

enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's
Rural Electric Cooperatives

**FARMERS' ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE**

NOVEMBER 2022

A Reservoir of Community

Elephant Butte Dam is an
engineering marvel for its time

Page 4

Elephant Butte Dam
celebrated its centennial
anniversary in 2016 by
hanging a flag measuring
60 feet by 30 feet.
PHOTO COURTESY OF U.S.
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

GALLUP MCKINLEY COUNTY SCHOOLS
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR
A THANKSGIVING MEAL

\$6 for Visitors
& Staff



Menu

Slow Roasted Turkey Breast • Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • Savory Herb Stuffing • Crisp Green Beans • Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce • Warm • Honey Wheat Rolls • Homemade Pumpkin Bars • Cinnamon Pears

November 2

Tohatchi Elementary
Tohatchi Mid
Tohatchi High
Twin Lakes Elementary

November 3

Navajo Elementary
Navajo Mid
Navajo High
Thoreau Elementary
Thoreau Mid
Thoreau High

November 7

Crownpoint Elementary
Crownpoint Mid
Crownpoint High
Catherine A Miller Elementary

November 8

Del Norte Elementary
Gallup Mid
Ramah Elementary
Ramah High

November 9

Indian Hills Elementary
Jefferson Elementary
Turpen Elementary

November 10

Chief Manuelito Mid
Gallup High

November 12

McKinley Academy
David Skeet Elementary
Tse'Yi' Gai High

November 13

Kennedy Mid
Chee Dodge Elementary
Stagecoach Elementary

November 16

Miyamura High
Lincoln Elementary

November 17

Red Rock Elementary
Gallup Central High



November 2022

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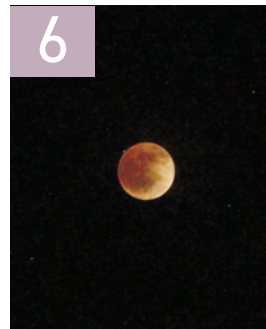
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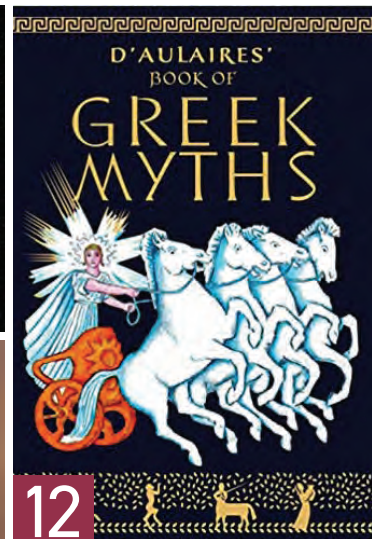
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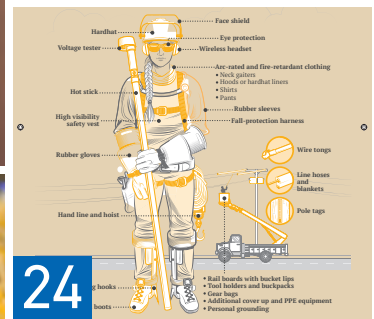
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Enchanted Journeys

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Saturday, December 3, 5:30-7 p.m.
Abó Pueblo Mission

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Take a photo of yourself or someone else with the magazine and email it with a few words about the photo. Include your name, mailing address and co-op name.

One lucky member will win \$20. Submitting your photo(s) gives us permission to publish or post the photo(s) in *enchantment*, on Facebook and in other media outlets.

Email to: enchantment@nmelectric.coop

Congratulations

to Freddie Chavarria who took a break from a long day of work to read their October *enchantment!*

Central Valley Electric Cooperative member Freddie Chavarria wins \$20!



enchantment

November 1, 2022 • Vol. 74, No. 11
USPS 175-880 • ISSN 0046-1946

enchantment (ISSN 0046-1946) is published monthly by the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association, 614 Don Gaspar Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87505. *enchantment* provides reliable, helpful information on rural living and energy use to electric cooperative members and customers.

More than 112,000 families and businesses receive *enchantment* magazine as electric cooperative members. Nonmember subscriptions are available at \$12 a year or \$18 for two years, payable to NMRECA. Allow four to eight weeks for first delivery.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE paid at Santa Fe, NM 87501-9998 and additional mailing offices.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Postmaster, please send address changes to 614 Don Gaspar Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87505-4428. Readers who receive the publication through their electric cooperative membership should report address changes to their local electric cooperative office.

THE NEW MEXICO RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

ASSOCIATION provides legislative and educational services to the cooperatives that are members of the association and deliver electric power to New Mexico's rural areas and small communities. The mission of the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association is to strengthen, support, unify and represent cooperative member interests at the local, state and national levels. Each cooperative has a representative on the association's board of directors, which controls the editorial content and advertising policy of *enchantment* through its Publications Committee.

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view from enchantment

By Keven J. Groenewold, CEO
New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association



Stay Involved This Election Day

November 8 is upon us. This date is a biennial occurrence where we as citizens hold all the power—the power of our vote. It is the opportunity to inject our will on the policies of government.

Elections don't quite work the way our high school civics books taught us. Democracy is typically nonviolent warfare. It lets political parties amass huge armies, mobilize them on a verbal and social media battlefield and clash without shedding blood. As this unfolds, there are organized grassroots activities across our state. Voter registration drives our efforts to get out the vote and be part of the battle for victory on Election Day.

As we have seen in the past, sometimes it does not end there. Every vote counts. Absentee ballots must be counted after the polls close. Poll watchers and their lawyers are poised to file challenges over even a hint of irregularity.

Cynics can find any number of problems with this process. There is too much money spent to influence our elections. The ads are too negative. The other candidate is lying or cheating. The list goes on—a litany of complaints can range from legitimate concerns needing attention to paranoid speculations fed by bloggers and internet conspiracies.

However, there is another way to see this fervor. We are experiencing a healthy and vigorous debate over leadership of our government at all levels. This is democracy in action and sometimes it is not pretty.


Then again, we are not voting for homecoming royalty. It is a serious choice between candidates that have asked us to put our sacred trust in their leadership. They are fighting a no-holds-barred contest with strongly held and opposing views of our future. Anything less would not do justice to the voters each candidate represents.

History provides a case in point. America's fourth presidential election almost destroyed the new republic. Thomas Jefferson, the vice president, ran against President John Adams' in his reelection bid. An Electoral College tie between Jefferson and Aaron Burr—Adams was in third place—sent the election to the House of Representatives and 36 rounds of ballots. Jefferson won and Adams left town enraged. His ill will was so deep that on his death bed he lamented that Jefferson had beaten him again by outliving him—not knowing that Jefferson had died earlier that morning, July 4, 1826.

The country survived that turmoil and all the backroom dealmaking that landed Jefferson on top. History has judged, and I think we would all agree he proved to be a capable leader.

Winston Churchill once said, "Many forms of government have been tried and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time."

With Election Day quickly approaching it is time to roll up our sleeves and make a choice. This requires sifting through the sound bites and the 24-hour news cycle. Voters must determine the truths, half-truths and untruths.

This is no time to become complacent or discouraged. The choices may be tough and sometimes distasteful. But it is our right and our duty. So, let us go out and vote. 





The total lunar eclipse of May 15, 2022. PHOTO BY ALAN HALE

A Second Eclipse This Year

In a rather dramatic reversal from the situation that has prevailed throughout most of 2022, the bulk of the planetary activity during November occurs during evening hours. Furthermore, neither of the two worlds of our solar system that orbit between the sun and Earth are easily visible this month—only toward month's end does Venus start to emerge low in the southwest during dusk. It doesn't climb high enough to be easily seen until almost the end of the year.

As darkness falls, Saturn is somewhat high in the southwestern sky and sets one to two hours before midnight. The significantly brighter Jupiter is highest above the southern horizon two to three hours after the end of dusk and sets during the mid-morning hours.

While not quite as bright as Jupiter, the red planet Mars is one of the sky's main attractions this month. Mars is at opposition—directly opposite the sun in the sky

and visible all night long—in early December and makes its closest approach to Earth (50.6 million miles) on the last night of November.

Our part of the world experiences its second total lunar eclipse of 2022 on the morning of Tuesday, November 8. By around 1:30 a.m. MST, the light outer shadow—or penumbra—of Earth should be visible as a grayish shading of the moon's eastern regions, and partial eclipse—when the moon enters Earth's umbra, or dark inner shadow—begins at 2:09 a.m. Totality starts at 3:15 a.m., and lasts for almost an hour and a half, with the exiting partial phase lasting until 5:49 a.m., shortly before moonset. Totality during May's eclipse was unusually dark, possibly due to dust ejected into Earth's atmosphere from the eruption of the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano in Tonga in January. This month's eclipse may also be quite dark. 🌑

ALL-NEW mobility technology

Introducing the world's lightest mobility scooter with anti-tip technology

The So Lite™ Scooter is easy to transport and almost impossible to tip over.

Like millions of older Americans, I struggle with mobility. For years, I watched my quality of life slip away, as I was forced to stay home while friends and family took part in activities I'd once enjoyed. I thought I'd made some progress when I got a mobility scooter, but then I realized how hard it was to transport. Taking it apart and putting it back together was like doing a jigsaw puzzle. Once I had it disassembled, I had to try to put all of the pieces in the trunk of a car, go to wherever I was going, and repeat the process in reverse. Travel scooters were easier to transport, but they were uncomfortable and scary to drive, I always felt like I was ready to tip over. Then I found the *So Lite™ Scooter*. Now there's nothing that can hold me back.

Years of work by innovative engineers have resulted in a scooter that's designed with seniors in mind. They created Electronic Stability Control (ESC) that makes it virtually impossible to tip over. If you try to turn too quickly, the scooter automatically slows down to prevent it from tipping over. The battery provides powerful energy at a fraction of the weight of most batteries. With its rugged yet lightweight aluminum frame, the *So Lite™ Scooter* is the most portable scooter ever—but it can hold up to 275 pounds—yet weighs only 40.8 pounds without the battery!



Why a So Lite™ Scooter is better:

- Latest "No-Tip" Technology
- Lightweight yet durable
- Folds and locks in seconds
- Easier to operate

What's more, it easily folds up for storage in a car seat, trunk or even on an airplane. It folds in seconds without tools and is safe and reliable. Best of all, it's designed with your safety in mind, from the newest technology and superior craftsmanship. Why spend another day letting your lack of mobility ruin your quality of life? Call now and find out how you can get a *So Lite™ Scooter* of your very own.

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FALL SAFETY WORD SEARCH



Fall is finally here! The leaves are changing, the weather is cooler and the holidays are just around the corner. But Fall also brings greater risks of home fires and electrical hazards.

Read the safety tips below, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle.

Adults should always stay in the **kitchen** while food is **cooking**.

Smoke alarms should be tested monthly to ensure they're working properly.

Batteries should be replaced every year or right away if the alarm starts to chirp.

Candles should never be left burning when someone isn't in the room.

Keep flammable items away from the **stove, toaster** and other cooking **appliances**.

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Holiday Efficiency Tips

Q: How can I save energy at home during the holidays?

A: The holidays can be a magical time when we come together with our loved ones to share food, gifts and quality time. It is also the most expensive time of year for many of us. Along with gifts, meals and travel comes colder weather and darker nights that lead to more electricity use and higher bills.

One way to reduce the financial burden of the most wonderful time of year is by implementing efficiency tips to use less energy and lower your monthly bills.

Home Practices

If you are hosting guests, your household will consume more electricity than normal. Be prepared with efficiency basics:

- ✦ Program your thermostat to 68 degrees when you are home and dial it down 8 to 10 degrees when you leave the house or go to sleep.
- ✦ Run the clothes washer on cold with full loads.
- ✦ When not in use, turn off lights and the TV. Fully shut down computers and gaming systems instead of putting them in sleep or standby mode.
- ✦ Lower the thermostat when guests are over or cooking food. Most gatherings happen in the center of the home, so save energy by turning the heat down in areas you are not using.

Cooking Efficiency

Whether you are making holiday treats or a feast, you can lower energy use in the kitchen.

Turn on the oven light to check food rather than opening the door. Every time the door is opened, the temperature inside drops by up to 25 degrees, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Make use of a slow cooker, microwave, toaster oven or warming plate, which use less energy than an oven or stovetop. According to DOE, a toaster oven can save up to half the energy of the average electric stove over the same cooking time.

Let hot food cool to room temperature before placing it inside the refrigerator. This ensures you don't increase the temperature inside your fridge and cause it to use more energy to cool down.

You can also take some of the stress and expense out of your holiday cooking by asking guests to bring a dish.

Holiday Lighting

This year, switch to LEDs for holiday lighting. According to DOE, LED holiday lights consume at least 70% less energy than conventional incandescent light strands. It costs 27 cents to light a 6-foot tree for 12 hours a day for 40 days with LEDs compared to \$10 for incandescent lights.

Pick up a few light timers so you don't have to remember



LED holiday lights consume 70% less energy than conventional incandescent light strands. Consider updating your decorations this holiday season. PHOTO BY MARK GILLILAND/PIONEER UTILITY RESOURCES

to unplug your lights every evening. You can also choose to upgrade to smart holiday lights that offer a wide range of app-controlled options, including time, colors, music and modes.

Out-of-Town Efficiency

If visiting family and friends during the holidays, prepare your house to use less energy while you are away.

Water heating is the second-largest energy expense in your home, accounting for about 18% of your utility bill, according to DOE.

Switching your water heater to vacation mode will reduce wasted energy by keeping the water at a lower temperature.

If your water heater does not have vacation mode on the dial, adjust it to the lowest setting.

Set your home's thermostat to around 55 degrees.


Instead of leaving on lights all day, consider upgrading a lamp or fixture to a smart lightbulb. This allows you to control lights from afar and set a schedule for the light to turn on and off.

Another option is to repurpose your holiday light timer for one of your living room lamps.

Ask Your Electric Utility

To mitigate the costs of the holidays for years to come, contact your electric utility and ask about special programs, such as budget billing, which lets you divide your annual energy costs into fixed monthly payments.

Your utility also may have energy-efficiency rebates for home appliances and lightbulbs.

Taking these actions can lead to happy holidays for years to come. 



Miranda Boutelle has more than 20 years of experience helping people save energy. She has worked on energy-efficiency projects from the Midwest to the West Coast. Today, Miranda is vice president of operations and customer engagement at Efficiency Services Group in Oregon, a cooperatively owned energy-efficiency company.

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Bad to the Bone

Full tang stainless steel blade with natural bone handle —now **ONLY \$79!**

The very best hunting knives possess a perfect balance of form and function. They're carefully constructed from fine materials, but also have that little something extra to connect the owner with nature.

If you're on the hunt for a knife that combines impeccable craftsmanship with a sense of wonder, the **\$79 Huntsman Blade** is the trophy you're looking for.

The blade is full tang, meaning it doesn't stop at the handle but extends to the length of the grip for the ultimate in strength. The blade is made from 420 surgical steel, famed for its sharpness and its resistance to corrosion.

The handle is made from genuine natural bone, and features decorative wood spacers and a hand-carved motif of two overlapping feathers—a reminder for you to respect and connect with the natural world.

This fusion of substance and style can garner a high price tag out in the marketplace. In fact, we found full tang, stainless steel blades with bone handles in excess of \$2,000. Well, that won't cut it around here. We have mastered the hunt for the best deal, and in turn pass the spoils on to our customers.

But we don't stop there. While supplies last, we'll include a pair of \$99 8x21 power compact binoculars *and* a genuine leather sheath **FREE** when you purchase the **Huntsman Blade**.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. Feel the knife in your hands, wear it on your hip, inspect the impeccable craftsmanship. If you don't feel like we cut you a fair deal, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

Limited Reserves. A deal like this won't last long. We have only 1120 **Huntsman Blades** for this ad only. Don't let this beauty slip through your fingers. Call today!

Huntsman Blade \$249*

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"This knife is beautiful!"

— J., La Crescent, MN

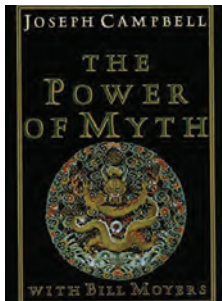


"The feel of this knife is unbelievable...this is an incredibly fine instrument."

— H., Arvada, CO



Rating of **A+**



The Power of Myth With Bill Moyers

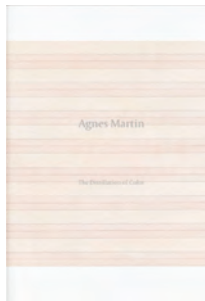
“The Power of Myth” more or less contains the entirety of two conversations between journalist and

political commentator Bill Moyers and esteemed author and college professor Joseph Campbell.

Only these weren’t just any conversations. They happened at none other than George Lucas’ Skywalker Ranch in California in 1985 and 1986—the years preceding Campbell’s death in ’87—and when the six-hour PBS documentary encapsulating the essence of their conversation aired, no fewer than 14,000 people wrote asking for the transcript.

Campbell, famous for titles such as “The Hero with a Thousand Faces” and “The Masks of God,” also introduced “follow your bliss” as a philosophy to live by. When Moyers sat with Campbell on the edge of the continent, in the middle of the decade of excess, their intention was to examine, through the lens of personal experience and ancient myth, no more than “Jesus, Buddha, Krishna, dreams and the heroic journeys that all people make.”

**By Joseph Campbell,
Anchor
Amazon.com**



Agnes Martin: The Distillation of Color

The late abstract expressionist Agnes Martin, one of the great artists to call New Mexico home, is open for rediscovery in this

new celebration of her works. The book, published in 2022, focuses specifically on the paintings Martin created in the desert, in the latter half of her career. Martin’s output came to crystalize “her quest to deepen her understanding of the essence of painting, unattached to emotion or subject, yet radiant and meditative in its pure abstraction.”

This gorgeous hardcover—which was born to live open and on display—layers a tactile and visual experience upon historical and poetic editorials to bring renewed depth and context to Martin’s life and renewed devotion to her gifts.

**By Durga Chew-Bose, Olivia Laing, Bruce Hainley, Andria Hickey, with posthumous contributions by Agnes Martin
Pace Wildenstein
pacegallery.com**



D’Aulaires’ Book of Greek Myths

“D’Aulaires’ Book of Greek Myths” is an excellent launch point for children to behold—just as children with the privilege of this book have for 50 years.

Consider this book for the young readers in your life to offer an early and vivid orientation to the Greek gods, but moreover, to share a broader context for the same archetypal heroes, villains and all-too-human feelings they encounter each day of their unfolding lives.

Who better to look to than Zeus, Hera, Ares, Athena and Poseidon, and the lessons contained within their journeys, to ignite imaginations? These are timeless adventure stories, after all.

Consider opening up to Greek mythology for the meaningful metaphors with the power to illuminate our own heroic paths.

**By Ingri d’Aulaire, Edgar Parin d’Aulaire
Delacorte Press
abebooks.com**

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ADOBE STOCK PHOTO
BY MOTIZOVA

SACRED STONE OF THE SOUTHWEST IS ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION



Centuries ago, Persians, Tibetans and Mayans considered turquoise a gemstone of the heavens, believing the striking blue stones were sacred pieces of sky. Today, the rarest and most valuable turquoise is found in the American Southwest— but the future of the blue beauty is unclear.

On a recent trip to Tucson, we spoke with fourth generation turquoise traders who explained that less than five percent of turquoise mined worldwide can be set into jewelry and only about twenty mines in the Southwest supply gem-quality turquoise. Once a thriving industry, many Southwest mines have run dry and are now closed.

We found a limited supply of turquoise from Arizona and purchased it for our *Sedona Turquoise Collection*. Inspired by the work of those ancient craftsmen and designed to showcase the exceptional blue stone, each stabilized vibrant cabochon features



a unique, one-of-a-kind matrix surrounded in Bali metalwork. You could drop over \$1,200 on a turquoise pendant, or you could secure 26 carats of genuine Arizona turquoise for **just \$99**.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. If you aren't completely happy with your purchase, send it back within 30 days for a complete refund of the item price.

The supply of Arizona turquoise is limited, don't miss your chance to own the Southwest's brilliant blue treasure. Call today!

Jewelry Specifications:

• Arizona turquoise • Silver-finished settings

Sedona Turquoise Collection

A. Pendant (26 cts)	\$299*	\$99 +s&p Save \$200
B. 18" Bali Naga woven sterling silver chain		\$149 +s&p
C. 1 1/2" Earrings (10 ctw)	\$299*	\$99 +s&p Save \$200
Complete Set**	\$747*	\$249 +s&p Save \$498

**Complete set includes pendant, chain and earrings.

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Necklace enlarged to show luxurious color

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A Reservoir of Community

Elephant Butte Dam is an engineering marvel for its time

By Dixie Boyle

Elephant Butte Lake near Truth or Consequences is a popular destination for anglers and water recreationists. The 40-mile-long man-made lake is the largest in the state. It takes its name from the distinctive core of an ancient volcano resembling a giant elephant in the middle of the reservoir. The lake and its 200 miles of shoreline is managed by Elephant Butte State Park.

Construction on Elephant Butte Dam began in 1911 and was completed in 1916. During its construction, the dam was the second-largest irrigation dam ever built. People came from throughout the state to attend the dedication of the \$5 million dam, which is now a National Historic Engineering Landmark. The dam was the first engineering project associated with the international distribution of water.

Originally, the dam site was referred to as Engle Dam after the railroad station 12 miles away. A proposed name for the reservoir was Lake B.M. Hall, in honor of a popular surveyor who worked on the project. For a short time, the dam went by the name of Woodrow Wilson Dam after the sitting U.S. president. However, the name that stuck came from the location: Elephant Butte.

More than 3,000 people were hired to work on the project. The workers lived at the site and were housed in two sections: upper town and lower town. The laborers lived in lower town, where a commissary and mess hall were provided. Single men lived in bunkhouses. Supervisors and engineers lived in upper town. Houses



for the workers were built by placing a pitched tent on top of a wooden platform. The camps were kept organized and clean by a sanitation officer, who was responsible for making sure waste was removed from the camps each day.

Robley Schmalhausen served as superintendent of construction on the dam project, living with his family in upper town. He moved to El Paso when the dam was completed but returned to Elephant Butte in 1924 to serve as reservoir superintendent. In 1932, Robley lost control of his car near the dam and tumbled down a steep 30-foot arroyo, where his body was later found.

The original town of Elephant Butte developed into an enchanting location. During their time off, dam workers enjoyed a moving-picture house with wooden benches and an ice cream parlor next door, where refreshments were served. Every week, there was a dance at Quarter House Hotel. Lively tennis tournaments, bridge games, costume parties and baseball games kept the workers occupied.

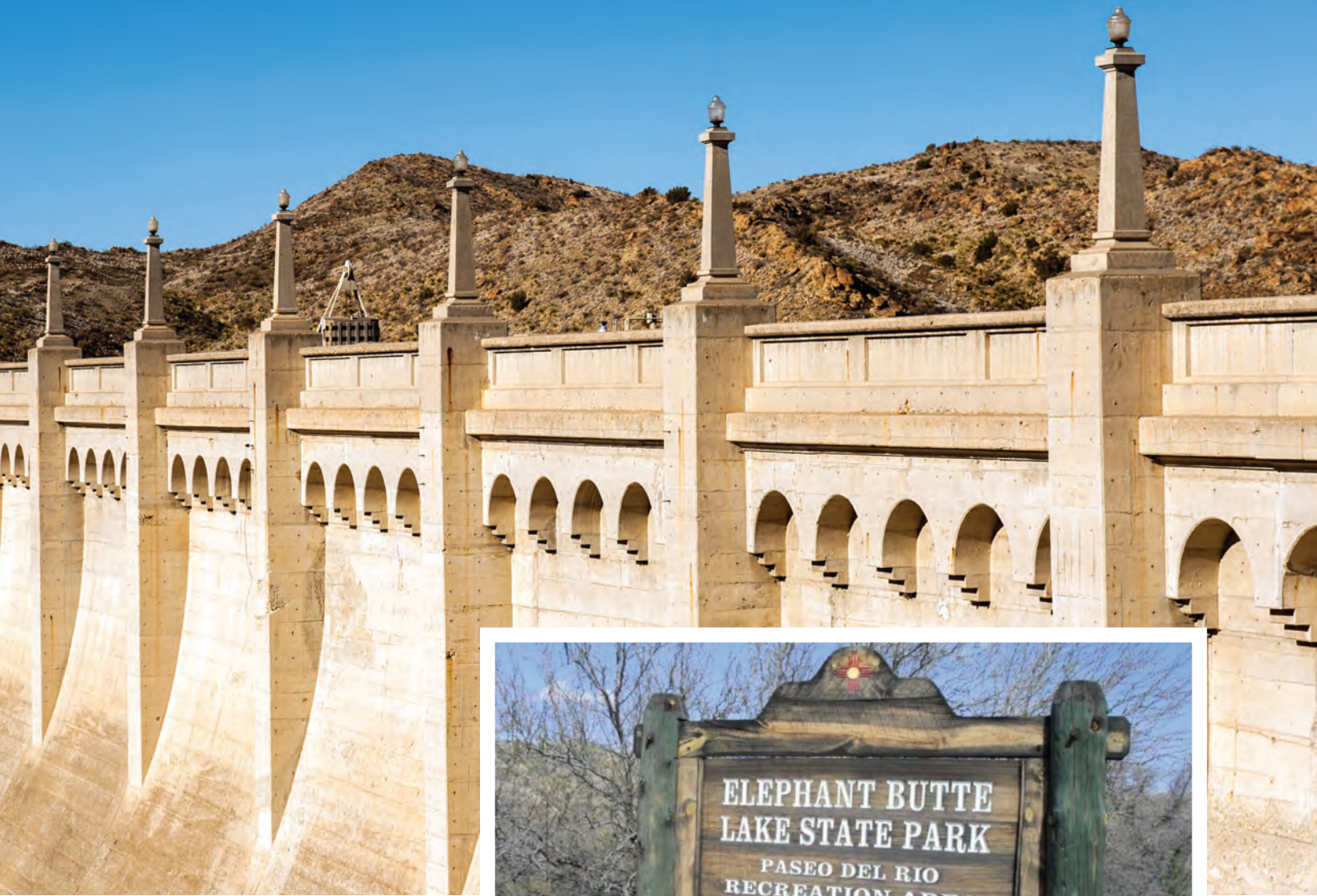
There were few services in the area when construction first began on the dam. A railroad spur from Engle was built so supplies and workers could be more efficiently transported to the project site. A few months later, hordes of visitors began showing up on the train to watch the construction. People brought picnic lunches and camped a day or two while watching the dam near completion. Many were skeptical of its success.

When enough of the dam was completed to hold back water, people



began buying boats, fishing and swimming in the newly formed reservoir. A few years later, a popular custom began for anglers at the lake. After a day of fishing, they would take their catches to the local bars and downtown Hot Springs for pictures and to relate stories of their fishing adventures. Often, newspaper reporters and large groups of people showed up and took photographs of the fishermen and their catches. The photos were displayed in businesses in Elephant Butte and nearby Hot Springs, and printed in newspaper articles throughout the state.

One of the first fishing competitions at the lake was in 1939. Twenty-five tagged bass were released into the lake, and competitors who caught one were given a \$50 bill. The tradition continues today, with the Elephant Butte Lake Kayak Fishing Tournament and the Father's Day Weekend Junior open sponsored by the



ABOVE: When finished in 1916, the Elephant Butte Dam was the second-largest irrigation dam ever built. **RIGHT:** Elephant Butte Lake, the reservoir behind the dam, is a popular spot for boaters and fishers. **OPPOSITE:** Each year, the location hosts the Elephant Butte Balloon Regatta.

Elephant Butte Bass Anglers Association. Due to New Mexico's extended drought, the water level at Elephant Butte has been below average since 2019, causing a reduction in the amount of water allowed to farmers downriver and limiting recreation options.

Yet Elephant Butte State Park continues to be a popular recreation center known for its giant catfish and bass fishing, sailing, desert camping and shoreline. The giant elephant watching over the reservoir continues to welcome visitors to the lake more than a century after the completion of the dam. 🐘



PHOTOS BY DIXIE BOYLE



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Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees meets at 9 a.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month in the Clovis cooperative boardroom.

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Fall Back on November 6

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before retiring for the night Saturday, November 5.

At 2 a.m. Sunday, November 6, daylight saving time ends, and the time reverts to 1 a.m.

In the 1770s, Benjamin Franklin was the first to discuss the idea of a time change after he woke up early one morning to find the sun already shining bright. Not until 1915—when British builder William Willett revisited the idea—was it considered.

Germany was the first to adopt the time change, followed by Britain. Eventually, during World War I, parts of Europe, Canada and the United States jumped on board.

After the war, the states in America were free to choose whether to observe daylight saving time and the calendar start dates of the time change.

The result was time confusion.

In 1966, the United States enacted the Uniform Time Act, making any state that participated in daylight saving time start and end on the same day.

Through the years, the start and end date has changed several times, most

recently in 2005, when the Energy Policy Act was passed.

Now, daylight saving time begins the second Sunday in March and ends the first Sunday in November.

The reason for observing daylight saving time is the sun rises earlier in the spring and summer months, giving you more daylight during the evening hours. In the fall, the exact opposite happens, so we set our clocks back to gain an extra hour of sunlight in the morning.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, daylight saving time decreases the country's electricity use 1% each day.

The use of energy and demand for electricity for lighting homes is related directly to the times people go to bed and rise. Daylight saving time saves energy for lighting in all seasons, but saves the least amount during the four darkest months of the year: November, December, January and February.

With clocks set back, it gets darker earlier, making it a challenge to complete outdoor tasks.

For more information, visit at www.fecnm.org.

Attention Irrigation Consumers!

In accordance with Farmers' Electric Cooperative's irrigation rate schedule, certain annual minimum charges apply to all irrigation accounts. Your original minimum charges were calculated through a contract with the cooperative based on the cost of line extension to the irrigation load. Upon expiration of the contract, the horsepower on that account determines the annual minimum at the rate of \$20 per horsepower, but not less than \$110 for single-phase service, and not

less than \$165 for three-phase service.

Under the irrigation rate schedule, consumers have one calendar year, (approximately December 20 through December 20 of the following year), to use the annual minimum charges. The December billing will reflect remaining charges, if any.

If you have any questions regarding the annual minimum charges for your irrigation account(s), please contact the Cooperative's Billing Department at 575-762-4466.

Holiday Decor Tips to Save Energy

Whether you've already decked your halls or you're just getting started, there's still time to incorporate energy savings into your holiday decor planning.

If you haven't strung your twinkle lights, be sure to use LED light strands. LEDs consume far less energy than incandescent lights, and they can last 40 holiday seasons. They're also safer because they're made with epoxy lenses, not glass, making them more resistant to breaking.

If you missed Santa's memo about energy-saving LEDs and your holiday lights are already up, you can still save on lighting costs. All you need is a programmable light timer. Most models cost between \$10 to \$25 and can be purchased through online retailers such as Amazon or at big box stores such as Lowe's or Walmart.

With a timer, you can easily program when you want your holiday lights turned on and off, which will save you time, money and energy. If you're using a timer for exterior lighting, make sure it's weatherproof and intended for outdoor use.

If Clark Griswold's decor style is a bit much for your taste, consider a more natural approach. Many Christmas tree farms and even retailers give away greenery clippings from recently trimmed trees. With a little twine, extra ornaments and sparkly ribbon, you can create beautiful garlands and wreaths to hang over your front door or windows.

To add extra twinkle at night, you can install solar-powered spotlights to illuminate your new (essentially free!) greenery. Solar spotlights can vary in price, but you should be able to buy a quality set of four for about \$30—and because they run on natural energy from

the sun, there's no additional cost to your energy bill.

Regardless of how you decorate your home for the holidays, there are plenty of ways to save energy throughout the season. Visit fecnm.org for additional energy-saving tips.



Scholarship Applications Available Now!



Farmers' Electric Cooperative will award scholarships again this year through the Farmers' Electric Education Foundation. Scholarship applications may be obtained from area high school guidance counselors or from cooperative office locations in Clovis, Ft. Sumner and Santa Rosa. Scholarship applications can also be requested by calling the Clovis office at 575-762-4466 or by going to www.fecnm.org. All cooperative members and their dependents are eligible to apply.

There are two different scholarship forms. Be sure when requesting a form that you specify either the "Graduating High School Student Application" or the "Returning College Application." Both forms are available from any FEC office or are available to download from www.fecnm.org.

Don't delay! The deadline for applications is February 1, 2023.



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Be Thankful for Food This Fall

There are so many things for which to be thankful as the holiday season approaches. The abject fear of the pandemic is slowly passing, harvest has largely been collected, and fall ranch work is coming to a close as we make plans for family gatherings.

During my travels, I have asked for favored holiday recipes.

Broccoli and rice casserole presented itself as a similar alternative to the famed green bean dish. Easy to prepare, wild rice may be used as well as low-fat soup, to prepare a healthful alternative.

The generations-old question of what to do with an abundance of leftover turkey is answered with cheesy turkey and pasta. Hint: save it for a few days after the main Thanksgiving meal; it is very satisfying and filling. Whether hosting holiday meals or traveling, both recipes are simple to prepare and travel well. Happy November!

Broccoli and Rice Casserole

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 4 tablespoons butter | 1 cup shredded cheese of choice |
| ½ onion, diced | ½ cup water |
| 1 12- to 16-ounce package frozen broccoli | Salt/pepper to taste |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup | 1 ½ cups cooked rice of choice |

Cook rice as directed. If using wild rice, allow time for it to cook completely.

Partially thaw broccoli until choppable.

Melt butter in a skillet. Add onion and cook until translucent.

While the onion is cooking, mix soup, ½ cup cheese and water in a microwave-safe container. Microwave until warmed and cheese is melted. May be done on the stovetop in a small saucepan.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Mix onion, broccoli, rice and sauce in a large bowl. Place in 8-by-8-inch baking dish, lightly sprayed with butter-flavored cooking spray.

Bake 30-40 minutes until bubbly.

Remove from oven, sprinkle with remaining cheese and serve.



Cheesy Turkey and Pasta

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 2 cups whole grain pasta of choice, cooked | ½ envelope dry onion soup mix |
| ½ onion, chopped | ½ cup flour |
| 3 tablespoons olive oil | ½ teaspoon salt |
| 3 cups cooked turkey, cubed | ½ teaspoon pepper |
| 2 tablespoons dry ranch dressing mix | 3 cups milk |
| | 4 ounces cream cheese |
| | ¼ cup parmesan cheese |

Cook pasta. Set aside without draining.

Warm oil in a large skillet, add onion and cook until soft.

Add turkey to skillet and cook until warm. Sprinkle ranch dressing mix, onion soup mix, flour, salt and pepper on the turkey mixture until the turkey is coated.

Stir in milk until the flour mixture on the turkey is absorbed. Cube cream cheese and stir in until melted. Continue stirring until the mixture is thickened. Add water if necessary to reach desired thickness.

To serve, spoon warm, drained pasta into individual bowls, spoon turkey mixture on top, and sprinkle with parmesan cheese.



Sue Hutchison was born and raised a block from the freeway in Southern California. She had an early start with industrial, large-scale cooking before age 20. She's always been both a beach bum and at home in the kitchen, where she enjoys making new creations.

UNIDENTIFIED FOOD INVESTIGATORS

Tucked away in the Village of Ruidoso's famed Midtown shopping district is The Village Buttery. Open for lunch, the Buttery is a local favorite. The Village Buttery has been in existence since 1994, serving a wide variety of lunch options as well as a long list of sweets to satisfy any hungry traveler.

Entrepreneur Elliott Taylor began working at the Buttery in 2004 and became its owner in 2010. With many prayers and hopes for success, Taylor has been voted "Best Lunch in Lincoln County" multiple times. Taylor says the pandemic was "brutal for all business owners, and especially restaurateurs."

"We're glad we are a small outfit," says Taylor, "and that we have a fantastic staff who adapted to meet the needs."

Catering and box lunches as well as creation of an all-weather patio space helped The Village Buttery through the worst of the last few years. Regional artist Trish Wade added her skill and artistry with her beautiful mural adorning the new patio area among other artists' works.

Investigators tried and loved the popular tomato basil soup, one of The Village Buttery's top sellers, according to Taylor. The chicken salad sandwich is tops, along

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: The Village Buttery Owner Elliott Taylor. Artists including Trish Wade have art displayed at the Buttery's patio. The Buttery's Tomato Basil Soup.

BACKGROUND PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA/
JPL-CALTECH/UCLA

with the Buttery's famous buttermilk pie. With vegetarian and gluten-free options, The Village Buttery continually adapts and updates its menu to appeal to everyone.

Investigators enjoyed watching the bustling town on the patio while enjoying Buttery fare. Don't forget to take a generous stash of their cookies that are always buy-3-get-one-free.

The Village Buttery is at 2107 Sudderth, Ruidoso, NM 88345. Its phone number is 575-257-9251. Visit its website at thevillagebuttery.com. They are open every day except Sundays, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Beware: The UFI team may strike near you! Watch for the next enchantment installment to highlight New Mexico's finest local eateries. Feel free to recommend future spots for the team to investigate.





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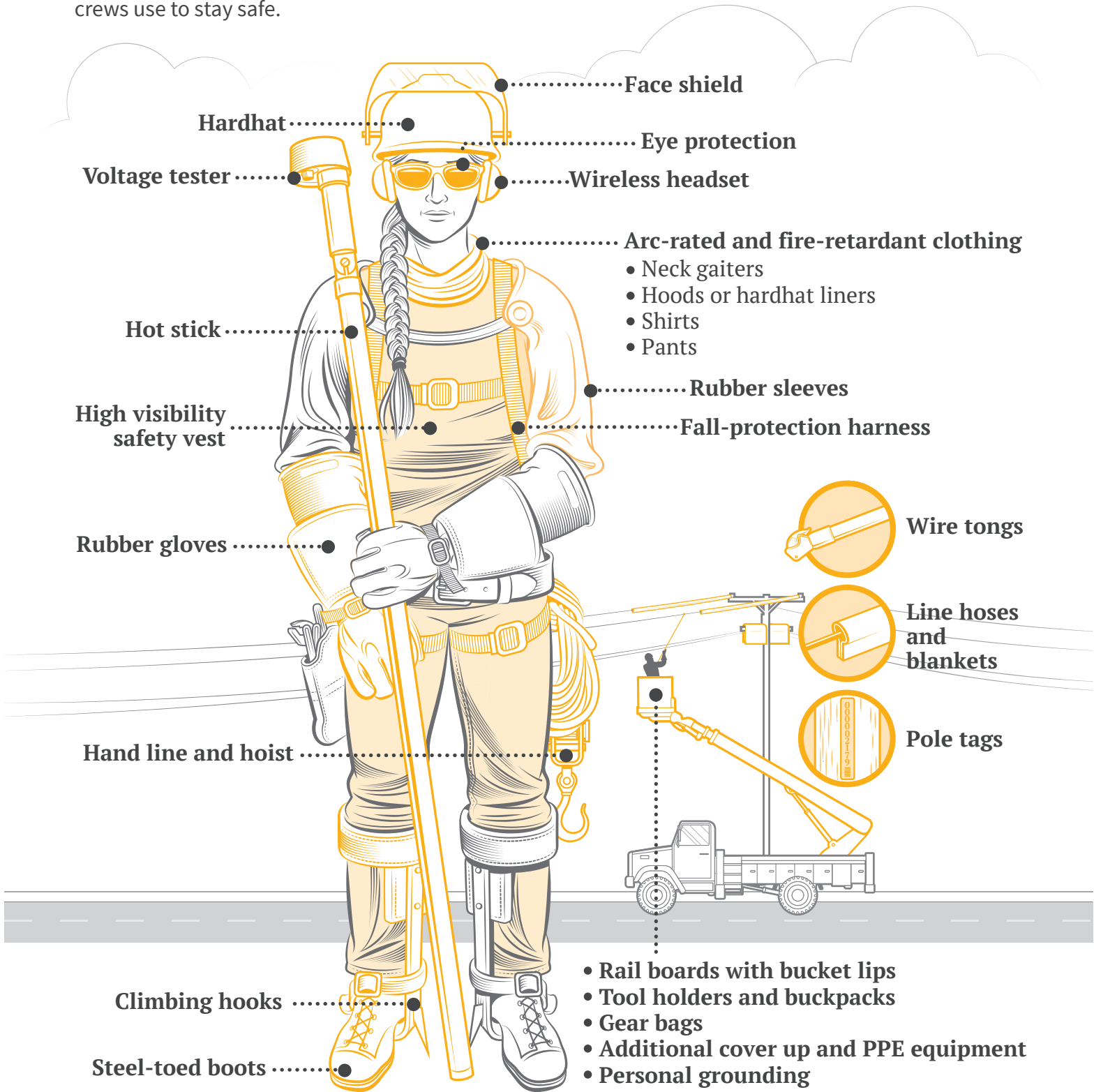
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Staying Safe

Lineworkers have a dizzying array of gear they carry and wear to safely do their jobs. Some items, like climbing hooks and hot sticks, have been around since the early days of electricity, though they've been updated and improved over the years. Others, like wireless headsets and arc-rated clothing, are more modern innovations. Here's a comprehensive (though not exhaustive) look at the tools line crews use to stay safe.



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AVIATION FUEL SYSTEM FOR SALE, Gasboy Islander Plus Card System with printer-software interface for network. Gasboy 8853kx Dispenser Card System. Electric hose reel 1". Morrison Clock Gauge with alarm. Kay Manufacturing Above-Ground 4950 gallon DW steel tank. Located at Lovington, NM airport, can be moved. Contact DKD, LLC at 575-398-3490 for more information.

MORIARTY PIPE & IRON, LLC, CLOSE OUT SALE, ALL INVENTORY 50% OFF! Trailer parts (lights, hardware, welding supplies, miscellaneous steel). Equipment for sale: Ellis Bandsaw with rollers, single phase; Unihydro Iron Worker 66 ton with rollers, single phase; Baileigh Radius Roller, like new, three phase with converter; Jet 15" Drill Press with bits (like new); Welding Table, 8'x10'x3/4" on heavy duty rollers; Bench Grinder; Steel Racks; 04 Daewoo Forklift, 6K, 3,450 hours. Also for sale, two 3/8 used pipe and precut posts. Contact Larry Irvin at 505-934-0425 for more information.

FOR SALE - CORD WOOD SAW MOUNTED ON WHEELS, equipped to be belt-driven, complete with belt. Excellent condition. \$1,400. Call 575-437-7777 or 575-430-7777 for more information.

Great Finds

FISHING TACKLE WANTED: "Antique" lures, reels, rods, tackle boxes. Pre-1950, please. Collector paying highest prices for "Grandpaw's" tackle box. Lures \$50 to \$5,000 each. Reels \$100 to \$7,500 each. Send photos to: tacklechaser@aol.com or call Rick at 575-354-0365.

OLD SCHOOL SIGN PAINTER, hand lettered signage. No vinyl, windows, walls, vehicles, wood, metal or plastic. For more information, call A. Sanchez at 575-758-7417 or cell 505-498-7743.

HUGE PILES OF ELM WOOD (TWO DEAD TREES) FOR SALE IN GLENRIO. Also, old bottles, petrified wood, two antique wringer washers. Call Roxann at 806-674-2528 or 806-575-2223 for details and to make an offer, all offers considered and negotiable.

BUYING OLD STUFF: Gas pumps and parts 1960's or earlier, advertising signs, neon clocks, old car parts in original boxes, motor oil cans, license plate collections, Route 66 items, old metal road signs, odd and weird stuff. Fair prices paid. Have pickup, will travel. Gas Guy in Embudo, 505-852-2995.

SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO OLD WEST HISTORY BOOKS. Southwest New Mexico book has over 450 pages and 95 stories, \$38.95 plus shipping. Columbus and Pancho Villa book offers early history and firsthand accounts of Pancho Villa raid survivors, \$14.95 plus shipping. For more information, call 575-544-7597.

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WANTED: NEW MEXICO MOTORCYCLE LICENSE PLATES 1912-1970. Paying \$100-\$500 each. Also buying NM car plates 1900-1923. Visit NMplates.com for history and 4,600 photographs of NM plates. Bill Johnston, Box 1, Organ, NM 88052-0001. Email: Bill@NMplates.com or call 575-382-7804.

RAILROAD ITEMS WANTED: Kerosene lanterns, brass locks, keys, badges, uniforms, bells, whistles, and pre-1950 employee timetables. Always seeking items from any early New Mexico railroad, especially D&RG, C&S, EP&NE, EP&SW, AT&SF, SP or Rock Island. Call Randy Dunson at 575-760-3341 or 575-356-6919.

RADIO CONTROL AIRCRAFT HOBBY? For sale several aircraft, both gas and glow, radios, multiple OS engines (some never used), large inventory of balsa wood sticks/sheets, Monocote and much more. Entire collection \$1,400. or best offer. Call 575-772-5648 or email wkgastner@yahoo.com for more information.

ROUGH RIDER ANTIQUES IN LAS VEGAS IS PLUM FULL FOR FALL! Wildly colorful oil cloth like grandma used on her shelves and table; more colorful kitchenware from the 30's, 40's and 50's; soft goods and notions if you sew, quilt or craft. The Book Guy has added hundreds of titles and we have a good selection of coins, trains and license plates. Enjoy beautiful jewelry made by Navajo, Zuni and Santo Domingo artists. Nancy has a wood and iron work bench that would make a great kitchen island or bar; a primitive pie safe and a workman's daybed from 1850. Victorian, mid-century and fresh-from-the-farm furniture. Open everyday. 501 Railroad across from the Castañeda Hotel. 505-454-8063.

Real Estate

PIE TOWN, SOUTH OF WILD HORSE SUBDIVISION. Two tracts with closest access from Goat Ranch Road. One is 20 acres for \$12,000. and one is 40 acres for \$24,000. Vacant land. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

NEW MEXICO LANDOWNERS, LET US SELL YOUR WORKING FARM OR RANCH. Broker has a lifetime of experience working on a family farm in New Mexico and has been a family farm owner and operator since 1988. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

2 MOUNTAIN CABINS, 25+ acres at 8,000 feet, Wildhorse Ranch Subdivision, Pie Town, NM. Well on stream with 5,000 storage tank and fire hydrant. New Mexico Hunting unit 13. To view this property, go to: <https://fsbo.com/listings/listings/show/id/520104/>

CONCHAS, 0 AND 00 RIDGE DRIVE, PRICE REDUCED! Two tracts with two lots per each property (lots are 100 x 100 or .23 acre). Each tract has a permitted septic that has never been used. Electricity and co-op water nearby. \$40,000 per tract. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SUMNER LAKE, 0 RIVER RANCHES ROAD, (at intersection with State Road 203). Lot just over 20 acres. Scenic views, just west of lake. \$18,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

DATIL, HERRINGTON CANYON ROAD. Three properties, one east (40 acres) and two west/northwest (44 and 40 acres) vacant land. Starting at \$24,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

FENCE LAKE, 295 PINE HILL ROAD, MOTIVATED SELLER, 2-bedroom, 3-bathroom home on just over 60 acres, well, outbuildings, corrals, abundant wildlife and scenic views. Septic System Replaced in 2022. \$240,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

CANADIAN RIVER - WEST OF UTE LAKE. EAST OF QUAY ROAD AI.

Seven 40 acre (more or less) parcels with lake and mesalands views. One of the seven lots is west of Quay Road AI fronting Ute Lake. Call for appointment to show and pricing. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

DATIL, COYOTE TRAIL, BLUEBIRD ROAD AND SUGARLOAF TRAIL. SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN SUBDIVISION.

(SOLD, Lots 241, 268, 269, 270, 273). Choice of three remaining lots just over five acres each. \$12,500. per lot. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

DATIL, 0000 CRISWELL ROAD,

Forest Road 6A (East of Criswell Road) and 0000 Red Feather Tank Road (off Criswell Road, property east of Red Feather Tank Road). Vacant land. Starting at \$24,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

TUCUMCARI, 1120 S. SARATOGA,

1.5 acres fronting US 54 (Mountain Road). \$20,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

PORTALES/ARCH, 1884 STATE ROAD 88,

3-bedroom, 4-bath home on just over one acre. Attached carport. Two wells. \$230,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

WATER DOWSING AND CONSULTING,

46 years of experience. Proven success. In Lincoln County, will travel. Call Elliot Topper at 575-937-2722 for more information.

CLOVIS, 809 S. PRINCE. PRICE REDUCED!

Vacant land just under five acres south of intersection of Brady and Prince. Commercial. \$175,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SANTA ROSA, 0000 WILL ROGERS DRIVE, PRICE REDUCED!

26 acres close to I-40 and old Route 66. Commercial potential. \$420,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SANTA ROSA, 0000 NO SE ROAD,

(East of Los Tanos Creek in Northeast corner of Hollywood Ranch Subdivision). Ten acres with great views of surrounding mesalands. \$10,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SAN MARCIAL, 27A WINCHESTER ROAD, WILLOW SPRINGS RANCH SUBDIVISION. PRICE REDUCED!

432 acres in the foothills of the Chupadera Mountains. Close to I-25. \$324,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SUMNER LAKE, 225 INDIAN PLACE,

3-bedroom, 2-bath home on 20 acres with incredible view of Pecos River Valley. Custom built. \$325,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

DATIL, 31 OLD HIGHWAY 60,

2-bedroom, 1-bath home on 1/2 acre. Potential for rental/hunting cabin, \$47,800. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

MILAGRO, 0000 PECOS SPUR, PORTRILLO CREEK RANCH SUBDIVISION,

164 acres. Wide open space for livestock and/or homesite. Close to I-40. \$94,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

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1. Visit www.enchantment.coop/classifieds and complete form. You will be contacted by email with price and to pay by credit card (5% processing fee).
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1. Mail ad and payment (Payable to NMRECA) NMRECA • enchantment 614 Don Gaspar Ave. Santa Fe, NM 87505

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SANTA ROSA, 1070 BAR Y ROAD, HOLLYWOOD RANCH SUBDIVISION, PRICE REDUCED!

Three parcels (18, 19, 20) totaling just over 41 acres. Perimeter fencing and road. Water and electricity, \$200,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

CONCHAS, 631 CONCHAS DRIVE, MOTIVATED SELLER,

3-bedroom, 2-bath home with detached garage and 30 x 40 boat storage. All electric. \$198,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

CONCHAS, 116 NICKEL LANE, SALE PENDING,

airport runway access with two barns, fresh water. 3-bedroom, 2-bath home, community water. \$270,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

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12.5 GLORIOUS ACRES IN THE LA CUEVA AREA IN THE JEMEZ MOUNTAINS,

located behind a security gate with no public access so that you can enjoy the peace and quiet along with the stunning views of Wild-Cat Canyon and Redondo Peak. Electricity is on the property and there is an optional well share in place. \$149,000. Call Misty Stacy at Jemez Homes and Land at 505-269-4538 for more information.

GLADSTONE, 4386 SPRINGER HIGHWAY (US 56-412),

3-bedroom, 2-bath home with 36 x 45 barn and two open livestock sheds/lean-tos. Two wells (one is solar). \$270,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

HARD TO COME BY, VERY PRIVATE 15.32 IMPROVED ACRES,

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MOBILE HOME, CABIN LOOK IN TIMBERON, NM,

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28 ft. with 12 ft. slide out. New tires. New awning that needs to be installed. New battery. Gooseneck trailer style hitch. Factory built in Onan propane generator. Three bunks in separate room. Sleeper sofa. Memory foam on queen size bed. Lots of storage. TV/DVD/CD player with radio. Good condition and clean. As is. \$10,000. or best offer. Call 505-398-6047 for more information.

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youth art

December Topic:

Happy Holidays! Do you see snow? Reindeer? How do you celebrate this time of year?

January's Topic:

Happy New Year! Draw how you bring in the new year.

Send Your Drawing

By mail: Youth Editor
614 Don Gaspar Ave.
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By email:
enchantment@nmelectric.coop

Deadline: Submit by the 9th, one month prior to publication.

Hooray! Winners Get Paid: \$15

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5 items to include on the back of your drawing, otherwise YOU ARE DISQUALIFIED:

1. Name
2. Age
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4. Phone
5. Electric Co-op

*Accepted artwork up to age 13.

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Happy Thanksgiving! Congratulations to the Winners!

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Columbus Electric Cooperative



Braelynn Gossett • Age 11
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Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative



Arianna Hernandez • Age 11
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ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR BETTER BUILDINGS

Whether your home or business, the buildings you enter daily consist of several layers that create one building envelope, or shell. The envelope begins with the foundation in the ground and ends with the roof, and includes everything in between such as walls, windows and doors. To save energy and maintain comfort, an envelope should limit the transfer of heat in or out of the building. Improve your building envelope by applying weatherization best practices.

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+ ENSURE ADEQUATE INSULATION

One of the best ways to reduce your energy bills and increase the comfort of your home is by ensuring adequate and effective insulation in your home. The Department of Energy recommends that a home have 12 to 16 inches of attic insulation. However, not all insulation has the same effectiveness for energy efficiency, and as insulation ages that effectiveness declines. There are also several methods for insulation depending on where you live and the part of your home you are insulating (walls, crawlspace, attic, etc.) so it's best to contact a local certified contractor. Check your local building codes for requirements.

+ RESEARCH INCOME-QUALIFIED PROGRAMS

Some income-qualified programs provide air sealing and insulation, along with making sure your home is safe, if you have combustion appliances like a gas furnace or water heater. Certain programs even cover up to 80% of the median area income and provide these improvements at no cost to the homeowner and in many cases renters as well.

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