

The Current

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Youth power fuels Energy Camp



Eighth-graders representing Cotton Electric at 2016 YouthPower Energy Camp included, from left, Alexis Foxworth, Emily Roden, Jessie Bone, Mecailla Southerland, Hanna Powell, Jayson Werger, Kaelyn Dobbins, Brooklin Bain and Maddie McCants. All are children of Cotton Electric members. They attend school in Geronimo, Walters or Comanche.

By Karen Kaley

Finding ways to make use of renewable energy is on many minds these days. Wouldn't it be great if the renewable energy of eighth-graders could be channeled toward a brighter future for all of us? In a way, electric cooperatives from across Oklahoma do just that with YouthPower Energy Camp.

Every year, Cotton Electric selects a group of young teens to represent the co-op during a four-day fun-filled adventure at a camp just east of Hinton. Students representing Cotton in 2016 included Mecailla Southerland and Jayson Werger of Geronimo; Madigan McCants and Jessie Bone of Walters; and Hanna Powell, Kaelyn Dobbins, Brooklin Bain, Emily Roden and Alexis Foxworth of Comanche.

They were among nearly 90 outstanding students who gathered on the day after Memorial Day to meet new friends in the beautiful Canyon Camp. Campers collected in the main hall for introductions and instructions before a few get-to-know-you games. They heard about life before electricity and what it means to be a co-op director or manager.

There was a break to burn off energy

in the swimming pool or with a game of volleyball or basketball. Some campers played lawn games before it was time for dinner.

The group played more crazy games before forming a Coke and candy cooperative. This was followed by an Energy Battle, a game of trivia questions about things learned earlier in the day about cooperatives and about pop culture.

Because the camp is in a canyon, there is never a worry about some of Oklahoma's more dramatic weather, but rain can mean switching the planned schedule around. And when it rained during outdoor games, it wasn't a problem, just an opportunity to have a water balloon competition.

At YouthPower Energy Camp 2016, campers got to do it all.

No one missed out on opportunities to strap on lineman's hooks and belts before attempting to climb a utility pole. All got a chance to ride up high in the basket of a truck and all jumped when the high-voltage demonstration sizzled and popped.

Kaelyn Dobbins said she was glad she learned how utility poles and lines operate and how dangerous they can be. Hanna Powell enjoyed the opportunity

to climb a pole and really liked going up in the truck basket.

“The view was so amazing!”

Every group was able to nominate and participate in a board member election. The newly-elected board then conducted interviews and hired a general manager for the Coke and candy co-op.

And, of course, every Energy Camper went to Celebration Station for an afternoon of go-carts, water bumper boats and arcade games. Mecailla Southerland said that outing was a highlight of the camping experience for her.

Campers also went up into leafy areas surrounding the canyon to participate in team-building exercises on a low-ropes course.

Emily Roden said the ropes course was very exciting and it helped her learn how a group can work together. Jayson Werger said he learned it is easier to work together to accomplish a goal.

The final night of Energy Camp is when a lot of eighth-grade energy is burned during a dance. The young teens get their fill of line dancing, two-step lessons and karaoke. Jessie Bone said the dance was awesome, and Maddie McCants said she learned some new dance moves.

The final morning is for thank-you notes and hugs and just a few tears as the new best friends prepare to part. They make promises to keep in touch, look for each other on Instagram and Snapchat and then make the long trek back to their co-ops and their homes.

Some will go on to other camps, some will go on to ball tournaments, some will relax for a long, lazy summer of recharging their inner batteries. All will keep happy memories of the four days at Energy Camp and think of their parents' electric cooperative in a new light.

Alexis Foxworth said what she had learned about cooperatives was extraordinary.

Brooklin Bain said, “I wouldn't trade these memories for anything.”

YouthPower Energy Camp, sponsored by Oklahoma's electric cooperatives, is designed to help students develop their leadership skills, have summertime fun and, at the same time, learn about one of rural America's most important industries – rural electrification. With this new understanding of co-ops, young people can consider returning for a chance to be selected for Youth Tour or to make a career out of energizing rural areas.

Power Cost Adjustment Calculated

The power cost adjustment now being applied to bills mailed after June 1, 2016, is \$0.00679 per kWh.

On a member's average bill of 1500 kilowatt hours (kWh), this will amount to a charge of \$10.18 on the June bill.

May 2016 Temperature Extremes

Day	High	Low	Avg.	Day	High	Low	Avg.
1	67	48	58	16	77	59	68
2	68	46	57	17	67	56	62
3	74	41	58	18	63	53	58
4	83	48	66	19	62	54	58
5	83	49	66	20	77	58	68
6	83	49	66	21	81	63	72
7	84	55	70	22	83	67	75
8	82	61	72	23	81	62	72
9	87	58	73	24	88	66	77
10	94	52	73	25	92	75	84
11	87	59	73	26	87	63	75
12	80	56	68	27	89	66	78
13	84	51	68	28	86	63	75
14	66	53	60	29	89	63	76
15	62	54	58	30	86	64	75
				31	85	67	76

Source: srb.noaa.gov/oum/

Average Daily High: 80 Average Daily Low: 57

Did You Know?

Cotton Electric offices will be closed Monday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday. Emergency calls will be answered at 580-875-3351 or 800-522-3520.

The next issue of The Current should arrive in mailboxes on or about July 18, 2016.

Contact Us

Do you have a story idea for The Current or do you need to place an ad? If so, let us know.

We can be reached at 580-875-3351 or by email at info@cottonelectric.com.

You can also drop us a line at Cotton Electric Current, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572.

What's Inside

Operating Stats.....	2
Co-op News.....	2
Community.....	3
Co-op News.....	4-6
Puzzles.....	7
Co-op News.....	8-12
Recipes.....	13
Nutrition.....	14
Classifieds.....	16-21
Co-ops Vote.....	22

More news at cottonelectric.com

From the CEO

Caring about youth is cooperative way

Our daily mission and focus at Cotton Electric is providing you with safe and reliable electricity at an affordable rate. But our responsibility doesn't stop at the meter. The Board of Trustees and employees are dedicated to improving the quality of life for Cotton Electric members throughout our service territory in other ways. One aspect, our youth programs, is highlighted in this month's issue.

This is a special time of year at Cotton Electric as we gear up for Youth Tour and Youth Power Energy Camp. The planning and competition are behind us and the selected students eagerly prepare to join others from across the state to learn, have fun and broaden their horizons.



Jennifer Meason, CEO

During June, Cotton Electric will send four students from our area to Washington, D.C., for the 52nd Annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Young people who experience Youth Tour have the opportunity to explore our nation's capital, make lasting friendships, learn a bit about how our government operates and see the impact electric cooperatives have on the legislative process. Karen Kaley, Cotton Electric's communication specialist and editor of *The Current*, will join the Oklahoma group on Youth Tour and will share the group's adventures in the July issue.

In addition to Youth Tour, we also sent nine eighth-graders to the Youth Power Energy Camp

held at Canyon Camp in Hinton. Youth Power Energy Camp is designed to help cooperative youth develop leadership skills, have summertime fun, and at the same time learn about one of rural America's most important industries – rural electrification.

This summer camp teaches students about the cooperative business model. In fact, the campers get to create and run a co-op while they are at camp. They establish a soda and candy cooperative and proceed to handle co-op business – from voting on Board members and choosing a General Manager, to setting prices and determining inventory for their business.

The cooperative also invests in youth through our safety and education programs. Throughout the year, Cotton Electric employ-

ees put on presentations at local schools and events, emphasizing the safe use of electricity. You may also see our linemen giving bucket truck rides and showing off their lineman's gear to curious little minds.

What all of these programs have in common, no matter how big or small, is Cotton Electric's investment in our area youth. Teaching about the cooperative difference and giving students the opportunity to see and reach their potential is an investment from which we all benefit.

As always, please contact me with any suggestions you have to make your cooperative better or issues relating to your electric service. I can be reached at 580-875-3351 or by email at jmeason@cottonelectric.com.

Former trustee Ketchum passes away

Former Cotton Electric trustee Edwin Ketchum passed away May 31, 2016. He was 89.

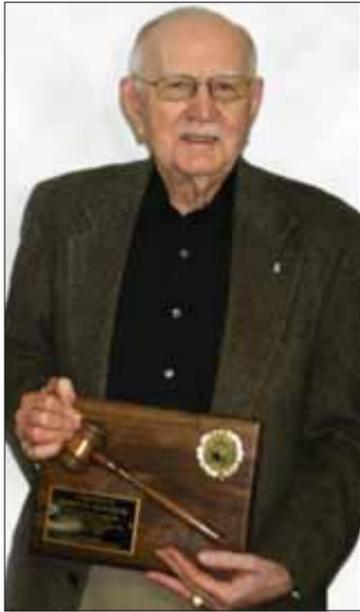
Ketchum was a part of a family with a long history of working to improve the life of ranchers, farmers and others in rural areas, not just in Stephens County, where he lived all his life, but around the world.

Ed Ketchum was in grade school when his family went to a Cotton Electric Cooperative celebration at Sultan Park in Walters. It was the Day of Light, Aug. 26, 1939, and the Ketchums had traveled from their home 15 miles east of Duncan to witness the ceremonial throwing of a switch that would bring electricity to rural southwest Oklahoma.

Ketchum said there was a terrific electrical storm later that night which made him feel skeptical about the benefits of electricity. He eventually changed his mind.

His father had no doubts about the idea of electrifying rural homes. Leonard Ketchum was a charter trustee for District #1 of the cooperative and went on to serve for 32 years.

When the elder Ketchum retired in 1970, Cotton Electric trustees felt Ed was a natural choice and appointed him to fill the seat his father



In April 2010, Ketchum was honored with the Good Neighbor Award for Meritorious Service.

had vacated.

The younger Ketchum's commitment to the cooperative also proved to be a long one. When he retired in December 2009, Ed Ketchum had served for 39 years.

The co-op blossomed during Ed Ketchum's tenure. Membership grew from 9,700 to nearly 15,000. Many improvements took place within the system and in the coun-

ties it serves. Advances in technology made a significant difference in the co-op's efficiency.

Ketchum said things as simple as paved roads made a difference in the co-op's ability to serve its rural members. He credited modern communication, too. "Outages are not as long ... repairs are made sooner" because of better coordination with the co-op dispatcher.

In April 2010, Ketchum was honored with the Good Neighbor Award for Meritorious Service, recognizing his long-term exceptional service to rural electrification and efforts in local and state activities beyond Cotton Electric.

Ketchum received many awards and recognitions for his involvement in numerous activities and organizations that worked to improve his community, county, state and country. He was also instrumental in efforts to eliminate the screw-worm fly in the U.S. and in Central America. His work with the regents of Oklahoma State University fostered education of young people from all over the globe.

Survivors include Velma, his beloved wife of 68 years; two sons and a daughter-in-law; two grandchildren and a great-grandson.

R_x
Prescription for Savings:
 Co-op Connections' Card

Average savings in May 2016:
\$28.52

Cotton Electric Co-op members are getting some extra relief by presenting their Co-op Connections Card when getting prescriptions filled at participating pharmacies.

During the month of May, members used their cards at pharmacies in the CEC service area when filling 193 prescriptions not covered by insurance. A total of \$3,137.20 was discounted on 110 prescriptions for an average savings of \$28.52 per use.

The total savings since the program's inception in April 2008 has been \$584,984.

The card is free to all members and can be obtained by calling 580-875-3351.

To find a participating pharmacy call Member Services at 800-800-7616 or visit www.locateproviders.com. Type 22203 into the Group field and click 'log in' to start your search.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: energy.gov

MISSION STATEMENT
 Our mission is to be the leader in providing the most reliable and innovative electric system, with affordable rates, through the positive, enthusiastic and professional use of its resources and people.

	2016	2015
Total Amount Billed/Accrued	\$4,423,939	\$4,623,501
Cost of Purchased Power	3,099,292	3,540,226
Taxes	86,610	103,710
Total Operating Expense Per Mile	921	1,000
Average Farm and Residential Bill	105	99
Average Farm and Residential kWh	828	788
Total Meters Billed (farm, residential)	18,222	18,238
Miles Energized	5,155	5,146
Density Per Mile	3.53	3.54
New Service Connects YTD	59	95
Services Retired	34	54

The Current

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 Jennifer Meason CEO
 Bryce Hooper..... Vice President of Marketing
 Karen Kaley..... Editor
 Jennifer Kriz..... Display Advertising

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Community Spotlight

If you would like your community event listed in the July issue, please submit information by July 5 by calling 580-875-4259 or send an email to info@cottonelectric.com.

Founder's Day packed with activities

There are several activities planned in Duncan to celebrate Founder's Day on June 25. They include:

5K run – Registration and packet pickup begins at 6:30 a.m. at Fuqua Park. A one-mile fun run begins at 7:30, and the USATF-sanctioned 5K run starts at 8. The event is a fundraiser for the Oklahoma chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. For information, visit [Facebook.com/foundersday5k](https://www.facebook.com/foundersday5k) or send an email to jashgaz@outlook.com.

Queen crowning – Stephens County Historical Museum crowns the Founder's Day queen at 10:30 a.m. in the pergola at Fuqua Park.

Foreman Prairie House open house – Events recognize Duncan's birthday, when the first train came through in 1892. Open from 10:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Founder's Day, the historic location will host crafters and musicians in addition to tours of the house.

Antique tractor parade and show – Registration begins at 9 a.m. at 12th and Walnut. Parade is at 10 a.m. on Walnut from 12th to Seventh. Tractors will be on display for public viewing until noon award ceremony for Oldest Tractor, Founder's Day Queen's Choice and Most Original.

Art Walk – Artists, performers, kids' zone and food vendors are part of this fine-arts event presented by Chisholm Trail Arts Council. Artists' booths will open from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Children can experience "Art in Action" in our Kids Korner and take home a small art project.

Live entertainment – Families are encouraged to take lawn chairs to enjoy live entertainment throughout the day at Fuqua Park. The evening will conclude with a free concert featuring Red Dirt music by Kaitlin Butts at 7:30 p.m.

Noon Lions play 36th open rodeo

Duncan Noon Lions will present the 36th annual open rodeo at 7:30 nightly June 23, 24 and 25 in Claud Gill Arena, just south of the Stephens County fairgrounds.

Admission price at the gate is \$8 for adults and \$3 for children.

Proceeds from the event are used in Stephens County to promote vision conservation, provide scholarships and support other local charitable efforts.

CTHC hosts Kelli Brown photos

Chisholm Trail Heritage Center is hosting an exhibition of the photography of Kelli Brown. Dramatic landscapes, cowboys, cowgirls and horses are all part of the everyday life on the historic working ranch of the R.A. Brown Ranch in Throckmorton, Texas, and captured by the Western life photographer. Along with the photographs will be a history of the ranch, which has been featured by the Smithsonian.

The exhibit will run through Aug. 12.

Chisholm Trail Heritage Center is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Cotton Electric members can present a Co-op Connections Card to get a \$1 discount on admission.

LCT presents 'Gypsy'

Lawton Community Theatre closes the 2015-16 season with the 1959 musical "Gypsy."

This American musical classic is about a domineering stage mother's efforts to get her daughters into show business,

and her inadvertent creation of a burlesque superstar.

Performances are set for 8 p.m. June 16-19. Ticket information is available at www.LCT-OK.org.

Town of Velma celebrates summer

Team roping, a farmers market, bounce houses and fireworks are among the big plans on tap for the Town of Velma's second annual Super Summer Celebration scheduled for July 2.

Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. for the Velma EMS Community Run. Runners take off at 7:30. Call Patricia for information at 580-606-7753.

Vendors will be set up at L.L. Humphrey Park, where there will also be music. Local talent will entertain during the day, and a free concert featuring Evin Brady, Bart Crow Band and Bleu Edmondson will begin at 7 p.m.

A fireworks display will cap off the day at 10 p.m.

Lawton's Freedom Festival is July 2

Freedom Festival is a free, family-oriented celebration the first Saturday in July in Elmer Thomas Park in Lawton. Planners have a day full of activities lined up. Throughout the day there will be concerts on the Lake Helen stage, a bounce house for kids, onsite vendors and plenty of food.

Don't miss the car show where you'll see all kinds of hot rods, muscle cars and some newer models on display. Pick your favorite and hang around to see if it wins "Best of Show" or a Top 25 award.

The evening ends with a giant fireworks display in the park at dusk. Attendees are welcome to bring picnic baskets and chairs. There will also be a free shuttle service from the McMahon Auditorium and the Lawton High School parking lot to make parking easier.

Family July 4 fun at Sultan Park

Looking for Fourth of July fun? Look no further than Sultan Park just north of Walters in Cotton County. Walters Chamber of Commerce is hosting a variety of family-friendly evening activities and plans to finish it all up with a bang.

A horseshoe tournament begins at 3 p.m. There is a small entry fee and a big payoff for winning teams.

A prince and princess crowning at 5 p.m. will be followed by a drawing for a fireworks package and a Yeti cooler.

A succession of six free-entry contests begin at 5:30. First-, second- and third-place cash prizes will be awarded in over and under 12 age divisions of a seed-spitting contest, sack race and 3-legged race. The same prizes will be awarded in a decorated turtle contest, land terrapin race and water turtle race.

The evening finishes up with a fireworks display at dark. For information, call 580-875-3335 or 875-3337.

Letitia Cemetery annual meeting set

Annual meeting for Letitia Cemetery is set for 7:30 p.m. July 14 in Letitia Baptist Church multi-purpose room.

Walters rodeo begins with parade

All individuals, horse riders, clubs and organizations are encouraged to walk, ride a horse or drive a float in the annual rodeo parade kicking off the Walters Round-Up Club Rodeo and Comanche Homecoming Pow Wow.

Parade lineup begins at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 14, at Broadway and Nevada for all entries except riding clubs, which will gather at Nevada and Sixth. Judging for floats, Best-Dressed Cowgirl, Cowboy, Indian Girl and Indian Boy, and Bes-Decorated Bicycle will be during the hour before the parade kicks off at 5 p.m.

The rodeo begins at 8 p.m. nightly, July

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



This shot of Eastyn Eschler, 2, and Pumpkin is our favorite in our "Here, Kitty, Kitty" photo contest. He is the great-grandson of Cotton Electric member Claudia Eschler and former area resident Ed Eschler. Claudia said when Eastyn calls "Kitty, kitty" the kitty usually runs the other way. Eastyn lives in Colorado Springs with his parents, Brian and Alycia Eschler, and grandparents are Lori and Mike Eschler.

Enter your "best shot" in our Photo of the Month contest. Theme for July is Grandkids. Entries can be emailed to info@cottonelectric.com or mailed to The Current, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572. Winners will receive a Cotton Electric prize package of CEC goodies.

14-16, at the Max Phillips Rodeo Arena west of town.

The pow wow, held July 15-17 in Sultan Park, features numerous dances and contests for all age ranges. For information, call 580-585-1353.

For parade information, call 580-875-3337 or 875-3335. For rodeo information, call 580-656-1354.

Dehydrator bike ride set for July 25

The 26th annual Dehydrator is a bicycle ride with varied mile routes. Riders leave at 7 a.m. July 25 from the Simmons Center in Duncan.

Entry fees are \$25 per person, \$40 per tandem team. A free T-shirt goes to the first 500 entries. A \$5 late fee will be as-

sessed on entries after July 23.

For information and registration forms, visit thedehydrator.org.

Velma plans 126th annual picnic

The Old Settlers 126th Annual Picnic will be at Humphrey Park in Velma. Festivities kick off with a ranch rodeo at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 3. Activities will continue through Aug. 6.

A rodeo will be held at 7:30 each night. Team roping slack begins at 9 a.m. Aug. 4 and 5, and steer tripping is at 1 p.m. Aug. 5. The final day begins with a parade at 11 a.m., rodeo at 1 p.m.

Admission is free to all events, including the dance featuring a live band Friday and Saturday nights.

TOUCHSTONEENERGY.COM

ALL OF OUR LINES ARE MEMBER SERVICE LINES.

Some deliver electricity. Others deliver information. All must deliver on Cotton Electric Cooperative's mission: to provide you with service that's just as dependable as the energy you count on us for every day. Learn more about your locally owned and operated cooperative at CottonElectric.com.

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Upcoming Deadlines for The Current

July		August		September	
Ad Sales	July 5	Ad Sales	Aug. 1	Ad Sales	Aug. 29
Classified	July 7	Classified	Aug. 4	Classified	Sept. 1
Publish Date	July 18	Publish Date	Aug. 15	Publish Date	Sept. 12

2016 Youth Tour essay topic:

A message for the co-op member of 2035 or 1940

We are what we used to be: proud members of an electric cooperative



Katherine
Livingston
Home School

Editor's note: Four area high school juniors recently won a trip to Washington, D.C., in Cotton Electric's annual Youth Tour essay contest. Each of the essays will appear in The Current.

The year is 2035. You own a small cattle farm in what was once rural Oklahoma. Now you would be hard-pressed to find a true rural community in an agricultural state.

Over the years, the demand for food has grown with the population. Companies such as Monsanto and Tyson Foods have exploded in size, covering huge sections of Oklahoma flatland, growing modified corn and cramming hundreds of cattle into small acreages. As a result, the population density in your area has increased and driven away the small-town feel you grew up with. This is a shame because it was one of the reasons you decided to be a farmer in the first place.

Agriculture isn't the only thing that's changed. Energy has been transformed. The percentage of renewable energy use has already far exceeded that proposed by the Clean Power Plan, imposed on the states by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2015. This was accomplished even without help from the federal government after the new administration repealed the act in 2017. A revolutionary invention sparked the rapid switch to renewables: a battery able to store wind and solar energy. Market competition and demand for cheap, effective wind and solar equipment rapidly increased. Prices nosedived. Renewable energy began accounting for an astonishing 37 percent of consumption.

Not unlike agricultural corporations, energy companies are also very large, not to mention extremely profitable.

Yes, the world has grown. Often, it seems too big for you, a small-business owner struggling to compete against giants. You often feel lost in such enormity, as if the people zapping electricity to you through the power lines see you as just another number on a spreadsheet. Or at least, you would be just a number, if not for one very important organization.

It was almost a century ago that the Cotton Electric Cooperative was founded in 1937. Your great-grandparents were among its first members, having joined the co-op even before its power lines were raised. They went door to door, petitioning neighbors to become involved. Eventually, that paid off when, several years later, they received power on their small farm. Since then, involvement with the electric cooperative has been something of a tradition in your family. Unlike the corporations back then that refused to run power lines out to rural areas because it was too pricey, members of the cooperative demonstrated an invaluable quality: They cared.

Why did they care? Because the co-op was not established for profit. The co-op has always been comprised of its own members, member-owners, free to vote, to be involved, to take charge of their own energy needs. Almost a century later, that remains true.

Competitors have argued that the co-op mentality is old hat, that the revolutionized world requires large-scale operations, free to make split-second decisions in a shifting econ-

omy. You disagree. For as long as you have been a co-op member, which has been the entirety of your existence, you have seen the co-op provide safe, reliable, affordable energy, in a constantly changing world.

With your help and that of the entire co-op community, you have made decisions that benefit the member-owners. These included an agreement to start a community solar farm, passing a bill that allowed farmers to lend land for wind turbines and the all-important decision to maintain energy diversity by continuing to tap into coal and other fossil fuels. You've played a role in all these decisions.

What you value the most about the co-op is not the price of electricity or its environmental friendliness but that you make a difference. You cling to the small-town mentality so often drowned out in the 21st century. You're a struggling farmer who scrambles to sell locally, to get your foot in the door, to make a living amid the noise of big industry, to have your voice heard and your opinion valued. To you, feeling important is everything.

That's what being an electric co-op member does. He or she restores a small piece of that rural community that seems to be melting away in so many places. No, it's not the same as when your great-grandparents marveled at that first flicker of electricity in their home. Members don't bake you apple pie, and sometimes you attend meetings virtually and vote with an app. But that's beside the point.

You belong to a community that values you. That's why you're proud to be an Oklahoma electric cooperative member-owner.

Use energy wisely.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Give Your Children the Gift of (Financial) Knowledge

It's almost Father's Day. If you're a dad with young children, you can expect some nice homemade cards and maybe even a baseball cap. But, of course, your greatest reward is spending time with your kids and watching them grow. In return, you can give them a gift – the gift of knowledge. Specifically, in the months and years ahead, teach them the financial skills that can help make their lives easier and more rewarding.

For starters, encourage your children to become savers. You can do this in a couple of different ways. First, set a good example. You might explain to your kids that you want to buy a certain item, but you are waiting for it to go on sale. Or, if it's a particularly big-ticket item, like an ultra high-definition television, tell your children that you simply can't afford it now, but that you are putting away some

money each week until you can. You might even make a chart of progress.

Another way to help your children become better savers is to provide them with a monetary incentive. To illustrate: For every dollar they put into a "piggy bank" or an actual savings account, tell them you'll put in, say, 50 cents. They are likely to be pleased and excited by how much faster their money grows with your contribution, and they may well become more motivated to save. Furthermore, you'll be giving them a valuable lesson for later on in life, when they work for a business that offers to match their contributions to a 401(k) or other retirement plan. Unfortunately, many young people, upon taking on their first "career" jobs, either under-contribute to their retirement plans or ignore them completely – thereby making it more likely that, later

on in their working lives, they will have to come up with much bigger sums each year to accumulate enough resources for a comfortable retirement.

Learning to save is certainly important – but children should also learn about investing. To help get your children interested in becoming investors, point out that they can actually own shares of companies with which they are already familiar – the companies that make the games they play, the movies they watch and the food they eat. In fact, you could even simulate the investment process by letting them choose a stock and then follow it. To make the results more tangible, use "play" money to represent an initial investment, and add or subtract to the pile to track the ups and downs of the real stock. You might even explain some of the reasons for the

stock's movements; for example, if you and your child are following the stock of an entertainment company, and that company produces a blockbuster movie that leads to sequels, spinoffs and merchandise tie-ins, you can point out how these developments have pushed up the company's stock price.

You might also explain that while these short-term price movements are interesting – and maybe even fun – to follow, investing is actually a long-term endeavor, and the best investors often hold stocks for many years before selling them.

By following these suggestions, you can help your children acquire good financial habits – and seeing them put these skills to good use can provide you with many happy Father's Days in the future.

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Member SIPC

Don Graham Jr
(580)252-9381

Kelsey E Avants
(580)255-4408

Kristen Arrington
(580)255-1515

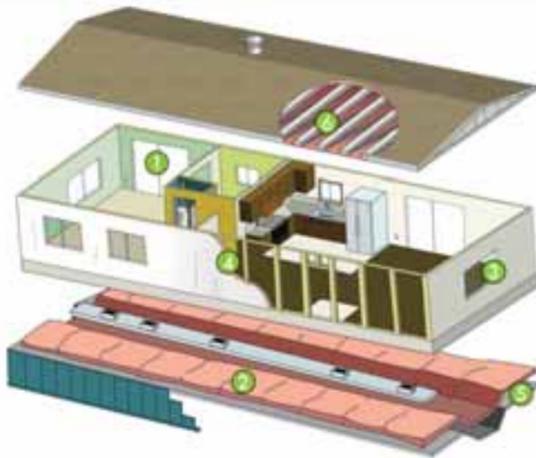
Yancy Spivey
(580)252-2952

Tanner L Cline
(580)252-9048

Lynn Bailey
(580)658-2704

RETROFITTING YOUR MANUFACTURED HOME FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- 1 Install energy-efficient windows and doors
- 2 Replace insulation in the belly
- 3 Make general repairs (seal bottom board, caulk windows, doors, ducts, etc.)
- 4 Add insulation to your walls
- 5 Install or seal belly wrap
- 6 Add insulation to your roof or install a roof cap



Original artwork provided by Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

Manufactured homes can be improved for energy efficiency

By Anne Prince

If you live in a manufactured home, chances are you may have a disproportionately higher energy bill than a family living in a modular or traditional wood-frame home. The good news is there are many ways you can improve your home's energy efficiency.

Manufactured home or mobile home?

First, a clarification. Some use the term manufactured home and mobile home interchangeably. A mobile home is a factory built home constructed before 1976 when the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) set national standards that nearly every manufactured home must meet. Thereafter, factory-built homes were called manufactured homes and are engineered and constructed in accordance with the 1976 federal code administered by HUD.

Manufactured homes come in all shapes and sizes. They may be single- or multi-sectioned and are

available in various sizes and floor plan configurations. There are many differences between manufactured homes built before the U.S. HUD Code took effect in 1976 and those built afterward. One of the major differences is energy efficiency. Those built before federal standards were put in place were generally not as energy efficient as later models, even though thermal standards were changed in 1994. And while your manufactured home may have been built to the energy standards of the time, significant progress has been made over the past decades with high-efficiency mechanical equipment, windows, insulation, siding and roofing materials.

In short, whether your home is less than five years old or more than 50, most homes can benefit from energy efficiency measures simply due to wear and tear. Sunlight, seasonal temperature changes and wind can increase air leakage. Doors and windows may not close tightly

and duct work can spring leaks, wasting cooling and heating energy.

If your home was built before 1976, the Dept. of Energy recommends the following steps to retrofit your manufactured home and improve energy efficiency:

1. Install energy-efficient windows and doors
2. Replace insulation in the belly
3. Make general repairs (seal bottom board, caulk windows, doors, ducts, etc.)
4. Add insulation to your walls
5. Install or seal belly wrap
6. Add insulation to your roof or install a roof cap.

Additional energy saving tips

In addition to the measures listed above, consider caulking and weatherstripping windows and doors, particularly if you are not able to replace them with more energy-efficient ones. Properly seal any openings around ducts and plumbing fix-

tures. Replace any incandescent light bulbs with LEDs – both indoors and outside. Reduce “phantom” loads by unplugging electronic devices such as computers, printers and gaming systems when not in use. If you are planning to move to a new manufactured home, look for the Energy Star rated model.

For more information about energy efficiency improvements for manufactured homes, contact the energy experts at Cotton Electric Cooperative.

Anne Prince writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

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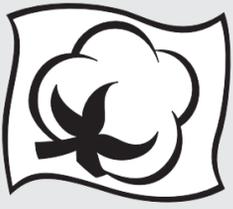
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Departmental Spotlight

Garage

Larry Max Phillips, left, is the fleet superintendent and safety coordinator for Cotton Electric. The co-op has two mechanics, Stacy Abbe and Greg Kohout.



Mechanics keep co-op rolling along

By Karen Kaley

On any day, at least one of Cotton Electric's many, many vehicles needs a little work. It might need something as simple as an oil change or a flat fixed. It might be something as complex as transmission trouble. Good thing we know a couple of good mechanics.

Cotton employees must have reliable transportation in order to serve 15,300-plus members along 5,155 miles of line. The co-op's fleet consists of 42 trucks, SUVs and vans, 18 basket trucks, three diggers, two brush chippers, three trenchers, three six-wheelers and assorted trailers.

Cotton Electric has two full-time mechanics working out of a well-outfitted

garage near the headquarters in Walters. Like all Cotton employees, Stacy Abbe and Greg Kohout never have a day with nothing to do.

Larry Max Phillips is the fleet superintendent and safety coordinator for the co-op. He is full of praise for the versatile Abbe and Kohout.

"They do all the general maintenance on the vehicles such as oil and battery changes, mounting tires and fixing flats. When we get a new lineman's truck, they install the baskets. They've rebuilt transmissions and motors. They work on diesel and gas engines, the hydraulics of the baskets and diggers ... they do it all."

It's almost easier to list what they don't do, which includes body work and re-

placing windshields. Vehicles still under warranty are taken to dealers for repair work. Once in a while, Abbe and Kohout will need help on a particularly difficult transmission problem.

The two are modest in their description of their jobs – "We're just mechanics" – and get a puzzled look when asked about their career path. Working on vehicles of all sorts is all either one has ever done since they were very young.

Between Abbe, Kohout and Phillips there are 97 years with the co-op. They have seen a lot of changes in transportation. When asked if the changes are good or bad, they chuckle.

About the newer electronics, Abbe said, "Those machines can help pinpoint prob-

lems. Electronics are good for diagnostics, but it also means more can go wrong."

Kohout pointed out that a basic motor runs on a mixture of air and fuel. In modern machines "so much more controls those things, but motors still have to have the basic ingredients."

Computers help the mechanics keep up with technology and help the co-op keep up with the vehicles.

"All work is logged into computers," Phillips explained.

"We keep an accurate record of repairs and other expenses associated with each vehicle. Those records help determine when to replace a vehicle and whether to stick with that model or go with something else."

'Little wrecker' has really big pull

By Karen Kaley

Stacy Abbe was talking about the work that keeps him and Greg Kohout pretty busy. "Southwest Oklahoma can be a little hard on the vehicles," Abbe said, "particularly the places with really rough terrain."

Rough terrain? He couldn't be talking about the oilfield roads of Stephens County or the rocky hills in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, could he? Perhaps he means the flood-prone areas in the western part of the service territory or the mud-prone areas in the south.

Let's think for a minute about the vehicles that linemen must use to properly serve Cotton Electric members and the last type of challenge mentioned above – mud.

A lineman's heavy-duty truck is outfitted with a variety of tools, a boom and a basket or two. Fully-outfitted single basket trucks weigh as much as 19,000 pounds – 9.5 tons. Larger trucks with double baskets and diggers can weigh up to 64,000 pounds – 32 tons.

Journeyman Lineman Bobby Shortt knows exactly how much his basket truck weighs: 18,641 pounds. For Shortt and all other linemen, the heavy vehicle is an essential part of their work.

Shortt usually works in the southwest portion of Cotton Electric's service territory. Flat and somewhat treeless, the area has been called Big Pasture for a long time for a very good reason.

"Down around Grandfield," Abbe said, "a little bit of rain can make it super slick."

After damaging storms during the wee hours of May 23, Shortt and Lineman Apprentice Seth Johnson were working to restore power in a boggy field in Tillman County.

Boy, did they get stuck.

While waiting for help, Shortt had time to snap a photo of his 9-ton truck sunk up to the top of its hubcaps in mud.

When trucks get stuck, the co-op's garage staff can usually pull them out. They are called upon to pull out Cotton Electric trucks and trucks belonging to contractors doing work for the co-op. Kohout or Abbe, or both, can do the job with what they call the "little wrecker."

The little wrecker is a 1986 GMC 1-ton dually and Kohout and Abbe swear by it.

"It just works," Kohout said. "It can get in places where some other big wreckers cannot."

Abbe added, "The little wrecker is pretty famous."

"Yeah," Kohout said, "We get laughed at a lot by contractors when we pull up, but when we leave, they are pretty impressed."

Kohout and Abbe use a block and tackle system to amplify force applied to a winch cable. Sometimes, the job requires more than one block.

Kohout had no trouble with Shortt's truck.

"Popped right out," he said.

The garage staff is pretty attached to the little wrecker. "We have a pretty good record of success," Kohout said.

"We're supposed to get a new one, but we really hate to get rid of it," Abbe said.

Kohout agreed. "It's not very comfortable to ride in, but it just works really well."

Abbe spoke up again. "Sometimes it's just fun to play in the mud."

"Yeah," said Kohout. "We didn't know it, but we practiced for that in our teenage years."

Kohout enjoys it so much, he says working with the wrecker is his favorite task at the co-op garage.

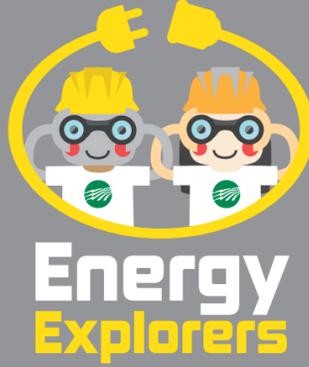


Photo by Bobby Shortt

Boggy conditions can slow the process of power restoration. During widespread outages, the entire Cotton Electric staff works to help linemen accomplish the goal of power restoration. After damaging storms during the wee hours of May 23, Journeyman Lineman Bobby Shortt and Lineman Apprentice Seth Johnson were working to restore power in Tillman County. The 9-ton truck sank up to the top of its hubcaps in mud. Cotton Electric's garage staff, Greg Kohout, left, and Stacy Abbe used the 'little wrecker' shown below to pull heavy truck out of the mud. "It popped right out," Kohout said.



SUMMER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD



There are many ways you can practice energy efficiency in your home. Use the word bank below to complete the crossword puzzle. Be sure to tell mom and dad about these energy efficiency tips so you can practice at home!

DOWN

- Use ceiling _____ to circulate cool air.
- Taking _____ are more energy efficient than taking baths.
- Always turn the _____ off when you leave a room.

ACROSS

- Plant shade _____ around your home.
- Open _____ on cool evenings and turn off the air conditioner.
- Close shades, drapes and blinds during the _____ to help keep warm air out of your home.

Word Bank:

- Trees
- Showers
- Daytime
- Windows
- Lights
- Fans

ACROSS

- Marvin __, journalist
- Man
- A fast gait of a horse
- Streamlined
- Rope fastener
- They get you places
- Ma
- Filling sandwich
- Move away from land
- Sounds of boredom
- Tax collector
- Days (Spanish)
- Predatory reptile (abbr.)
- Hengyang Nanyue Airport
- AJA camera
- A computer language
- Blare
- Prevent from seeing
- Long-haired dog
- Turfs
- Villain
- At the peak
- Macadamias are some
- Chum
- Not slender
- Fido is one
- Acidify with this
- Before
- Guided
- Extended
- Units of weight
- Bedding
- Greek portico
- Descended

- Bachelor of Laws
- Loud noise
- __ Sagan, astronomer
- Mound
- Coming to light
- Extreme poverty
- Jewel
- Commoner
- Disasters
- Adult females
- Mineral
- Regards with disgust
- Waterproofed canvas
- Teased
- Carbon particles
- Delay
- Luminaries
- Boxing champ Spinks
- A set of four
- Most noticeable
- He played Milton Waddams
- __ Foster, composer
- Succulent plant
- Two
- Run naked
- El __, Texas town
- Female deer (pl.)
- Art __, around 1920
- Compound
- Breaks to sleep
- Doctor of Education
- Group of vineyards

DOWN

- Knocked out
- Vessel that purifies

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Hulen

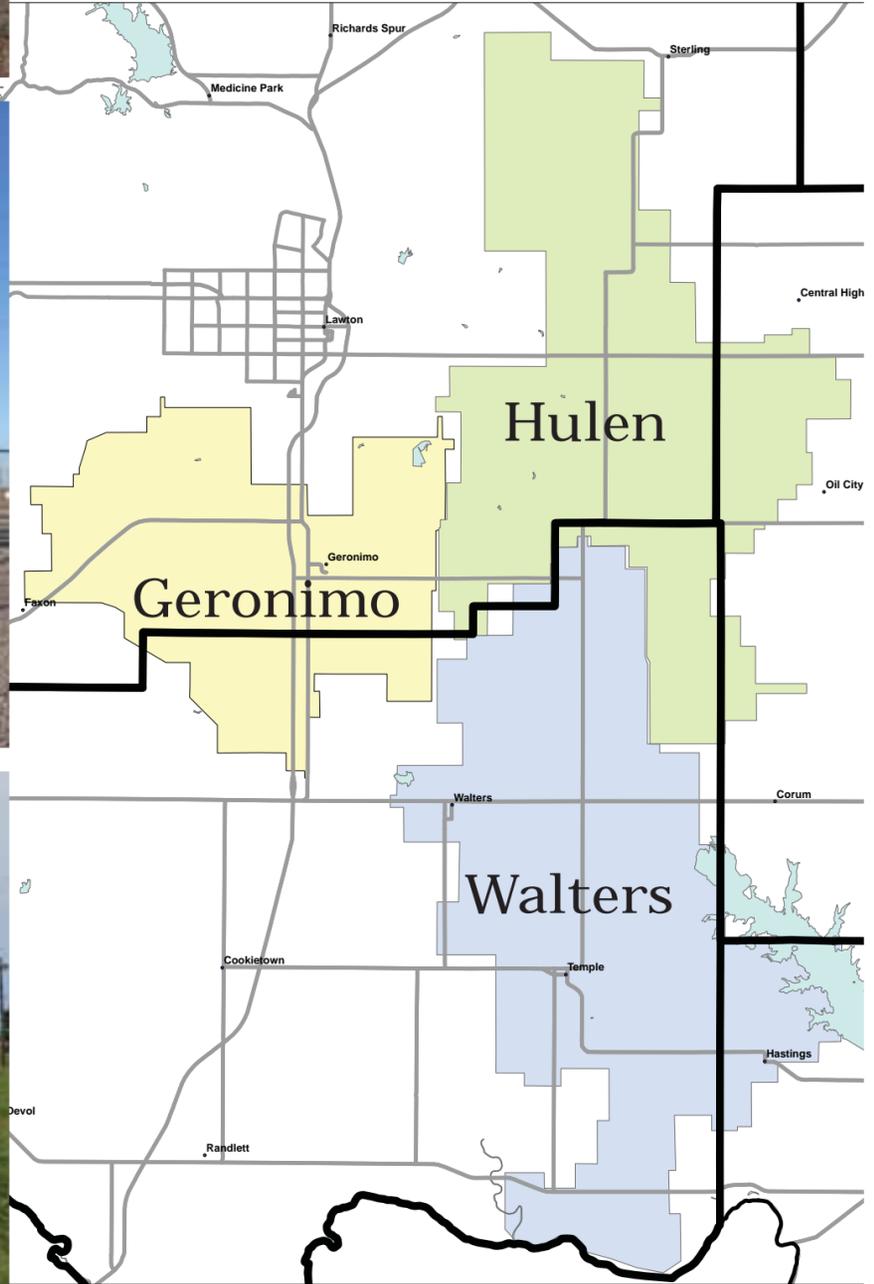
The Hulen, Walters and Geronimo substations serve members near the center of Cotton Electric's service territory. The map below indicates the area served by each sub. The subs are interconnected, or looped, so power can be rerouted if conditions such as damage to a transmission line cause a sub to lose power. Geronimo substation loops with Hulen, Indiaboma and Essaquanahdale substations. Hulen substation loops with Walters, Geronimo, Marlow and Empire. Walters loops with Hulen, Sugden, Comanche and Essaquanahdale. Hulen sub serves 2,125 meters along 384 miles of line. Walters sub serves 1,324 meters along 332 miles of line and Geronimo sub serves 1,519 meters along 222 miles of line. That's nearly 5,000 members along 938 miles of line.



Geronimo



Walters



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3 subs serve heart of territory

By Karen Kaley

Substations known as Hulen, Walters and Geronimo serve rural members in an area that could be called the heart of Cotton Electric's service territory. Two of the sturdy steel structures have served for decades, the result of meticulous maintenance and upgrades as demand for power grew. One is a bit newer, constructed when demand dictated the need to properly serve the co-op's members.

Hulen substation, so named for the farm community in southeastern Comanche County, serves 2,125 meters along 384 miles of line. The area it serves includes Pumpkin Center to the east and stretches north of Oklahoma Highway 7 nearly to Sterling.

There are few Hulen landmarks still in place but one is a park named for the Ketels family, whose history is entwined with the co-op's. T.H. Ketels proudly held Cotton Electric Cooperative membership certificate number 1 and was an original trustee when the co-op was chartered in 1938. He served for 35 years.

Walters substation serves 1,324 meters along 332 miles. Brian Jones, operations superintendent for the west side of the service area, said the sub's location makes it the only one

that requires opening a pasture gate to gain access.

While visiting the Walters sub recently, Jones said, "Substations are dull and boring until they go off. ... Or start to arc."

The Walters sub went off for a short time the evening of June 4. A hawk had closed a circuit between an energized piece of equipment and ground and turned off the lights for about half the meters served. A substation is quite hazardous for any living thing.

Jones recalled a night, many years ago, when a storm had caused a transformer to blow and shut down the Walters sub. In the dim lights, he was among Cotton Electric employees looking things over before trying to energize the sub.

An insulator was damaged, and the electricity began to arc and "went phase-to-phase." Arcing electricity always looks for a way to go to ground, but if other conductors carrying current — phases — are nearby, the arc may jump from phase to phase. This can generate a giant flash and a possible explosion. It is very dangerous.

Jones recalls that it shook the ground "like it was going to open up." The flash was so bright, "I couldn't see for about five minutes."

Like every other person who has provided information about substations, Jones issued a caution for all members: "Stay away from substations. Call us, any time, day or night, if you notice anything unusual. DO NOT go near them."

Geronimo substation is the newer of these three substations, built when the population in the area began to grow. Fort Sill's expansion under BRAC is sometimes cited as the cause for that growth.

Geronimo sub serves 1,519 meters along 222 miles of line.

Transmission lines travel across many miles to bring power to substations. When possible, transmission lines follow paths that allow the power flow to interconnect, or loop, with other substations.

Geronimo substation loops with Hulen, Indianola and Essaquanahdale substations. Hulen substation loops with Walters, Geronimo, Marlow and Empire. Walters loops with Hulen, Sugden, Comanche and Essaquanahdale.

Under the right circumstances, power can be diverted along a different path to a substation. This is sometimes called backfeed.

This makes the delivery system more flexible, better able to serve Cotton Electric members.

Speaking of substations ...

Help Cotton Electric battle copper crime

Metal theft — the crime that endangers lives and can result in thousands of dollars in damages ultimately paid for by you — continues to plague electric utilities all over America.

Copper wire is appealing to thieves who look to sell it for scrap. Burglars often climb power poles, scale fences, and break into buildings to steal the precious metal—almost always endangering themselves and others in the process. Between 2001 and 2008, the price of copper skyrocketed 500 percent. After a brief decline in 2009, it has hovered at a strong \$3.40 per pound for the past several years.

"To a would-be thief, stealing copper may seem like a quick way to make a buck," said Mike Ottinger, Cotton Electric's vice president of operations. "But it's illegal, it's costly, and it's not worth a life. Working with any metal and electricity is a dangerous combination, even for trained employees using

proper equipment."

Some electric cooperatives stamp copper and aluminum wire with an ID number to deter theft. Stolen wire is commonly brought to recycling centers and traded for cash. Although many state laws require recycling centers to keep records of transactions, enforcement can be difficult. Without identifying marks, stolen wire is hard to track and rarely recovered. Legislation introduced on the federal level aims to improve tracking and impose stiffer penalties; most states have toughened metal theft laws over the past few years as well.

Thieves may not understand that they are risking their lives by taking copper from utility poles or substations, where high transmission voltage is stepped down to a lower current for distribution lines. Cotton Electric urges members to follow these guidelines to guard against electrical dangers and prevent copper theft.

- Never enter or touch equipment inside a substation; stay away from power lines and anything touching a power line.

- If you notice anything unusual with electric facilities, such as an open substation gate, open equipment, or hanging wire, contact your electric cooperative immediately.

- If you see anyone around electric substations or electric facilities other than Cotton Electric personnel or contractors, call the police or sheriff.

- Install motion-sensor lights on the outside of your house and business to deter possible thieves.

- Store tools and wire cutters in a secure location, and never leave them out while you are away.

- If you work in construction, do not leave any wires or plumbing unattended or leave loose wire at the job site, especially overnight.

- Help spread the word about the deadly consequences that can result from trying to steal copper

or aluminum wire.

Please help us prevent these thefts. If you notice anything unusual, call Cotton Electric immediately at 580-875-3351 or 800-522-3520. If you see anyone other than Cotton Electric personnel or contractors around substations or other electric facilities, call the police or sheriff.

Source: Cooperative Research Network

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Jonathan Chapman submitted the drawing above in a contest conducted by Oklahoma Living, a monthly magazine sent to electric cooperative members throughout Oklahoma. Jonathan's entry in the "My Lineman is my Hero!" contest was the winner in the 4th- and 5th-grade category. Jonathan, 11, just finished the 5th grade. His parents are Alphonso and Kim Chapman of Elgin. Congratulations, Jonathan!

Please Help Update Our Records

Has your address changed? Many of our members have new mailing addresses after E-911 remapping. It is up to the member to tell us the new address.

How about your phone number? Some have dropped land lines and are using cell phones.

In the event that we need to contact you, a current phone number is very important and improves the efficiency of our outage reporting system.

Why would we contact you? We may need to contact you regarding your account, a power outage, or to schedule an appointment.

Please complete the form below and return with your next payment or mail it to us at 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572. You may also call us at 580-875-3351 or 800-522-3520 to update.

Thank you for helping us improve our service.

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Address _____

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8th Annual Summer Golf Classic

June 27
The Territory Golf & Country Club, Duncan

Proceeds from the event will go to Operation Round Up to support the Cotton Electric Charitable Foundation

First 30 teams accepted.
Entry fees are \$600 per team.
Teams must be signed up and paid by June 17.
Hole sponsorships are still available.

To sign up your team, call Bryce Hooper at 580-875-3351.

Spots available for CECF Summer Classic golf event

Golf enthusiasts have a great opportunity to spend a day on an 18-hole championship course while helping to raise funds to help organizations and individuals throughout southwest Oklahoma.

The eighth annual Cotton Electric Charitable Foundation (CECF) Summer Classic will be June 27 at The Territory Golf and Country Club in Duncan. The tournament is held to raise awareness of CECF and to generate funds for Operation Round Up (ORU).

ORU is primarily funded by Cotton Electric Cooperative members who "round up" their monthly bill to the nearest dollar. The funds are administered by CECF, which meets quarterly to consider grant applications. Since its inception in 2004, CECF has awarded more than \$900,000 to volunteer fire departments, youth, senior citizen and public safety organizations, schools, communities and

individuals throughout the Cotton Electric service area.

Registration for the four-person scramble will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8:30. The registration fee of \$600 per team will include range balls, cart, and a meal following the round.

Individual, team and door prizes will be awarded.

To enter, players' names and handicap or average scores can be faxed to 580-875-3101. Deadline for entries and fee payment is Friday, June 17.

Two levels of hole sponsorship are available. Hole sponsors who also enter a team receive a \$100 discount on entry fees.

For information about the scramble or becoming a sponsor, call Bryce Hooper at 580-875-3351 or email bhooper@cottonelectric.com.

Charitable Foundation announces second-quarter grants

Pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters – set enough of them aside on a regular basis, and the coins add up to dollars. That's how Operation Round Up works.

Most Cotton Electric members participate in ORU, in which power bills are rounded up to the nearest dollar. The amount rounded up can be as little as 1 cent and is never more than 99 cents. On average, each participating member contributes about \$6 each year.

The funds are pooled and administered by the Cotton Elec-

tric Charitable Foundation, a board of directors that meets quarterly to consider grant applications. The board consists of Jennifer Meason, the co-op's CEO; Ronnie Bohot, president of the co-op's board of trustees; and three representatives from the Cotton Electric service area: Carly Douglass, Danny Marlett and Carter Waid.

The board met in June to review 18 grant applications. Grants totaling \$25,024.60 will be distributed to nine of the applicants and funds are earmarked for another. Second-



quarter grants include:

- Chattanooga Community Center: \$1,100.00 grant to purchase a water softener.
- Chattanooga Public Schools: \$3,124.60 grant to purchase LED light fixtures for classrooms.
- Corum VFD: \$800 grant to purchase an EMR Trauma Pack.

- Fiesta in Fuqua / New Life Church: \$500.00 grant for school supplies.

- Holy City of the Wichitas: \$5,000 grant for building repairs.

- Pecan Creek VFD: \$5,500 grant to outfit a tank and pumping unit.

- Regional Food Bank: \$2,500 grant to support Food for Kids programs in CEC area.

- Velma Police Department: \$1,500 grant to purchase a mobile radio and mic system.

- Rockin' T Cure for Kids: \$2,500 grant to help with a fam-

ily's expenses related to a devastating medical condition.

A project in progress for which funds have been set aside is foundation repair at the Center for Creative Living. CECF has pledged \$2,500 to be added to other funds once they are raised.

CECF has awarded or pledged grants totaling \$932,407.14 since the foundation was established in 2004.

Applications for 2016 third-quarter grants are due Aug. 31. Downloadable applications are available at CottonElectric.com.



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By paying for electricity as you go, you can monitor energy use and know when you need to conserve. A few benefits of participating in prepaid metering are:

- Teaches the value of electricity
- Helps consumers understand what uses watts in their home
- Provides absolute control over how much money is spent on electricity
- Helps reduce energy use



Find out more at CottonElectric.com

Power is in your hands with prepaid metering

By Tom Tate

Prepaid metering is as simple as it sounds: members pay for electricity before it is used, then use the electricity until the credit expires. A terrific analogy for prepaid metering is putting gas in your car. Say you only have \$30 for the week to pay for gasoline. You drive down to the station, pump in \$30 and drive off. As you drive during the week, what happens? You monitor the gauge and make sure each trip is necessary. If you drive too much, you burn up your \$30 before the week is out. By checking the gauge throughout the week, you became more prudent with your gas use and made informed decisions on when and how much to use.

Now let's transfer that analogy to your account with Cotton Electric., where our prepaid metering program is called MyChoice. With normal metering, you get a bill after you have used the electricity. Sometimes it comes as a shock. "How could I possibly have used so much electricity?" MyChoice is designed to ease – and hopefully eliminate – that shock. Let's take a look at how it works.

The components of MyChoice aren't too different from regular metering. Two extra pieces are required; a way to turn off the power when all your money is used and a way for Cotton Electric to tell you how much you have left in your account; think of this as your "electricity tank gauge." On the cooperative's side, we handle the extra software and processes.

Now let's see it in action. You have the

prepaid metering equipment installed. MyChoice users receive electricity use notifications through the free SmartHub smartphone app, emails and text messages.

Now you decide how often you want to buy electricity. Monthly? Weekly? Then you budget for a certain amount of power and pay the co-op. Bingo, your electricity tank is full.

During the time period you have paid for (let's say a week for this example), you receive regular feedback on how much you have left in your tank.

As you approach "empty," you add more money to your account and are then set for the next period. If you run out, the power goes off just like your car stops when it runs out of gas. To complete the analogy, let's look at what you have been doing during the week. You become quite aware of how you are using electricity. You turn things off more often. You may change the setting on your thermostat so you don't cool or heat as much. You might cook outside to avoid using the oven or make sure your dishwasher is really full before running it. Industry studies show that consumers who participate in prepaid metering plans use as much as 10 percent less electricity than their counterparts.

MyChoice teaches the value of electricity, what uses watts in your home, provides absolute control over how much you pay and helps you reduce your energy use. It is a tremendous way to power your life. Contact Cotton Electric to learn more about prepaid metering.



Paying your power bill online is easy ...

Just visit cottonelectric.com and click the **ONLINE BILL PAY** button. Use your Cotton Electric account number and a password of your choosing to set up an online bill pay account.

Automatic bank draft is easier ...

At cottonelectric.com, click **PAYMENT OPTIONS** under the Residential menu. **Download an application form**, fill it out and send it in with a voided check. We'll arrange to draft your checking account 15 days after your billing date. All you have to do is open your bill and make a note in your check register.

Want to go paperless?

Call us at 580-875-3351 or 800-522-3520 or send an email to info@cottonelectric.com to request billing via email only. We will need your Cotton Electric account number, so have it handy.



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2. Phoenix Arms LR .22 CAL Auto SN 4010255
3. Smith & Wesson - S & W .357 Magnum Serial Number 45K1807
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5. Smith & Wesson - S & W .357 Magnum Serial Number BFF4566
6. Sturm Ruger & CO. INC. Ruger .22 CAL Single Six Serial Number 63-23257
7. Smith & Wesson- S&W 38 Special CTG Serial Number 30D1516
8. Smith & Wesson- S & W 38 Special CTG Serial Number 1D29442
9. Smith & Wesson - S & W .357 CTG Highway Patrolman Serial Number N286966
10. Webley-Mark VI 45 Cal Serial Number 274067
11. H & R INC. 32 S & W L. SN H&R BB02808
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14. COLT-Automatic-Calibre Special 6 SHOT Serial Number 497767
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17. Sturm Ruger & Co. Inc. Ruger .22 CAL Single Six Serial Number 60-04550
18. H & R CO - 22 Rim Fire Hexagon Barrel Serial Number 159574
19. Smith & Wesson-44 MAGNUM Serial Number N99530
20. Smith & Wesson-S & W .357 Magnum Serial Number ACL0220 MOD 686
21. COLT- Automatic CAL 25 Serial Number 101323
22. Smith & Wesson- S&W 38 Special CTG Serial Number 149216- Barrel SN 65286-Hand Gun
23. Sturm Ruger & CO. INC. Ruger 44 MAGNUM Serial Number 80-50623
24. Smith & Wesson - S & W .357 Magnum Serial Number A 11 97590
25. HI-STANDARD Model "B" 22 CAL Long Rifle SN 52215
26. Sturm Ruger & Co. Inc. Ruger .22 CAL Single Six Serial Number 17721

RIFLES

1. Winchester 22 S L & L R HEX Barrel Serial Number 47350
2. Winchester 22 Smooth Barrel Serial Number 446149B
3. Winchester 22 S L & L R Serial Number 590361B
4. No Name Rifle 22 Serial Number 073214 Sturm Ruger & Co. Inc. - 243 Win Ruger Serial Number 70-30774
5. U. S. REMINGTON Serial Number 4101375
6. Winchester - 30-30 Lever Action
7. Cowboy Commemorative Serial Number CB5432

8. Winchester Lever Action Serial Number 2478864
9. J.D. "A" -1948 95% Complete Serial Number 613162
10. ENGLAND M-16
11. J. Stevens Arms Company-22 LR Single Shot Serial Number X9001
12. Remington - 22 SL & LR Automatic
13. Winchester 30-30 Lever Action SN 47333785

SHOTGUNS

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3. Browning Arms Co. - Browning - Automatic 12 GA Serial Number 348707
4. Harrington & Richardson Inc. - Topper 12 GA 3" FULL Serial Number J295737
5. H. Koon Inc. - Snake Charmer 410 GA Serial Number 62147
6. Savage Arms Corp. - Stevens 410 Bolt Action Shotgun
7. Browning - LIGHT 12 GA Serial Number 416512
8. Savage Arms Corp - Stevens 20 GA Serial Number C653217
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Directions: In Duncan, Oklahoma from South Highway 81, go 1-3/4 Miles West on Bois D'Arc Avenue to 42nd Street; Then South on 42nd 1-1/2 Miles to Auction Site.

Preview of Firearms: will be held Friday afternoon, June 24, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Announcements made day of sale supersede all other advertisements. This is a Two Day Auction, Tractors, Vehicles, Boats and Shop Tools - June 24, 2016. Real Property and Firearms, Household Furnishings, June 25, 2016. Home Place, Vacant Lot and Commercial Property in Marlow, OK offered at 10:00AM.

Auctioneer's Note: Estate of Cleo Glen Richards. **FRIDAY**, June 24, is Tractors, Vehicles, Boats, Large Variety of Tools. **SATURDAY**, Auction of Real Property with Reserve, and Household Furnishings and over 50 Firearms, a Variety of Knives "Absolute." **THIS IS A 2 DAY AUCTION WITH A LARGE VARIETY OF ITEMS.** Please plan to attend this Public Auction.

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Crunchy, Savory

SUMMERTIME

(Family Features) When warmer weather arrives, cravings trend toward fresh, seasonal flavors and lighter fare. In between the bike riding, kite flying, backyard gatherings and pool time, summertime meals enjoyed outdoors are a great way to get family and friends together.

Whether it's a refreshing salad tossed with sweet candied walnuts or a fillet of mouth-watering salmon topped with curried almonds, nuts are the perfect way to add texture and crunch to any dish.

These easy-to-make, summer-inspired recipes, created by Food Network celebrity chef Alex Guarnaschelli in partnership with Fisher nuts, will leave your guests asking for more.

For more delicious recipes featuring preservative-free Fisher nuts, visit fishernuts.com.

Red Leaf Salad with Candied Walnuts and Grapes

Prep time: 20-25 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Servings: 6-8

Nuts

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 6 tablespoons water
- 1/2 cup Fisher Walnut Halves and Pieces
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Dressing

- 1/2 cup Fisher Walnut Halves and Pieces
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons walnut oil
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- kosher salt
- cracked black pepper

Salad

- 1 cup seedless red grapes halves
- 2 medium heads Bibb or red leaf lettuce, washed, dried and torn into pieces
- 1 small head radicchio, cored, leaves separated and torn into pieces
- 1/2 cup shaved Parmesan cheese



To candy walnuts, line cookie sheet with parchment paper; set aside. In medium skillet, simmer sugar, cayenne pepper and water over medium-high heat until it turns golden brown, about 15-20 minutes. Stir walnuts into caramel using wooden spoon. Spoon nuts onto parchment paper and season with salt. Cool then pull nuts apart into smaller pieces.

Prepare dressing by placing walnuts in bowl of small food processor and pulsing. Add lemon juice, walnut oil, olive oil, a pinch of salt and some black pepper. Pulse to blend. Taste for seasoning and adjust as needed.

To assemble salad, toss dressing with grapes and lettuces. Top with candied walnuts and cheese.

Grilled Salmon with Spiced Almonds

Prep time: 15-20 minutes; Cook time: 20-25 minutes; Servings: 6

Yogurt Sauce

- 1 cup Greek yogurt
- 2 teaspoons red wine vinegar
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh dill
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh mint
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- kosher salt
- 1 small cucumber, seeded and small diced

Almonds

- 1/2 cup Fisher Sliced Almonds
- 1 teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon curry powder
- 1/8 teaspoon paprika
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cumin
- kosher salt

Salmon

- 2 3/4 pounds salmon, cut into 6-ounce portions
- kosher salt
- freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 large lime

To make yogurt sauce, whisk yogurt, red wine vinegar, dill, mint, cumin and paprika in medium bowl with a pinch of salt. Taste for seasoning and adjust as needed. Stir in cucumber. Set aside.

Heat oven to 350 F. Heat grill to medium.

In small bowl, toss almonds with olive oil, curry powder, paprika, cumin and a pinch of salt. Spread almonds on baking sheet and toast until golden brown, about 5-8 minutes.

Arrange salmon fillets on baking sheet. Season fish on both sides with salt and pepper. Drizzle with oil. Place salmon on grill and allow to cook until fillets start to lightly char, 5-8 minutes. If desired,

grill limes as well.

Use metal spatula to gently flip salmon in medium well or well done, cook a few minutes longer.

To serve, remove fish

from grill and transfer to serving platter. Sprinkle fish with a squeeze of lime juice and curried almonds. Serve yogurt sauce on the side.



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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women worldwide.
- Nearly 160,000 Americans die of lung cancer each year.

Based on findings of the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST), we know that CT lung screening can save lives of people at high risk for developing lung cancer.

Low-dose CT (LDCT) lung screening is quick and easy and results in a minimal amount of radiation exposure. The Cancer Centers of Southwest Oklahoma is determined to raise awareness and improve access to this testing for all people at high risk. Therefore, Cancer Centers of Southwest Oklahoma and Jackson County Memorial Hospital are now offering in conjunction **FREE LDCT lung screening** to individuals who meet the established high-risk criteria.

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

You may qualify for a free LDCT lung screening if you fall into one of these categories:

<p>Category 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are between 55 and 74 years of age You are currently a smoker or have quit in the last 15 years You have a 30+ pack-year* history of smoking 	<p>Category 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are between 50 and 74 years old You have a 20+ pack-year* history of smoking You have one additional lung cancer risk factor (not to include secondhand smoke exposure)
---	--

*pack-years are calculated by multiplying the number of packs a day you smoke by the number of years you have smoked.

Example: 2 packs a day for 15 years = 30 pack-years

Call to schedule a screening

1-877-231-4440 to see if you qualify.

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of Southwest Oklahoma

www.cancercentersswok.com

Nutrition a vital sign for hospitalized patients

When a person is hospitalized, his or her vital signs are routinely checked. Vital signs include temperature, breathing, pulse rate and blood pressure. Any readings outside of normal must be addressed immediately. An article published by scientists out of Australia indicates that nutrition is just as important as those life-supporting vital signs, finding that patients who skipped meals while hospitalized had poor outcomes compared to patients who ate more during hospitalization. This difference was regardless of age, state of malnutrition, or severity of disease.



Kim Bandelier, MPH, RD, LD



Ekta Argarwal and colleagues from Queensland University of Technology enrolled more than 3,000 hospitalized patients into the study. Those who ate less than a quarter of their meals while hospitalized were more likely to die within 90 days of hospitalization versus those who ate more, regardless of how old or sick they were, and regardless of whether they entered the hospital malnourished. They also had a longer length of stay in the hospital.

There are many reasons patients in the hospital do not eat. They are often on medications that change their appe-

tite or taste buds. They may not like the food in the hospital, and may not have family members to bring them foods from home (sometimes this practice is prohibited for food safety reasons). Sometimes, patients are not allowed to eat due to impending procedures that require them to fast. In general, patients in the hospital do not feel good, resulting in decreased appetite and decreased food intake.

If poor food intake is not addressed,

the patient can actually become malnourished during the hospitalization, resulting in increased nutritional needs that persist after the patient leaves the hospital. This situation is especially critical for older adults as they struggle to regain loss of lean body mass after hospitalization.

There are many ways to combat this issue. The main one is to have an advocate at your side if you are hospitalized, someone who can make sure that your nutrition needs are being met, coach you to eat more, bring foods in that you prefer if allowed by the hospital.

Dietary restrictions that are not life-threatening should be suspended during hospitalization in order to maximize intake. For example, if you have congestive heart failure, a salt restriction is necessary to control the condition. However, if you just have a family history of heart disease, a salt restriction is unnecessary during an acute hospitalization.

Creativity should be employed to provide calories and protein in forms that are easy to consume and digest. Sometimes, tube feeding is needed in addition to food to fill nutrition gaps during hospitalization.

It is also important to request the services of a registered dietitian at the hospital. A hospital-registered dietitian is an expert in the nutrition needs during and immediately after hospitalization. They are well versed in the foodservice operation at the hospital and can help patients and family members navigate to achieve optimum intake during hospitalization. Just let the bedside nurse know of your concerns about nutrition, and he or she can contact the registered dietitian in charge of the hospital unit.

Organizations that accredit hospitals require that nutrition is addressed for all patients. However, poor food intake is still very common among patients, especially older patients. It takes more than just the patient and the registered dietitian to ensure that that more than 25 percent of a meal is consumed. Everyone on the healthcare team and anyone who visits should encourage food intake and work to make sure that the patient's nutritional needs are addressed.

As Argarwal and colleagues suggest, it could make the difference between life and death.

COMANCHE COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 3 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is and has always been, to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve our water supply and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. We have two sources of water: 1) Groundwater: Our groundwater is drawn from the Cache Creek alluvium by five wells, located west of Lawton. 2) Surface water: purchased from the City of Lawton, which is treated water from Lake Lawtonka.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Karen Bishop at (580) 355-1343. We want our customers to be informed about their water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm, at the district's office located at 5845 SE 90th Street, Lawton, Oklahoma. Comanche County Rural Water District No. 3 routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws.

The following tables show the monitoring results of our groundwater source for the period of January 1st to December 31, 2015 (some of our data may be more than one year old because the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less often than once a year) and a copy of the monitoring results from the City of Lawton on the water we purchased during the time period above. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. We have a source water protection plan available from our office that shows the vulnerability to be high in our well area. Additionally more information such as potential sources of contamination is listed in the tables below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- **ND** (Non-Detects) – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- **PPM** (parts per million), **mg/l** (milligrams per liter), **ppb** (parts per billion), **ug/l** (micrograms per liter) and **pCi/L** (picocuries per liter) - is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **AL** (Action Level) - The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- **TT** (Treatment Technique) - is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **MCL** (Maximum Contaminant Level) - is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **MCLG** (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) - is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below, which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **MCL's** are very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.
- **MRDL** (Maximum Residential Disinfectant Level) is the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG** (Maximum Residential Disinfectant Level Goal) -The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

There are seventy-six regulated contaminants that community water systems are required to test for including microbiological, radioactive, inorganic, synthetic organic including pesticides, and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants. The tables below show only those contaminants that are detected. The first table is for our groundwater source. The second table is for the water purchased from the City of Lawton.

Test Results: Groundwater Source – Cache Creek Alluvium

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Coliform Bacteria	MRDL 4	MRDL=4	ND	ND	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Chlorine	MRDL 4	MRDL=4	ND	ND	2015	No	Additive used to control microbes
Fecal Coliform & E Coli			0	0	2015	No	Human, animal fecal waste

Radioactive Contaminants

Beta-photon Emitters (pCi/L)	50		3.752 ug/l	2.752 - 3.752 ug/l	2011	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	15		1.137 ug/l	0.81-1.716 ug/l	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha, Excl Radon & Uranium (pCi/L)	15		0.938 pCi/l	0 - 0.938 pCi/L	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/l)	5		0.681	0 - 0.681	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium (pCi/l)	5		2.9 ug/l	1.4 - 2.9 ug/l	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Barium (ppb)	2	2	0.429 ug/l	0.429 ug/l	2014	No	Discharge of drilling waste; metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 10 sites sampled	AL=1.3	1.3	0 sites exceeded AL	0-0.189 mg/l	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.27 mg/l	0.27-0.27 mg/l	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive, discharge from fertilizer factories
Lead (ppb) 10 sites sampled	AL=15	15	0 sites exceeded AL	< 5	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems erosion of natural deposits
* Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	7 mg/l	6.55-7.31	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tank, erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	10	0	<2 ug/l	< 2 ug/l	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-Products

Total Trihalomethanes (THM)	80	80	19 ug/l	19.3-19.3 ug/l	2015	No	By-product of drinking water Chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	60	<6 ppb	<1 - 1.0 ug/l	2015	No	By-product of drinking water Chlorination

Synthetic Organic Chemicals

Glyphosate	700	700	<5.0 ug/l	<5.0 ug/l	2014	No	Runoff from herbicide use
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Volatile Organic Compounds

Total results			<5.0 ug/l	<5.0 ug/l	2015	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factory leaching from gas storage tank and landfill
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* Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short period time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health provider.

The tables below reflect the analytical testing conducted on the finished water from the Lawton Water Treatment Plants at both the Medicine Park and the Southeast locations. The table lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2015 calendar year. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in the water. If you have any questions concerning the test results from the City of Lawton please call (580) 529-2703.

MEDICINE PARK FACILITY

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCLG or MRDL	MCL,TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low - High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Organic Carbon (% Removal)	NA	TT	39	NA	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) (highest occurrence)	NA	1	0.15	NA	1/02/2015	No	Soil runoff

Radiochemical Contaminants

Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0	15	0.518	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (pCi/L)	0	50	3.54	NA	2015	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0.027	NA	2015	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Uranium (ppb)	0	30	1.0	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	ND	NA	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.111	NA	2012	No	Discharge of drilling waste, metal refineries
Bromate (ppb)	0	10	6.33	ND - 76.0	2015	No	By-product of drinking water treatment
Fluoride	4	4	0.64	ND - 0.64	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive
Mercury (ppb)	2	2	<0.05	NA	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate - Nitrite (ppm) (measured as Nitrogen)	10	10	ND	NA	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm) (optional)	-	MPL	49.9	NA	2012	No	Naturally present in the environment

SOUTHEAST FACILITY

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCLG or MRDL	MCL,TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low - High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Organic Carbon (% Removal)	NA	TT	36	NA	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) (highest occurrence)	NA	1	0.15	NA	3/28/2015	No	Soil Runoff

Radiochemical Contaminants

Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0	15	1.7	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (pCi/L)	0	50	1.59	NA	2015	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0.097	NA	2015	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Uranium (ppb)	0	30	1.0	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits

SOUTHEAST FACILITY

Inorganic Contaminants - The Southeast facility is no longer feeding fluoride.

Contaminant	MCLG or MRDL	MCL,TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low - High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Arsenic	0	10	ND	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.142	NA	2015	No	Discharge of drilling waste, metal refineries
Bromate (ppb)	0	10	ND	NA	2015	No	By-product of drinking water treatment
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	800	800	20	NA	2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	0.8	1.0	0.028	ND - 0.0332	2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppb)	4	4	ND	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate - Nitrite (ppm) (measured as Nitrogen)	10	10	ND	NA	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm) (optional)		MPL	71.6	NA	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment

DISTRIBUTION TESTING

Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL, I1 or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low - High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	5.16	2.87 - 9.95	2015	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	NA	80	17.0	6.43 - 24.1	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Inorganic Contaminants

Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.357	ND - 1.01	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	0	0.015	0.0109	ND - 0.0311	2915	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminants (UCMR.3): Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Contaminant	MRL	Your Water	Range Low - High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Chlorate (ppb)	20	416	159 - 995	2015	No	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant
Chromium -6 (ppb)	0.03	0.0114	ND - 0.0477	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment, waste from making steel and other alloys.
Chromium (ppb)	0.02	0.134	ND - 0.329	2015	No	See Chromium -6
Molybdenum (ppb)	1.00	1.9	1.33 - 2.50	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Strontium (ppb)	0.3	639	315 - 1070	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Vanadium	0.2	3.21	1.08 - 5.79	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Bromochloromethane	0.06	0.014	ND - 0.115	2015	No	Fire extinguishing fluid, an explosive suppressant

* Other unregulated contaminants that were analyzed, but not detected are: Cobalt, 1,3-Butadiene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, Bromomethane (Methyl Bromide), Chlorodifluoromethane (Methyl Chloride), 1,4-Dioxane, Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctanesulfonic Sulfonate (PFOS), Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA), Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHx5), Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHpA), Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid

What does this mean? As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can be polluted by animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in untreated water include: Microbial contaminants, such as virus and bacteria; Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; Organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use, and Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

This report has been published in its entirety, along with a copy of the water quality report for the water that we purchase from the City of Lawton. This report will not be mailed to each member, but is available at the district office upon request, as is the Source Water Assessment Program Report. Should you have any questions concerning this Consumer Confidence Report, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (580) 355-1343.

Sincerely,
Dee Davis
Chairman

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June 28 Statewide Primary Election
Deadline request absentee ballot: 5 p.m. June 22
Early voting: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursday, June 23
8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday, June 24
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, June 25

August 23 Runoff Primary Election
Last day to register to vote: July 29
Deadline request absentee ballot: 5 p.m. Aug. 17
Early voting: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18
8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20

Nov. 8 General Election
Last day to register to vote: Oct. 14
Deadline request absentee ballot: 5 p.m. Nov. 2
Early voting: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 3
8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5

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