

The Voice of New Mexico's
Rural Electric Cooperatives

enchantment

**ROOSEVELT COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

JULY 2024

MASTERING THE FLAMES

A Comprehensive Guide to
Summer Grilling Safety

Page 14



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enchantment (ISSN 0046-1946) is published 10 times a year—every month except June and December—by the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives, 614 Don Gaspar Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87505. enchantment provides reliable, helpful information on rural living and energy use to electric cooperative members and customers.

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Congratulations to

James and Olivia Casaus, Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative members, who took their March enchantment to San Sebastian, Spain, where their daughter Adrianna was studying abroad. Brothers Joaquin, Santiago and Marcos also joined the trip.

James and Olivia win \$20!



Homegrown Talent

Portales' own Clint Brakebill tells local TV news stories

By Karl Terry

Clint Brakebill left his hometown shortly after graduating from Portales High School in 2008. Through the magic of television, he's still in Portales living rooms most every night.

Clint is now sports director for KAMR Local 4 News and Fox 14 News, a career he's been pursuing since 2014. This spring, he was selected Sportscaster of the Year in the Texas Broadcast News Awards presented by the Texas Association of Broadcasters on April 13.

Clint's rich baritone voice, along with a clear delivery of stories and the ability to talk off-script, have a lot to do with his award. But he points to a different cause for success—he and his team always go over-and-above to cover local sports.

"Covering local athletes—that's where it's at for me," Clint says. "We get to go to state and treat our local athletes like they're on the Dallas Cowboys. That's important. We give them a platform to showcase their talents."

Clint's father, Warren, operated a barbershop for more than 50 years in Portales and was present in his kids' lives growing up—especially in sports. Clint played many sports growing up and says he was fortunate to have had his dad coaching him through Little League baseball.

Clint got somewhat serious about rodeo and team roping, but once he hit high school he devoted himself to baseball. He played from eighth grade all through high school as a Portales Ram.

"In Little League, I remember the great battles we had against Elida, Dora and other schools," he says. "Making it to the state championship my last year of high school baseball with Coach (Art) Ontiveros and assistant coach Dusty Nusser, it was a great season and certainly my favorite memory of sports growing up."

Rodeo was a big part of his family life growing up with older brothers Rocky, Davy and Donald, and sister Joni Visser. Rocky and Davy live in Portales, and Joni lives in California.



Clint Brakebill, right, worked as NextStar network's national reporter for the NASCAR race at Texas Motor Speedway in April. PHOTOS COURTESY OF CLINT BRAKEBILL

Donald died in 2008. Clint's mom and dad both live in Portales. Warren is retired, and Clint's mother, Kristy Walsh, is a nurse practitioner at Roosevelt General specializing in women's health.

Young Clint knew he could talk. Listening to all the great rodeo and roping announcers, he thought that might be his calling. Baseball was good to Clint, though, and he later considered sports play-by-play as a possible career.

"I remember listening to Joe Buck and Tim McCarver broadcasting the World Series, and I thought more about how they called that play-by-play than I did the game itself," he says.

After high school, Clint received his bachelor's degree in





In addition to his duties as the stations' sports director, Clint is now co-anchor for Fox 14 News at 9 p.m.

broadcasting at West Texas A&M University. While there, he interned with KAMR. There, he realized sports broadcasting would be his calling.

After graduating, he did a brief stint with a station in Wichita Falls. When the sports director's position at KAMR opened up, Clint jumped at the chance to get back to Amarillo.

Along the way, he met and married his wife, Kennedy, a pharmacist at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. They have one son and are expecting a second soon.

"In my personal life, I'm focused on being a good dad, husband, son and brother to my family," he says. "That's where it's at for me."

Clint's favorite team in professional sports is the Dallas Cowboys, but he loves the Rangers and Mavs as well and feels fortunate to be able to cover professional sports.

"Being a Dallas Cowboys fan, I was always wearing Cowboys gear my whole life," he says. "My favorite player was Dez Bryant, and to get to talk with him was one of my favorite moments."

Clint says he was also on hand for the October 2016 Bedlam

Game between the University of Oklahoma and Texas Tech at AT&T Stadium. It was Patrick Mahomes' first game in AT&T Stadium, and his Texas Tech Red Raiders lost to Baker Mayfield's Oklahoma Sooners 66-59. Clint says it's the most exciting game he's ever covered.

Recently, Clint was selected as the NextStar Network's national reporter for the NASCAR Cup Series race at Texas Motor Speedway in April. He reported live for several days prior to the race and finished the assignment by interviewing NASCAR legend Chase Elliot in the winner's circle.

A few weeks ago, Clint became co-anchor for Fox 14 News at 9 p.m. He says few broadcasters take on the job of sports director and news anchor at the same time. When the job became available, he talked to his bosses about the idea. They gave him the opportunity to spread his wings and increase his salary for a growing family all while staying in the market he loves.

"I care about our station," Clint says. "I know I'm going to be here and I really want to give the people we serve a voice."





THE ENCHANTED CEO

By Charise Swanson
New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives

Powered By Legacy

The New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives celebrated a significant milestone as it marked its 80th anniversary during the NMREC Annual Meeting in late May. The theme this year was “Powered by Legacy” to honor our historical achievements and focus on our future as a statewide association representing 15 electric distribution cooperative members, two generation and transmission co-ops, and three associate members in neighboring states. Together, we serve more than 434,000 individuals, families and businesses in New Mexico.

The general session was highlighted by distinguished personalities and legislative guests, including Rep. Javier Martinez, who serves as New Mexico’s Speaker of the House; Sen. Pat Woods; Rep. Meredith Dixon; Rep. Gail Armstrong; and Chair of the Public Regulatory Commission Pat O’Connell.

The legislative guests engaged our member electric cooperatives, board directors, general managers and senior staff discussing the policies and major challenges impacting reliability in New Mexico. Some of those challenges are related to the Environmental Protection Agency’s proposed power plant rule, USDA funding and supply chain issues.

The utility industry is facing supply chain issues for transformers, utility poles, electric transmission and distribution wire, and more. Having supplies and equipment on hand is crucial for electric cooperatives

because our No. 1 job is to keep the lights on for our members.

We welcomed the legislative guests to our annual meeting to share or discuss the issues they are working on in Santa Fe to positively impact our electric cooperatives and our members. We at New Mexico’s electric cooperatives want to enhance our relationship with our lawmakers, and we want them to have a better understanding of the cooperative business model. We want our New Mexico senators and representatives to think about us as they make their decisions. Building relationships provides us with a valuable opportunity to engage and educate lawmakers about cooperatives and our communities in New Mexico.

The annual meeting was characterized by an array of engaging breakout sessions, each delving into crucial topics vital to the cooperative’s operations and the wider community. These sessions encompassed themes such as cybersecurity; wildfire liability and insurance; broadband expansion; and rural economic development and electrification.

The Cybersecurity session emphasized risks associated with data and physical security, highlighting the importance of aligning security measures with overarching business strategies. Similarly, the Wildfire Liability & Insurance session addressed the pressing need for collaborative solutions to mitigate the escalating risks posed by wildfires, exacerbated by climate change.

Broadband expansion was discussed as a pivotal component of rural development, extending beyond mere internet access to encompass economic growth, education, healthcare, and societal advancement in rural communities. The Hiring & Retention session underscored the significance of identifying, attracting, and retaining

top talent aligned with cooperative values and objectives within the state of New Mexico.


The Rural Economic Development and Electrification session highlighted the nature of rural economic growth and electrification, illustrating how electrification acts as a catalyst for various aspects of rural development, from agriculture to small-scale industries and services.

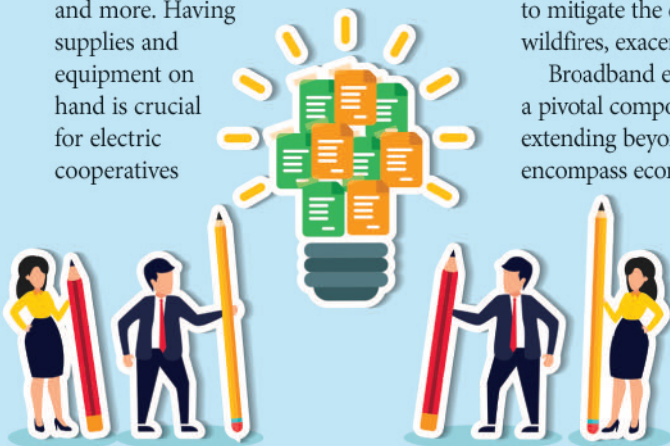
Attendees were provided with comprehensive updates on the latest developments in the business realm, with significant contributions from our key cooperative partners such as Tri-State G&T, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, CoBank, Cooperative Finance Corporation, Homestead and Rural Utilities Service.

The New Mexico Rural Electric Self-Insurer’s Fund presented the 2024 Long Rope Award to Ryan Guevara, an Otero County Electric Cooperative journeyman lineworker, for his hard work and dedication in keeping safety his top priority.

NMRESIF also bestowed the Carl M. Turner Safety Award to Columbus Electric Cooperative, Farmers’ Electric Cooperative, Lea County Electric Cooperative, Northern Rio Arriba Electric Cooperative, Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative and Southwestern Electric Cooperative.

During the proceedings, NRECA Vice President of Political Programs Kelly Cushman emphasized the importance of cooperative voices in influencing energy policy decisions, while Michael Shepard, CEO of Pioneer Utility Resources, highlighted the role of effective communications channels—such as enchantment—in engaging co-op members and the broader community.

As NMREC looks forward, we remain committed to building upon past successes while embracing future challenges, guided by the premise “Powered by Legacy,” celebrating achievements while charting a course for continued progress. 



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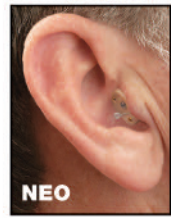
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SIGNS YOUR HVAC IS IN TROUBLE

By Miranda Boutelle

Q: How do I know if my HVAC system is malfunctioning?

A: Your heating, ventilation and air conditioning system is one of the most important and expensive systems in your home. Detecting issues early can help you plan for repairs or equipment replacement.

Equipment functionality issues can affect your energy use, which may result in higher energy bills. The age of your equipment can be a major factor in function. The life span of heating and cooling systems range from 15 to 20 years.

Proper maintenance and lower use can increase the life of the equipment. To determine the age of your system, look for the manufactured date printed on the unit's nameplate. If you can't find it, search online using the model number or call the manufacturer.

Being thrifty by nature, I typically subscribe to the notion of, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." That said, I also believe in being prepared for the inevitable. If your system is approaching or has past the 20-year mark, start saving for a new system and get replacement estimates.

There are warning signs that signal your heating and cooling system needs to be fixed or replaced:

Air conditioning is not as cool as usual. If the air from your air conditioner is warm or not as cool as it usually feels, the equipment has an issue. It could be a refrigerant leak or a problem with the compressor. Contact a professional to check the issue. Many refrigerants, especially those used in older systems, are harmful to the environment. Fix leaks before adding more refrigerant. Special certifications are required for handling refrigerants, so hire a professional to ensure the work is done properly.

Low airflow. If you aren't getting good airflow, it could be an easy fix, such as filter replacement or opening closed dampers. If you've made these fixes and airflow is not at normal levels, contact a professional. There could be a bigger problem with a motor, fan or something else.



The life span of heating and cooling system ranges from 15 to 20 years. Proper maintenance and lower use can increase the life of the equipment. ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY SHADIUK

Bad odors. Heating and cooling systems sometimes smell when you first start them for the season. Those smells should be minor and dissipate quickly. Any serious smells—such as burning metal, melting plastic or noxious odors—are a sign your system is in trouble. If you smell those odors, turn off your system immediately and contact a professional.

Strange noises. There is typically noise associated with the fans and motors in heating and cooling systems. Take note of any excessive or new noises. If your system is making any clunking, clanging or whistling noises, turn it off and check the filter. If that doesn't solve it, reach out to a pro.

Running frequently. Your system needs to run more to keep up on extreme weather days, but there might be an issue if it runs too often. Short cycling is when a system cycles on and off before completing the heating or cooling process. Contact a professional to diagnose this issue.

Several factors come into play when deciding to fix existing equipment or invest in new equipment. Consider the severity of the issue, repair costs, the likelihood of

additional repairs, equipment life span and your budget.

The efficiency of your existing system is also a consideration. Heating and cooling technology improvements have come a long way in the past 20 years. Lower operation costs can offset the cost of a new system over time.

Consider your options before you are in desperate need. I recommend getting estimates from at least three contractors. Ask the contractor, "If this was your house, what type of system would you install and why?" The best solution for your home might be a different type of equipment. 📧



Miranda Boutelle has more than 20 years of experience helping people save energy. She has worked on energy-efficiency projects from the Midwest to the West Coast.

Today, Miranda is chief operating officer at Efficiency Services Group in Oregon, a cooperatively owned energy-efficiency company.

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The aurora display glows shortly after midnight over the Sandia Mountains east of Albuquerque on May 11, 2024.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK BOSLOUGH


Comets, Potential Auroras

For the past few months, our evening skies have been entirely devoid of bright planets, but that comes to an end during July.

Our solar system's inner worlds put in appearances low in the dusk this month: Mercury is visible for most of July but disappears into twilight by month's end, while Venus—even lower—begins a slow and gradual climb that eventually carries it out of the dusk and high into our western sky by the end of this year. The thin crescent moon lies between these two worlds on the evening of July 6.

The ringed planet, Saturn, rises in the east during the mid-evening hours and is highest above our horizon around the beginning of dawn. By that time, the other two bright planets, Mars and Jupiter, rise during the mid-morning. These two worlds gradually draw closer to each other in the sky and will have a close conjunction next month. Meanwhile, the distant world Uranus has its own conjunction with Mars on July 15.

Earlier this year, comet Pons-Brooks, which returns roughly every 70 years, was visible in our western sky after dusk. It's gone now, but another comet with a similar orbital period, Comet Olbers, is visible low in our northwestern sky after the end of twilight. Although it may not quite be bright enough to view with the unaided eye, it should be easily detectable with binoculars. Comet Olbers was closest to the sun at the end of June and is closest to Earth—a rather distant 176 million miles—on July 20.

A large solar storm erupted on the sun in early May and produced aurora displays over significant portions of Earthly skies, both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, on the night of May 10-11. Because we are still approaching the peak of the current sunspot cycle, it is possible additional solar storms could take place during the next several months, in turn producing more aurora displays during the same timeframe. 

1920s Style for a 1920s Price

It was a warm summer afternoon and my wife and I were mingling with the best of them. The occasion was a 1920s-themed party, and everyone was dressed to the nines. Parked on the manse's circular driveway was a beautiful classic convertible. It was here that I got the idea for our new 1920s Retrograde Watch.

Never ones to miss an opportunity, we carefully steadied our glasses of bubbly and climbed into the car's long front seat. Among the many opulent features on display was a series of dashboard dials that accentuated the car's lavish aura. One of those dials inspired our 1920s Retrograde Watch, a genuinely unique timepiece that marries timeless style with modern technology.

With its remarkable retrograde hour and minute indicators, sunburst guilloche face and precision movement, this design is truly one of a kind. What does retrograde mean? Instead of displaying the hands rotating on an axis like most watches, the hands sweep in a semicircle, then return to their starting point and begin all over again.

Retrograde watches by the big brands can set you back thousands; one recent offering from a big French fashion house is selling for more than \$150,000! But because we've designed the 1920s Retrograde Watch in-house, we can offer it to you for just \$99!

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A Life Changing Trip

High school students visit Washington, D.C., and learn about history and democracy as part of NRECA's Youth Tour

Last month, New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives led high school students from New Mexico to Washington, D.C. From June 17-23, the intrepid students participated in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour.

"The chance to visit D.C., tour the U.S. Capitol and meet with elected officials can be transformative," says NMREC CEO Charise Swanson. "There is no better place to gain an appreciation for all of our democratic institutions than in our nation's capital. I truly believe this is a life-changing event for our students, and I know they will return home with new ideas for their futures and their communities."

Youth Tour students came from around the state, participating in their local electric cooperative's Youth Tour program. Each of the 42 participants were required to submit a Youth Tour application, including an essay highlighting a certain topic like youth leadership, cooperative principles or the electric utility industry. Local electric cooperatives reviewed the submitted materials and selected the students to best represent their cooperatives and members in Washington, D.C.

Youth are future leaders. Supporting their growth is extremely important to NMREC and the cooperative community.


Youth Tour, sponsored by electric cooperatives across the United States, is built on the belief that textbooks and lectures alone are not enough to help students understand the democratic process and gain the skills necessary to become tomorrow's leaders. Today's teenagers also need an opportunity to experience government first-hand by visiting the nation's capital, meeting their elected officials and engaging in interactive workshops and discussion.

Youth Tour provides high schoolers with a unique opportunity to learn about democracy and leadership. NMREC's goal for the Youth Tour is to foster students' appreciation for the democratic form of government; educate students about the role of electric cooperatives in the national economy; expand their understanding of cooperatives as a business model; introduce students to the cooperative principles and understanding the value of rural electrification; expose students to the sights and sounds of our nation's heritage; build students' leadership skills so they may make a difference in their communities; and reward students for academic achievement and community leadership.

By educating our high school students

and enhancing their self-worth, NMREC hopes to promote and inspire responsible and informed participation in the democratic process—in essence, ensuring a stronger future for everyone.

Youth Tour provides an action-filled week. Participants learn what it is like to be involved in politics and community service, and about today's pressing issues. Highlights include a special session on Capitol Hill with New Mexico legislative staff members to discuss the process of government and issues focused on by New Mexico Sens. Martin T. Heinrich and Ben R. Lujan. Students also met with staff members for Reps. Melanie Stansbury, Gabriel Vasquez and Teresa Leger Fernandez.

In total, Youth Tour brings together more than 2,000 participants from 44 states. They toured historic sites such as Arlington National Cemetery, the Jefferson and Lincoln memorials, the Library of Congress and so much more. 

Learn more about Youth Tour delegates daily adventures on our website and social media platforms:
Website: nmelectric.coop
Facebook: facebook.com/nmrecoops
Instagram: instagram.com/nmrecoops
X (Twitter): x.com/NMRECOOPS





Lexi Kilpatrick represented Lea County Electric Cooperative and New Mexico as a Youth Tour delegate in Washington, D.C., in June 2023. She also represented the Land of Enchantment as a Youth Leadership Council member in San Antonio, Texas, for the NRECA PowerXChange Conference this March.

Youth Tour Delegates

New Mexico's Rural Electric Cooperatives are sending 42 delegates to the NRECA Youth Tour.

Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative

Janet Ortiz, Humberto Fernandez, Nora Encinias, Emma Mulnix, Colton Adams, Karleigh Erramouspe, Calvin Autrey, George Lightfoot, Pablo Regalado, Anthony Munoz

Central Valley Electric Cooperative

David Gutierrez, Trenton White

Columbus Electric Cooperative

Journey Sheehan, Kohan Evans

Continental Divide Electric Cooperative

Noah Lundstrom, Lorenzo Saavedra

Farmers' Electric Cooperative

Greyson Bollinger, Haylie Bidegain

Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative

Kendall Martinez, Bernardo Montoya

Lea County Electric Cooperative

Ava Griffin, Alyse Benard

Mora-San Miguel Electric Cooperative

Estrella Martinez, Jonathon Gonzales, Marisol Salazar, Eric Rodriguez, Isaiah Lujan, Angelica Barbero

Otero County Electric Cooperative

Rylie Parson, Dominic Romero, Daniel Chacon, Orlando Ruiz

Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative

Kyleigh Stephenson, Devin Diaz, Roderic Neal, Ashton Davis

Sierra Electric Cooperative

Katherine Kittel

Socorro Electric Cooperative

Zephaniah Guerro, Brianna Lopez, Gabriel Giron, Blazen McPhaul

Springer Electric Cooperative

Constantza Covarrubias

MASTERING THE FLAMES

A Comprehensive Guide to Summer Grilling Safety

By Lonnie Tucker

As the sun stretches across the turquoise skies of New Mexico, the unmistakable summer scent of barbecue fills the air. From backyard gatherings in Artesia to impromptu picnics in the Zuni Pueblo, grilling becomes a quintessential activity during summertime.

However, amidst the sizzle and smoke, it is crucial to prioritize safety to ensure these joyful gatherings do not turn hazardous. These essential practices and precautions can help you master the flames and enjoy summer grilling safely.

Understand the Risks

Grilling, while enjoyable, presents several inherent risks. From fire hazards to foodborne illnesses, being aware of these dangers is the first step toward mitigating them.

One of the primary risks with grilling is the potential for flare-ups. These occur when fat drips onto the hot coals or flames, leading to sudden bursts of fire. Additionally, improper handling of propane or charcoal can result in explosions or carbon monoxide poisoning.

Like most forms of cooking, grilling also has health risks. Undercooked meats or cross-contamination can lead to foodborne illnesses, causing symptoms ranging from mild discomfort to severe sickness.



With 16 years of electric distribution and generation and transmission experience, Lonnie Tucker recently brought his communication talents to the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives as the vice president of Communications. Lonnie knows how to capture a reader's attention and write stories that people love, and he's great at building relationships with our cooperative members across the Land of Enchantment.

Plan and Prepare

Before embarking on your grilling adventure this summer, take time to adequately prepare. Start by ensuring that your grill is in good working condition. Inspect propane tanks for leaks or damage and check charcoal grills for signs of wear and tear.

Position your grill in a well-ventilated outdoor area away from flammable objects such as overhanging branches or wooden structures. If using a gas grill, always check the connections and hoses for leaks before lighting.

Use Safety Equipment

Equipping yourself with the right tools can enhance your grilling experience and safety. Invest in long-handled utensils to keep your hands and arms away from the heat source, reducing the risk of burns. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby and familiarize yourself with its proper use. A bucket of sand or baking soda can also be effective for smothering small flare-ups.

Finally, do not forget to wear

appropriate attire such as oven mitts and aprons to protect yourself from heat and splattering grease.

Be Mindful of Fire Safety

Mastering the flames requires a thorough understanding of fire safety principles. Never leave your grill unattended while in use. Even a momentary distraction can lead to disaster. Keep a close eye on the grill at all times, especially when cooking with high heat or fatty cuts of meat.

In the event of a grease fire, never attempt to extinguish it with water, as this can cause the flames to intensify. Instead, close the grill lid and turn off the burners to smother the fire.

Know Food Safety

While perfectly grilled meats may be alluring, it is crucial to prioritize food safety to avoid foodborne illnesses. Wash your hands thoroughly before and after handling raw meats to prevent cross-contamination. Use separate cutting boards and utensils for raw and cooked foods, and never place cooked meat on a surface that previously held raw meat without proper sanitation.

Once food is on the grill, ensure meats are cooked to the recommended internal temperatures to kill harmful bacteria effectively by using a meat thermometer.

Protect Children and Pets

Summer grilling often attracts curious onlookers, including children and pets. To prevent accidents, establish a safety zone around the grill and educate children about the dangers of hot surfaces and open flames. Keep your pets on a leash or indoors to avoid them getting underfoot or accidentally knocking over the grill.




Furthermore, never allow children or pets to play near the grill while it is in use, as even a minor mishap can lead to serious injuries.

Clean and Maintain

Proper cleaning and maintenance are essential for prolonging the lifespan of your grill and ensuring safe operation. After each use, remove food residue and grease buildup from the grates and drip trays to prevent flare-ups.

Periodically inspect the grill for signs of corrosion or damage, especially around gas connections and hoses. Store propane tanks in a cool, well-ventilated area away from direct sunlight and heat sources.

Summer grilling is a cherished tradition in New Mexico. However, it is crucial to prioritize safety to ensure these gatherings remain fun and memorable for all the right reasons. By following these tips, you can master the flames with confidence knowing you are taking the necessary precautions to grill safely.

So, fire up your grill, gather your loved ones and savor the flavors of summer in the Land of Enchantment, all while keeping safety at the forefront of your mind and protecting your family and friends. 



Co-ops and the

The U.S. Constitution shares fundamental values with cooperative principles

By Lonnie Tucker

As we prepare for Independence Day in New Mexico, I found myself reviewing the preamble to the U.S. Constitution. I started thinking about the similarities between this historic document and the cooperative principles upon which our electric cooperatives were founded.

The preamble and the cooperative principles share fundamental values and objectives despite serving different contexts and purposes. Both documents outline overarching goals and aspirations that guide the functioning of their respective entities—the Constitution for the governance of a nation and the cooperative principles for the operation of electric cooperatives serving the rural communities across our great nation. Both have a core shared commitment to community, democracy and collective welfare of our cooperative members.

The cooperative principles provide a framework for the governance and operations of our electric cooperatives across New Mexico and the United States.

The Seven Cooperative Principles are:

- Voluntary and Open Membership.
- Democratic Member Control.
- Member Economic Participation.
- Autonomy and Independence.
- Education, Training and Information.
- Cooperation Among Cooperatives.
- Concern for Community.

At first glance, these principles may appear to be primarily concerned with economic and business matters. However, they embody values that are deeply aligned with those in the preamble.

The preamble begins with the famous phrase, “We the People,” emphasizing the collective nature of the American endeavor. Similarly, the cooperative principles stress the importance of voluntary and open membership, democratic control and concern for the community. Both documents acknowledge the power of individuals coming together for a common purpose, whether it be self-governance or economic cooperation.

Moreover, both the preamble and the cooperative principles underscore the importance of promoting the general welfare

“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

— PREAMBLE TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

e Constitution


and securing the benefits of liberty for future generations. The preamble seeks to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty for posterity. Similarly, the cooperative principles advocate for concern for community, ensuring electric cooperatives operate for the sustainable economic development of their communities.

Furthermore, both documents emphasize the principles of democracy and self-governance. The preamble's focus on "We the People" reflects a commitment to democratic governance, where power resides in the hands of the people. Likewise, the cooperative principles prioritize democratic member control, ensuring decisions are made through a participatory process where each member has an equal voice. This emphasis on democracy extends beyond mere representation to active participation and engagement in decision-making processes.

Additionally, the preamble and the cooperative principles highlight the importance of cooperation and collaboration. The preamble's call to "form a more perfect union" underscores the idea of unity and cooperation among diverse states and individuals. Similarly, the cooperative principles emphasize cooperation among cooperatives and a commitment to working together for mutual benefit of cooperative members.

Both the preamble and the cooperative principles advocate for the pursuit of common goals and shared prosperity. The preamble's mention of promoting general welfare speaks to a collective commitment to the well-being of all citizens. Similarly, the seventh cooperative principle ensures electric cooperatives operate in a way that benefits their members and the broader community. Both documents prioritize common good over individual gain, recognizing true prosperity comes from shared success.

As you celebrate the Fourth of July, remember the preamble and cooperative principles focus on unity, purpose, democracy and service to the rural communities of New Mexico.

By embodying these shared principles, the preamble and the cooperative principles serve as enduring expressions of collective identity, purpose and aspiration. They remind us of the importance of unity, democracy and service in building a more perfect union and a better future for all. 



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But Can It Travel?

Follow along as Mark Faulkenberry shares his firsthand experience with an all-electric truck—this month, he considers charging while traveling

EV Parking at the Airport

Have you ever dreamed of being able to park your electric vehicle at the airport knowing that when you get back from your trip your vehicle will be charged up and ready to drive home? For those of us who drive EVs, it has crossed our minds.

Recently, I had to fly for a couple of business trips. While I live close enough to the airport that I didn't need a charge to get home, I had to wonder: what if I did?

So I did a little research to see if and what type of EV charging infrastructure local airports currently offer—and what they envision for future EV drivers. I looked at five airports: One in Oklahoma (Tulsa), two in New Mexico (Santa Fe and Albuquerque) and one in Texas (Dallas-Fort Worth).

I was shocked by the stark differences between the various airports. Some were focused on meeting the future needs of EV drivers, with others not even in the game at this stage. While the two New Mexico airports had no EV charging stations, the clear winners were Tulsa and DFW.

Based on their size and locations, I saw what I expected from DFW, which currently provides 20 level 2 chargers. But

Tulsa International Airport impressed me the most. Completion of phase one of its 20-year plan recently opened 32 level 2 parking spots in its covered parking area. Phase two will add 15 dual port chargers to the economy surface lot, with the vision and commitment to install up to 120 dual-port level 2 chargers as the marketplace evolves.

Road Trips

Since January, Bolt—my Ford F-150 Lightning—and I have taken several lengthy road trips that have really opened my eyes.

The most recent was a trip to Ruidoso, New Mexico. It was a quick three-day round trip requiring me to drive out on Wednesday and back on Friday. Google showed the trip to be 543 miles with a drive time of 8 hours, 19 min. Google didn't know I was driving Bolt.

Due to lack of adequate fast charging infrastructure and some serious headwinds, it became a 15-hour drive. I admit that I was conservative in my approach to not being stranded on the roadside, thus maybe charging a bit more than needed. But I wasn't taking any chances.



Use this QR code to find additional info from Mark Faulkenberry, including his entries from previous months.



Mark's Miles

An Epic EV Journey

Mark Faulkenberry is vice president of marketing for Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, a generation and transmission utility. Any views, thoughts and opinions expressed in Mark's Miles are solely those of the author and do not reflect the views, opinions, policies or position of Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, its member cooperatives or their consumers.

Everything was fine until I hit a stretch—that I knew from my pre-planning—where I was going to have to use level 2 charging at one of our distribution cooperatives to get enough juice to get to the next fast charger.

I was able to coordinate a meeting with my member cooperative to use the three-hour wait time productively on my trip out, but not so on the return trip. It's one thing to use public charging to get enough juice to get home daily—it's something else to have to use it four times in one day to get to where you're going.

Several factors contributed to this endeavor being “the road trip from hell.” From my perspective, it could have been better, and it could have been worse! One thing is for sure: Public charging takes time, and it isn't cheap. 🚗

Small Acreage Stewardship & Homestead Skills Workshop Series



Sustainable Agriculture Science Center
 371 County Road 40 **Alcalde, NM 87511**
 Thursdays at 6 pm and Saturdays at 9 am



Upcoming Classes

- May 2 at 6 pm**-Acequia Ecology, Custom & Culture
- May 4 at 9 am**- Hoop House Management; Repair & Prep
- May 16 at 6 pm**-Soil Health & Cover Cropping Systems
- May 18 at 9 am**-Forage Crops & Improved Pasture Management; Native Grass Establishment
- May 30 at 6 pm**-Vegetable Gardening & Drip Systems
- June 1 at 9 am**- On Farm Composting
- June 13 at 6 pm**- Fruit Orchards & Vineyards Management
- June 15 at 9 am**-Rotational Grazing w/ Mobile Fencing Options
- June 27 at 6 pm**-Rainwater Harvesting & Passive Water Catchment in the Landscape
- June 29 at 9 am**-Chicken Tractor & Poultry Flock Management

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service, please contact Tom Dominguez at tdomingu@nmsu.edu or 505-471-4711. New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator. NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative.



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Take Advantage of Nature's Bounty

It's the heart of summer and also the season of fresh berries, vegetables and fruit. Why not take advantage of freshly grown goodness?

This month's recipes declare freedom—from tough and extensive recipes. There are a plethora of national days this month, from National Bikini Day on July 5 and National Video Game Day on July 8 to National Give Something Away Day on July 15, as well as a number of others. Our usual Independence Day celebrations can be enhanced through this month's recipes, which—incidentally—also celebrate National Simplicity Day on July 12. Each recipe contains 10 or fewer ingredients and can be made in mere minutes.

Declare freedom in the kitchen and appreciate nature's bounty. And take the day off July 22 to enjoy National Hammock Day. You've earned it!



Sue Hutchison was born and raised a block from the freeway in Southern California. She had an early start with industrial, large-scale cooking before age 20. She's always been both a beach bum and at home in the kitchen, where she enjoys making new creations.

Chicken with Vegetables and Balsamic Glaze

¼ cup honey	4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
2 tablespoons olive oil	Salt and pepper to taste
1 red bell pepper, thinly sliced	Balsamic glaze
½ onion, thinly sliced	2 cups cooked pasta of choice
2 cups cherry tomatoes	

Heat honey and oil in a large skillet. Add bell pepper, onion and tomatoes. Fry until onion is slightly browned and tomatoes are soft. Transfer vegetables to a bowl, leaving the drippings in the skillet.

Slice chicken horizontally to make eight thinner pieces.

In the same skillet, add chicken and fry until golden on both sides, approximately 5-6 minutes.

In a microwave or on the stovetop, cook pasta until almost finished. Remove from heat and set aside in cooking water.

To serve, place cooked pasta in an oblong baking dish, place chicken on top, sprinkle vegetables and drizzle glaze. Serve warm. Makes approximately 4-6 servings.



Fresh Corn Salad

6 ears of corn, shucked with silks removed	½ cup mayonnaise
½ cup green onions, chopped	½ bag of dry Italian seasoning mix
1 teaspoon red pepper flakes	¼ cup parmesan cheese
¼ cup fresh cilantro, chopped	Salt and pepper to taste
	Paprika to garnish

Using a knife, slice corn from the cobs. Place in a microwave safe bowl and cover with water. Cook on high for 10 minutes, then allow to cool. Corn will still be crunchy.

In a bowl, mix onions, red pepper flakes, cilantro, mayonnaise, Italian dressing mix, and salt and pepper.

Drain water from corn, then stir mayonnaise mix and parmesan cheese into the corn.

Cover and refrigerate until served. Garnish with paprika before serving. Serves 6-8.



Fresh Strawberry Pie

1 pie crust, store-bought or prepared	½ cup sugar
8-10 cups fresh strawberries, hulled and quartered or halved	1 cup fresh strawberries, hulled and chopped
	2 teaspoons cornstarch
	½ cup water
	Whipped topping

Place pie crust into the pie plate, and bake according to the instructions. Allow to cool.

In a saucepan, mix sugar, chopped strawberries and cornstarch and bring to a boil. Turn down the heat and simmer until reduced, approximately 10 minutes. Allow to cool.

To assemble the pie, place fresh strawberries into the cooled pie crust, gently filling the corners. Mound to form a small peak. Drizzle the cooled strawberry glaze over the fresh strawberries. Refrigerate until served.

Mound whipped topping in center of the pie prior to serving. Serves approximately 6-8.

The strawberry pie can also be served with blueberry glaze on individual slices, if desired.

To make the blueberry glaze, follow instructions to make strawberry glaze, instead replacing strawberries with frozen or fresh blueberries and add ½ teaspoon ground ginger to the saucepan mixture.



THE MARKET PLACE

Animals

SADDLES AND TACK. Everything for the horse. Western & English tack bought and sold. Rancho Elisa Stables LLC, 500 Route 66 East, Moriarty, NM 87035. Call 505-832-5113 or email ranchoelisastablesfr@swcp.com

LET US MARKET YOUR LIVESTOCK. Live auction every Wednesday at 11 am. View online at dvauction.com, country bid or live auction. If you've got 'em, we'll sell 'em. Call 575-374-2505. fivestateslivestockauction@gmail.com

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Great Finds

BUYING OLD STUFF: Gas pumps and parts 1960's or earlier, advertising signs, neon clocks, old car parts in original boxes, motor oil cans, license plate collections, Route 66 items, old metal road signs, odd and weird stuff. Fair prices paid. Have pickup, will travel. Gas Guy in Embudo, 505-852-2995.

CATRON COUNTY Surplus Auction-Sat. Sept. 14, 2024 - 9:00 am - Catron County Fairgrounds-reserve New Mexico--large assortment of fire trucks, trucks, pickups, cars, trailers, snow cats, 5-ton army trucks, water tanks, clothes, fire hoses, and many more items to mention, -- contact person, county manger -- 505-382-9697 or Willard Hall auctions-575-740-0757.

Real Estate

CLOVIS-809 S Prince, Vacant land south of Prince/Brady intersection, Just under 5 acres. Commercial potential. \$135,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

TEXICO-North- 2436 SR 108, PRICE REDUCED, 2bd/2ba home, 3 car detached garage, well, 7 acres, Updated paint, carpet and flooring. \$189,500. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

TUCUMCARI-1120 S Saratoga, (Also next to US 54/Mountain Road) \$20,000. City water close by. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

CANADIAN RIVER-West Ute Lake- Six 40 acre +/- parcels. Lake and Mesalands view. Call for showing and pricing. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com."

CONCHAS-626 Hidden Place, Big Mesa Addition. Three adjoining lots with septic, electric and community water. \$50,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

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SANTA ROSA-1070 Bar Y Road, Hollywood Ranch Subdivision. Three parcels totaling 41 acres. Water, electricity, fencing. \$125,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

MAGDALENA-0000 TBD State Road 169, 1.28 acres. Great mountain views 15 miles from Magdalena. \$11,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

DATIL- 85 Northern Trail, Sugarloaf Mountain Subdivision, Two lots totaling just over 13 acres. Small cabin. \$45,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

DATIL/PIE TOWN- Various 40 +/- acre tracts north of Sawtooth Mountains and national forest in former Criswell Ranch area. Call for pricing. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

RECENT SOLD- 631 Conchas Drive, Conchas, 0000 Clifford Trail (CR B022), Mountainair. 0000 Quay Road 63.4, Tucumcari. Let us sell your home or land. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

EASTERN NEW MEXICO- Let us sell your large acreage working farm or ranch. Broker is farm owner/operator and lifetime New Mexico resident. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, Broker 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com.

10 ACRE LOTS. Water & Electricity. \$55,000 each. \$3,500 down. 3 miles from Villanueva. Call Doug at 505-690-0308.

FSBO. PRICE REDUCED. LINCOLN, NM. BREATHTAKING VIEWS. 3BR, 2BA, Ram Earth Built on 4.5 acres. Large garage, carport. Rio Bonito River in backyard. One-of-a-Kind Dream, property has a large pond! Text 575-802-5001.

LAKE SUMMER: Two .75 ac Lakefront/Park front lots, 1 house the other vacant. Private well. New approved septic \$115,000 for both. ASPEN Lane 575-263-3681.

3 PINON/JUNIPER-FORESTED LOTS NEAR OJITOS FRIOS less than a mile off San Miguel CR A20. Utilities not in place. No HOA or covenants; MHs allowed. \$50K each. Laurie Frantz, Real Broker LLC, 505-920-1346, lauriefrantz@gmail.com

40 BEAUTIFUL, TRANQUIL LOTS FORESTED WITH PONDEROSA PINE, UP IN THE MOUNTAINS OF PENDARIS SUBDIVISION. Community water. HOA annual water assessment. Laurie Frantz, Real Broker LLC, 505-920-1346, lauriefrantz@gmail.com

2 CONTIGUOUS pinon/juniper-forested lots, 45.563 acres, Mujeres Ranch, Cibola Co. Electricity at lotline; well, septic needed. No HOA or covenants; MHs allowed. \$99,500 for both. Big mountain views! Laurie Frantz, Real Broker LLC, 505-920-1346, lauriefrantz@gmail.com

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AROUND NEW MEXICO

New Mexico, The Land of Enchantment, is filled with stunning desert landscapes, breathtaking mountain ranges and a diverse range of 18 national and 35 state parks, not to mention historic cities such as Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Las Cruces and Taos. New Mexico is a fusion of culture with Native American, Mexican and Spanish heritage. It is a truly unique state offering something for everyone. Here are a few local events you might want to add to your calendar:

July 1-31, Santa Fe

Summer Scene: Free Live Music & Movies

Lensic360's Summer Scene presents free outdoor music performances and movies on the historic downtown plaza, in the railyard, at SWAN Park and Reunity Resources. Enjoy local and national musicians from a variety of genres, including rock, country, Native American, jazz, folk and mariachi, as well as movies for the family. Bring chairs or blankets, water and your besties to kick up your heels with the locals and experience Santa Fe's vibrant music scene. Food trucks and surrounding restaurants will be ready to take your food and drink orders.

<https://lensic360.org/tag/free>

July 4, Albuquerque

Red, White and Balloons

The Balloon Museum Foundation is excited to announce the return and refashioning of the Red, White and Balloons celebration. The Balloon Museum is the place to spend Independence Day. Whether lounging with family and friends or entertaining business contacts or employees, you'll find the perfect experience at the Balloon Museum. This event has multiple ticket types and levels. Whichever you choose, you'll have the best views from above the crowds, delicious dining, amenities and access to the city of Albuquerque's Freedom 4th event.

<https://balloonmuseum.com/red-white-and-balloons>

July 4, Chama

Fireworks Train by Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

Join us for a special evening train ride. Departing the Chama Depot at 3 p.m., we take you up to Cumbres Pass, the highest operational railroad pass in America, and return to Chama where you

can enjoy dinner. After dinner, enjoy a world-class fireworks display hosted by the village of Chama from aboard the train. Passengers return to the Chama Depot by train after the fireworks display at 10 p.m.

<https://cumbrestoltec.com/events/2024-4th-of-july-dinner-train>

July 4, Red River

2024 Fourth of July Parade and Celebration

Red River is the perfect place for families, and no time is this more obvious than during the annual Fourth of July Parade and Celebration. The day begins at 10 a.m. with the largest parade in northern New Mexico, followed by a full day of family-friendly activities all over town. After the parade, stroll to Brandenburg Park, where you can enjoy fu, games, music and good food. Then head over to the Red River Community House for family fun.

<https://reddriver.org/events/annual-events/4th-of-july-parade-celebration>

July 4-7, Raton

Fun on Historic 1st Street and International Santa Fe Trail Balloon Rally

Join us in Raton for four fun-filled days over the Independence Day week. Join us July 4 for Fun on Historic 1st Street activities and a fireworks show in downtown Raton, then stay for the International Santa Fe Trail Balloon Rally. Balloons fly at 6:30 a.m. Friday, Saturday and

Include Your Upcoming Event

Send your event details to eventcalendar@nmelectric.coop. Include the event title, date, town and a summary of the event. Include the event website address so readers can get additional event information. Submit the event notification at least 60 days before the event to meet our press deadline. Space is limited, and events are run at the discretion of the editor.

Sunday. The Raton Elks lodge hosts a pancake breakfast from 6 to 9 a.m. every day at the La Mesa Airfield.

<https://ratonmainstreet.org/event/wpwp-content/uploads/2016/03/image1-jpeg>

July 5, Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument

Dark Skies, Bright Stars

Join park rangers at Abó for a spectacular dark sky program. To kick off the evening, enjoy a guided pueblo and mission program from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. Learn about the blending of cultures and the way they shaped central New Mexico for generations. Then, enjoy dark sky viewing through telescopes, check out the dark sky photography station and experience the awe and wonder of a pristine night sky. Wear comfortable shoes, and bring water and your spirit of discovery.

www.nps.gov/sapu/index.htm

July 6, Elephant Butte

Fireworks Show at Elephant Butte Lake

The fireworks show begins at dusk, usually launching from Rattlesnake Island, and can be seen from almost anywhere at the lake. It's the biggest fireworks show in New Mexico reflected on the waters of the state's largest body of water.

<https://sierracountynewmexico.info/local-events/fireworks-show-at-elephant-butte-lake>

July 26-28, Gallup

Route 66 Gallup Freedom Ride Flight & Cruise

The 2024 Annual Gallup Route 66 Freedom Festival provides a fun-filled day for the entire family. Join us at sunrise for the hot air balloon mass ascension at Red Rock Park. Enjoy the annual car show, Wise Fool circus performers, live music with the Voodoo Rhythm and Black Pearl bands, a beer garden and food trucks in downtown Gallup on Saturday.

www.gogallup.com



Member Programs

RE Loan - Up to \$25,000.00

Direct loan of up to \$25,000 to members of RCEC. Loans may be provided to finance the cost of labor and materials for:

- Caulking
- Weather stripping
- Heat pump systems (min. 16 SEER)
- PV/Solar systems
- Small wind generators
- Home insulation
- Storm and thermal windows and doors
- Clock thermostats
- Attic ventilation fans

Energy Efficiency Matching Funds - up to \$1,500.00

Granted for energy efficiency upgrades to existing member residences only for upgrade and improvements to:

- weather stripping
- Heat pump systems (min. 16 SEER)
- Smart water heaters and timers
- Home insulation
- Thermal windows and doors
- Smart thermostats
- Smart lights
- LED Lights
- Attic ventilation fans

Cooperative Careers

Working for one of New Mexico's electric cooperatives is an exciting career move. New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives is dedicated to making a difference for our state's 15 electric cooperatives and the people and rural communities we serve. Our electric cooperative members offer competitive salaries and excellent benefits, and we are always on the lookout for talented and resourceful people to join our teams.

Advertising & Marketing Contractor

New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperatives

NMREC is seeking a candidate for the position of advertising and marketing contractor. This position will be primarily responsible for generating and maintaining print and digital ad sales and sponsorships for the enchantment magazine, the trade publication of New Mexico's electric cooperatives. The advertising and marketing contractor is commission based only and uses a sliding scale commission rate tied to the volume of advertising generated by the contractor. Agriculture advertising and marketing experience is preferred. The advertising and marketing contractor will serve as a liaison between NMREC and our communications cooperative partner. This position will report directly to NMREC's vice president of communications.

Location: Remote.

Careers website: <https://www.nmelectric.coop/careers>.

To apply: Send resumes with a letter of interest to ltucker@nmelectric.coop.

Lineman Foreman (2 Positions)

Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative

CNMEC has an opening for a qualified lineman foreman to join our organization. CNMEC offers competitive wages and an excellent benefits package. CNMEC pays 100% of the premium costs for medical/dental/vision for employee coverage; company paid life insurance and LTD benefits, a generous paid time off program, as well as a 401(k)-retirement plan with company match.

Location: Vaughn, New Mexico and Moriarty/Mountainair, New Mexico

Careers website: <https://cnmec.org/careers>.

To apply: Send resumes with a letter of interest to Suzy Edmonds at suzy.edmonds@cnmec.org.

Journeyman Lineman (2 Positions)

Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative

CNMEC has an opening for a qualified journeyman lineman to join our organization. A New Mexico commercial driver's license (class A) is required. Candidate must live or be willing to relocate within 35 miles of our Mountainair office.

CNMEC offers competitive wages and an excellent benefits package. CNMEC pays 100% of the premium costs for medical/dental/vision for employee coverage; company paid life insurance

and LTD benefits, a generous paid time off program, as well as a 401(k)-retirement plan with company match.

Location: Mountainair, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://cnmec.org/careers>.

To apply: Send resumes with a letter of interest to Suzy Edmonds at suzy.edmonds@cnmec.org.

System Engineer (2 Positions)

Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative

The engineer will be required to assist with engineering, construction, operations and maintenance functions of the Cooperative's substations, distribution and transmission system in such a manner as to assure all facilities meet the highest standards of capacity and condition by employing the most efficient application of engineering planning. Will be required to evaluate, and trouble shoot the electric system and to develop long and short-range planning associated with all major system design, improvement, and inspections ensuring that plans are executed efficiently and orderly.

Location: Moriarty, New Mexico.

Careers website: cnmec.org/careers.

To apply: Send resumes with a letter of interest to Suzy Edmonds at suzy.edmonds@cnmec.org.

Groundman

Central Valley Electric Cooperative

To build, maintain and repair overhead and underground power distribution and transmission lines within the scope of his/her training and certification in a safe and efficient manner within accepted operation standards, approved policies and procedures.

Location: Artesia, New Mexico.

Careers website: www.cvcoop.org/careers.

To apply: Send resumes with a letter of interest to hr@cvcoop.org.

Cashier/Receptionist

Farmers' Electric Cooperative

Farmers' Electric is currently seeking a candidate for a cashier/receptionist in Santa Rosa. This position is responsible for timely and accurate receipt, processing, and balancing of daily payments, making bank deposits, and assisting the billing department when necessary.

Location: Clovis, New Mexico.

Careers website: www.fecnm.org/job-openings

Please send cover letter and resumes to: FEC Attn:

Helen Jo Wallin, PO Box 550 Clovis, NM 88102 or email to hj@fecnm.org.

Position will remain open until filled.

Staking Engineer

Farmers' Electric Cooperative

Farmers' Electric is currently seeking a candidate for a staking engineer person in Clovis, NM. This full-time position involves investigation, surveying, and staking of electric distribution lines in accordance with construction specifications and prepares staking sheets. The staking engineer coordinates new service connections by meeting with consumers, preparing contracts and easements, and scheduling work with construction crews.

Location: Melrose, New Mexico.

Careers website: www.fecnm.org/job-openings.

Please send cover letter and resumes to: FEC Attn: Helen Jo Wallin, PO Box 550 Clovis, NM 88102 or email to hj@fecnm.org.

Position will remain open until filled.

Journeyman Lineman, Cuba and Espanola District Office (2 Positions)

Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative

Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative is accepting applications for the position of journeyman lineman for the Cuba district office. The specific purpose of the journeyman lineman is to utilize their skills and knowledge for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a reliable electric system.

Location: Cuba and Espanola, New Mexico.

Careers website: www.jemezcoop.org/careers.

Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. Applications should be directed to: Dwight Herrera, P.O. Box 128 Española, New Mexico 87532. Email: dherrera@jemezcoop.org.

1st Year Lineman Apprentice, Jemez Springs District Office

Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative

Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative is accepting application materials for the position of 1st year apprentice lineman for the Jemez Springs district office. The specific purpose of the apprentice lineman is to provide for a planned program of progressive training and experiences that will result in the development of skills and knowledge necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of a reliable electric system. Initially, the successful candidate will be classified as a groundman 0-12 months and then converted to a 1st year apprentice lineman after successfully gaining experience in the groundman position for six months.

Location: Jemez Springs, New Mexico.

Careers Website: www.jemezcoop.org/careers.

Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled.

Applications should be directed to: Dwight Herrera, P.O. Box 128 Española, New Mexico 87532. Email: dherrera@jemezcoop.org.

Electrical Engineer

Lea County Electric Cooperative

As an electrical engineer at Lea County Electric Cooperative, you'll play a crucial role in optimizing our electrical distribution system's performance. We're seeking an analytical thinker with attention to detail and a commitment to community impact.

Location: Lovington, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs>. Complete our 3-minute, mobile-friendly application if you're ready to contribute to our success and meet the qualifications. Applications can be submitted online at <https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs>.

IT Technician

Lea County Electric Cooperative

Joining LCEC as an IT support specialist means you'll be at the forefront of maintaining and enhancing our IT infrastructure. Your responsibilities will encompass planning, deploying and optimizing network hardware, software and communication systems, while also implementing effective cybersecurity measures.

Location: Lovington, New Mexico.

Careers website:

<https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs>.

Complete our 3-minute, mobile-friendly application if you're ready to contribute to our success and meet the qualifications. Applications can be submitted online at <https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs/>.

Substation Technician Electric Utility

Lea County Electric Cooperative

The substation technician is responsible for supporting the operation, construction, and maintenance of transmission and distribution stations, including special projects and assignments.

Location: Lovington, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs>. Complete our 3-minute, mobile-friendly application if you're ready to contribute to our success and meet the qualifications. Applications can be submitted online at <https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs>.

System Operator

Lea County Electric Cooperative

LCEC in Lovington, NM is looking to hire a full-time system operator. Responsibilities include monitor and control system loads, voltages, etc., through the operation of control room metering panels, SCADA system and PC software programs. Interpret and evaluate system conditions and take appropriate actions: direct switching, transferring or shedding load. Determine probable cause and location of outages and direct the appropriate personnel in the restoration of power, and more.

Location: Lovington, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs>. Complete our 3-minute, mobile-friendly application if you're ready to contribute to our success and meet the qualifications. Applications can be submitted online at <https://lcecnecnet.applicantpro.com/jobs>.

Journeyman Lineman

Northern Rio Arriba Electric Cooperative

Works under the direction of the director of operations.

Minimum Requirements: High school diploma or GED and certified journeyman lineman.

Hourly Rate: \$30.90 base hourly rate.

Location: Chama, New Mexico

Careers website: <https://www.noraelectric.org/careers>. Application deadline: Opened until filled applications may be picked up at NORA office, via NORA's website or call Victoria Gonzales for more information at

575-756-2181 or email: vgonzales@noraelectric.org.

Journeyman Lineman or Apprentice Lineman (Several Positions)

Otero County Electric Cooperative

Shall be a journeyman in his craft. Performs diversified work of erection, repair and operation of distribution and transmission facilities. Works on energized lines, structures and equipment involved in the distribution of electricity. An apprentice lineman is an employee not hired as a journeyman lineman but assigned by the management of OCEC to become a journeyman lineman and will be required to sign an agreement to pass the OCEC approved four-year apprentice program.

Location: Cloudcroft, Carrizozo and Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://www.ocec-inc.com/careers>. Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled and should be directed to: Kelley Sanders, director of human resources, PO Box 227 Cloudcroft, NM 88317 kelleys@ote-coop.com.

Staking Technician

Otero County Electric Cooperative

Draws staking sheets, keeps mapping system and assists with staking. Performs staking duties. This may be a training position for another engineering position. Assists with investigating, surveying and staking electric lines according to construction specifications and prepares staking sheets. Locate and mark underground electric and fiber lines.

Location: Cloudcroft, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://www.ocec-inc.com/careers>. Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled and should be directed to: Kelley Sanders, director of human resources, PO Box 227 Cloudcroft, NM 88317 kelleys@ote-coop.com.

Area Supervisor (Northern Area)

Otero County Electric Cooperative

Supervises and manages the operations of the northern part of Otero County Electric Cooperative, Inc. distribution and transmission system. Supervises and schedules OCEC line crews and line contractors working in the northern area. Assists with the development and execution of the four-year work plan, maintenance and construction in the northern area.

Location: Cloudcroft, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://www.ocec-inc.com/careers>. Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled and should be directed to: Kelley Sanders, director of human resources, PO Box 227 Cloudcroft, NM 88317 kelleys@ote-coop.com.

Member Service Representative

Otero County Electric Cooperative

Serves as the primary contact to consumers of Otero County Electric Cooperative, Inc. to provide accurate and timely data entry in the provision of services, problem resolution, receiving payments, general inquiries, outages and account maintenance.

Location: Alto, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://www.ocec-inc.com/careers>. Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled and should be directed to: Kelley Sanders, director of human resources, PO Box 227 Cloudcroft, NM 88317 kelleys@ote-coop.com.

Bookkeeper/Accountant

Sierra Electric Cooperative

Under the direction of the finance manager, the bookkeeper/accountant is responsible for keeping a complete and systematic set of records and ledger accounts to record financial transactions

and show financial status of the system; processes payroll, accounts payable and prepares reports and financial statements. As needed, provides company-wide and departmental support as directed and any other functions and requirements deemed necessary by the supervisor.

Location: Elephant Butte, New Mexico.

Careers website:

<https://www.sierraelectric.org/job-openings>.

Submit resume and application to Sierra Electric Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 290, Elephant Butte, NM 87935.

Journeyman Lineman

Socorro Electric Cooperative

The journeyman lineman position is established to provide adequate and abundant central station electric service to all member-owners within the SEC service area at the lowest possible cost. This position will provide specific operational responsibilities to be delegated to a competent, well-trained person whose knowledge of and ability in this position will contribute to the attainment of the basic purpose of the Cooperative. This position is one of active training in line work with a focus on line construction and maintenance. The position has a moderate level of line responsibility and moderate authority to make independent decisions over an assigned function. A person in this position regularly takes responsibility for a key operation or function due to their level of skill.

Location: Socorro, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://www.socorroelectric.com/careers>

Applications are available by contacting human resource manager at service@socorroelectric.com or calling 575-835-0560 ext. 1001.

Apprentice Lineman

Socorro Electric Cooperative

Apprentice lineman is responsible for providing adequate and abundant central station electric service to all members within SEC's service area and providing for specific operational responsibilities to be delegated to a competent, well-trained person whose knowledge of and ability in this position will contribute to the attainment of the basics of the cooperative. This position is one of active training in line work with a focus on line construction and maintenance. A person in this position regularly takes responsibility for a key operation or function due to their level of skill.

Location: Socorro, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://www.socorroelectric.com/careers>

Applications are available by contacting human resource manager at service@socorroelectric.com or calling 575-835-0560 ext. 1001.

Member Service Representative

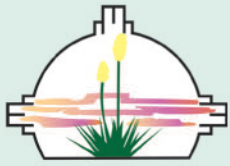
Socorro Electric Cooperative


A member service representative is responsible for accurately and efficiently collecting electric bill payments, maintaining member accounts, and responding to member inquiries and service issues. This position is responsible for maintaining a positive member relationship by providing efficient, accurate and courteous service that will increase member satisfaction and promote goodwill between the Cooperative and its members.

Location: Socorro, New Mexico.

Careers website: <https://www.socorroelectric.com/careers>

Applications are available by contacting human resource manager at service@socorroelectric.com or calling 575-835-0560 ext. 1001.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**General Manager /
Executive Vice President**

Eric Segovia

Address

121 N. Main St.
Portales, NM 88310

Telephone

575-356-4491

Fax

575-359-1651

After Hours

575-356-4492

Email

rcec@rcec.coop

Website

www.rcec.coop

Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (M-F)

Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Board of Trustees

President

Janet Collins, Position 1

Vice President

Charles Bennett Jr., Position 4

Secretary-Treasurer

Chris Duncan,
Position 6, At-Large

Leon Nall, Position 2

Kynzi Shelley, Position 3

Brandon Dewbre, Position 5

Billy Cathey, Position 7, At-Large

Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. in the cooperative boardroom.

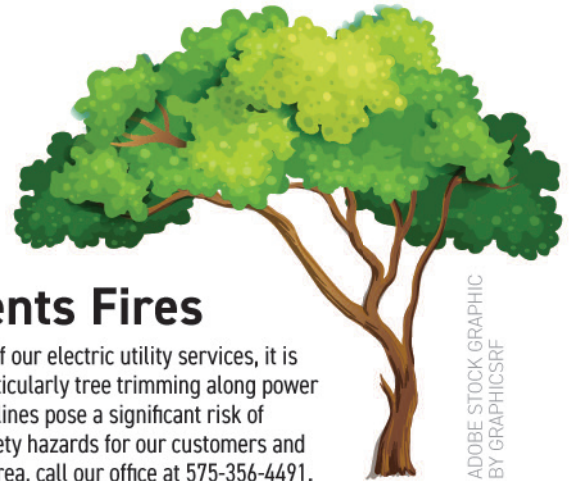


LEFT: Mwali Kuya and Juana Martinez are joining the RCEC engineering department. RIGHT: Isaias Nieto, Edgel Legarda, Noe Lozano and Matthew Garcia (not pictured) are joining the line crew.

Summer Crew Spotlight

Congratulations to Juana Martinez and Mwali Kuya, who join our engineering department this summer.

Also, congratulations to Isaias Nieto, Edgel Legarda, Matthew Garcia and Noe Lozano. They join our line crew this summer.



ADOBE STOCK GRAPHIC
BY GRAPHICSRF

Tree Trimming Prevents Fires

As we continue to ensure the safety and reliability of our electric utility services, it is imperative to address vegetation management, particularly tree trimming along power lines. Trees and overhanging branches near power lines pose a significant risk of causing power outages, equipment damage and safety hazards for our customers and employees. If you see a need for trimming in your area, call our office at 575-356-4491.



We wish You a Safe and Happy Fourth of July

The RCEC office will be closed for Independence Day. If you should have an outage or emergency, call our after-hours number at 575-356-4492.

Job Anniversaries

- Clint Walker, 25 years
- Cesar Gonzales, 9 years
- Sam Tapia, 8 years



NRECA Youth Tour

RCEC is proud to help students learn about democracy in our nation's capital

Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative is sending four local students to Washington, D.C., as part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour.

Participants will get to learn about democracy and history while meeting with senators and representatives, and touring museums and memorials.



Ashton Davis



Devin Diaz



Kyleigh Stephenson



Roderic Neal



youth art

August Topic:

August 7 is Friendship Day. Draw you and your best friend as a superhero duo.

September Topic:

Happy Labor Day! Draw yourself doing a job you'd like to have when you're older.

Send Your Drawing

By mail: Youth Editor
614 Don Gaspar Ave.
Santa Fe, NM 87505
By email:

tcondit@nmelectric.coop

Deadline: Submit by the ninth, one month prior to publication.

Hooray!

Winners receive a \$15 gift card.

Have a Youth Art Topic?

Email or mail to the addresses above, or call 505-982-4671.

5 items to include on the back of your drawing, otherwise YOU ARE DISQUALIFIED:

1. Name
2. Age
3. Mailing Address
4. Phone Number
5. Electric Co-op

DON'T FORGET THESE ITEMS!

Artwork accepted up to age 13.

Congratulations to the winning artists who drew their buried treasure trove finds!

Lucas De La Cruz • Age 5
Lea County Electric Cooperative



Timber Levacy • Age 7
Roosevelt Electric Cooperative



Fernando Ardila • Age 9
Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative



Rowan Vinson • Age 8
Otero County Electric Cooperative



Jolie Edgmon • Age 8
Sierra Electric Cooperative



Julianna Padilla • Age 8
Socorro Electric Cooperative



GEORGE GALANIS

CULTURAL CENTER

CULTURE • COMMUNITY • CONNECTION



A project of the Southwest Indian Foundation

MUSEUM • CAFE • THEATER

201 E. HISTORIC HIGHWAY 66

GALLUP, NEW MEXICO

505•728•8048

gallupculturalcenter.org



For the Members of Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR BETTER BUILDINGS

Whether your home or business, the buildings you enter daily consist of several layers that create one building envelope, or shell. The envelope begins with the foundation in the ground and ends with the roof, and includes everything in between such as walls, windows and doors. To save energy and maintain comfort, an envelope should limit the transfer of heat in or out of the building. Improve your building envelope by applying weatherization best practices.

+ AIR SEAL CRACKS AND HOLES

Caulking and weatherstripping are cost-efficient air-sealing techniques that help maintain a comfortable temperature in your space. Air-seal gaps around windows, doors, electrical outlets, and other wall or ceiling penetrations to reduce drafts. Weatherstripping around the interior of door frames and window sashes will also limit drafts in these areas and improve the energy efficiency of your home.

+ ENSURE ADEQUATE INSULATION

One of the best ways to reduce your energy bills and increase the comfort of your home is by ensuring adequate and effective insulation in your home. The Department of Energy recommends that a home have 12 to 16 inches of attic insulation. However, not all insulation has the same effectiveness for energy efficiency, and as insulation ages that effectiveness declines. There are also several methods for insulation depending on where you live and the part of your home you are insulating (walls, crawlspace, attic, etc.) so it's best to contact a local certified contractor. Check your local building codes for requirements.

+ RESEARCH INCOME-QUALIFIED PROGRAMS

Some income-qualified programs provide air sealing and insulation, along with making sure your home is safe, if you have combustion appliances like a gas furnace or water heater. Certain programs even cover up to 80% of the median area income and provide these improvements at no cost to the homeowner and in many cases renters as well.

To learn more about income-qualified programs, rebates, and incentives for energy-efficient upgrades, contact your local co-op or public power district. Visit us at www.tristate.coop/electrify-and-save



TRI-STATE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Tri-State is a not-for-profit power supplier to cooperatives and public power districts in Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico and Wyoming.

 **ELECTRIFY AND SAVE™**