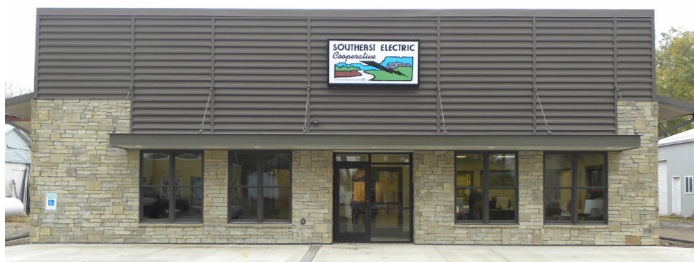


SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC Cooperative



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2023 SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

BILLY Etbauer's arena record ride at the 2003 National Finals Rodeo, Rosa Park's bus boycott and the building of the Egyptian Pyramids in 2550 BC are just a few of the many topics that students found to write about for the Southeast Electric Essay Scholarships, making the decision very difficult for the scholarship committee.

The question asked was, "If you could witness one historical moment firsthand, what would it be and why?" Civil and Political Rights for Women, the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Game 6 of the 1998 NBA Finals and the electrification of rural America were other historical moments chosen by our applicants. In the end, the committee chose Heidi LaBree to be this year's recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship.

Heidi chose the 1936 Olympics. She wrote that the Olympics were set to be held in Berlin and Adolf Hitler was not happy. Many countries questioned whether or not to participate. The United States decided to compete in the games, but benched two Jewish athlete and replaced them with African American athletes. Heidi talks about Jesse Owens, one of the African American athletes, who went on to win the gold medal in the 100 meters, 200 meters and long jump and help his



Southeast Electric Scholarship winner Heidi LaBree is the daughter of Lee and Cam LaBree. | **COURTESY PHOTO**

team win the 4x100 meter relay, who returned to the United States with no recognition from the president, while his white teammates were invited to the White House. Heidi stated, "To be able to witness these moments in history would be life changing. To catch people supporting a man despite race, religion and ethnicity during this time would be profound."

Basin Electric Scholarship

Each year the applicants for the Basin Electric Power Cooperative Scholarship are asked what challenges face rural electric cooperatives in the



Basin Electric Power Cooperative Scholarship winner Elianna Brost is the daughter of Denise Norton and Jake Brost. | **COURTESY PHOTO**

coming years, and how do they think those challenges should be addressed? This year Elianna Brost's essay caught the attention of our scholarship committee. She stated that "cooperatives are grappling with the effects of severe economic downturn, and that the future holds further challenges regarding movement of members from rural areas to more populated areas, additional regulations and higher demand from advancements in technology." Elianna believes electric cooperatives can help by keeping a constant

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PRIORITIZE SAFETY YEAR-ROUND

By **ANNE PRINCE**
For Southeast Electric Cooperative

AT Southeast Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SECO), we recognize Electrical Safety Month every May, but we also know the importance of practicing safety year-round. From our co-op crews to you, the consumer-members we serve, we recognize that everyone has a part to play in prioritizing safety.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, thousands of people in the U.S. are critically injured or electrocuted as a result of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes. Many of these accidents are preventable. Electricity is a necessity, and it powers our daily lives. But we know first-hand how dangerous electricity can be because we work with it 365 days a year.

Safety is more than a catchphrase.

We want to help keep our employees and all members of our community safe. Here are a few practical electrical safety tips.

Frayed wires pose a serious safety hazard. Power cords can become damaged or frayed from age, heavy use or excessive current flow through the wiring. If cords become frayed or cut, replace them, as they could cause a shock when handled.

Avoid overloading circuits. Circuits can only cope with a limited amount of electricity. Overload happens when you draw more electricity than a circuit can safely handle by having too many devices running on one circuit.

Label circuit breakers to understand the circuits in your home. Contact a qualified electrician if your home is more than 40 years old and you need to install multiple large appliances that consume large amounts of

electricity.

Use extension cords properly. Never plug an extension cord into another extension cord. If you “daisy chain” them together, it could lead to overheating, creating a potential fire hazard. Don’t exceed the wattage of the cord as doing so also creates a risk of overloading the cord and creating a fire hazard. Extension cords should not be used as permanent solutions. If you need additional outlets, contact a licensed electrician to help.

SECO encourages you to talk with your kids about playing it safe and smart around electricity. Help them be aware of overhead powerlines near where they play outdoors.

Our top priority is providing an uninterrupted energy supply 24/7, 365 days per year. But equally important is keeping our community safe around electricity. RM

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and reliable supply of electricity, and supporting cleaner renewable energy. She will use the \$1,000 scholarship to help further her education at Colo-

rado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Southeast Electric Cooperative encourages students and members to continue learning. Scholarship funds are a good way to help with this goal.

This year there were 24 scholarship applications for three scholarships. Southeast Electric wants to thank each and every student that completed the applications. RM

SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 16, 2023



Registration – 4:00 pm

Supper – 5:00 pm

Business Meeting 6:00 pm

2-\$500.00 CASH PRIZES