

Scholarship Essay Competition Open to High School Seniors

Centennial Utilities, in cooperation with the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association, is offering two local scholarship awards to high school seniors who plan to attend an accredited post-secondary educational institution. Applicants must also be, or have as a legal guardian, a customer of Centennial Utilities, an MMUA-member municipal gas utility. Relatives of utility personnel are not eligible. Award amounts for the scholarship competition include a first-place local scholarship of \$2,000 and a second-place scholarship of \$1,000. The first-place winner also earns the chance to compete for an additional statewide scholarship that is divided into prizes of \$2,000, \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500.

To apply for the scholarship, entrants must submit a Centennial Utilities Scholarship application and participate in an essay contest with the theme “Municipal Utilities:

Good for All of Us.” Judges will look particularly for originality and relevance of the theme to the writer and his/her city.

The essay should include a cover page with the writer’s name and address, and must be 500 to 750 words typed and double spaced. It will be judged by Centennial Utilities Commission members at their March 26, 2024 meeting. The first-place entry will then be forwarded to MMUA for state competition with that winner to be announced in May. **Application forms and essays must be received at Centennial Utilities offices, 200 Civic Heights Circle, Circle Pines, MN 55014 by Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.**

For an application form and information on this scholarship offering, please visit www.CentennialUtilities.com or contact Centennial Utilities at 763-784-6751.

www.centennialutilities.com

Utilities Office

200 Civic Heights Circle
Circle Pines, MN 55014

Phone: 763-784-6751 TDD: 763-231-2617

**Emergency after hours:
911 or 763-427-1212
(ask for Centennial Utilities)**

Commission Members

Commission meets on Wednesday, January 17 at 5 p.m.

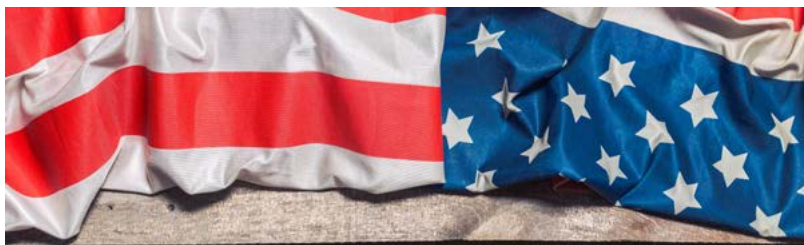
Jan Kreminski, Chair
248 Pine Hollow Dr.

Dwight Benoy
66 W. Golden Lake Rd.

Curt Theis
67 West Rd.

Eric Peterson
41 W. Golden Lake Rd.

Brian Olson
227 Galaxy Dr.



**Offices will be closed Monday,
January 15, 2024 for the Martin
Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY



Energy Saving Tips

Energy cost will be increasing and there are some many basic no- and low-cost measures you can take to reduce energy use. Listed below are a few energy and money-saving opportunities:

- Use a programmable thermostat to reduce your heating and cooling costs.
- Check your furnace filter. Change or clean the filter to ensure good air flow, which is essential for the efficiency of your furnace.
- Keep curtains and blinds open during the day to allow the sun's natural heat to warm your house. Close curtains and blinds at night so you don't lose heat when the sun goes down. Also, set your ceiling fans to turn clockwise to circulate warm air.
- Make your home more airtight to keep warm air in and cold air out. Use caulk or weather-stripping to seal leaks around doors, windows and other openings such as pipes or ducts. Close your fireplace damper when not in use.
 - Take short showers and use low-flow showerheads.
 - Turn your hot water heater down to 120 degrees F.
 - Look for the ENERGY STAR® label when purchasing new appliances, lighting, and electronics.

Long-term savings can be achieved when, for instance, a properly installed and operated programmable thermostat will pay for itself in as little as one year with energy savings.

For more energy-saving tips, check out the Minnesota Department of Commerce Home Energy Guide or the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Savers website <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/energy-saver>.

HeatShare

HeatShare is a voluntary nongovernmental program of The Salvation Army that has been in existence since 1982. When you give to HeatShare, you are helping warm the lives of the elderly, people with disabilities, and others who have nowhere else to turn. HeatShare provides financial assistance on a year-round basis and is used for natural gas, oil, propane, wood and electricity.

Who Does HeatShare Help?

- Seniors 65 years or older with low income and no alternate source of help.
- People with disabilities who are limited in their ability to maintain income to adequately cover energy costs.
- People who have an unexpected crisis and as a result cannot pay for household energy bills.

How Can I Support My Neighbor?

You can give the gift of heat by sending a tax-deductible donation to:

The Salvation Army
HeatShare Program
2445 Prior Ave N
Roseville, MN 55113

*Please make checks payable to HeatShare

