

"Hotlines"

Published Monthly
for the Members of
Alfalfa Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Cherokee, OK
www.aec.coop



*"A penny saved is a penny earned."
Ben Franklin started something...*



July 2014

Number 7, Volume 69

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Area News Briefs



July 4th 2014 falls on
Friday this year. Find
out about
your community's
celebration!

**SUMMERTIME HIT!
CALL FOR AN A/C
CHECK-UP!
(YOU WILL BOTH RUN
BETTER...)
AEC SERVICES, INC.
(580) 596-2638 or
1-800-853-4969**

**Relay for Life of Woods and
Alfalfa counties.**

*Held at the Cherokee football
stadium, beginning on July 11,
2014 at 7:00 pm and ending at
2:00 am Saturday morning.
Please come support and cheer on
others in their walk to cure cancer!*

**SEE
AEC ON
FACEBOOK**

**POWER OUTAGE?
(580) 596-3333
OR
1-888-736-3837**

To place brief announcements
in "Hotlines" please call
(580) 596-3333 EARLY

Operation Round-Up pennies help area libraries and schools



AEC Member, Regina Waugh presents a \$500 check to Freedom Principal, Brett Hill. The funds are needed to purchase athletic equipment.

Area schools, senior citizens, libraries and ball teams have benefitted from Operation Round-Up pennies gleaned after "rounding off" electrical bills to the nearest dollar.

At at time when rural schools

and libraries are feeling the crunch of stressed economics, the pennies are most welcome.

con't on page 3

ALTERNATING CURRENTS...

Phone Store No More

By Christina Eshleman

Due to contractual obligations beyond our control, Alfalfa Electric Cooperative is no longer an agent on behalf of Pioneer Cellular. This change was effective on May 1, 2014. We want to thank all the Pioneer customers that chose AEC to help meet your cellular needs.

In our quest to improve the services provided to our membership in this rural area, AEC entered the cellular phone arena as an agent several years ago. Over time, the demand for us to provide this service for our customer base has decreased dramatically. In the best business interest of AEC, it is time to end our affiliation with Pioneer Cellular.

Since we are no longer able to provide this service, we recommend you go to the following locations for help in the future:

Sights & Sounds in Alva, OK

South Central Telcom in Kiowa, KS

Pioneer Cellular store in Helena, OK

Pioneer Cellular stores in Enid, OK



Ben Franklin's key to electricity and more...

We can't stop thinking about Ben Franklin around Independence Day. So many inventions and clever remarks have been attributed to him.

Born on January 17, 1706 in Boston, the man lived a very full life—too full to document here. He and his wife Deborah were married for 44 years. Their first child died of smallpox when he was four years old. Patriotically speaking, the main attributes given to Franklin are: He was a committee member of five who documented the Declaration of Independence and one of thirteen to draft the Articles of Confederation. The “We hold these truths to be self-evident” was Franklin's.

Franklin clearly lived in a different time. His father was a candle-maker. Perhaps that first gave him a desire to experiment with electrical charges. He invented lightning rods—still used on many farm homes. He brought electrical “parlor tricks” into positive energy, inventing the electrostatic machine.

When Franklin tied a key to a kite to try to harness electricity, he was 46 years old and his son, William, was 21 (even though some drawings show him younger.)

The patriot's life was most interesting and varied. He was once a swimming instructor but we remem-

ber him for his Poor Richard's Almanac. To fill up blank spaces he wrote funny little quips, amusing repeat customers. His book was a best seller. With humility never a problem, Franklin drafted a Lord's Prayer which he claimed was better than the one in the Bible.

Still, Franklin founded universities, libraries and Philadelphia's first police and fire departments.

He was in the printing industry, having businesses in many locations in and out of the Colonies. He helped repeal the Stamp Act with a vengeance.

As first Ambassador to France, Franklin became a key politician in Europe and a popular gentleman in social circles. Daughter Sarah Bache kept writing him to return home to see the grandchildren... As a widower of 74, he asked a Madame Helvetius of France to marry him, but she declined.

Franklin's country honored him by placing his face on the \$100 bill and often calling him the “First American.” Franklin died on April 17, 1790, the same year his friend, George Washington passed away.



con't from page 1

Round-Up pennies help schools, libraries



On a winter day, Mainstreet Director Schaun Aker (left) and Linda Warner, Cherokee Mainstreet Board Secretary (and AEC Executive Secretary) show a friendly snowman their \$250 Round-Up check.

The funds will be used for the *Kids Santa Store* where children are assisted individually to shop for their own family Christmas gifts.



The Greater Carmen Library needs a computer for public use. Librarian Loreta Green (left) applied for assistance at **Operations Round-Up**. (Applications are available in the AEC office of Regina Waugh.)

ORU Board Member Edith Jones presents \$500 to apply towards the new computer.

Who says pennies can't buy happiness?



- June 9, 1972 in the Black Hills near Rapid City, South Dakota, 15 inches of rain fell in five hours. There were 238 fatalities and \$166 million in damages.
- On June 14, 1990 in Shady-side, Ohio, 4 inches of rain fell in less than two hours producing a 30-foot-high wall of water and 26 people dead. This storm resulted in \$6 million to \$8 million in damages.
- On August 1, 1985 in Cheyenne, Wyoming, 6 inches of rain fell in three hours resulting in 12 people losing their lives and \$61 million in damages.

When summertime storms occur in the Midwest it is usually a welcome relief from the heat. Flooding is a natural sequence of prolonged rainfall over several days but flash flooding is a result of two elements: rainfall intensity and duration. What rejuvenates a parched field can still cause major flooding in roadways and some neighborhoods.

Signs across Oklahoma warn drivers about flash-flooding dangers. According to NOAA, most flood deaths occur during flash flooding because victims are usually caught unaware in a sudden emergency.

Depending upon soil conditions and ground cover, flash flooding occurs within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall, a dam or levee failure or (in winter) a sudden release of water held by an ice jam.

Drivers must be aware that flash flooding can roll boulders, tear out trees, destroy buildings and scour out new channels.

Rapidly rising water can reach heights of 30 feet or more and flash flooding rains can cause catastrophic mud slides. After the Moore tornadoes of 2013, several people sought refuge in storm drains and drowned in the rapidly rising torrents.

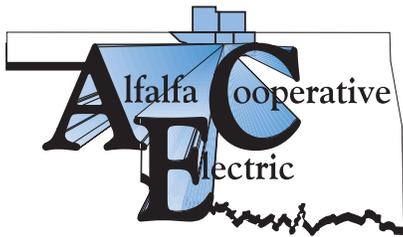
Some of the worst recorded flash floods were:

Closer to AEC land, at the Lake Thunderbird marina, more than 400 boats were damaged or destroyed on May 10, 2010. Areas in Norman, Blackwell and Kingfisher are often subject to high-water situations after a heavy rainfall.

Do not drive a vehicle in deep water. Many cars have low chassis and will flood easily. Also, once the vehicle gets in deep water, drivers can become trapped inside or stranded on top.

Drivers should be alert in low-lying neighborhoods. Never be enticed to drive in standing water. The risk is too great!

Source: National Weather Service



The **Hotlines** is published monthly by Alfalfa Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 39, 121 E. Main,
Cherokee, OK 73728

www.aec.coop

Staff

Colin Whitley
Chief Executive Officer
and General Manager

Ron Shafer
Manager, Operations
and Public Relations

Gail Ridgway
Manager of
Office Services

Greg Goetz
Director of Engineering

Christy Schanbacher
Director, Accounting

Terry Ryel
Director of Marketing
and Technical Services

Jim Daub
Superintendent of
Construction and
Maintenance

Kyle Hadwiger
Attorney

Bonnie Haas
Staff Writer

Board of Trustees

Dr. Carl Newton
Pres. - Cherokee, OK
District 8

John Regier
Vice. Pres. - Ringwood, OK
District 4

Dennis Ferrell
Sec. Treas. Burlington, OK
District 1

Douglas McMurtrey
Cherokee, OK
District 2

Debbie Ferguson
Freedom, OK
District 3

Steve Eck
Sharon, KS
District 6

Joe Hise
Cleo Springs, OK
District 7

Joe Waggoner
Nash, OK
District 5