

SOUTHEAST COLORADO POWER ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2023



MAILING ADDRESS

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STREET ADDRESS

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facebook.com/secpaonline

Our primary mission is to provide high-quality, reliable electric service at a reasonable cost to our members, improve their quality of life through new technologies and services, be a visible and active member of the community and serve our members with respect, courtesy and responsiveness.

**SOUTHEAST COLORADO
POWER ASSOCIATION IS
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER**



PREPARING TO SERVE YOU BETTER

BY KEVIN BRANDON CEO



KEVIN BRANDON

Providing reliable power to you is and always will be a top priority for Southeast Colorado Power Association. These days, power reliability is making news more than ever.

As the energy industry continues to transition and more segments of the economy are becoming electrified, such as vehicles, machinery and even lawn equipment, additional pressures are being placed on our nation's electric grid.

With summer storm season upon us, I thought it would be a good time to tell you about a few measures we are taking to ensure that you continue receiving the reliable power you depend on and deserve.

Here in southeastern Colorado, trees are especially important to us. They provide windbreaks, shade, and wildlife habitat, as well as environmental benefits. While trees provide those benefits and add beauty to our area, you may be surprised to learn that overgrown vegetation accounts for about half of all power outages across the country.

That is why we strive to keep the co-op's power lines clear in right-of-way areas. A ROW area is the land a co-op uses to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. This ROW enables SECPA to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder distribution power lines. The overall goal of our vegetation management strategy is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty of our area.

SECPA uses a combination of internal employees and contractors to perform our tree-trimming operations. While SECPA crews are easily identifiable as they are almost always in trucks with our logos and wear

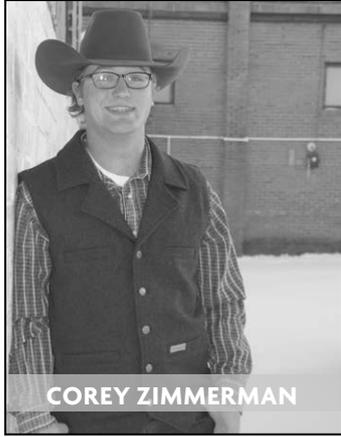
clothing with the SECPA logo, contract tree trimmers are not always easy to identify. If you ever have questions as to whether a crew working on or around our lines is working for SECPA, or if you have comments or questions about those crews, please reach out to us at 800-332-8634 or email us at info@secpa.com and we will confirm the areas where we have contract crews.

Another important type of system maintenance for which SECPA uses contract crews is our pole inspection program. SECPA has an extremely large system with tens of thousands of poles. Each year we strategically choose areas that either have not been inspected for many years or are trouble areas and then we have those areas inspected. The pole inspection process involves digging around the pole to expose it below ground level and inspect for things like rot and insect damage. The inspectors will also drill small holes in the poles to gauge the internal condition of the wood. After inspecting the holes, the inspector will drive wood plugs back into the poles to seal the holes. We do provide magnetic door signs to our pole inspectors' vehicles to identify them as contractors of SECPA. but many times you may also see them on ATVs, especially on lines that are not along roadways.

As I mentioned above, anytime you have questions or are just unsure about someone working on or around SECPA power lines, please reach out to us. Also, please follow us on social media and check our website at www.secpa.com for information about the types of maintenance crews we have working, and in what areas they are working.

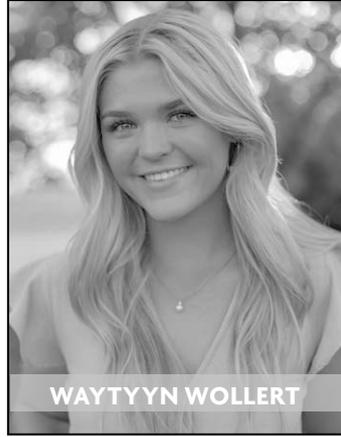
Congratulations \$1,000 Scholarship Winners

SE
outheast Colorado Power Association is proud to award scholarships to students in our service area whose families are SECPA members. SECPA congratulates all the scholarship winners and wishes these individuals the best in their future endeavors.



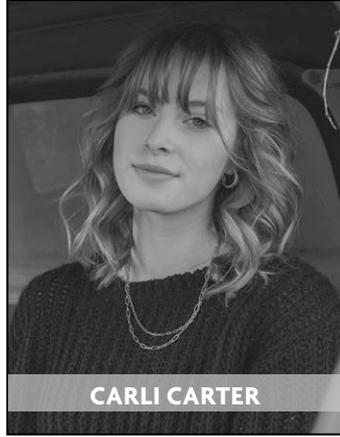
COREY ZIMMERMAN

TRI-STATE Scholarship Recipient
Rocky Ford High School
Parents – Chad & Nicole Zimmerman



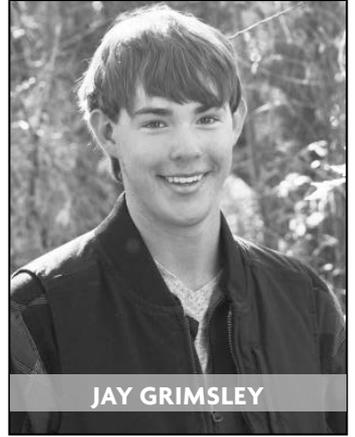
WAYTYYN WOLLERT

TRI-STATE Scholarship Recipient
Wiley High School
Parents – Waco & Danielle Wollert



CARLI CARTER

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Crowley County High School
Parents – Matthew & Melinda Carter



JAY GRIMSLEY

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
La Junta High School
Parents – Sam & Kim Grimsley



ALYSSA HANCOCK

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Rocky Ford High school
Parents – Lee & Andrea Hancock



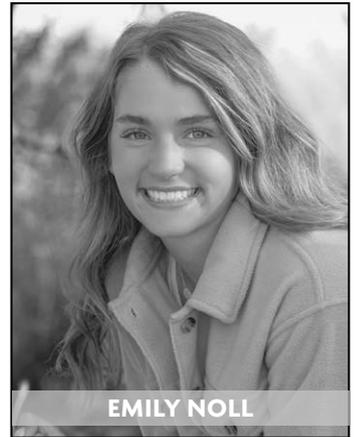
LINDSEY HODGES

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Walsh High School
Parent – Garrett Hodges



CHLOE JOHNSON

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Campo High School
Parents – Lennie & Coantha Johnson



EMILY NOLL

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
La Junta High School
Parents - Gregory & Carol Noll



TELL PINER

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Wiley High School
Parents – Tom & Nicole Piner



AUBREY SUMMERS

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Pritchett High School
Parents – Jerrod & Saundra Summers



ELLA SWANSON

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Springfield High School
Parents – Miles Swanson & Jennifer Esch



TORIN MENDOZA-WERNER

SECPA Scholarship Recipient
Rocky Ford High School
Parents – Todd & Kali Mae Werner

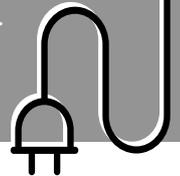


SECPA Donates Books to Local Library

Southeast Colorado Power Association and *Colorado Country Life* partnered to donate a mix of fiction and non-fiction books to the Kiowa County Library. SECPA's Eads Lineman Jacob Barnes presents the books to library director Kemma Alfano (left) and assistant director Valorie Briggs (right) at SECPA's annual meeting in April.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons such as linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.

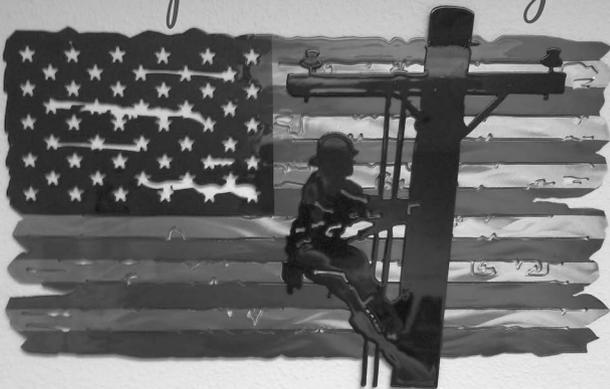


YOU COULD BE A WINNER THIS MONTH

If you find your name in this issue as follows (WIN* your name, your account number), please contact Southeast Colorado Power Association at 719.384.2551 or 800.332.8634 to receive a credit on your next power bill. **Last month's winner was Uel Turner.**

SECPA offices closed July 4
for

Independence Day



WE MAKE A GREAT PAIR!



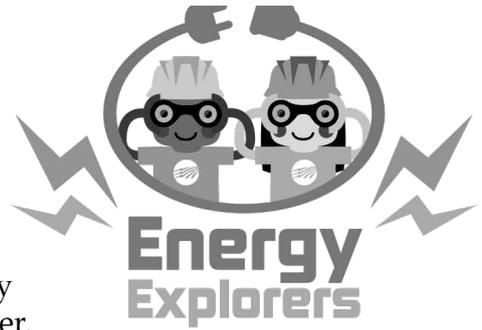
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SWIMMING POOL SAFETY WORD SEARCH



Water and electricity never mix. Always practice safety when you're near or in the swimming pool this summer. Read the following safety tips, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle below.

Never bring electrical **devices** near a swimming pool. **Electrical** devices that come in contact with **water** can cause electric shock.

When possible, use **battery**-operated devices when **outdoors** near a swimming pool.

Outdoor electrical **outlets** should be **dry** or covered.

If you hear thunder, immediately exit the swimming **pool**. Thunderstorms and lightning may be near.

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| I | E | O | X | M | W | O | E | V | T | W | G | Y | L | A |
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