

What's Inside



Five simple steps to become a co-op voter
Page 6



Cultivating community
Page 11



Spooky season snacks
Page 15

The Current

A Publication of Cotton Electric Cooperative Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

“The Current - Informing Our Members Since 1957”

VOLUME 68

October 11, 2024

NUMBER 2



Cotton Electric employees welcome members to the 2024 Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day. Photo by Carli Eubank.

Co-op thanks members for making this year's Annual Meeting a success

By Carli Eubank

After months of planning and preparing, Cotton Electric employees welcomed members to the 2024 Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day on Sept. 26 at the Stephens County Fairgrounds in Duncan and the Great Plains Coliseum in Lawton. While a new drive-thru registration format was introduced this year to offer more convenience for our members, familiar smiles and handshakes were exchanged with those in attendance.

Members were guided and greeted through the registration lines until they reached the first station where an employee searched the member's account and handed them a ballot to vote on the proposed bylaw amendments before driving forward to submit their ballot and receive their gift of a limited-edition hat and a \$20 energy voucher. Over the next few hours, a steady flow of members cruised through registration, and a friendly competition of registering efficiency broke out among employees.

There were 891 registered members, with several family members and friends in attendance for an afternoon of co-op business and community.

Later that evening, the livestreamed business meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. by Board President Shan Files. Next, Ken Layn, Board Trustee of District 2, gave the invocation followed by Board Trustee of District 4 Brian DeMarcus, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the playing of the national anthem, members received a brief overview of the cooperative's business, including an introduction of the co-op's Board of Trustees, a recap of Operation Round Up and an invitation for members to advocate for electric cooperatives, like signing up for Voices for Cooperative Power.

Then, Steve Robinson, secretary-treasurer and Board Trustee of District 7 presented his report of the co-op's well-managed financial status, sharing that the co-op met all of its financial requirements for 2023.

Files invited the co-op's legal counsel, Carl Buckholts, to the podium to report on the official

notice and presence of quorum for this year's Annual Meeting. Five percent of the co-op's membership must be present to reach quorum, which allows those in attendance to vote on co-op business. Buckholts announced that a quorum was met for the business meeting with a total of 891 registered members, exceeding the amount needed for quorum of 836 registered members.

Files and Buckholts then announced the results of the proposed bylaw amendments before ending the business meeting. More information about the voting results can be found in the CEO column on Page 2.

Files then shared a message about how the co-op will continue to move forward through the adversities and do its best to keep the lights on each and every day. Closing out on his three-year term as the co-op's Board president, Files shared his appreciation of the experiences and interactions with

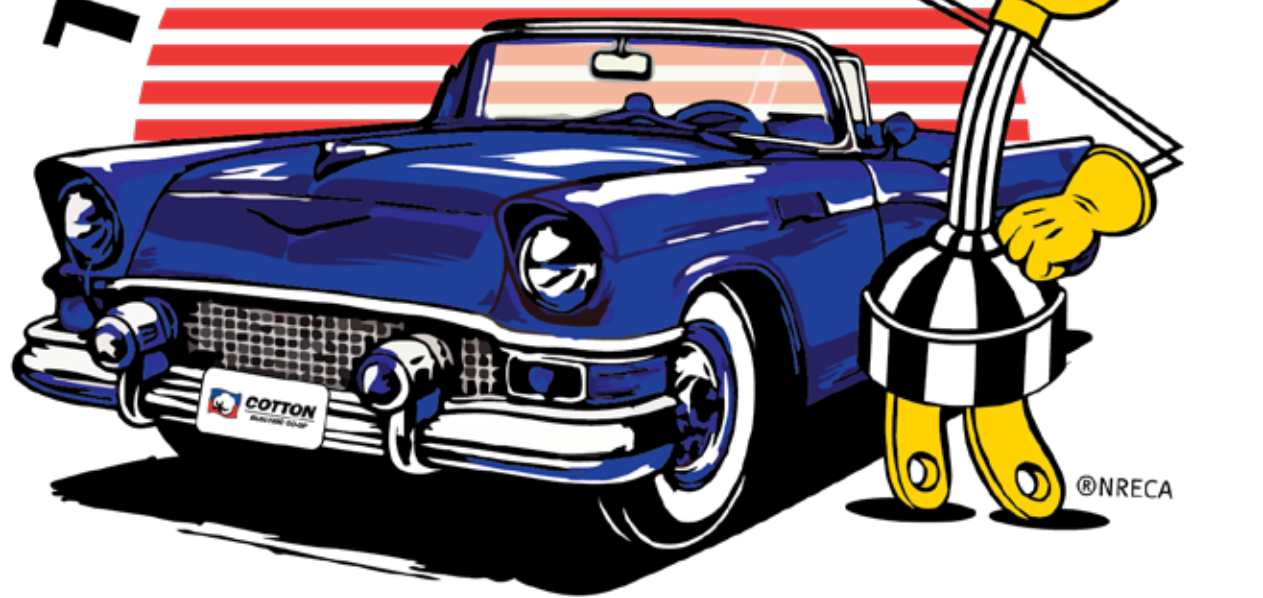
everyone while serving in that position and announced DeMarcus as the next Board president.

Next, Cotton Electric CEO Jennifer Meason ended the 2024 Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day by thanking members for their participation in this year's successful event before announcing the winners of the prize drawings. A complete list of winners can be found on Page 7.

To watch the 2024 Annual Meeting business meeting, visit our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/@CottonElectricCoop.

Thank you to all of our members who participated in this year's Annual Meeting and made it a successful event. We hope to see you next year!

THANK YOU!



Power Cost Adjustment Calculated

The power cost adjustment now being applied to bills mailed after Oct. 1, 2024, is \$0.00046 per kilowatt-hours (kWh).

On a member's average bill of 1,300 kWh, this will amount to a charge of \$0.59 on the October bill.

September 2024 Temperature Extremes

Day	High	Low	Avg.	Day	High	Low	Avg.
1	94	76	85	16	96	72	84
2	88	71	80	17	95	69	82
3	82	70	76	18	99	71	85
4	87	71	79	19	102	75	89
5	95	68	82	20	103	75	89
6	93	66	80	21	100	72	86
7	88	63	76	22	91	62	77
8	89	55	72	23	79	60	70
9	90	52	71	24	90	59	75
10	91	49	70	25	88	59	74
11	93	54	74	26	88	54	71
12	92	60	76	27	90	56	73
13	98	60	79	28	92	55	74
14	100	74	87	29	92	55	74
15	98	72	85	30	93	55	74

Source: srh.noaa.gov/ou/

Average Daily High: 93 Average Daily Low: 64

Did You Know?

Cotton Electric offices will be closed Monday, Oct. 14 for All Employee Training Day. Emergency calls will be answered at 580-875-3351 or 800-522-3520.

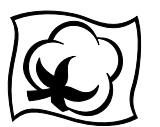
The next issue of *The Current* should arrive in mailboxes Nov. 8, 2024.

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 TheCurrent@cottonelectric.com.

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



COTTON
ELECTRIC CO-OP

Mission Statement
Our mission is to safely deliver reliable and affordable power, provide excellent member service, and improve the quality of life in the communities we serve.

From the CEO

Co-ops power communities with purpose

Thank you to all of the 891 members who recently participated in the 85th Annual Meeting! We were excited to see all of you and hope you had a great experience. Participation was the highest since 2011, when we had 893 members register in Duncan. It was great to see the Cooperative Principles in action as members voted on the proposed bylaw revisions, which passed with 93% of voting members approving the amendments.

As members of Cotton Electric Cooperative, we are all part of the electric cooperative community. This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the U.S. are celebrating National Co-op Month. It's a time to reflect on all the aspects that set cooperatives apart from other types of businesses, but more importantly, it's a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

Electric co-ops are not-for-profit utilities that are built by the communities they serve. For

Cotton Electric, our mission has always been to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable power. We care about your quality of life, and because we are locally operated, we're uniquely suited to meet our members' evolving energy needs.

Beyond the business of electricity, our employees and directors are equally invested in our local community. Why? Because we live here, too. That's why we work hard to support local economic development projects, youth programs and scholarships, charitable-giving initiatives and additional programs that make our community a better place to call home.

All co-ops, including Cotton Electric, are guided by seven Cooperative Principles that embody the values and spirit of the cooperative movement. These seven principles are a framework to help all co-ops navigate challenges and opportunities while remaining true to our purpose:

1. Open and Voluntary Membership

Co-op membership is open to anyone who can use the co-op's services.

2. Democratic Member Control

Members make decisions that shape the cooperative. Why? Because co-ops are created by the members, for the members.

3. Members' Economic Participation

Members contribute money to the co-op to make sure it runs smoothly now and in the future. At Cotton Electric, this happens through paying your energy bills.

4. Autonomy and Independence

Co-ops are independent and can operate on their own, which ultimately benefits the members.

5. Education, Training and Information

Cooperatives continually focus on education to ensure employees have the training and information they need to make the co-op successful.



Jennifer Meason, CEO

6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Co-ops share with and learn from other cooperatives. We help each other out in times of need because we want other co-ops to thrive.

7. Concern for Community

All cooperatives work for the greater good of the local communities they serve. Co-ops give back to their communities to help them thrive and grow.

This October, as we celebrate National Co-op Month and the power of membership, we hope you will recognize the many aspects that set electric cooperatives apart. Our mission is reliable power. Our purpose is people—the local communities we're proud to serve.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL

CO-OP MONTH

Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit, community-led utilities. Because we are a co-op, we can adapt to our local members' needs, providing the programs and services you care about most. That's the power of co-op membership.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you recently made or plan to make energy efficiency improvements to your home, you may be eligible for federal tax credits. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 empowers homeowners to save money on energy efficiency improvements and upgrades. Homeowners can save up to \$3,000 annually to lower the cost of efficiency upgrades by up to 30%.

A few upgrades covered through the IRA include new exterior doors, windows, insulation, heating/cooling equipment and other major appliances. If you completed an upgrade this year, or you are considering one, visit www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits to learn if you qualify for a tax credit.

Source: www.energystar.gov

August 2024 Operating Stats

	2024	2023
Total Amount Billed/Accrued	\$7,564,891	\$8,469,079
Cost of Purchased Power	5,314,532	5,757,398
Taxes	144,961	150,624
Total Operating Expense per Mile	1,394	1,453
Average Farm and Residential Bill	192	220
Average Farm and Residential kWh	1,758	1,826
Total Meters Billed (Farm, Residential)	19,735	19,505
Miles Energized	5,277	5,265
Density per Mile	3.74	3.70
New Service Connects YTD	306	306
Services Retired	146	123

Upcoming Deadlines for The Current

November	
Ad Sales	Oct. 25
Classified	Oct. 25
Publish	Nov. 8
December	
Ad Sales	Nov. 29
Classified	Nov. 29
Publish	Dec. 13

The Current

Published Monthly at Walters, Oklahoma
By Cotton Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Jennifer MeasonCEO
Shane Bowers..... Vice President
Zach YoungDirector
Carli Eubank Communications Specialist

Cotton Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Board of Trustees
Shan Files, Velma, President
Brian DeMarcus, Meers, Vice President
Steven R. Robinson, Cache, Sec./Treas.
Tony High, Walters, Asst. Sec./Treas.
Ken Layn, Marlow
Clifford Dunham, Chattanooga
Todd Clark, Duncan
Nichole Scott, Central High
Dell Farris, Comanche

"Cotton Electric Current" (USPS #134-020)
is published monthly by: Cotton Electric Co-op,
226 North Broadway, Walters, OK 73572
Periodicals Postage paid at
Lawton, OK 73501-4649

**Postmaster Send #3579
To The Cotton Current
226 North Broadway
Walters, OK 73572**

This institution is
an equal opportunity provider & employer.

Energy Efficiency

Is a ductless mini-split system right for your home?

How would you like a personalized comfort zone within your home? One where the temperature is customized to your liking and may be different from the temperature in the shared living areas or other rooms in the house. This flexibility and customization are precisely why mini-split systems, also known as ductless air-source heat pumps, and their energy efficiency aspects are so popular.

Let's unpack some mini-split basics and explore whether this type of system is a good choice for your home heating and cooling needs.

A mini-split system is a type of HVAC equipment used for heating and cooling, allowing you to control

the temperature in individual rooms or spaces. Similar to central heating and cooling, mini-split systems have two main components—an outdoor compressor and an indoor air-handling unit(s). A narrow conduit links the indoor unit(s) to the outdoor compressor.

While central heating and cooling systems feature an indoor unit connected by long lengths of ductwork, mini-splits are typically ductless. This means energy is not lost traveling through long stretches of ductwork. Installing the air-handling unit in a desired room or area enables you to control the temperature more precisely, reducing energy consumption. That's because you're adjusting the tempera-

ture to a single room or space rather than the whole home.

Is a mini-split system right for you?

Mini-split systems are a popular option in home additions, or for supplementing heating and cooling in a space that may be furthest away from the main living area, such as a finished attic or basement. In these instances, it may not be feasible to install or extend the ductwork required in traditional central cooling and heating systems.

In contrast, mini-splits are relatively easy to install, requiring a small hole for the conduit connecting the indoor and outdoor units. Most systems can handle up to four indoor rooms or zones connected to one outdoor unit. Each of the zones can be customized because each includes a thermostat that enables you to heat or cool the space as needed, saving energy and money over time.

Cool solutions

Mini-split systems bring additional benefits. They are quiet, improve indoor air quality and are typically easy to install. Many come with remotes to make temperature control even easier, and because of their smaller size, mini-split systems have many placement options for indoor and outdoor units.

One of the greatest benefits of mini-splits is that they typically have a higher SEER (seasonal energy efficiency ratio) rating than traditional central heating and cooling systems. The higher the unit's SEER rating, the more energy efficient it is.

Additional considerations

However, according to the Department of Energy, "mini-splits cost



Heath Morgan,
Energy Efficiency
Coordinator

about \$1,500 to \$2,000 per ton of cooling capacity. That's about 30% more than central systems (not including ductwork) and may cost twice as much as window units of similar capacity." Cotton Electric offers a rebate program when members purchase and install certain energy-efficient equipment, including heat pumps/mini-splits. For more information, visit our website at www.cottonelectric.com/rebate-program.

While the technology is improving and evolving, those in particularly colder climates may need a fuel backup to run a mini-split system. Aesthetics are another factor to consider, as some homeowners don't like the appearance of the indoor units, which are more visible than central air conditioning vents.

If you're considering an upgrade or additional heating and cooling equipment, talk to a qualified technician to learn if a ductless mini-split system could work for your home.

For questions or more information, call your co-op at 580-875-3351.



BENEFITS OF MINI-SPLIT SYSTEMS


- Zone-controlled heating/cooling
- Higher efficiency ratings
- Easy installation
- Good for home additions

Heating Degree Day and Cooling Degree Day Calendar

SEPTEMBER

HDD	YEAR	CDD
0	2024	383
0	2023	448
0	2022	358

Degree days measure how cold or warm a location is by comparing the average of the high and low (mean) of the outdoor temperatures recorded in that location to the standard U.S. temperature, which is 65 F. The assumption is that we don't need heating or cooling to be comfortable when this is the outdoor temperature.

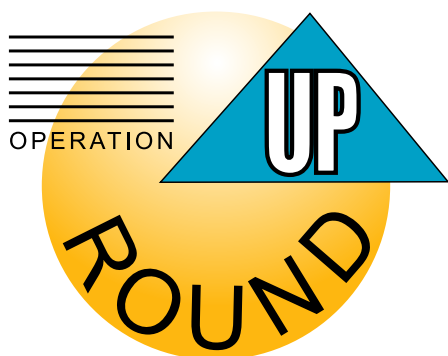


LOCALLY OWNED BY OUR MEMBERS




COTTON
ELECTRIC CO-OP

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Cotton Electric Charitable Foundation



Meridian Volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services was awarded a Cotton Electric Charitable Foundation (CECF) grant for an AED. Pictured left to right: Cotton Electric Director of Marketing and Communications Zach Young and members of Meridian VFD and EMS.



A CECF grant was awarded to AmVets Post 11 for a flagpole. Pictured left to right: Cotton Electric Communications Specialist Carli Eubank, AmVets Post 11 Post Commander Kenneth Youngblood and AmVets Post 11 Public Relations Officer Bill Straily.



A CECF grant was awarded to Velma Community Outreach Center for food. Pictured left to right: volunteers with Velma Community Outreach Center, Cotton Electric CEO Jennifer Meason, Cotton Electric Communications Specialist Carli Eubank, Cotton Electric Vice President of Administration Shane Bowers, and a Velma Community Outreach Center volunteer.



Geronimo Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) received a CECF grant for hoses. Pictured left to right: Geronimo VFD firefighter Kevin Murphy, Geronimo VFD firefighter Aaron Billen, Geronimo VFD Captain Warren West, Geronimo VFD firefighter Riley Zellar, Geronimo VFD Captain Clay Maldonado, and Cotton Electric Vice President of Administration Shane Bowers.



A recent CECF grant was awarded to Leadership Duncan Class XXVIII for canine training for the Duncan Police Department. Pictured left to right: Kelsey Roberts, Brooke Harvey, Duncan Police Chief Brian Attaway, Josh Long, City of Duncan K-9 handler Bailey Webb, Clayton Pickard, Frank Kresse, Joyce Elwood, Amy Ryker, City of Duncan K-9 handler Kaleb Keplinger, and Cotton Electric Communications Specialist Carli Eubank.



A CECF grant was given to Marlow Samaritans for a misting fan. Pictured left to right: (front row) Mary Cobb, treasurer; Terrie Phillips, one of the original organizers of the agency; Sandy Chatfield, secretary; Lisa Ivory, member-at-large; Zach Young, Cotton Electric director of marketing and communications; (back row) Charlie Dunbar, member-at-large; Scott Dittner, president; Carolyn Lowe, food bank manager; and Cricket Holland, vice president.

REMINDER

Fourth-quarter CECF grant applications are due

Nov. 12



EMAIL

ZYOUNG@COTTONELECTRIC.COM



MAIL

226 N. BROADWAY, WALTERS, OK 73572



WEBSITE

WWW.COTTONELECTRIC.COM/
GRANT-APPLICATIONS



Members from Districts 1, 3 and 5 show engagement with their co-op

Cotton Electric Cooperative is proud to be member owned and guided by Cooperative Principles, and one of these key principles is Democratic Member Control. Many members demonstrated this principle by getting involved with their co-op and making their voices heard at this year's District Meetings in Districts 1, 3 and 5.

The meetings began with District 1 Aug. 29 in Velma. Shan Files, serving as the Trustee of District 1, welcomed members before the District Meeting Committee, composed of Board Trustees, called the meeting to order. Meetings in Districts 3 and 5 followed the same agenda.

Nichole Scott, Trustee of District 3, welcomed members Sept. 6 near Central High, and District 5 Trustee Clifford Dunham hosted members of his area Sept. 9 in Chattanooga.

A chairman from among the members in attendance was selected before appointing a meeting secretary and reporting on the presence of a quorum. Co-op bylaws require a quorum of 5% of a district's members to hold an election.

Neither a quorum nor opponents were not present at the meetings held this year, so Trustees Files, Scott and Dunham were held over for additional three-year terms beginning immediately after the 2024 Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day on Sept. 26.

Cotton Electric CEO Jennifer Meason thanked members for expressing an interest in the co-op through their attendance and gave a report on cooperative business.

"Overall, our mission is to provide power that is safe, reliable and affordable while trying to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve," Meason said. "We're here because of you – our member-owners – so with everything we do and every decision we make, we think about how it will impact our members."

Next, Meason shared how the Vegetation Management crew continues to maintain and improve qual-

ity power by clearing trees from obstructing power lines and working with an USDA-certified herbicide application contractor to prevent regrowth of vegetation within the service territory.

Another way Cotton Electric is working to improve quality of service is through our pole inspection program. The cooperative has been working with contractors who are moving through the service territory inspecting poles and marking ones that need to be replaced. Line operations and meter crews have completed orders for system upgrades and continue to maintain line upgrades to help improve reliable service.

Meason expressed gratitude to members who voluntarily participate in Operation Round Up and shared how the Cotton Electric Charitable Foundation (CECF) has impacted local organizations, schools and other CECF grant recipients.

With the current Environmental Protection Agency Power Plant Rule and other regulations facing electric cooperatives, Meason encouraged members to advocate for their cooperative by signing up for Voices for Cooperative Power.

"Together, our voices of many make a lot more of an impact than just a few," Meason said. "We will continue to keep you informed, spread the message and remember the most important thing is safe, reliable and affordable power for members."

Each meeting concluded with an invitation to the 2024 Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day, prize drawings, refreshments and engagement with Cotton Electric members and employees.

Next year's District Meetings will take place in Districts 4, 7 and 9.

For more information about the cooperative's Board of Trustees or the 2024 Annual Meeting, visit our website at www.cottonelectric.com.



Cotton Electric Energy Efficiency Coordinator Heath Morgan offers a snack for members at the meeting for District 3. Photo by Carli Eubank.



Cotton Electric CEO Jennifer Meason shares an overview of cooperative business with members in District 5. Photo by Carli Eubank.



Cotton Electric Board President Shan Files welcomes members from his district to the District 1 Meeting. Photo by Carli Eubank.



Cotton Electric Member Services Representative Jeannie Evans registers a member at the meeting in District 5. Photo by Carli Eubank.

Congratulations to our 2024 District Meeting prize winners!

District 1

Allen Byrom, Jane Lynn and Michael Harrell

District 3

Ray Kesner, Chad Marek and Todd Grim

District 5

Darlinda Pickens, Richard Duncan and Lynn Geis



Cotton Electric Member Services Representative Kyle Graham registers members at the meeting in District 3. Photo by Carli Eubank.

Starlite Welding Supplies

Torch & Regulator Repair Welder-Torch Kit Specials

1 Yr. Cylinder Lease \$45.95

SPECIALS on Welders/Generators



526 Industrial Ave.--By Duncan Cemetery
Mon.-Fri., 8 am -5 pm; Sat., 8 am -12 noon
Home-owned by Kenneth/Jeff Golay
Since 1991 580-252-8320

Audiology & Hearing AID of Duncan

"Serving Duncan Since 1995"
HEARING EVALUATIONS
HEARING AIDS
HEARING AID SUPPLIES
ALL BRANDS REPAIRED

We Accept Insurance
Pack of Batteries, \$3
Resound Dealer

Hearing Evaluation
Assistive Listening
Hearing Conservation
HEARING AIDS

Cynthia Reidenbach - Hearing Aid Tech
Matt Campbell - M.S., CCC-A
AUDIOLOGIST

580-252-9005

2126 N HWY 81, STE 26B • CHISHOLM MALL, SOUTH ENTRANCE

HOLT ELECTRIC

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Residential Commercial Industrial Estimates Remodeling New Construction

24 hour Service

580-365-4147

P.O. Box 131 * Sterling OK 73567* Lic#OK10531

Toll Free: 1-800-259-2384 Bus: 580-228-2383
Fax: 580-228-3290

Eck Drug & Gift



For all your prescription needs!

Dana "Biff" & Valerie Eck 101 S. Main
Doctors of Pharmacy Waurika, OK 73573

Bill Robinson



Cell: (580) 450-3077

UNCOMFORTABLE?

Does your home have any of these symptoms?

- Rooms that get too hot or too cold?
- High utility bills?
- Thermostat wars with your spouse?
- High humidity in summer?
- House just never seems comfortable?
- There doesn't seem to be enough airflow?
- Dust buildup within 2 days of dusting?
- Problems with your system since it's been installed?
- Anyone with allergies or asthma?
- AC starts and stops frequently or runs all the time, and house is still not cool?

Have been told by other contractors that the problem cannot be fixed?

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions, we can help!

Pippin Brothers has specialists that can pinpoint and correct these problems and, in many cases, you don't even have to replace your equipment, with the solution usually being easier and costing a lot less than you may think. There is no other contractor in Lawton more qualified than Pippin Brothers at diagnosing and correcting these annoying, inconvenient, unhealthy, comfort-compromising and energy-wasting concerns. Call us today and let us make your home **Feel As Good As It Looks!** After all, your home is your largest investment and you and your family deserve to be comfortable - don't you?



"Comfort Without Compromise"

Call Today:

580-248-7924

www.PippinBrothers.com

Five simple steps to become a co-op voter

If you could shape the future of our community in five steps, would you? While I know it might seem like an impossible question, the 2024 general elections are taking place nationwide next month, giving electric cooperative members—like you—the opportunity to make your voice heard on issues that affect our community. This election is our opportunity to elect candidates who support energy policies that promote safe, reliable, affordable energy.

Cotton Electric understands the importance of voting with co-op issues in mind and is working to ensure all our members go to the polls as Co-op Voters. To help, we are partnering with Co-ops Vote, a national, non-partisan initiative focused on enhancing the political strength of electric cooperatives through relationship-building with policymakers.

Co-ops Vote is a program built to give members of the Cotton Electric community the resources and information needed to vote with electric cooperative issues in mind. So, how can you be a co-op voter at the polls? Well, it's as easy as following these five steps.

1. Get ready

Registering to vote is simple and easy. To help, Co-ops Vote has a website full of voter resources and information. You can check it out at www.vote.coop.

Remember, it's essential to regularly check your registration and verify that your information is correct and up to date.

2. Get the details

Every state's election process is different, and it's important to know about upcoming voter registration deadlines, the process for requesting absentee ballots and more, so you don't

miss key dates. We've made it easy, and you can find all the information about voting in Oklahoma by visiting www.vote.coop/gotv.

3. Get informed

Before you head to the polls, it's important to be educated on the policy issues that help keep our community's power reliable, affordable and safe. Learn more about these issues by join-

ing Voices for Cooperative Power, a national network of co-op advocates, by visiting www.voicesforcooperative-power.com/issues.

4. Get the background

Now that you're registered and informed, it's time to learn about your candidates. You can view a list of your current elected officials on the Voices for Cooperative Power website and then click to view their official website for news releases and official policy positions.

5. Get others involved

Now that you've done your research and are officially ready to head to the polls as a Co-op Voter, it's time to get your family, friends and neighbors involved.

We encourage you to complete these five simple steps and become a Co-op Voter. America's electric cooperatives, including Cotton Electric, understand the importance of political engagement.

Together, we have the power to educate lawmakers, build awareness about our issues and concerns and support legislative issues that are important to our communities. The co-op voice is powerful, and it starts with you.

For more information about how you can advocate for electric cooperatives, visit www.cottonelectric.com/your-co-op-your-voice.

CO-OPS
VOTE

A PROGRAM OF AMERICA'S
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

WWW.VOTE.COOP

SHOWMAN'S CHOICE
FOR ALL YOUR HORSE TACK & SHOW SUPPLY NEEDS.

HOURS MON-FRI 8:00-5:30
SAT 10:00-2:00

1205 SW SHERIDAN RD
LAWTON, OK 73505
580-355-7469

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

FRONTIER
Equipment

2301 S. Hwy 81
Marlow, OK 73055
580-475-8879

Skid Steer Grapples, Augers,
Mowers, Forks, Etc.

Ochsner
Dozer-Trackhoe
Service

Pond, Terraces, Tree Clearing,
Building Pads, NRCS Work, etc.

For estimate on your job call Jeff
580-704-2226

PUBLIC AUCTION
273575 Forest Drive Hastings, OK 73548
Saturday, October 19th, 2024 10am
Preview: Friday, October 18th, 2024 1pm-6pm
Vehicles, Camper, Trailers & Firearms will sell at 12pm.
For Photos: www.auctionzip.com Enter Auctioneer ID# 17788

Scroggins Auction Service has been commissioned to offer at Public Auction the Personal Property of Mr. & Mrs. Joel & Dora Fogelstrom.

Directions: From Hwy 81 & Hwy 53 go 7.5 Miles West to Coco Road. Turn South and go 2.5 Miles to Beaver Point. Turn into Beaver Point and follow the road to auction site.

Vehicles: 2008 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer, 1999 Ford Lariat 4x4, 1981 Ford F150 4x4. **Motorcycle:** 2014 Honda Goldwing GL1800. **Camper:** 2010 20' Heartland Trail Runner. **Trailers:** 10" Enclosed Motorcycle Trailer, 18' Gooseneck Flatbed Trailer. **Tractor & Farm Items:** John Deere 2440, Pasture Drill, 6' Brush Hog, Box Blade, Oxen Yoke, Cow Yokes, Antique Firestone Boat Motor, Chicken Coop, 2 Team Draw Bar, Wagon Wheel Hubs, Front End Loader, Tool Bar, Agri Fab Lawn Vac. **Firearms:** DPMS AR-15, Browning Lever Action 308 w/Scope, Stevens .410/22 Over & Under, Benelli Montefeltro 12 Gauge, H&R .22/.22 Mag Revolver, Smith & Wesson .44 Mag Revolver, Sig Sauer .22 Semi Auto Mosquito. **Mower:** 16.5hp Gardenway by Troy Built Riding Mower. **Antiques & More:** 1950's Antique Pedal Tractor, Spurs, Lots of Crocks (Churns, Jars & Bowls), Dazey Churns, Jewel Tea Dishes, Old Marbles, Cobalt Blue Glass, Antique Glassware, Hens on the Nest, Ice Tongs, Old Lanterns, Antique Rocking Horse, Cast Iron Ware, Old Wooden Boxes, Matchbox Holder Collection Ice Pick Collection. **Household Items:** Full Size Bedroom Suites, Dining Table & Chairs, Lighted China Cabinet, Bar Stools and Church Pew **Misc Items:** Lots of Fishing Equipment, Old Fishing Lures, Minnow Buckets, Minnow Tanks, Wood Duck Decoys, 2 Man Cross Cut Saws, Kerosene Lamps, Stainless Steel Sink, Yard Tools, Power Washers, Oil Cans, Water Cans, Hand Water Pumps, Window Weights, Fireplace Insert, Gas Fireplace, Fire Hydrant, Solid Wood Door, Metal Shelving.

Auctioneers Message: This auction has lots of very nice items. Lots more than listed. Still going through items. You don't want to miss this one!! **Terms & Conditions:** Announcements made day of sale supersede any previous advertisements. Everything sells AS-IS Where Is! **Buyers MUST** provide a copy of SALES TAX PERMIT day of sale to avoid sales tax. **Terms & Conditions of Sale:** Cash, Personal Check & Company Check accepted with positive ID.

Scroggins Auction Service
Parker Scroggins – Auctioneer
580-656-4416

**Carpports, Garages, Barns,
Metal Buildings**

Come Check Out Our SALE!

Stop by our display yard at **Land Pros** in Duncan, across from the Stephens County Fairgrounds on South Hwy 81. Let us design and price your custom building.

BB
BEST BARNs

1705 S. Hwy. 81
DUNCAN, OK 73533
580-467-1501
BestBarnsandCarpports.com

NO ONE BEATS OUR QUALITY OR PRICE

BestBarnsandCarpports.office@gmail.com

Vote for solid investment strategies

With the presidential election just a few weeks away, the public is naturally interested in not just the outcome but what the results will mean for issues of national importance. As a citizen, you likely share these concerns — but how about as an investor? After the votes are counted — or even before — should you make some moves in anticipation of possible changes in policy?

Let's look at the big picture first, through the lens of history. The financial markets have performed well — and at times, not so well — under Democratic and Republican presidents alike. And the same is true about which party controlled Congress.

While it might be an overstatement to say that decisions made in Washington have no effect on the markets, it's not always so easy to draw a direct line between what happens there and how the markets perform. For one thing, political candidates often make promises that are not fulfilled, or, if they are, have different results than intended. Also, other institutions can have a significant impact on the markets. For example, the Federal Reserve, which controls short-term interest rates, can certainly affect many market sectors. And there will always be external events, such as foreign conflicts and even natural disasters, that can make short-term impacts on the investment world.

So, rather than making changes to your portfolio in anticipation of what might happen if certain candidates get elected, or even in response to actual policy changes, look to other factors to drive your investment decisions.

These factors should include the following:

- Your goals – You probably have short- and long-term goals you'd like to achieve. For your short-term goals, such as a wedding, a down payment on a house or a long vacation, you may want to invest in instruments that provide stability of principal. For your long-term goals, most important of which may be a comfortable retirement, you'll need to own a reasonable number of growth-oriented investments.
- Your risk tolerance – When you build and maintain your investment portfolio, you'll need to accommodate your individual risk tolerance. All invest-

ments carry some type of risk, but you need to be comfortable with the overall risk level of your investments.

- Your time horizon – Where you are in life is an important consideration when investing. When you are young and just starting out in your career, you may be able to focus more on growth, as you have time to overcome the inevitable short-term market downturns. But as you near retirement, you may want to consolidate any gains you may have achieved, and lower your risk level, by moving your portfolio toward a somewhat more conservative approach. Even in retirement, though, you will need

some growth potential to stay ahead of inflation.

- Your needs for liquidity – As you invest, you'll need to maintain an adequate amount of cash and cash equivalents in your holdings. Without this liquidity, you might be forced to sell long-term investments in case you have unexpected expenses.

In any case, when it comes to investing, you may want to pay less attention to what names are on the ballot — and instead “vote” for the longer-term strategies that reflect your needs and goals.

Kelsey Avants
1110 N. 10th Street | Duncan, OK 73533 | 580-255-4408
kelsey.avants@edwardjones.com | www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

2024 Annual Meeting prize winners listed

The 2024 Annual Meeting and Appreciation Day concluded with a prize drawing. Each registered member was automatically entered for a chance to win a variety of prizes. A new addition to this year's drawing was Cotton Electric's \$1,000 donation to the local volunteer fire department that serves the grand prize winner's membership account, and this year's donation will go to the City of Comanche Fire Department. The following is a complete list of prizes and winners:

\$1,000 energy voucher: Faye Baldwin of Comanche

\$500 energy vouchers: Joe Hennessee of Duncan, Mark Trosclair of

Marlow, Shane Linam of Marlow and William Hall of Duncan

\$250 energy vouchers: Kristie Gardner of Duncan, Donna Lindesmith of Waurika, Floyd Carter of Duncan and Lynn Cobb of Comanche

\$100 gift cards: William Brooks of Lawton, Steve Duty of Geronimo, Sherri Sprague of Lawton, Heather Shockley of Indianhoma, Joel Petty of Duncan, Brett Bain of Lawton, Jeanie Moralez of Lawton, Harvey Garrett of Comanche, Mark Mattingly of Elgin and Lyndell Patton of Faxon

Congratulations to all of our winners!



A behind-the-scenes look of the setup to livestream the business meeting portion of the 2024 Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day. Photo by Carli Eubank.



Join us for **COFFEE WITH COTTON**

DISTRICT 9
OCT. 24 | 7:30 A.M.

CASEY'S LAKESIDE MINI MART
185960 N 2740 RD, HASTINGS

We hope to see you there!



LAWTON FARMERS MARKET
Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
77 SW 4th St.
A year-round market located in the heart of downtown Lawton, Oklahoma.
For vendor inquiries please call: **Cindy Nocton (580) 678-9472**
LawtonFarmersMarket.com

RE/MAX
1941 W ELK, DUNCAN, OK 73533
580-252-7800

OUR TEAM CAN MEET YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS

Bryan Fisher 580-251-1195	Brenda Knabe 580-251-0278	Karl Jacobs 580-467-4915
Shorty Brown 580-467-1468	Venessa Swanson 580-775-7468	Melody Herrington 580-656-3023

Each RE/MAX office is independently owned and operated

CORNISH PROPERTIES
Insured & Bonded
Serving Lawton Since 1980

Commercial • Industrial
Interior & Exterior

- Drywall Finish
- Spray Painting
- Construction Management

6209 W Gore Blvd, Lawton
580-536-0575

BOB'S LANDMARK EATERY

580-439-5639

Same great food and friendly service!
Catfish, Steak, BBQ, Burgers & more!
Banquet room with seating for up to 45.

Dine In or Carry Out
Old Hwy 81 & Refinery Rd
Ryan & Amanda Mora
179027 N 2820 Rd
Comanche, OK 73529

GRAHAM INSURANCE

HOME • AUTO • FARM • COMMERCIAL
LIFE • RV'S • MOTORCYCLE • BOAT

403 W Main St.
Marlow, OK 73055 **580-658-3077**

SPARKS CONSTRUCTION

DOZERS • TRACKHOES
DEMOLITION SERVICES

60' LONG-REACH DREDGING TRACKHOE
CLEAN OUT OR ENLARGE STOCK PONDS

Ricky Sparks
580-450-3673

Cable
MEAT & FOOD SERVICE
Wholesale Food Distributor
Wholesale delivery within 75 mile radius of Marlow.

Retail Store Hours:
Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CABLE
MEAT & FOOD SERVICE
MARLOW, OK
580-658-6646

FOR YOUR SUMMER COOK-OUTS
TRY OUR T-N-T ALL BEEF HAMBURGER PATTIES

Food Service Office Hours:
Monday - Friday, 5:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Place orders 24/7 on our mobile app
or online at cablefoodservice.com

Thinking about Buying or Selling Property?

Turn to experts you can trust!

KRISSIE GORDON
REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL
580-467-3396

TURNER LAND COMPANY LLC
Mike Faulkner - Managing Broker
580-465-3571

www.turnerlandcompany.com

Top three ways cyber attackers target you



October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Let's work together to build a safer digital world. Whether at home, work or school, we can increase our online safety with the following tips.

- Recognize and report phishing attempts.
- Use strong, unique passwords.
- Enable multi-factor authentication.
- Update software regularly.

Social engineering attacks, in which adversaries trick people into doing something they shouldn't, are one of the most common methods that cyber attackers use to target people. The concept has been used by con artists and scammers for thousands of years. What is new is that the Internet makes it very easy for a cyber-criminal anywhere in the world to pretend to be anyone they want and target anyone they want. Below are the three most common types of social engineering methods that cyber attackers will use to try to engage and fool you.

Phishing

Phishing is the most traditional social engineering attack; it is when cyber attackers send you an email attempting to trick you into taking an action you shouldn't do. It was originally called phishing because it was like fishing in a lake: You threw out a line and hook but had no idea what you would catch. The strategy behind this tactic was that the more phishing emails cyber-criminals sent, the more people fell victim. The phishing attacks of today have become both far more sophisticated and targeted (sometimes called spear phishing), with cyber attackers often customizing their phishing emails before sending them.

Smishing

Smishing is essentially SMS-based phishing, in which a text message is sent instead of an email. Cyber attackers send text messages to your phone on apps such as iMessage, Google Messages or WhatsApp. There are several reasons why smishing has become popular. The first is that it's much harder to filter out messaging attacks than it is to filter out email attacks. Second, the messages that cyber attackers send are often very short, meaning there is very little context which makes it much harder to determine if the message is legitimate or not. Third, messaging is often more informal and action-based, so people are used to quickly responding to or acting on messages. Finally, people are getting better and better at spotting phishing email attacks, so cyber attackers are simply shifting to a new method, messaging.

Vishing

Vishing, or voice-based phishing, is a tactic that uses a phone call or voice message rather than email or text message. Vishing attacks take far more time for the attacker to execute, as they talk directly to and interact with the victim. However, these types of attacks are also far more effective, as it is much

easier to create strong emotions over the phone, such as a sense of urgency. Once a cyber attacker gets you on the phone, they will not let you get off the phone until they get what they want.

Spotting and stopping these attacks

Fortunately, it does not matter which of the three methods cyber attackers use, there are common clues you can spot:

- Urgency: Any message that creates a tremendous sense of urgency in which attackers are trying to rush you into taking quick action and making a mistake. An example is a message claiming to be from the government, stating your taxes are overdue and if you don't pay right away you will end up in jail.
- Pressure: Any message that pressures an employee to ignore or bypass company security policies and procedures.
- Curiosity: Any message that generates a tremendous amount of curiosity or seems too good to be true, such as an undelivered UPS package or a notice that you are receiving an Amazon refund.
- Tone: Any message that appears to be coming from someone you know such as a coworker, but the wording does not sound like them, or the overall tone or signature is wrong.
- Sensitive Information: Any message requesting highly sensitive information, such as your password or credit card.
- Generic: A message coming from a trusted organization but uses a generic salutation such as "Dear Customer". If Amazon has a package for you or phone service has a billing issue, they know your name.
- Personal Email Address: Any email that appears to come from a legitimate organization, vendor, or co-worker, but is using a personal email address like @gmail.com or @hotmail.com. By looking for these common clues you can go a long way toward protecting yourself.

By looking for these common clues you can go a long way toward protecting yourself.

Source: www.sans.org

Shasta Smith Insurance
A DIVISION OF LEGACY INSURANCE

751 W WILLOW SUITE 4
DUNCAN, OKLAHOMA

580.786.9200
SSMITH@LEGACYINSURANCE1.COM

HOME • AUTO • COMMERCIAL • BUSINESS

GREAT PLAINS
Technology Center

Ready for a new opportunity? We're hiring!
We have several open positions.
APPLY TODAY!

For full job descriptions, deadlines and applications see
www.greatplains.edu/jobs
Great Plains is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

the bray store

7503 E. HWY 29
580-658-5211
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS
Dine In - Carry Out - Call Ins Welcome

RESTAURANT	STORE
Mon.-Sat. 6 AM-2PM Sunday 7 AM-2PM	Mon.-Sat. 6 AM-8PM Sunday 7 AM-8PM

Call-ins and Take Out (7 Days a week) 2PM-6PM

YOUR FIGHT IS OUR FIGHT!

We embrace new and innovative treatments that emerge each year in the fight against cancer! Our doctors and nurses are cancer specialists. Our staff is highly trained to support you as a patient. You will not fight alone.

We encourage you to get routine cancer screenings.
Early detection improves outcomes and saves lives.

Hope & Healing

RIGHT HERE AT HOME

ALTUS 1200 E. Broadway St. Altus, OK. 73521 580.379.6000	LAWTON 104 NW 31st St. Lawton, OK. 73505 580.536.2121	DUNCAN 2465 N. Whisenant Dr. Suite 100 Duncan, OK. 73533 580.251.6600	CHICKASHA 2222 W. Iowa Ave. Chickasha, OK. 73018 405.222.9222

Altus • Lawton • Duncan • Chickasha

CANCER CENTERS
of Southwest Oklahoma

A SERVICE OF COMANCHE COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

For more information, visit our website
CCSWOK.COM

Let's make sure your business is fully equipped.

Your business needs equipment to succeed and grow, and we're ready to help make financing fast and convenient. When it's time to get well equipped for the future, give our team a call.

arvest.com/equipment | (580)255-7121

ARVEST Equipment Finance

Member FDIC Loans subject to credit approval.

Steering teens toward responsible driving

National Teen Driver Safety Week is October 20-26, 2024

Parenting teens can be challenging. While some battles aren't worth fighting, protecting your teen behind the wheel is.

Although no one wants to think about teens being in car accidents, it does happen. Protecting your teen behind the wheel is crucial due to their inexperience, which makes them more susceptible to crashes. Car accidents are a leading cause of death for teens in the U.S., with the highest risk in the first year of driving. Common hazards include additional passengers, speeding, drowsy driving and using phones.

Distracted driving is a major issue, with 3,308 people killed in distracted-affected crashes in 2022, including 2,613 teens, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Teen drivers often lack the skills and experience needed to avoid fatal crashes, and distractions such as texting can be particularly dangerous. For example, reading a text at 55 mph is like driving the length of a football field with your eyes closed. For this reason, many states have laws against texting, talking on the phone and engaging in other distractions while driving.

There are three types of driving distractions to discuss with your teen:

- Visual, when you take your eyes off the road.
- Manual, when you take your hands off the wheel.
- Cognitive, when you take your mind off driving.

To prevent distracted driving, teach your teens (and emulate) these tips:

1. Do not text while driving.
2. Block texts and keep your phone out of sight.
3. Avoid eating while driving.
4. Use playlists instead of searching for music.
5. Set up navigation before driving or have a passenger navigate.

Teen drivers report pressure from families and friends to use phones while driving. Many drivers continue to use phones even when they are aware of the crash risk. Technology can help avoid cell phone use while driving. Use built-in features on your smartphone or cell phone blocking apps to prevent distractions. For the greatest safety benefit, change your phone settings to block hands-free and calls and text messages.

Stay safe around power lines

Ensure your teen knows what to do if they encounter downed power lines: stay in the vehicle, call 9-1-1 and stay at least 50 feet away from the scene if they witness an accident.

Make sure they realize that downed lines or other damaged utility equipment can look lifeless and harmless yet still be energized. They do not have to be sparking, moving or sizzling (like you often see in movies) to be energized.

For more safety tips, visit SafeElectricity.org and consider downloading a Parent-Teen Driving Agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

4 SAFETY TIPS

TEEN DRIVERS NEED TO KNOW



1 THAT TEXT CAN WAIT

When texting while driving, the shortest amount of time a person takes his or her eyes off the road is five seconds. At 55 mph, that is like driving the length of a football field with your eyes closed.

2 DON'T GET OUT

If you are in a car accident involving a power line or padmount transformer ("green box"), stay inside the vehicle and call 9-1-1. Unless the car is on fire or giving off smoke, do not get out. If there is a fire, make a solid jump from the vehicle without touching it and hop with your feet together as far away as you can.

3 RESPECT WORK ZONES

One work zone crash occurs every 5.4 minutes. Remind teen drivers to consider anyone doing their job in or near the road as someone they know and love. Encourage them to move over and slow down for workers.

4 DON'T DRIVE DISTRACTED

Texting is not the only form of distracted driving. Driving and doing anything else is multitasking. Eight deaths occur EVERY DAY due to drivers who drive distracted.

Learn more: SafeElectricity.org

MONTGOMERY TIRE & ALIGNMENT
580-255-3030
& TRUCK WASH

PASSENGER, LIGHT TRUCK, COMMERCIAL & AG
24 HOUR ROAD SERVICE
TOLL FREE 1-888-255-3031
MONTGOMERYTIREANDALIGNMENT.COM

NATURESCAPE
Rooted in Quality

11703 NW Cache Road
Lawton, OK 73505
580-699-0626
www.naturescapelawton.com

CHISHOLM TRAIL ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS

THE Fretliners

OCT. 15
SIMMONS CENTER THEATER
7:30 PM

SPONSORED BY **DUNCAN** AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
AND IN PART BY **Edward Jones**

for Tickets 580-252-4160 or www.chisholmtrailarts.com

Is Your Water Safe?

Give Your Back a Break...Stop Adding Salt to Your Softener

Minerals in your water form scale deposits that build up inside your pipes, water heater, shower heads, and other water using equipment like cholesterol in your arteries. These deposits significantly decrease the efficiency of your plumbing systems. Drinking water and icemakers are also negatively affected, as are health quality of water and taste. Hard water is not safe for you, your family or your home.

Benefits of a No-Salt Water Conditioning System:

- ▣ Maintain healthy calcium & magnesium levels
- ▣ No sodium added to water
- ▣ No waste water vs. up to 10,000 gallons per year with salt softeners
- ▣ No environmental discharge of salt or chemicals
- ▣ Reduces iron staining
- ▣ Extends appliance life by 50% or more
- ▣ Descales inside of pipes & water heater
- ▣ Cleaner bodies, clothes, and dishes
- ▣ 25% or more reduced detergent use
- ▣ Clothing will last longer
- ▣ Cleaner more refreshing water
- ▣ Improves water heater efficiency and thus lowers energy bills

Call Today 580-248-7924
www.PippinBrothers.com

PIPPIN BROTHERS
PLUMBING • HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING



Hilliary

INTERNET • PHONE • TV

Always Innovating

(580) 529-5000
HILLIARY.COM

because every community matters



ENROLLMENT FOR THE SPRING 2025 SEMESTER OPENS THIS MONTH!

YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR SUCCESS!

YOUR EDUCATION IS OUR MISSION. LET CAMERON UNIVERSITY HELP YOU START ON THE PATH TO A COLLEGE DEGREE. WE OFFER SOME OF THE MOST AFFORDABLE BACHELOR'S AND GRADUATE DEGREES OF ANY OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY. KEEPING A COLLEGE EDUCATION WITHIN YOUR REACH IS OUR PRIORITY.



CAMPUSES IN LAWTON AND DUNCAN
2800 W. GORE BLVD. LAWTON, OK
580.581.2289
WWW.CAMERON.EDU



RAM

PRAIRIE

CIRCUIT FINALS RODEO

OCTOBER 17TH • 18TH • 19TH

STEPHENS COUNTY FAIR & EXPO ARENA

DUNCAN, OK 7:30pm NIGHTLY

FEATURING THE TOP COWBOYS & COWGIRLS FROM OKLAHOMA, KANSAS AND NEBRASKA

TICKETS

Adult
\$12/Advanced \$15/At Door

Ages 4-12
\$8/Advanced \$10/At Door

3 and Under Free

Advanced Tickets Available at these locations:



2024 Funny Man Allen Dessel

2024 Specialty Act Flying Arena Stars



FRIDAY NIGHT Wear Pink in Support of Breast Cancer Awareness

BACK THE BLUE

SATURDAY NIGHT Support our Local Police, Fire, EMT and Sheriff Depts



www.prairiecircuitfinalsrodeo.com



Co-op Life

Cultivating community

By Carli Eubank

Tucked away just outside of Walters, Oklahoma, you can find a faint cloud of dust in the air and hear the steady rumble of cattle following the echo of a yelp from the other end of the pasture. This scene occurs several times a day, as Cotton Electric members and owners of Re:Farm Zach and Kacie Scherler-Abney grow their sustainable practices of regenerative agriculture.

As a Walters-native and fifth-generation farmer and rancher, Kacie's childhood memories include those of growing up on her family's farm, but she always knew she wanted to live in a big city one day. So, after graduating high school, Kacie packed her bags for Los Angeles and pursued a degree at Pepperdine University. During her time living in San Francisco, Kacie worked for many nonprofits, including FairTrade, traveling all around the world with the goal of making food supply more sustainable remaining in the back of her mind.

Zach's journey began thousands of miles away in Uganda, where he grew up with his family of missionaries. After he and his family moved back to Portland, Oregon, and Zach graduated from college, he started working at the nonprofit his parents started.

As fate would have it, with Zach and Kacie both working for nonprofits based in Uganda and connections of mutual friends, their paths crossed and the couple wed in 2018.

Two months after the wedding, with a plan to travel the country for work in their Airstream, Zach and Kacie's future took a life-altering turn when she began to lose feeling in her legs. After weeks at the hospital and far from identifying the issue, Kacie was sent home with a 30% chance of recovery.

"Getting news like that is devastating, especially after just getting married," Kacie said. "It was quite jarring."

Eventually, Kacie was accepted into the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota where she was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune condition called MOG. With a treatment plan still unavailable, Kacie began researching all that she could for her diagnosis and discovered *The Autoimmune Protocol*, a book that explains a diet rooted in eating clean meat. Discouraged by the lack of accessible, quality food that met her dietary standards, the couple decided to lease some land to raise their own meat, resulting in Kacie experiencing recovery almost immediately from the diet shift.

"What started as a personal health journey has become more of a soil journey," Kacie said.

After visiting with mentors, watching videos, reading books, and trials and errors, Zach and Kacie began to grow their operation using regenerative farming practices. They raise grass-fed, grass-finished beef without hormones or antibiotics while using a rotational grazing system. Up to two or four times a day, herds will move to different paddocks sectioned off by a spool of electrical wire within a crop ground or native pasture. Zach and Kacie also raise pork and grow wheat using regenerative practices of no herbicides, pesticides or tillage and using the least amount of inputs possible.

"I really enjoy watching how the land responds to frequent cattle movement, and the regeneration that happens through a growing season," Zach said. "I didn't grow up around farming or ranching, and being around it now is really enjoyable for me. It feels like I'm doing something meaningful every day."

One of the main focuses of Zach and Kacie's operation is learning to adapt to ensure soil health. They frequently use carbon sequestration tests that measure how much carbon is be-



Cotton Electric members and owners of Re:Farm Zach and Kacie Scherler-Abney implement regenerative agriculture principles near Walters, Oklahoma. Photo courtesy of Re:Farm.

ing sunk in the soil from no tilling, improving the root systems' health.

"It's less about what you do or don't do, and more about adapting to make sure your soil is healthy," Zach said. "Basically, the principles of regenerative agriculture are working with nature rather than against it and manipulating the land to do what we want."

As word got around about Re:Farm, people started to grow interested in their operation and now they sell their products every weekend at the Farmers Market at Scissortail Park in Oklahoma City.

"We started going to farmers markets to sell the beef we had raised, mainly for Kacie to be able to eat, and we sold out quickly," Zach said. "We were surprised and excited that people were looking for the same things as us."

Frustrated with the lack of accessibility to clean products, then discovering that common ground with others, the duo was inspired to open a retail store, Re:Supply, in Norman, Oklahoma City and Wichita Falls with their beef and household products, like laundry detergents, dish soap, herbs, spices and more. With a mutual love of providing

transparency and interacting with customers, Zach and Kacie have created a space that invites good questions that bring good conversations.

"We're really passionate about being bridge builders, and we never want to silo ourselves, even though what we do is different," Kacie said. "We wanted the retail stores to be this bridge-building space between people, whether they care about supporting small businesses, buying local food or the health component, there's something that connects everyone and finding out what that is has been really fun and given us the opportunity to meet so many amazing people."

Though life has played out differently than Zach and Kacie envisioned six years ago, their heart for helping others remains the same. Finding their calling in carrying on another generation of farming while sharing knowledge of their practices and the why behind what they do, they are cultivating a community with values to regenerate, renew, restore and revitalize.

For more information about Re:Farm, visit their website at www.re-farm.market or follow their page on Facebook and Instagram.



Re:Farm follow a rotational grazing system where herds are moved up to four times a day to graze in different paddocks of a crop ground or native pasture. Photo by Carli Eubank.



Zach and Kacie Scherler-Abney sell their Re:Farm products at the Farmers Market at Scissortail Park in Oklahoma City. Photo courtesy of Re:Farm.



Zach and Kacie Scherler-Abney own three retail stores, Re:Supply, in Oklahoma City, Norman and Wichita Falls. Photo courtesy of Re:Supply.

Community Spotlight

If you would like your community event listed in the November issue, please submit information by calling 580-875-3351 or send an email to TheCurrent@CottonElectric.com by Oct. 25. Only events occurring after Nov. 8 will be published in the next issue.

Editor's Note: We recommend checking for cancellations with local sources before attending any event.

CTAC host live music show

On Oct. 15, The Fretliners will be the first performers to hit the stage for the 2024-2025 Chisholm Trail Arts Council (CTAC) Live Concert Series. The Fretliners is a band that shares profound originals and some bluegrass covers. Sam Parks, a Duncan native, will be performing on the mandolin with his Colorado bandmates. Also, world-renowned fiddle player Kyle Dillingham will kick off the night at 7 p.m. as the preshow entertainment. Tickets can be purchased online at www.chisholmtrailarts.com/. The Fretliners are set to perform at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 15 at the Simmons Center Theatre in Duncan. For questions or more information about the CTAC Live Concert Series, visit their website or call 580-252-4160 or 580-252-2900.

Fall season begins in Lawton

Celebrate the fall season at the Lawton Farmers Market Harvest Festival. Vendors will be available, as well as the Comanche County 4-H Annual Pumpkin Show. The festival is from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Lawton Farmers Market. For more informa-

tion, visit the Lawton Farmers Market Facebook page.

Spooky twist on local trail

Chisholm Trail Heritage Center (CTHC) is partnering with the Simmons Center for Halloween on the Trail. For those who think they know Tex and Jesse – CTHC's animatronic characters – you are in for a treat. Join them for a special, haunting performance from two of visitors' favorite animatronics. Spooky games and art projects will also be available. Entry is \$1 per child. The event is Oct. 26 at the Heritage Trails in Duncan. For more information, call 580-252-6692.

Food pantry open once monthly

Walters Community Food Pantry is open from 8 to 11 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month. The pantry is in the old City Hall, 131 1/2 W. California St. Pantry organizers try to provide a two-week supply of basic staples to anyone with identification and proof of Cotton County residency. Monetary donations may be sent to Food Pantry, c/o Paul Metcalfe, 211 E. Colorado St., Walters, OK 73572. For information, call Roger Noland at 580-591-6826.

Blessings Boutique open monthly

Marlow First United Methodist Church opens its Blessings Boutique from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every first and third Tuesday of the month. Clothing donation drop-off days are Tuesdays, or donors can call the church at 580-658-2765 to make other arrangements.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Enter your "best shot" in our Photo of the Month contest. The theme for November is Pumpkins! Entries can be emailed to TheCurrent@CottonElectric.com or mailed to The Current, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572. Winners will receive a Cotton Electric prize.



Hi,
I'M DAVID MARTIN

"I'M A MEDICARE BROKER WHO HELPS PEOPLE FIND HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS THAT HELP THEM, NOT HURT THEM."



Call Me Today!
580-467-0363

Local Insurance Advisors

Wichita Furniture
Lawton's Furniture Leader

Celebrating 44 YEARS
serving Southwest OK!

Best Of Best Of Best Of
SWOK READERS' CHOICE

AMERICAN EXPRESS Cards VISA MasterCard DISCOVER NOVUS

lawtonsfurnitureleader.com 1127 NW Cache Rd
Hours: - Monday - Saturday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Balanced nutrition plays a vital role in bone health



Kim Bandelier, MPH, RD, LD

Food For THOUGHT

Oct. 12-20 is Bone and Joint Action Week, with special days for awareness of different musculoskeletal disorders including arthritis, back pain, trauma including fractures and falls, and osteoporosis. These disorders affect more than one out of every two adults in the United States, with a greater burden in adults age 65 and over (nearly three out of every four). Musculoskeletal includes bone, joints, ligaments, muscles, and tendons.

Nutrition plays a role in musculoskeletal health, traditionally pointing to calcium, vitamin D and protein. Webster and colleagues published a review of the scientific literature related to musculoskeletal health and fall and fracture prevention in *Bone Reports* in 2023. The authors revisited the importance of calcium, vitamin D and protein but also looked at other nutrients and dietary patterns, including vitamin K, nitrate, and plant-based diets.

Calcium, vitamin D and protein remain essential to bone and skeletal muscle health. The recommended daily intake (RDI) for adults age 50+ is 1,200 mg per day. The recommended dietary

allowance (RDA) for vitamin D is 15 mcg (51-70 year olds) and 20 mcg for age 70+. Both calcium and vitamin D are listed on the nutrition facts label. The recommended dietary intake of protein is 0.8 grams per kilogram of body weight per day for all adults; however, research increasingly points to the need for higher intakes of protein for older adults, suggesting 1.0-1.5 grams per kilogram of body weight is required to preserve muscle. (Convert pounds to kilograms by dividing pounds by 2.2.) Protein is also listed on nutrition facts labels in grams.

Beyond calcium, vitamin D, and protein, vegetables were suggested as an emerging benefit to musculoskeletal health. Specifically, intake of a variety of vegetables, particularly greens and beetroot, was discussed as potentially beneficial due to vitamin K and nitrate content. Specific levels of intake could not be suggested due to the need for additional research.

While vegetable intake is suspected to have benefits for bone health, exclusively plant-based diets are still a concern. The authors recommend individuals following a vegetarian (defined as no meat or fish) or vegan (defined as no animal products) diet should discuss bone health with their medical provider and seek out a registered dietitian to ensure adequate calcium, vitamin D, and protein intake.

There are many other factors to consider when evaluating bone health and the risk of musculoskeletal disorders, including age, alcohol intake, smoking, family history, medications and many more. It's never too early or too late to ask your medical provider to screen for risk and discuss opportunities for improvement.



A nutrition filled with vitamins and minerals plays an important role in bone and musculoskeletal health. Photo courtesy of Metro Creative.

REAL ESTATE & AUCTION CO.

Land Pros Todd Robertson, Owner / Broker / Auctioneer
1705 S. Hwy. 81 - Duncan, OK
580-252-3880
www.FarmsRanchesLand.com

“WE SELL LAND AND *everything* ON IT”
Meet Our Real Estate Professionals . . .

 Todd Robertson Owner/Broker Auctioneer	 Tammy Vaughn Broker Associate	 Cace Robertson Realtor Associate	 Jennifer Wolston Realtor Associate	 Jessica Parker Realtor Associate
 Caitlin Paxson Realtor Associate	 Allison Bray Realtor Associate	 Tony DeCarlo Realtor Associate	 Tabitha Majors Realtor Associate	

Let Land Pros Work for You!
40 years Experience

*Farms / Ranches
Homes / Recreation
Commercial Equipment*

*Business Liquidations
Online & Live Auctions*

LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL MARKETING.
IT IS OUR GOAL TO PROVIDE THE VERY BEST COUNSEL, ADVICE AND SERVICE
POSSIBLE FOR ANY OF YOUR AUCTION AND REAL ESTATE NEEDS.
Land Pros Real Estate and Auction Co



Bowie's Second Monday Trade Days
has evolved into one of the largest flea markets on five acres!

SECOND MONDAY TRADE DAYS
takes place the weekend prior to the second Monday of every month.

Business Hwy 287 & Hwy 81 (Wise Street),
Bowie, TX 76230
940-872-4861

NEXT TRADE DATES

Nov. 8-10

FOLLOW US
2ndMondayTradeDays

Information Hours
Monday - Friday • 8am - 5pm
secondmonday@cityofbowietx.com

Event Hours
Saturday & Sunday • 8am - 5pm

www.cityofbowietx.com



580-704-5555

CONSTRUCTION & GENERAL CONTRACTING

NEW HOMES, STEEL BUILDINGS, ROOFS & REMODELING OF ALL KINDS






WE CAN BUILD FROM PLANS OR PERSONALLY DESIGN FOR YOU



Lawton Septic Tank & Storm Shelter

Over 25 Years Experience • Licensed, Bonded & Insured
Manufacture • Installation • Inspection • Tank Pumping • Maintenance

We manufacture and install all types of septic systems and specialize in aerobic systems.
Offer complete service or sell parts for do-it-yourselfers!
Financing available on aerobic repairs.

Mon-Fri 8am-5pm • 2401 SE 45th St., Lawton
24-Hour Service




580-248-3131




Fight the Flu-Get Your Flu Shot!

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM



Velma Family Care | 404 W Main St | Velma, OK
580-444-2630



Michelle Vannoy, APRN-CNP

Agriculture Tractors

Bush Hog Mowers
Spartan Mowers
Trailers



3555 US Hwy 81 - Duncan



Construction Equipment

Forklifts
Attachments
Implements



• Parts **580**
• Service **255-3891**
• Financing

Contact us today for all your construction, farm, and lawn mower equipment and parts needs. We also offer delivery, disposal, pickup, pre-season inspection, and other services.



0% FOR 72 MONTHS¹ + UP TO \$6,000 CASH BACK²
OR
UP TO \$16,000 CASH BACK²

Now through December 31 on all 2023 and select 2024 mid-range tractors.



NEW HOLLAND **VALUE BONANZA**

0% FOR 60 MONTHS¹ + UP TO \$3,200 CASH BACK²
OR
UP TO \$8,000 CASH BACK²

Now through December 31 on all 2023 and select 2024 Discbine[®] disc mower-conditioners.



NEW HOLLAND **VALUE BONANZA**

0% FOR 60 MONTHS¹ + UP TO \$4,500 CASH BACK²
OR
UP TO \$11,000 CASH BACK²

Now through December 31 on all 2023 and select 2024 Roll-Belt[™] round balers.



NEW HOLLAND **VALUE BONANZA**

15% OFF SINGLE PARTS PURCHASE
(PARTS ONLY, EXCLUDING NETWRAP)

EXPIRES 10/31/2024
LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER PER MONTH

10% OFF LABOR AND PARTS IN SERVICE SHOP

EXPIRES 10/31/2024
LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER PER MONTH

FREE HANDHELD STRING TRIMMER AND BLOWER WITH PURCHASE OF ANY NEW ZERO TURN MOWER

EXPIRES 10/31/2024
LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER PER MONTH

\$150 ZERO TURN MOWER SERVICE
INCLUDES OIL CHANGE, OIL FILTER, AIR FILTER, BATTERY LOAD-TEST, LUBE POINTS, AND INSPECTION

EXPIRES 10/31/2024
LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER PER MONTH

0% FOR UP TO 72 MONTHS¹ + UP TO \$3,000 CASH BACK²
OR
UP TO \$8,500 CASH BACK²

Now through December 31 on select compact tractors.



NEW HOLLAND **VALUE BONANZA**

UP TO \$1200 INSTANT REBATE
ON SELECT MOWERS
Rebate Starts at \$500

SPARTAN MOWERS

Learn More at SPARTANMOWERS.COM/SALESEVENT



0% FOR UP TO 72 MONTHS¹ + UP TO \$3,000 CASH BACK²
OR
UP TO \$8,500 CASH BACK²

Now through December 31 on all 2023 and select 2024 compact tractors.



NEW HOLLAND **VALUE BONANZA**

BUSH HOG Performance You Can Count On[™] | **CNH INDUSTRIAL** GENUINE PARTS | **KEYSTONE TRACTOR**

Bobcat | **SPARTAN MOWERS** | **NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE** | **NEW HOLLAND CONSTRUCTION**

580 - 255-3891
3555 US Hwy 81
Duncan

CNH CAPITAL

¹For Commercial use only. Customer participation subject to credit qualification and approval by CNH Industrial Capital America LLC. See your participating New Holland dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Eligible equipment limited to dealer inventory in stock. Previous retail sales are not eligible. No payments until January 1, 2025. Down payment not required. Offer good through December 31, 2024, at participating New Holland dealers in the United States. Not all customers or applicants may qualify for this rate or term. CNH Industrial Capital America LLC standard terms and conditions apply. This transaction will be unconditionally interest free. ²For commercial use only. See your participating New Holland dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Cash back applied at time of sale. Offer is nontransferable. Offer ends December 31, 2024. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. ©2024 CNH Industrial America LLC. All rights reserved. CNH Capital and New Holland are trademarks registered in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates.

Spooky season snacks

Pop up scary sweet Halloween treats

(Family Features) Scaring up a good time this Halloween starts with spooky costumes, ghoulish decor and treats you can share with your favorite ghosts and goblins. For an extra haunting twist, skip the store-bought candies and break out your cauldron for tempting homemade sweets.

You can celebrate the seed-to-snack simplicity of one of fall's favorite snacks – popcorn – with crunchy desserts that pair perfectly with your favorite spooky traditions. Popcorn's smell, taste and versatility help it enhance Halloween as a budget-friendly solution for ghostly gatherings.

Embrace the taste of autumn – pumpkin spice – with a snack that allows you to indulge throughout the season. These White Chocolate and Pumpkin Pie Spice Popcorn Bites offer warm flavor without the scare. Simply pour melted pumpkin pie spice-seasoned chocolate over popped popcorn, toss with toffee bits and sea salt then break into bite-sized chunks for a seasonal sweet that's perfect for celebrating National Popcorn Poppin' Month.

Visit Popcorn.org to find more Halloween-inspired snacks.

Go for a ghoulish snack bar

Encourage a little devious creativity this Halloween with a popcorn bar (char-boo-terie board) that features everyone's favorites. Start with enough freshly popped popcorn to feed all your little zombies and vampires then add seasonal favorites like candy corn, chocolate candies, individually wrapped treats, dried fruit, nuts and beyond.

To pop popcorn on a stovetop, cover the bottom of a 3- to 4-quart pan with a thin layer of vegetable oil (don't use butter, it will burn). Place 3 kernels of popcorn in the pan, cover with a loose lid that allows steam to escape and heat. When the kernels pop, pour in enough popcorn to cover the bottom of the pan, one kernel deep, then cover the pan and shake to evenly spread the oil. When the popping begins to slow to a few seconds apart, remove the pan from the stovetop. The heated oil will still pop the remaining kernels.



White chocolate and pumpkin pie spice popcorn bites

Servings: 12

Ingredients

- 12 cups unsalted, unbuttered popped popcorn
- 3 cups chopped white chocolate or white chocolate chips
- 1 tablespoon light olive oil
- 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 cup toffee bits
- 1 teaspoon flaked sea salt, crushed

Directions

Line large, rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper or wax paper. Place popcorn in large mixing bowl. In microwave-safe bowl, combine white chocolate, olive oil and pump-

kin pie spice; microwave on medium 2-3 minutes, or until melted and smooth, stirring after each minute.

Pour melted white chocolate mixture over popcorn; add toffee bits and toss to combine. Transfer to prepared baking sheet, spreading to edges of pan; sprinkle sea salt over top.

Let cool; refrigerate 1-2 hours, or until set. Break into chunks for serving.

Tip: Homemade pumpkin pie spice can be made by combining 3 parts ground cinnamon with 1 part ground nutmeg, 1 part allspice and 1 part ginger.

Save your pumpkin seeds and make a delicious snack

(Culinary.net) Don't throw out your seeds after this year's pumpkin carving. This healthy snack is easy to make at home and a fun project to get the kids involved.

Plus, this versatile Roasted Pumpkin Seeds recipe can be modified with any of your favorite seasonings or spices.

Visit Culinary.net to find more quick, simple snacks.

Roasted pumpkin seeds

Ingredients

- Water
- 1 1/2 cups raw pumpkin seeds
- 2 teaspoons sea salt, plus additional for seasoning (optional)
- 2 teaspoons salted butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon paprika

Directions

In pot over high heat, bring water to boil. Add pumpkin seeds and 2 tea-

spoons salt; boil 15 minutes. Drain water and spread seeds evenly on paper towels to dry.

Preheat oven to 350 F. Line baking sheet with foil or parchment paper.

In medium bowl, toss seeds and butter until coated well. Sprinkle with garlic powder, paprika and additional salt, if desired. Spread seeds evenly on baking sheet.

Bake 25-30 minutes, or until golden brown and lightly toasted. Stir every 10 minutes.



Cold winter weather calls for comfort food like these delicious and moist pumpkin bars. Start your favorite movie and warm up your chilly day with a cozy blanket, a mug of hot chocolate and a plate of some of these incredible Spiced Pumpkin Bars. Find more dessert recipes at culinary.net.

Recipe adapted from Better Homes and Gardens.
Source: Culinary.net

Spiced pumpkin bars

Ingredients

- 2 cups flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 4 eggs
- 15 oz can of pumpkin
- 1 2/3 cups sugar
- 1 cup cooking oil
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans (optional)
- 8 ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 cups powdered sugar (sifted)
- Pecan halves (optional)

Directions

1. In a medium bowl stir together flour, baking powder, cinnamon, bak-

ing soda, and salt; set aside.

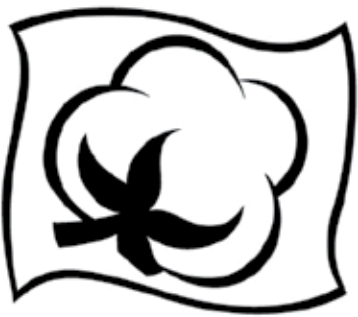
2. In a large mixing bowl beat together eggs, pumpkin, sugar, and oil on medium speed. Add the flour mixture; beat until well combined. If desired, stir in chopped pecans.

3. Spread batter into an ungreased 15x10x1-inch baking pan.

4. Bake in a 350° F oven for 25 to 30 minutes or until the center comes out clean. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack.

5. In a medium mixing bowl beat together cream cheese, butter, and vanilla until fluffy. Gradually add sifted powdered sugar, beating until smooth.

6. Frost pumpkin bars. If desired, top with pecan halves. Cut into squares. Store, covered, in refrigerator up to 3 days.



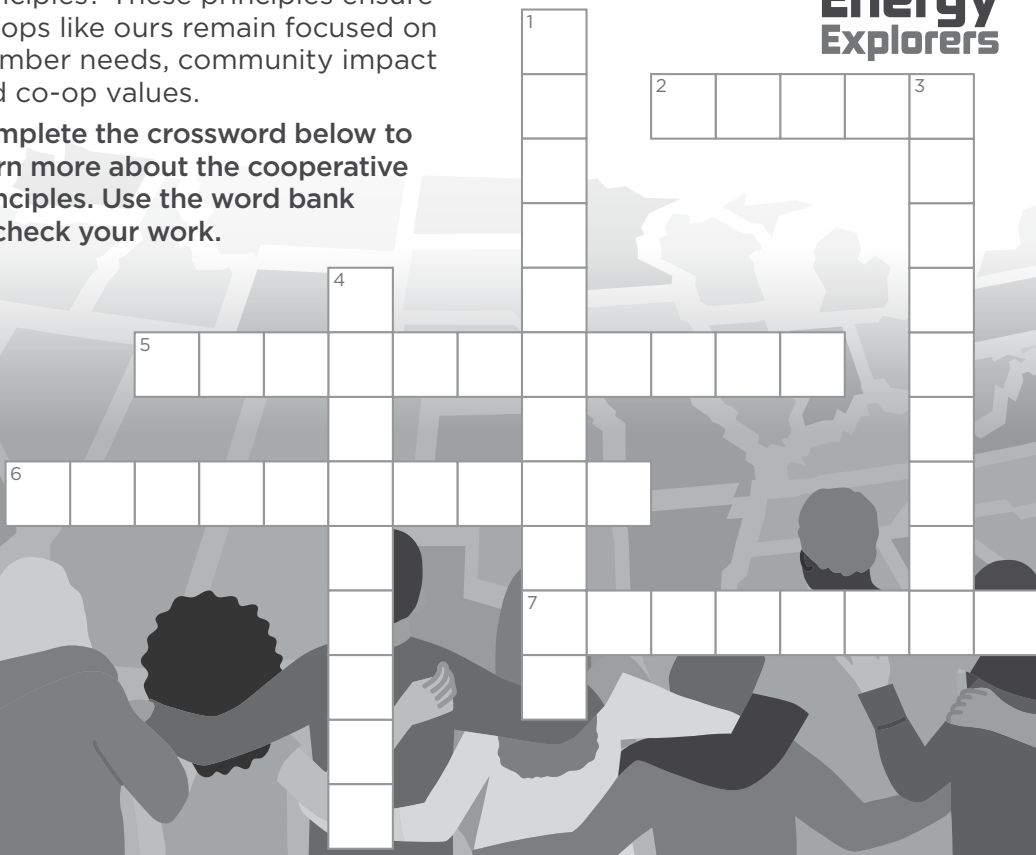
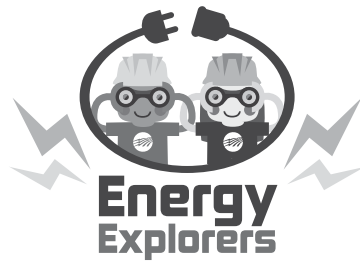
COTTON

ELECTRIC CO-OP

SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Did you know electric co-ops are guided by a set of seven cooperative principles? These principles ensure co-ops like ours remain focused on member needs, community impact and co-op values.

Complete the crossword below to learn more about the cooperative principles. Use the word bank to check your work.



ACROSS

- 2. Cooperation Among Cooperatives: Co-ops _____ and learn from other co-ops.
- 5. Autonomy & Independence: Co-ops are _____ and can operate on their own.
- 6. Member Economic Participation: Members _____ money to ensure the co-op runs smoothly.
- 7. Open & Voluntary Membership: Co-op membership is open to _____.

DOWN

- 1. Concern for Community: Co-ops give back to their local _____ to help them thrive and grow.
- 3. Education, Training & Information: Co-ops focus on _____ to ensure employees and members have the info they need.
- 4. Democratic Member Control: Members get to make _____ about the co-op.

ANSWER KEY

2 ACROSS: SHARE 5 ACROSS: INDEPENDENT 6 ACROSS: CONTRIBUTE 7 ACROSS: EVERYONE 1 DOWN: COMMUNITIES 3 DOWN: EDUCATION 4 DOWN: DECISIONS

For all of Your Farming and Ranching Needs

**Fertilizer
Chemicals
Feed & Seed
Farm Supplies**

Your Co-op can blend and apply either Dry or Liquid Fertilizer

Call and Schedule your Needs-

Walters Co-op
580-875-3345
We Appreciate Your Business

We Service All Major Brands of Electric & Portable Welders
Warranty – Service – Parts

109 Bois D'Arc, Duncan 580-255-0207
www.WelderRepair.net welderrepairs@att.net

Comanche 580-439-8809 **Waurika 580-228-2085**

Statement of Ownership, Management & Circulation

1. Publication Title: The Cotton Electric Current
2. Publication Number 134-020
3. Filing Date: 09/27/2024
4. Issue Frequency: Monthly
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 12
6. Annual Subscription Price: \$10.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572-1226; Contact Person: Carli Eubank; Telephone: 580-875-3351.
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572-1226
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: Cotton Electric Cooperative, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572-1226; Editor: Carli Eubank, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572-1226.
10. Owner: Cotton Electric Cooperative is an electric cooperative owned by its members who hold membership in and are entitled to one vote at membership meetings. Cotton Electric Cooperative, 226 N. Broadway, Walters, OK 73572-1226.
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities: Rural Utilities Service of the US Dept. of Agriculture, US Dept of Agriculture, Stop 1560, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250; CoBank, 5500 S. Que-see Street, Greenwood Village, CO 80111; National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, 3737 Keller Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22302
12. Tax Status: The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed during preceding 12 months.
13. Publication Title: The Cotton Electric Current
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Sept. 13, 2024
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation (Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months / No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date:
 - a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run): 15,943 / 15,943
 - b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)
 - (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541: 15,639 / 15,653
 - (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541: None
 - (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®: None
 - (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS: None
 - c. Total Paid Distribution: 15,639 / 15,653
 - d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution
 - (1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541: 74 / 60
 - (2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541: None
 - (3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS: None
 - (4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail: 30 / 30
 - e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: 104 / 90
 - f. Total Distribution: 15,743 / 15,743
 - g. Copies not Distributed: 200 / 200
 - h. Total: 15,943 / 15,943
 - i. Percent Paid: 99.34 / 99.43
- X I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership: If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the October issue of this publication.
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Carli Eubank, Editor, 09/27/2024

			4		8			
		9				6		
4				6				
2							5	4
	7						9	
6		8	5			2		
				3	1	9		
5	1							2
	2						7	1

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

DON PRATER DOZERS

Building Farm Ponds & Private Lakes
In the Cotton Electric Service Area
"Wealth is not measured in dollars."



-Farm Pond and Lake Construction-

- Fence Rows • Building Pads •
- Land Clearing • Dredging • Pond Repair •

Serving the Southwest Area
Bulldozers, Trackhoe Scrapers & Loaders



Call Bruce At- 580-641-1952

4TH ANNUAL ROWDY SWANSON Memorial Bull Riding

October 26, 2024 @ 6:00 pm
Stephens County Fair Grounds

Advance tickets adult \$8 kids \$5 at \$10 at the gate Kids 6 and under free!
Great Plains Kubota
Comanche Seed and Grain Two coin tosses 6 and under and ages 7-10
3 Lakes Feed and Supply

Free concert after!
Blake Hall & Dayne Ledford

Call for info - enter 580-467-5468

Silent Auction Concession Vendors



\$100 ENTRY FEE
\$50 contractor
\$50 pot
\$5000 ADDED MONEY



Only accepting 30 riders
Prepay to enter

CALL 580-467-5468 TO ENTER
STEPHENS COUNTY FAIR AND EXPO CENTER
INDOOR ARENA

All Proceeds go to the Rowdy Swanson Memorial Scholarship



Climate CONTROL

HEATING • COOLING

710 W Walnut Ave, Duncan, OK 73533

Lower your energy costs. Increase your comfort.

PLANNED MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Plans start at

\$179

climatecontrolco.net

580-255-0183