

“Hotlines”

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



POWER OUTAGE?
(580) 596-3333 OR
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October 2018

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



AREA NEWS BRIEFS

National Cooperative Month AEC is committed to serving its members and their communities.

October 7-13
Fire Prevention Week
LOOK. LISTEN. LEARN.
Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere.

October 31 Halloween
Be on the lookout for the trick-or-treaters. Have a safe Halloween.

FOR ALL YOUR HEATING, COOLING, AND INSULATION NEEDS CALL AEC SERVICES, INC. (580) 596-3333 or 800-853-4969



Co-ops see the future

Dramatic changes are transforming all aspects of the energy industry. Interest in renewable energy is at an all-time high, and ultimately consumers want greater control over their energy use and payment methods. The prevalence of smart-phone apps and “smart” technology for the home is increasing, and consumers and businesses are showing more significant interest in electric vehicles. There’s no denying it: electric utilities will have to make changes to the way they provide energy to accommodate these trends.

Co-ops are community-led. October is National Co-op Month, which is the perfect time to highlight the many ways electric cooperatives are unique. Cooperatives are locally governed, looking out for the long-term needs of their members.

Alfalfa Electric Cooperative belongs to the communities it serves. This heightened community focus allows the co-op to quickly adapt to evolving member expectations. The closeness to the community ensures a better response to these needs because AEC is led by the people that it serves.

Co-ops are a catalyst for good. Electric co-ops, like Alfalfa Electric, are a catalyst for good in their communities. Cooperatives engage their members to do things that might otherwise be impossible or difficult, like more than 75

years ago when electric co-ops brought power to areas where other utilities did not find it economically feasible. Cooperatives exist to meet a need that was previously unmet in the community, and they are ever striving to anticipate and plan for the future needs of their members.

Electric cooperatives often partner with local groups to bring economic opportunities to their local community. It is this facilitation role that is often the most valuable strength of the co-op. Right here in our seven-county service territory, AEC partners with several other agencies to improve rural communities.

Partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), AEC helped the Avarad Regional Rail Park Authority Trust receive an economic loan. The USDA, Woods County, and AEC worked together to get the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant for the Avarad project at a 0% interest loan for seven years.

AEC is also involved in grants such as the Sharing Success Grants, where they partner with CoBank. This grant is for non-profit organizations. AEC’s Round-Up program has been very successful. After fifteen years running, Operation Round-Up has distributed \$496,565 to its members. This program is making a real difference in the communities throughout the AEC territory.

The co-op business model is unique.

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ALTERNATING CURRENTS...

**Justin Hughes
Lineman**



Justin was born in Manhattan, KS and graduated from Manhattan Senior High School. He went to a technical college where he earned his electrical lineman's certification. He and fellow AEC Journeyman Logan Steele received their certification from Manhattan Area Technical College in 2012.

Seeking employment, Justin came to Cherokee with the oil and gas boom. After a short time, he heard of an opening at AEC. He was an apprentice for three years and has been a lineman for one year. He is a modest guy, but he is proudly getting close to achieving his goal of becoming a journeyman. The best part of Justin's job as an AEC lineman is knowing that he helps to keep the power on for thousands of people.

Justin's parents, David and Gail Hughes, live in Manhattan, KS. He feels like his father has inspired him to be kind to others and to work hard. His 24-year-old sister Jamie also lives in Manhattan. Justin lives in Cherokee with his German shepherd, Archer.

When Justin isn't working at AEC, he enjoys hanging out with his friends and going camping and fishing. He spends time working on different projects in his backyard shed. Few people know that Justin is a computer geek and enjoys building computers.

Justin has no real plans for an extravagant vacation. He just enjoys places with beautiful scenery and pleasant weather. He doesn't like the busy city life. So for now, Cherokee, OK, should do just fine for Justin.

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It is pragmatic, mission-oriented and puts people first. Co-ops strive to be a trusted voice in their communities. Co-ops have earned that trust. While not perfect, Alfalfa Electric Cooperative always

has its members' best interest at heart and is determined to enrich the lives of those living and working in the communities they serve—now and in the future.

Prevent electrical fires

Fires can destroy homes and valuables and take lives.

Electrical fires are particularly destructive and deadly. Safe Electricity encourages you to learn how to prevent electrical fires.

Electricity is around us all the time. Since electricity is normally harmless and helpful, it is easy to forget that electricity is also dangerous.

Electrical fires can be prevented by understanding your electrical system and taking proper precautions.

If electronics spark, you regularly experience shocks, or the lights flicker when you plug in electronics, you have an electrical problem. Contact a qualified electrician to inspect your home. If your home has never had an inspection, consider getting one, especially if you live in an older home.

Switch plates and outlet covers that are discolored or warm to the touch indicate a problem. Immediately shut off light switches that are hot to the touch. Have them professionally replaced.

Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs) help prevent electric fires. AFCIs are installed in circuit boxes where they monitor electricity. If the AFCI detects a dangerous situation that could start a fire, electrical power is shut off. A qualified

electrician can install AFCIs in your home.

Use light bulbs that are rated for the fixture. If you use a light bulb with a higher wattage than specified, the light can overheat and start a fire.

Extension cords are only for temporary use. If too many electronics are plugged into an outlet or extension cord, the outlet can become overloaded and start a fire.

Electronics, appliances and cords should be kept in good working condition. Damaged electronics; worn, cracked, or frayed cords; and power plugs with the third grounding pin removed should be repaired or replaced.

Cords should not be under rugs, used in high-traffic areas, or tacked to the wall.

Children and pets should know outlets, cords, and plugs are not toys.

If you are putting a nail into a wall,

know what lies behind the wall. A punctured wire could shock you immediately, or cause a fire in weeks, months, or years. Some electronic stud finders can be used to locate wires and avoid them.

Even if you do everything possible to prevent an electrical fire, you should still have a plan if a fire does happen. Have smoke alarms, and be sure their batteries work. Know two ways to exit your home, and designate a meeting place for your family.



The post office has determined that these capital credit checks were undeliverable. AEC would like your help in finding the rightful owners. Please call (580) 596-3333 and ask for Christy Schanbacher, Gina Waugh, or Jess Schanbacher if you have current contact information for the following individuals or their heirs. If you are unable to speak with one of these ladies, please leave a message with the name and the correct address. The remaining individual list along with the list of businesses will continue in the November *Hotlines*.

3Tec Energy Corporation	Beall, Thomas	Brune, Emma J	Cimarron Operating Co
Abel, Janis	Beard, Bill	Bryant, Clayton	Clafin, Doris
Abr Enterprises, Llc	Beer, Jack	Buckingham, Bobby	Clark, Beryl
Adair, James	Behne, Terry	Buffalo Operating Llc	Clark, Charles
Adams, Jami	Beierman, Harold	Bullard, Gary	Clark, Harry V
Adamson, Mike	Belk, David	Burks, Belinda	Classen, Ronaye
Adkins, Gerald	Bell, Chris	Bush, Mary Lou	Classic Cable Of Oklahoma
Aguilar, Mario	Bell, James D	Butler, Don	Cleary Exploration Llc
Ake, Roy	Belter, David	C & C Development	Cleary Petroleum
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Alder, John	Bergerson, Blanche	Camlen, Donald D	Cloutier, Kimberly
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Almack, Jim	Bible Baptist Church	Camp, Don R	Coggins, John
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Anaya, Joyce	Blowey, Clayton	Campbell, Jimmy L	Coleman, David
Anderson, Danny	Blue, Barbara	Campbell, Justin	Coleman, Eunice
Andrews, Janet	Boatman, Ray	Caring Company	Coles, Kendell
Apac Oklahoma Inc	Bobwhite Prod Co Inc P	Carlson, Adam	Collins & Mitchell
Applied Geoscience Env	Boehs, Jake B	Carmen Field Ltd Prtsp	Collins, Jack N
Ard, Bonita	Bogo Energy Corp	Carpenter, Evelyn R	Collins, Kelly
Aries Operating Llc	Bowman, Frances	Carpenter, William	Colwell, Michael
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Arzo	Boyce, Allen	Carver, Edward	Combs, Janel
Ashley, Jackie	Boyett, Daniel	Carver, Eugene E	Conrady, Carl
Ashley, Shirley	Bradford, Bonnie J	Case, Naomi	Conrady, Herman
Aspen Energy Group Inc	Bradley, Virginia	Castle Rock Medical Group	Conrady, John
Assembly Of God Church - Waldron KS	Bragg, C W	Castleberry, Michael	Conrady, Mike
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Austin Farms	Brewer, Toby	Cell, Chance	Coontz, Hazel
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Bagshaw, Leona	Brinson, Charles J	Chandler, Brandon	Coppock, Cameron
Bahm, Anna	Briscoe Oil Operating Co	Chapman, Mikel	Corbin, Marvin
Ball, Leonard	Brittany Energy Llc	Charter Oak Production Co	Corbin, Robert
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Barns, Edward L	Broomfield, James	Chestnut, Jay	Courtright, Roy
Barrett, Gabreail	Brothers, Kevin	Chewning, Jacquelin E	Cox, Bill Don
Baxter, Robert	Brower, Robert C	Chism, Elwanda M	Coyle, Dava
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Bayliff, Brent	Brown, Edith	Christmas, Harry	Craig, Bobby
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	Brown, Olen R	Cimarron Neighbors Club	Crawford Oil, Gas, Energies

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