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We're Ready for Storm Season. Are You?

NOW THAT SUMMER is in full swing, many of us welcome more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy the warmer weather. Summertime brings favorite activities like cooking out with family and friends, afternoons on the water, and simply slowing down a bit to enjoy life.

But summer months also make conditions right for dangerous storms, which can wreak havoc on our electrical system. But we want you to know that Navarro County Electric Cooperative's crews are ready to respond should power outages occur in our area.

When major storms knock out power, our line crews take all necessary precautions before they get to work on any downed lines. We encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency offers these recommendations as a starting point for storm and disaster preparedness.

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of nonperishable food, such as canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water and other essentials, such as diapers and toiletries.
- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies, including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your first-aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener, and a battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible.
- In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage from a power surge and will also help prevent overloading the circuits during power restoration. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored. If you plan to use a generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you will need and always operate it safely, including the proper use of a transfer switch.

We hope we don't experience severe storms this summer, but we can never predict Mother Nature's plans. At Navarro County EC, we recommend that you act today because there is power in planning. ■

Navarro County EC Announces Scholarship Recipients

NAVARRO COUNTY Electric Cooperative recently selected the winners of the co-op's $6,000 scholarships. The six recipients, selected from among 48 applications, are **Emma Lynn Cate**, **Brayden Cole DeBorde**, **Kasey Fisher**, **Yesenia Garcia**, **Merrianne Markham** and **Bruce Smith III**.

Cate attends Frost High School and is the daughter of Charles and Kelly Cate of Frost. She plans to attend Mays Business School at Texas A&M University to pursue a degree in management information systems.

DeBorde attends Rice High School and is the son of Eric and Meredith DeBorde of Bardwell. He plans to pursue an engineering degree at Texas A&M University.

Fisher is studying nursing at Texas A&M University. She is the daughter of Greg and Jana Fisher of Blooming Grove.

Garcia attends Kerens High School and is the daughter of Inocencio Garcia and Maria Del Carmen Cortes of Kerens. She plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to pursue a degree in computer science.

Markham attends the University of North Texas and is studying aviation logistics. She is the daughter of Kevin and Kiana Markham of Fairfield.

Smith attends Wortham High School and is the son of Bruce and Michelle Smith of Wortham. He plans to attend Texas State Technical College and work in the electrical industry. ■

Apprentice Advances in Lineworker Training Program

NAVARRO COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE congratulates Brendan Andrews on completing the first step in the five-year lineworker apprenticeship program.

Andrews attended Texas State Technical College in Waco for one year to study basic electrical theory, transformer theory and connections, and basic pole climbing before starting at NCEC in September 2020. He is working on the overhead construction crew, learning how to frame poles, sag wire and set members' electrical service meters as well as working service interruption calls after hours.

Through the apprenticeship program, Andrews will continue to receive on-the-job and classroom training to eventually become a lineman at NCEC, where he will do his part to provide reliable and affordable electrical service to the cooperative's members. ■

Independence Day
Sunday, July 4

Our offices will be closed Monday, July 5, in observance of the holiday.

Navarro County Electric Cooperative

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24/7 Outage Hotline Numbers

For information and to report outages, please call us.

LOCAL
(903) 874-7411

TOLL-FREE
1-800-771-9095

ABOUT NAVARRO COUNTY EC
NCEC owns and maintains more than 3,000 miles of line to provide electric service to more than 12,000 members in Ellis, Freestone, Hill, Limestone and Navarro counties.

OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS
- Online at navarroec.com
- Through the SmartHub app
- By phone at 1-855-385-9975 (Phone payments are not accepted on the NCEC office line.)

TEXAS CO-OP POWER
NCEC provides *Texas Co-op Power* and TexasCoopPower.com to give you information about events, safety, special programs and other activities of your cooperative. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the co-op office.

VISIT US ONLINE
navarroec.com

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How Do Transformers Work?

TRANSFORMERS ARE CRUCIAL in converting electricity to a voltage that is safe for use in homes and businesses. But how do they work?

Electricity loses voltage as it is transmitted because of the resistance in wires and other components. To offset these "line losses," generators produce electricity at very high voltages and use transformers to step up this voltage.

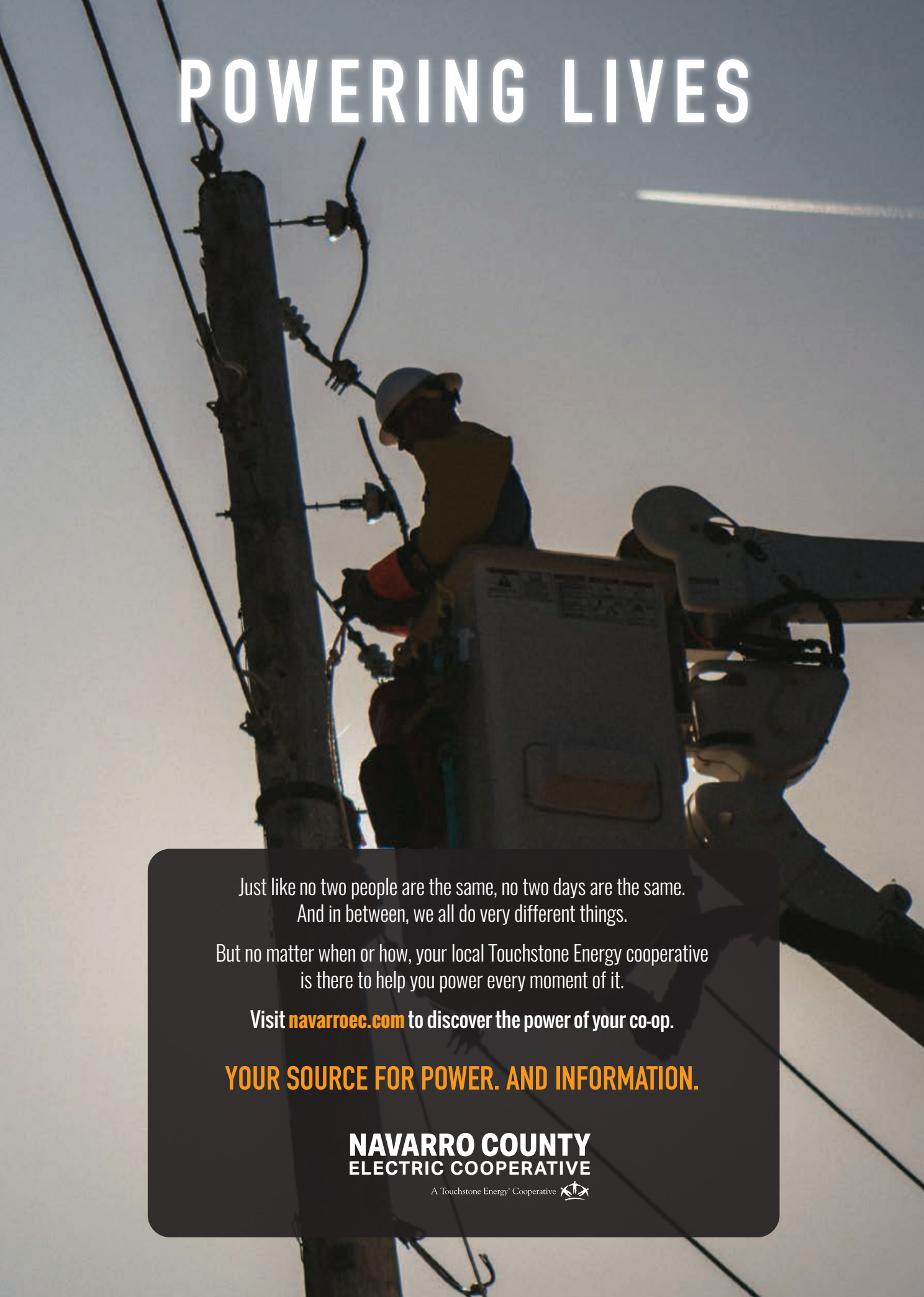
Transmission lines connect to substations filled with transformers and control gear. This is where transformers step down the voltage to safer, more manageable levels. Depending on the distance to the farthest co-op member and the amount of load served, distribution voltages can range from 7,200 to 24,900 volts. After a couple more step-downs, electricity arrives at homes at about 440 volts.

Regardless of transformers' shapes and sizes, they all work the same way. Transformers have two sides—a high-voltage side and a low-voltage side. In normal operation, electricity flows into the transformer on the high-voltage side, where it goes into a coil of wire that is usually wound around an iron core. As the electricity flows through this coil, it creates a magnetic field that induces a voltage in the other coil.

Each coil has a different number of turns. The greater the number of turns, the higher the voltage. The coil on the high side will have more turns than the one on the low side. As the charge travels from the high side to the low, the voltage induced on the low side is less. It leaves the transformer at a level suitable for distribution to homes and businesses.

Transformers work in both directions. Electricity flowing in on the low side can be stepped up to the voltage of the high side. This is why Navarro County Electric Cooperative educates members on the proper connection of home generators.

A generator feeding 220 volts into a residential transformer will produce whatever high voltage the transformer is rated for, creating a potentially deadly risk for our crews and your neighbors. So please connect generators according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Or give us a call at (903) 874-7411 for advice. It's always best to be safe. ■



Just like no two people are the same, no two days are the same.
And in between, we all do very different things.

But no matter when or how, your local Touchstone Energy cooperative
is there to help you power every moment of it.

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ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
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