



Steven Myers of Alto Pass and Brianna Wooten of Grand Chain were selected as the two finalists to attend the Youth to Washington program through Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative and the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Myers and Wooten attended Youth Day in Springfield, Ill. in April and interviewed at a pizza party hosted by SIEC, among 5 other area high school juniors.

Myers will be a senior at Cobden High School in the fall and is the son of Paula Holderfield and Donald Myers, Jr. He plans on attending West Point Military Academy and earn a degree in engineering after high school graduation. He currently works at Burger King.

Wooten will be a senior at Century High School in the fall and is the daughter of Michael and Rita Wooten. She hopes to be accepted to an Ivy League college post graduation. Throughout high school Wooten has been involved in Beta and Science Clubs, and Scholar Bowl.

Youth to Washington is scheduled for June 11-18 and is an all-expense paid tour of Washington, D.C. This tour has been a nationwide tradition of the electric cooperatives since 1957.



Senator David Luechtefeld met with seven students representing Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day on Wednesday, April 21, in Springfield. The students had an opportunity to view state government in action on probably one of the busiest days this year at the state capitol. More than 200 interest groups and an estimated 15,000 people converged on the statehouse to ask lawmakers to approve a tax hike in order to avoid major budget cuts. The students also heard from State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias during their lunch break.

Pictured from left are: SIEC Director of Member Services Chris Boyd, SIEC Director of Communication Jerri Schaefer, Eric Woolard of Jonesboro, Amber Watkins of Mounds, Dominique Schauer of Dongola, Sen. Luechtefeld, Steven Myers of Alto Pass, Brianna Wooten of Grand Chain, John Paulson of Thebes, and Neimoya Woods of Cairo.

The day was sponsored by the Illinois electric and telephone co-ops and is designed to introduce young rural leaders to state government. There were 246 students representing co-ops from across the state.