selflessly there!

Without electricity, we wouldn't be able to do many important day-to-day things. For example, being able to take a hot shower, have clean clothes, or surf the web at the click of a button, you know, things teenagers depend upon to be available at any time. Can you imagine not being able to keep our homes heated in the winter, cooled in the summer, and our food fresh all year long? Electricity has definitely made our lives easier, and better.

For those who live on a farm, it saves a lot of time and energy. Thanks to the constant power provided by Lane Scott, we are many times more productive than our great grandparents, or even our grandparents. It is less stressful to keep our animals and crops happy and healthy. It's a great thing to know that we have dependable friendly service, and flexible payment options so everyone can enjoy the luxury of electricity. People feel comfortable and safe because Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative understands that every person should have the right to a source of electricity to make their lives better.

Do you know a high school junior who would like a FREE trip to Washington, D.C. or Steamboat Springs, CO?

Watch these pages in early 2014 for more information on how to apply for these amazing trips!

**I THOUGHT I WAS
TIGHT WITH MY
MONEY. NOW
I'M AIRTIGHT.**



All it took was a tube of caulk and half an afternoon. Now, I'm saving \$212 a year by sealing a few cracks around the house. What can you do? Find out how the little changes add up at TogetherWeSave.com.



How Much Air Can You Blow into a Soft Drink Bottle? *Continued from page 16-A* ▶

Here's what can happen when changes are made to a balanced system. Suppose the supply-air registers and doors in two unoccupied rooms are closed. Now the overall heated and cooled living space has been reduced. This man-made circumstance just created a situation where the heating and cooling unit is now oversized, instead of properly sized. Additional laws of unintended consequences develop, such as reduced compressor life, higher duct pressures and potential for greater duct leakage, additional burden on the air-handler and the likelihood of mold and mildew developing in the unconditioned rooms. The unit may also run for very short periods of time, causing humidity levels to climb and comfort to be diminished.

Also, if you have natural gas or propane appliances, closing off rooms can be very dangerous from an indoor air quality perspective. Carbon monoxide can be back-drafted from water heater and furnace flues under certain situations.

The closed-off rooms represent a soda bottle. Air cannot move through the room and back into the return-air grille when supply-air grilles and doors are closed. Now, let's open the registers in these same two rooms, but leave the doors

“Closing off the air supplies and doorways are almost always detrimental to energy savings and comfort.”

closed. No more air can blow into the rooms than can escape out of the rooms.

For example, if the doors are touching the carpet and the rooms are airtight, almost no air can enter the room. If the door is tight and air still comes in the rooms, you know that there are leaks in the building envelope. In other words, the money you just spent to heat or cool just leaked to the outside.

We've tested many homes that were hot in the summer and cold in the winter only when the doors were closed. Properly trimming the bottom of a door to create a one-inch air gap or installing a return-air grille in the door will often solve this problem.

In conclusion, it is nearly always best to leave all registers and doors open. If you have questions, you may call my office 501-653-7931. I will be happy to help you.

DOUG RYE is a licensed architect and the popular host of the "Home Remedies" radio show. You can contact Doug at 501-653-7931. Source: Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Corporation.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Properly installed shades can be one of the most effective ways to improve windows' energy efficiency. Lower them during summer; in winter, raise during the day and lower at night on south-facing windows. Dual shades, with reflective white coating on one side and a heat-absorbing dark color on the other, can be reversed with the seasons and save even more energy. Learn more at EnergySavers.gov.