

KENERGY

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MAY 2026

Leadership in action

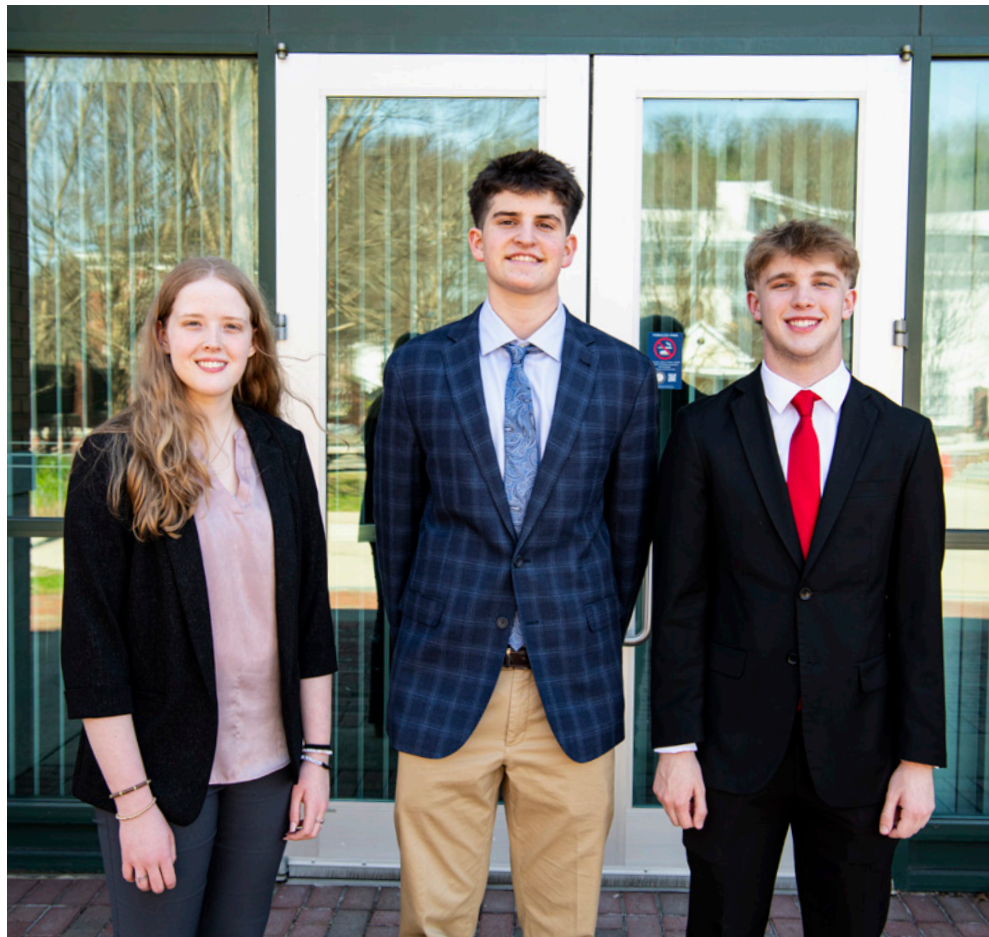
Kenergy sponsors students on Frankfort Youth Tour

What does leadership look like in action? For a group of local high school juniors, it was spending a day in Frankfort meeting state leaders, asking questions and seeing how their voices can make a difference.

Kenergy sponsored three students to attend the 2026 Frankfort Youth Tour. Students were Maeson Martin, Crittenden County High School; Rex Whitsell, Webster County High School; and Heath Ford, Henderson County High School.

Alongside nearly 90 students from across Kentucky, delegates explored how government, energy and community leadership connect. They heard from Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman and members of the Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperatives Caucus, including Sen. Amanda Bledsoe, Rep. Wade Williams and Sen. Jason Howell, who shared how decisions made in Frankfort impact local communities.

The day also included the kickoff of Co-ops Vote, a nonpartisan effort to increase voter participation in rural Kentucky. Secretary of State Michael Adams encouraged students to stay engaged and take part in the process.



From left, Maeson Martin, Rex Whitsell and Heath Ford were selected to represent Kenergy as part of the youth tour program. Photo: Tim Webb

“These students are already showing what leadership looks like,” says Tim Lindahl, CEO of Kenergy. “Programs like youth tour give them the confidence and perspective to step up and

lead in their communities.”

For many students, the experience was eye-opening and empowering, and a reminder that leadership starts close to home.





Kenergy employees Casey Baker and Jacob Courtney read to classes at Crittenden County Elementary School as part of Read Across America Week. Jacob Courtney got to read to his son, Thad's class. Thad made the visit even more special by dressing like his dad for the day. Photo: Erin Courtney

Building a culture of safety at Kenergy

What comes to mind when you think about electrical safety? Hopefully, we can all remember some basic rules—like staying far away from power lines, using outlet covers in homes with small children and installing ground fault circuit interrupters in kitchens and bathrooms.

But electrical safety is more than just a list of do's and don'ts. At Kenergy, we strive to cultivate a safety culture—an approach to our work that puts safety first. May is National Electrical Safety Month, and there's no better time to consider how Kenergy integrates safety into everything we do.

Electricity powers our lives, but it can also be dangerous. According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, electrical fires affect an average of 51,000 homes each year. This is true on the job, too. Over the last 10 years, more than 1,650 workers have been killed in workplace electrical accidents—and 70% of those fatalities were in non-electrical occupations. This is why we are so committed to creating the conditions that keep our employees safe—and helping you and your loved ones stay safe, as well.

Kenergy understands that there's a difference between a checklist mindset and a true culture of safety. A checklist mindset treats safety like a set of requirements to get through before the actual work can start. But a strong safety culture embeds safety into the work itself.

Angela Duckworth, a psychologist and bestselling author, defines culture as “the way we do things around here.” Every workplace has a unique culture, and we can shape that culture in ways that are beneficial.

You can see our safety culture at work in the way we approach every job, integrating safe practices from start to finish. We consult with safety professionals from our statewide association, Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, to sharpen our skills and improve our processes. We also participate in the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program, a national effort designed to enhance co-op safety programs.

In addition to looking out for our employees, we care deeply about keeping you and your loved ones safe. That's why, in every issue of *Kentucky Living*, we share safety tips and articles to arm you with knowledge to stay safe around electricity. In the last year alone, we've looked at safety practices for downed power lines, device charging, agriculture, flooding, generators, space heaters and so much more.

Safety is our priority—and we are proud to build a culture that supports what really matters. It's the way we do things around here.

By Garrett Addington
Risk Management Coordinator



2026 board election update

Four current board members will retain their seats without an election and one new candidate will be declared the winner without an election.

Susan Blanford in District 4, Larry Elder in District 6, Brent Wigginton in District 9 and Richard Basham representing the industrial members are the only candidates who submitted petitions to have their names placed on the ballot in this year's election. Billy Reid, who has represented District 8 since 1992, did not seek re-election and Wayne Mattingly was the only candidate who submitted a petition to have his name placed on the ballot in that district.

Kenergy's bylaws stipulate that any uncontested candidate will be declared the winner of the board seat without an election.

Official Notice

2026 KENERGY ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

Kenergy Owensboro Office
3111 Fairview Drive
Owensboro

Registration: 10:30-11 a.m.
Business meeting: 11 a.m.

Look for additional details about Member Appreciation Day coming in the fall!



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CONTACT INFORMATION

Toll Free: For information or to report an outage
(800) 844-4832

Henderson: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
6402 Old Corydon Road

Owensboro: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
3111 Fairview Drive

Hanson: 9 a.m. – Noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
2620 Brown Badgett Loop

Hawesville: 9 a.m. – Noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
315 Hawes Blvd

Marion: Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m. – Noon,
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., 3000 Mott City Road

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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OVERHEAD LINE SAFETY

When in doubt, look up and out!

Follow these guidelines to prevent the most common mistakes made near power lines.

- When working on an outdoor project, **stay at least 20 feet away from overhead lines.** If your ladder or piece of equipment touches an overhead line, both you and the equipment can become a path for the electricity. Look up and out in front of you before using a ladder, large machinery or long tools like pool cleaning nets. Even nonmetallic ladders and equipment can conduct electricity. If power lines are present, always carry ladders and long poles horizontally.
- Using large tools or machinery can make it harder to avoid overhead power lines. Always consider where power lines are before you begin a project. Scanning the area should be part of your plan from the start.
- If you've struck a power line, remain in the equipment and call 911. If you have to exit for life-threatening reasons, such as fire, jump as far away from the equipment as you can and land with both feet together. No part of your body should touch the equipment and the ground at the same time. Hop or shuffle away from the equipment with your feet together to reduce the risk of electric shock.
- If you come across someone who's hit an overhead power line, stay away and warn others around to do so as well. Touching someone in contact with a power line could result in your own severe injury or death. Immediately call 911 and then contact your electric co-op to report the incident.

If you know you're going to be working near power lines, contact your electric co-op so the experts there can properly inform you on safety precautions you should be taking in your area. Electrical safety is one of our core values.

EILEEN TUTTLE/UNION RURAL ELECTRIC

All Kenergy offices will be closed Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.



To our heroes—we salute you and we thank you.

STAFFEE/ADOBE STOCK