

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, October 1

7:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Oakdale Electric Cooperative

Hwy. PP just north of Interstate 90/94

FUN FOR EVERYONE:

- Pancake breakfast
- Cooperative booths and displays
- Bucket truck rides
- Flu shots
- Donuts and popcorn
- Chance to win \$100 credit on electric bill
- Giveaways

ESPECIALLY FOR THE KIDS:

- Petting zoo
- Bounce house
- Face painting
- Balloon animals
- Kids' prizes



**Oakdale Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



Exploring the cooperative difference at YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

Oakdale Electric Cooperative sponsored 24 local high school students to attend the 53rd Annual Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) at the University of Wisconsin–River Falls on July 13–15, 2016. This dynamic three-day event engages students to develop their leadership skills and to learn about the purpose, operation, and scope of the cooperative business.

At this point in their high school careers, students are deciding upon their future education and work plans. YLC provides students the opportunity to experience life as a college student by living, dining, and learning on campus. Sessions include professional motivational speakers (most notably Craig Hillier), team and leadership skill-building activities, and a lecture on the cooperative basics. Melissa Wilson, director of career services, oversaw the five-course etiquette dinner, educating youth on manners and proper protocol when out to eat, and explained the necessity of mastering these skills. Did you know you're not supposed to crumble crackers into your soup? Additionally, students were treated to fun evening sessions including one by hypnotist Dr. Al Snyder, and a dance party!

The Youth Leadership Congress program is unique because it is always planned with the assistance of the previous year's youth board members. A youth board term is one year, and attendees had the opportunity to apply and earn one of the open six positions. Becoming a youth board member is not an

easy feat, as students must first complete a panel interview, followed by a speech presentation to their fellow youth attendees, who vote on their top six candidates. Naly Vang (Mauston High School), Jenna Jereb (Tomah High School), and Emma Herek (Royall High School) will be proudly representing Oakdale Electric Cooperative this coming year. Not only will Naly, Jenna, and Emma oversee the 2017 YLC planning sessions, they will also be traveling to Washington, D.C., on next year's Youth Tour. Congratulations, Naly, Jenna, and Emma!

Upon returning from YLC, students have the opportunity to submit essays vying for an Oakdale Electric Cooperative and Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association Scholarship

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to use for post-secondary education. Up to three \$1,000 scholarships are awarded annually to students at each of the 12 high schools in the co-op's service territory. At Oakdale Electric Cooperative, we care about our youth, and believe strongly in

supporting students as they embark on their educational paths.

The 24 delegates representing Oakdale Electric Cooperative included: Dayonna Bolton, Hannah Calaway, Rylie Honnold, Carson Laridaen, Jessica Patton, Naly Vang (Mauston High School); Hunter Crispell, Rhiannon Mach, Dane Moore, Dalton Staller (Necedah); Noemi Segovia, Jorge Ontiveros, Samantha Gellerup, Kade Lancour (Nekoosa); Brittany Steele (New Lisbon); Elijah Harris, Lorenzo Hinojosa (Pittsville); Marissa Miller (Reedsburg); Emma Herek (Royall); Jenna Jereb, Jordyn Pierce, Erica Stott, Jarrett Parr, Isaac Linzmeier (Tomah).

Are you currently a junior in high school and interested in attending the 2017 YLC? Check with your high school guidance counselor this coming spring for registration information and watch for notices in the local pages of the *WECN* magazine! 📄



Pictured above right are the three Oakdale Electric delegates who were elected to by their peers to serve on the 2016–17 Youth Board. Left to right are Naly Vang, Jenna Jereb and Emma Herek. Below: Youth Leadership Congress delegates took part in a variety of interactive games that helped them learn about the cooperative model as well as team-building activities that encouraged cooperation. A special etiquette dinner provided students with a lesson in the rules of formal dining.



Here's an easy way to go solar...

SUNNYOAK COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDEN

Oakdale Electric Cooperative is proud to provide members with a viable, affordable renewable energy option through the SunnyOak Community Solar Garden, to be completed this year. If you are interested in purchasing a subscription unit (one unit is equivalent to one solar panel of electricity-producing capacity), please contact the co-op by calling 608-372-4131 or emailing info@oakdalerec.com. You can also learn more on our website, www.oakdalerec.com.

*There's
still time to
purchase!
Contact us
now!*


Bruce Ardel, General Manager

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Deana Protz, Editor



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Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
24-Hour Emergency Power Restoration: 800-927-6151
Toll-free Online Bill Payment 866-392-4307

Diggers Hotline: For underground cable locates and power line clearance information, call 800-242-8511.