

FEC® POWER

Source

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FEC Youth Tour Delegation Returns from D. C.

Somehow it just isn't the same – reading about something in a book or actually seeing it first-hand, living it. This is the feeling our Government In Action Youth Tour delegates express when they return from their trip to our nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

This year was no exception. Rebecca Rush, representing Melrose High School and Danica Nelson, representing Texico High School recently returned from their Youth Tour trip sponsored by Farmers' Electric



Co-op and other electric cooperatives throughout the state and nation. Both young people expressed gratitude for the opportunity to participate in this year's tour and spoke fondly of the memories they will carry with them the rest of their lives.

While most average high school seniors-to-be spent their summer vacations sleeping late, watching entirely too much T.V., swimming, or maybe even working, Rebecca and Danica enjoyed a 7 day trip to Washington, D.C. with approximately 30 other of New Mexico's best and brightest.

While in Washington, the tour included numerous presidential and war memorials, the National Cathedral, Ford's Theater, Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian Institution, meetings

with the New Mexico Congressional delegation, and many other fun and exciting things.

Danika was really taken in by Mount Vernon and the grounds surrounding the home of President George Washington. "My favorite part of the trip was experiencing Mount

Vernon, a place where agriculture and the ideal that, 'all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable

Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness' (Jefferson) are now celebrated." She explains further that at one point, she had a brush with history that left her somewhat in awe. "Standing in the servants' quarters and walking through the addition of Washington's house where he gave a party for Marquis de Lafayette and even seeing the room where Washington drew his last breath was like taking an impossible trip into a history book"

Rebecca was equally impressed with the trip calling it, "... one of the best experiences I have ever encountered. It was truly the trip of a lifetime." Rebecca was able to put some of her knowledge as a judge in entomology to use when they visited the Museum of Natural History. "I loved seeing the wide array of animals that they have collected and I really enjoyed getting to see their arthropod collection... getting to see such a large and impressive collection was outstanding!"

Both young ladies were impressed with the various monuments, war memorials, etc., but their visits

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Manager's Message...



Lance Adkins, GM

Breaking down the cost of a kilowatt-hour (kWh)

Before we look at the cost of a kilowatt-hour (kWh) we should consider what a kWh is. In general terms, a kWh is a unit of measure, accounting for consumption of electric energy over a specific period of time. As an example, if we have a 100-watt lightbulb (.10 kW load), turned on and lit for 10 consecutive hours, an electric meter would register the consumption of electric energy as 1 kWh. In this example, the maximum utilization (load) on the electric "grid" over the 10-hour period

was .10 kW. For an "average" residential consumer, the daily usage of home appliances, heating or air-conditioning, entertainment, and water well will be closer to 11 kW of load or higher depending on how an individual homeowner decides to operate their home. Certainly, the more appliances and equipment that are operating at the same time, the homeowner is utilizing a greater portion of the grid.

Keep in mind, the electric grid is comprised of all components necessary to have electric energy available at the moment a consumer desires to use it. Many folks do not realize the vast infrastructure that comprises the grid including generating plants, (running or not), maintained and reliable; transmission lines, maintained and reliable, linking the generating plants to substations; substations, maintained and reliable; and distributions lines and facilities serving consumers, maintained and reliable. In addition, there is the fuel burned in a generating plant.

For the members of Farmers' Electric (FEC), residential and small commercial consumers, the cost of grid utilization and fuel burned to generate electricity are recovered from a monthly customer charge, kWh charge and a wholesale purchased power cost adjustment factor. Large Power and Industrial rate class accounts have one additional billing component, a grid utilization charge (demand charge), based on each specific consumers' maximum utilization of the grid each month. For this discussion, we will look at the cost of a kWh for the residential rate class.

Components of a residential kWh:

- Electricity (fuel and generation plant O&M expense): 3.3 cents/kWh
- Cost of Plants (running or not): 1.8 cents/kWh
- Transmission Lines: .7 cents/kWh
- Substations: .2 cents/kWh
- Distribution Lines & Facilities: 4.0 cents/kWh
- **Total Residential Cost: 10.0 cents/kWh**

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The Grid, including those facilities owned by FEC, is constructed to supply every consumer's maximum load requirements, because at times, it will be called on to meet that demand for energy. In addition to the costs in this example, members pay gross receipts tax, and two municipalities in the FEC service area also charge a franchise fee on members living within those municipal boundaries.



Until Next Month,

Summer Sizzler!

Charbroil Patio Bistro Electric Infrared Grill

Save \$40!

\$149

*While supplies last

Teen's Tragic Death Brings Attention to Cell Phone Safety

The recent and tragic death of a Texas teen visiting her father in New Mexico has brought a renewed attention to the safe use of cell phones. As this heartbreaking story unfolds, it has been learned that the teen was bathing and had her cell phone in the bath tub with her. Unfortunately, the phone was plugged into a charger and at some point and time, the girl was electrocuted. Since this is a case that is still under investigation, it would be presumptive to make any conclusions. What is known is this: a young girl's life was ended far too soon, a charging cell phone was present, and water and electricity were involved.



Terrible as this story is, perhaps something can be learned by it. Here are some cell phone safety tips that should be observed by all those who use them:

- Consider having a centralized resting place for phones to charge while family members are sleeping. There are a lot of reasons why phones shouldn't be used for sending out audible alerts after bedtime.
- Never text, send emails, use apps, or configure the phone's GPS while driving. These activities are distracting and can cause an accident. There have also been accidents from texting while walking.
- Consider software that not only provides some security, but also helps avoid loss. Products like Apple's free "Find my iPhone" and products for Androids can send a loud alert if the phone is missing and can also help locate a phone if it has been stolen.
- Be careful about any apps you download and install. While most apps are fine, there are some that pose security and privacy risks.
- Finally, never ever use a cell phone near water, particularly if the cell phone is plugged into an electrical outlet.



Big Bass Bonanza!

**Ute Lake, NM
Largest Single Bass Wins!
August 19, 2017**

- Entry fee: \$60 in advance (checks made payable to **Melrose Senior Center**) \$65 (cash only) day of the tournament.
- This is *not* a team event... Individual tournament with largest single bass winning!
- Tournament payback: 45% of entry fees. Example: If there are 100 entries at \$60 per person, payback for largest bass will be \$2,700! This individual tournament is a **fund-raiser for the Melrose Senior Citizen Center.**

For more information call Mark Latham at (575) 309-4496 or (575) 799-5412.

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to two churches left a lasting impression on Rebecca. “We went to the Washington National Cathedral and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. These two churches were such impressive works of art, meant to honor such an amazing God.”

Farmers’ Electric’s goal, through our association with the Government In Action Youth Tour, is to increase the students’ understanding of government, our nation’s history, and electric cooperatives. Based on what our participants have shared with us, we believe we have accomplished this goal.

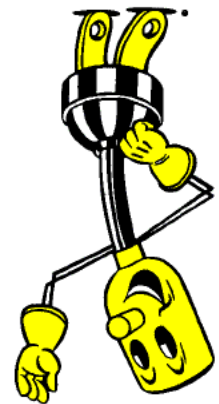
If you are a high school Junior this fall, what are your plans for next summer? Don’t just lay around counting the days until school starts, take a trip of a lifetime! We promise, it will change you forever. Watch this publication for more information on the tour or ask your guidance counselor for more details. Contest forms are usually distributed in October.



“There are no words for how much gratitude I have for everyone who made this trip possible.” - Rebecca



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