

# Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

## Supreme Court grants stay on EPA regulations

On Feb. 9, the U.S. Supreme Court granted a stay of the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Power Plan.

This action halting implementation of the rule is unprecedented – never before has a stay been granted by the Supreme Court prior to the Circuit Court of Appeals issuing a decision on the contested regulation. This came about in response to petitions by 29 states (including Missouri) and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

“Charging ahead with implementation of the Clean Power Plan would have caused immediate and irreparable harm to America’s electric co-ops,” said NRECA Interim CEO Jeffrey Connor. “Had the stay not been granted, co-ops would have been forced to take costly and irreversible steps to comply with the rule, which is a huge overreach of EPA’s legal authority. The Clean Power Plan is a direct threat to co-ops’ ability to provide affordable and reliable electricity to their member consumers and should be erased from the books.”

The Supreme Court’s stay means that the Clean Power Plan has no legal effect while courts are reviewing the rule to determine whether it is lawful.

During this period of time, EPA cannot enforce any of the deadlines or requirements contained in the

rule. States (or anyone else subject to the rule) cannot be penalized for missing a deadline or a requirement.

## The Power of the Grassroots



by Barry Hart | [bhart@amec.coop](mailto:bhart@amec.coop)

Battle-hardened warriors: That’s one way to describe the huge grassroots army of electric cooperative members who have helped us ensure electricity remains affordable and reliable in Missouri. And that army includes many of you.

My favorite events put on by Missouri’s electric cooperatives are the two legislative conferences — one in Jefferson City and the other in Washington, D.C.

— that bring some of this army together to talk issues with our elected officials. I always leave those gatherings feeling confident about the future of electric cooperatives due to the warm welcome from legislators.

Their feelings toward us reflect the fact that electric cooperatives exist not to make a profit but to provide a service. Also, every elected official representing Missourians knows that electric cooperatives are governed by the members themselves.

When you throw in the strong support from hundreds of thousands of electric cooperative members like you, Co-op Nation is a force to be reckoned with in the political arena. Even urban legislators who don’t represent a lot of electric cooperative members welcome us on our visits. They want to get the rural perspective as they work to make balanced decisions for our state and nation.

This year, our political involvement appears to be even more important than ever. Those who attended the State Legislative Conference were given a lengthy update on issues we are following in the statehouse.

Of the 1,734 bills filed as this issue goes to press, we are watching more than 300 and paying extremely

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## Want to be informed electronically? We need your email address

Sometimes, New-Mac Electric needs to contact you. It could be for any number of reasons: maybe we want to give you the heads up regarding planned maintenance in your area, or maybe we want to make you aware of a new billing service that would specifically benefit you.



Traditionally, we have reached out to members through phone calls or letters through the mail.

However, we know an increasing number of people prefer interaction through email.

If you would like New-Mac to inform you through email as various needs arise, please provide us with your email address. Additionally, an email could be a great back-up and/or supplemental means of communication when we cannot reach you by phone for whatever reason.

Your email will only be used for communications regarding your electric cooperative and will not be shared with unaffiliated companies.


If you would be willing to be contacted electronically, please write your email address on the back of your payment stub when sending in your bill.

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New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Energy Partners is a monthly publication of New-Mac Electric for the purpose of informing members of the programs, services and happenings of, and related to, the cooperative.

## Plan ahead

Any plans of additions or upgrades on your property should include New-Mac in the early stages.

Contact the engineering department about any project that will require additional electrical service. Calling New-Mac early will not only expedite the process, but it could also render money saving advice.

Contact the engineering department at (417) 451-1515.

## Assistance is available

If you are having a problem paying your New-Mac account, please call us to make arrangements. Please don't disregard paying your bill. There are programs and options (such as budget billing) designed to assist you. So, please give us a call at 451-1515 or (800) 322-3849.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM / EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

**Jasper County**  
(417) 781-0352

**McDonald County**  
(417) 845-6011

**Newton County**  
(417) 451-2206

## Outage reporting

To report an outage, have your **map number** (location number) ready and call 451-1515 or (800) 322-3849.

Follow us on:



**Above, Mark Rakes informs high school educators about the opportunities New-Mac is making available to their students. At right, Josh King tells Sarcoxie juniors about Youth Tour and CYCLE.**



# One deadline is past, the other nearing for co-op's new programs for high school students

Essays are being reviewed for the trips to Washington D.C., Jeff City

Judging has commenced for New-Mac Electric's essay contest, which will send one student to Washington D.C. and two to Jefferson City. Meanwhile, area high school seniors have until March 25 to either mail or hand deliver their application for the co-op's new scholarship program.

In order to be eligible for one of the \$500 scholarships, a student must be a senior at one of the following high schools: Carthage, Diamond, East Newton, Joplin, McDonald County, Neosho, Pierce City, Sarcoxie, Seneca or Wheaton. He or she must reside in a household served by New-Mac Electric, and the student must have a cumulative minimum 3.0 GPA.

A total of 10 non-renewable scholarships will be awarded – one for each of the 10 schools.

The scholarship must be used at an accredited college or university, and the winner must become a full-time college student, beginning in the fall of 2016.

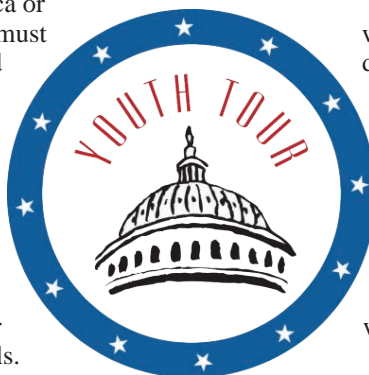
For a complete listing of guidelines, instructions and application, see your guidance counselor or visit [newmac.com](http://newmac.com) and click the *New-Mac Electric 2016 College Scholarships* link. For more information, call Josh in our Member Services department at 417-451-1515 or 800-322-3849.

The essay contest had a March 4 deadline and was open to juniors in the aforementioned school districts. Contestants had to write 500-750 word essay on the topic, "The Importance of Electric Cooperatives."


Currently, New-Mac is going through the essays and will select finalists, who will come to the Neosho office and be interviewed by a panel of judges.

The Washington D.C. trip is part of a program called Youth Tour. New-Mac's contest winner will travel with around 100 fellow juniors, repre-

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# Energy Partners



**New-Mac UNIVERSITY**

**Understanding Your Electric Usage – Just the Facts**

**March 10 ..... 7 p.m. in Neosho**  
**March 17 ..... 7 p.m. in Anderson**

## New-Mac Electric begins educational program


As announced by CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber at the co-op's annual meeting this past October, New-Mac Electric will begin a program called "New-Mac University," which will consist of an ongoing seminar series on topics related to your cooperative.

Our first class, *Understanding Your Electric Usage – Just the Facts* will be held March 10 at the Neosho office and then again on March 17 at the Anderson office. It will start at 7 p.m. at both locations. These classes are free to New-Mac members.

*Understanding Your Electric Usage – Just the Facts* will inform members about the varying wattage of appliances and electronics and how it adds up to kilowatt-hours. Also, it will cover how bills are figured, and most importantly, the seminar will give members tips on conserving energy at their homes. New-Mac hopes by helping members develop a better understanding of their electric usage, they, in turn, can be more energy efficient.

While this is a free program, New-Mac does ask that members RSVP in order that the proper accommodations can be made. Register at right.

**REGISTER FOR**



Our first class, *Understanding Your Electric Usage – Just the Facts*, will be at **7 p.m.** Choose if you would like to attend March 10 in Neosho or March 17 in Anderson below.

Member Name(s)

Acct. #  Daytime Phone #

Number in Household Attending

Which class will you be attending (select ONE)

March 10 in Neosho  
 March 17 in Anderson

# Free seminar to be held this month

New-Mac University is just days away.

Our first class, *Understanding Your Electric Usage – Just the Facts* will be held March 10 at the Neosho office and then again on March 17 at the Anderson office. It will start at 7 p.m. at both locations. These classes are **free** to New-Mac members.

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New-Mac University is an ongoing seminar series where we will discuss various topics of interest relating to your electric cooperative, such as energy efficiency, power generation, billing services or electrical safety.

While this is a free program, New-Mac does ask that members

**Do you know a high school junior who would like to win a trip to Washington D.C. or Jefferson City?**



**Click here for details**

**New-Mac Electric 2016 College Scholarships**

**Click here for details**

**Register for New-Mac University online at [newmac.com](http://newmac.com) (as seen above) or give us a call at 417-451-1515 or 800-322-3849. Also, on our website, you can learn more about our 2016 Scholarship Program for high school seniors.**

RSVP in order that the proper accommodations can be made. Register online at [newmac.com](http://newmac.com) or by calling our office at 417-451-1515 or 800-322-3849. Also, if you have an idea for a future class, please let us know.

## ○ High school programs

*Continued from page 2*

senting other electric cooperatives, to our nation's Capital June 10-16. There they will visit many historic sites such as the Washington Monument, Ford's Theatre, Iwo Jima Memorial, Mount Vernon Plantation and many more.

The Jefferson City trip is called CYCLE (Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience). Two runners-up from New-Mac's competition will spend three days at the state Capital learning about our Missouri government and electric cooperatives.

Essay contest finalists will be announced in next month's *Energy Partners*.



## Energy Partners' Recipe of the Month:

### PEACH CRUNCH

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Tammy Tosh**

- 1 (29 oz.) can of sliced peaches
- 1 yellow cake mix
- 2 sticks of butter

Pour can of peaches with juice in 13x9 pan. Pour dry cake mix over peaches. Then pour melted butter over top. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes.

Send your recipe, along with your name and account number, to: Recipes, c/o New-Mac Electric, P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850; or [recipes@newmac.com](mailto:recipes@newmac.com). If your recipe is selected, New-Mac will apply a \$15 credit to your bill.

# Grassroots

*Continued from page 1*

close attention to 75. Our objective, as always, is to ensure electric cooperative members are treated fairly in any new legislation. When a proposed bill or initiative petition would benefit a special-interest group at the expense of our members, we are quick to expose the flaws to our elected officials.

Our attention to federal legislation is equally important. Over the years, we have come to you for help on a number of issues crucial to our continued ability to provide low-cost electricity, and your response has made all the difference. The 600,000 cards and emails you sent helped us fight off costly cap-and-trade legislation. More recently, you flooded the Environmental Protection Agency with 300,000-plus comments on its Clean Power Plan.

And your tens of thousands of comments let Attorney General Chris Koster know he had strong support when he joined 28 other states in suing EPA over its Clean Power Plan.

I am pleased to report that, even though EPA ignored your comments, the U.S. Supreme Court voted to stay this costly plan. This is great news for all consumers.

Had this stay not been granted, electric cooperatives would have been forced to take costly and irreversible steps

to comply with this rule. We would have spent your money to make changes to meet regulations that could later be thrown out by the courts.

The plan singled out Missouri and other low-cost electricity states with rules that would have crippled our lowest-cost power generation resource.

While the Clean Power Plan cannot go into effect until the courts make a final ruling on its legality, the battle isn't over. You can be confident your electric cooperative will stay close to what happens in federal court. As soon as the rulings are handed down, we will communicate what happened and how it will impact you.

Our work in the legislative arena is done on your behalf, and our success would not be possible without your support. Thanks to everyone who spoke up on these weighty issues.

*Hart is executive vice president of the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives.*



**New-Mac Electric CEO/General Manager visits with Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard about issues related to the cooperative during a recent legislative conference in Jefferson City.**



P.O. Box 310 — 12105 East Highway 86  
Neosho, Missouri 64850

**Telephone:** 417/451-1515 800/322-3849  
**Fax:** 417/451-9042

**Pay-by-Phone:** 855/874-5348

**Office Hours:** Neosho — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Anderson — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us on the Web at  
[www.newmac.com](http://www.newmac.com)

### Management

CEO/General Manager..... Mitch McCumber  
Manager of Administration.... Mary Hatfield  
Manager of Operations..... Stan Irsik  
Controller..... Lisa McMeen  
Manager of Marketing ..... Mark K. Rakes  
Billing Supervisor..... Vickie Stuart

### Board of Directors

District 1 ..... Martin Youngblood  
District 2 ..... Kenneth Daniels  
District 3 ..... Bobby Fields  
District 4 ..... Beryl Kennedy  
District 5 ..... Billy P. White  
District 6 ..... Paul Sprenkle  
District 7 ..... Maurice Mailes  
District 8 ..... Jason Ruddick  
District 9 ..... Jamey Cope

### Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:

- Automated Phone Payment**
- Automated Withdrawal Payment**
- Green Power**
- Levelized Billing**
- Online Payment & Usage History**
- Rental Light**
- Meeting rooms available at both locations**
- Credit Card Acceptance**
- Safety Programs (upon request)**
- Surge Protection**

### Questions? Comments?

Contact: Mark K. Rakes  
P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO  
[mrakes@newmac.com](mailto:mrakes@newmac.com)

Come see us at local trade shows

In the weeks ahead, New-Mac Electric Cooperative will make its annual appearances at these trade shows. Please plan to come see us.

### Neosho's Business & Industry Review

- At Neosho High School
- Friday, March 18, 5-8 p.m.
- Saturday, March 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### McDonald County Business Expo

- At McDonald County High School
- Saturday, April 2, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Stay even more up-to-date with New-Mac Electric happenings. Follow us on *Facebook* and *Twitter*.



## Pay by Phone

Don't forget you can pay your bill by phone anytime – **24/7** – with our automated, toll-free payment line.

