

"Hotlines"

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



December 2013

Each Christmas makes
lasting memories...



Number 12 Volume 68 A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Area News Briefs

Christmas Day,
Wed., Dec. 25!



**Wise men still
seek Him.**

BEFORE SANTA
COMES DOWN
THE CHIMNEY,
CALL AEC, INC.
FOR A FURNACE
CHECK-UP!

(580) 596-2638 or
1-800-853-4969

**SEE
AEC ON
FACEBOOK**

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

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

Round-Up Board of Trustees replaces member

AEC Round-Up named a new member to the Board of Trustees. Joe Royster of Cherokee has replaced the recently deceased Gordon McDowell.

Members filling additional positions on the Board include: Roland

Pederson, Burlington; Larry DeWitt, Cherokee; Debbie Biby, Nash; Stan Michel, Kiowa, Kansas; Edith Jones, Aline; Charla Turner, Freedom; and Paul Jackson of Ringwood.

Slots open for prospective candidates in Districts 5 and 7

Members are reminded that Trustee filing will soon be open in two districts.

District 5 (Jet/Nash/Pond Creek) is presently represented by Joe Waggoner who is completing four terms or 12 years experience on the Board.

Joe Hise is the Trustee for District 7 (Carmen/Aline). Hise is completing five terms of service at AEC or 15 years as Trustee.

Potential candidates must file during the period of **February 1-10, 2014** with a special form obtained at the AEC Office in Cherokee.

**A related article can be
found on page 3.)**

ALTERNATING CURRENTS...

Opening Soon!

By Ron Shafer

The February 2013 snow storm cost AEC about 700 poles that were destroyed. In Cherokee, another business severely affected with damage caused by that storm is nearly ready to re-open. The old building was razed and completely rebuilt on the same location as before. By the time you receive



this newsletter with your bill, the new Toni's Express Stop will be open for business.

Everything inside the building is brand new, including all kitchen equipment, walk-in coolers for beverages and the A/C equipment. AEC Services was chosen as the contractor providing HVAC installation. Owned and operated by Toni Fox of Byron, Oklahoma, the convenience store will sell fuel, groceries, beverages and food cooked fresh daily in a very bright and shiny kitchen.

Makin' a list and checking it twice...

The holidays are fun-filled but nearly 3,000 people are injured each year from accidental fires. As you prepare for the Christmas holiday, here are some safety tips to insure your family has a safe season.

- Before decorating, read all directions concerning installation and maintenance.
 - Use lights certified by UL (Underwriters Laboratory.)
 - Only use lights certified for OUTDOOR use outside.
 - Discard any frayed, loose or brittle cords.
 - Do not nail or staple light strings or damage insulation when supporting the lights.
 - Unplug electrical decorations before replacing bulbs or fuses.
 - The rule is: No more than 3 strings of lights connected together! Light strings with screw-in lights should have no more than 50 bulbs.
 - Do not overload extension cords.
- Keep extension cords and light strings clear of snow and standing water.
 - Use caution decorating near power lines, especially when using a ladder.
 - Turn off decorations before leaving home or going to bed.
 - Protect outdoor lights and decoration circuits with GFCIs.
 - Do not allow children or pets to play with electrical decorations.
- Knowing that you have the right equipment and have decorated your home safely brings extra peace during the season.



Check specific directions for each set of lights you use.

Trustee tenure terms explained

The following article contains the Trustees Tenure with pertinent information regarding eligibility and requirements for potential Trustee candidates.

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a Trustee in the Cooperative who:

1. Is not a Member of the Cooperative and a bona fide resident, domiciled and receiving service at their residence within the particular District where they are to represent; or
2. Is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or

supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the Members of the Cooperative; or

3. Is the incumbent of or candidate for an elective public office in connection with which a salary or Compensation in excess of one thousand dollars per annum is paid; or
4. Has served seven (7) consecutive terms as a Trustee without a one-term layout (a term shall be designated as three consecutive years); or
5. Has a spouse who has served as a Trustee for the immediate preceding term; or

6. Is related to any employee or incumbent trustee of the Cooperative within the third degree of blood or marriage; or

7. Has not attained the age of eighteen (18); or

8. Has been convicted or pleaded guilty to a felony.

Trustee Terms: A Trustee Term (Trustee Term) is three (3) years and the Trustee shall serve until a successor is elected and qualified. The Cooperative shall stagger Trustee Terms by dividing the total number of authorized Trustees into groups of approximately equal number. Members, therefore will annually elect an approximately equal number of Trustees.

Dish out the cleaning assignments!

Big holiday dinners, overnight company and loads of baked goodies create extra dishes to wash from Christmas until New Year's.

So it's a good idea to save energy on dishwashing. Luckily, that's easy to do if your dishwasher has energy-saving features.

Here are some tips for energy-efficiency dishwashing:

Read your dishwasher's instruction manual. Too many people ignore the energy-saving features that came with their dishwashers.

Use your dishwasher's energy-saving or short-wash cycle for every load unless the

dishes contain caked-on, hard-to-remove food.

Choose the dishwasher's air-dry setting instead of the heat-dry setting. Dishes dry a bit slower, but still get thoroughly dry.

There's no need to pre-rinse dishes. Save the hot water; your dishwasher is designed to do the scrubbing for you!

Choosing the best electric knife avoids a butchered turkey

Slicing through a turkey without tearing it to shreds or fighting to remove wings and legs isn't the easiest Christmas-turkey chore.

Perhaps adding an electric knife to your holiday list would simplify the carving.

Don't base your selection simply on price or appearance. An electric knife is a small appliance and should be treated as such.

These seven rules can make shopping easier:

1. You get what you pay for. The top of the line costs about \$50. It will probably last longer, stay sharper and come with added safety features.



the turkey *anywhere*, but you must have the battery charged.

3. If you plan to slice meat only, you only need one blade. For slicing bread and vegetables, you'll need a second, shorter blade.

4. Meat slicing requires enough "torque" to make the job easy.

5. Try the knife "on" at the store to see if it feels comfortable in your hand. Remove the blade and see if that is an easy chore. Test the appliance for noise. Is it ear-shattering? Consider a model with a safety lock to prevent little ones from opening the box and finding the sharp blades.

2. Choose a corded or a cordless electric knife. Cordless varieties are nice because you can carve

You might even select another electric knife as a gift...



The **Hotlines** is published monthly by Alfalfa Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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District 7

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District 5

AEC Offices
will be closed
Tuesday, December 24
and Wednesday, December 25, 2013
to celebrate the Christmas holiday.
May you have the merriest celebration with your
own family and friends.
AEC Offices
will also be closed
n New Year's Day, Wednesday,
January 2014 as we usher in
the new year!