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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local students represent Crawford Electric on 2023 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

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BOURBON – Three local students sponsored by Crawford Electric Cooperative have returned from a unique educational and leadership experience in the nation's capital this summer. All three will enter their senior year in high school this fall.

Sara Tuschhoff of Cuba, Sophia Gregor of Owensville and Allison Ryerson of Bourbon were Crawford Electric's delegates on Missouri's 60th annual Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. They were among the 103 high school students from across the state who participated in the tour on June 12-18.

"The Youth Tour is the highlight of the summer for many students, and we're proud to send some outstanding young leaders to Washington each year," said Lori Rego, the Youth Tour coordinator at Crawford Electric. "I know each delegate met someone or saw something that inspired her, and the experience may create a path to her future career," she said.

The seven-day tour provides an action-filled week for high school students. Besides seeing the sights in Washington, Your Tour offers them opportunities to learn firsthand what it is like to be involved in politics, community service and today's pressing issues.

Highlights included the young people visiting with representatives from their congressional districts and with a current U.S. Secret Service agent who went on Missouri's Youth Tour decades ago. The group also toured famous monuments, the Smithsonian Institution's museums, Ford's Theatre, Arlington National Cemetery and Mount Vernon. Other highlights included cruising on the Potomac River and catching a baseball game at Nationals Park.

One day, the Missouri delegation participated in the All-States Dinner and Dance, which brought together more than 1,000 Youth Tour delegates from across the United States. Organized by the National Rural Electric Cooperative association, the day's program included remarks from government leaders and motivational speakers, including an electric co-op lineworker who helped bring power to a remote village in Guatemala.

Since 1964, the nation's electric cooperatives have sponsored more than 56,000 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 more than 20,000 meters along almost 3,000 miles of distribution lines in Crawford, Franklin, Gasconade, Washington and Dent counties.

