

# NEWS



**Crawford Electric**  
A Touchstone Energy®  
Cooperative 

10301 N. Service Rd., PO Box 10 \* Bourbon, MO 65441 \* 573-732-4415 \* [www.crawfordelec.com](http://www.crawfordelec.com)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Local students represent Crawford Electric during unique Youth Tour experience**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Laura Hengstenberg, CCC  
[732news@crawfordelec.com](mailto:732news@crawfordelec.com)

BOURBON – Three local students sponsored by Crawford Electric Cooperative were among the 70 high school students from across the state who participated in Missouri’s 58<sup>th</sup> annual Missouri Electric Youth Tour, June 16-18. The local delegates were Cristin Foster and Emma Kreitner of Steelville and Kyle Henry of St. Clair.

The 2021 Youth Tour delegates took part in a unique three-day conference that offered them opportunities to learn what it is like to be involved in politics, community service and today’s pressing issues. Because of lingering COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, the traditional trip to Washington, D.C., had to be canceled for the second year in a row. The 2021 Missouri Youth Tour was a hybrid in-person/virtual experience. The local students spent time at Crawford Electric to participate in the virtual program. On one of the days, they traveled together to a neighboring cooperative to meet with a small group of other Youth Tour delegates for more virtual programming.

“The Youth Tour is the highlight of the summer for many students no matter the format, and we’re proud to have these future leaders become a part of our Youth Tour family,” said Lori Rego, the Youth Tour coordinator at Crawford Electric.

In addition to the conference experience, Cristin, Emma and Kyle toured Crawford Electric and discussed the various types of jobs at an electric cooperative. They also each received a backpack full of tech gear, including a laptop.

Highlights of this year’s Youth Tour experience included the students participating virtually with representative from their congressional districts and taking online tours of famous monuments. The group also heard from past Youth Tour delegates, one of whom is now a member of the U.S. Secret Service. These alumni told the students about how Youth Tour helped shape their future college and career choices.

The conference wrapped up with an inspirational talk from Dan Meers, who is the “KC Wolf” mascot at all Kansas City Chiefs football games. When he’s not entertaining 40,000 on gameday, he is traveling the country speaking to groups about the power of positivity.

Since 1964, the nation’s electric cooperatives have sponsored more than 50,000 high school students for visits to their U.S. congressional delegations, educational sessions on energy and grassroots government, and sightseeing in Washington.

Crawford Electric Cooperative is a member of Touchstone Energy, a national alliance of locally owned, community-minded electric co-ops with high standards of service. Crawford Electric serves about 20,000 meters along almost 3,000 miles of distribution lines in Crawford, Franklin, Gasconade, Washington and Dent counties.

