

BELFALLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

P.O. Box 598 • Rosebud, TX 76570 • Phone (254) 583-7955

BELFALLS ELECTRIC AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL YOUTH



This year, Belfalls Electric Cooperative has awarded 10 scholarships to seniors from area high schools. The scholarships were for \$500 each.

To be eligible for consideration, the student's parents must have a permanent residence on our electric utility system and the college or university the student plans to attend must be a Texas school with full accreditation from the state.

This year's winners are:

JONATHAN PEREZ, Bartlett High School, attending Texas State Technical College.

ROBERT CHASE McCULLIN, C.H. Yoe High School, attending Sam Houston State University.

REMINGTON McDERMOTT, C.H. Yoe High School, attending West Texas A&M University.

KRISTI FOLLIS, Rosebud-Lott High School, attending Temple College.

BRADY HONEYCUTT, Rosebud-Lott High School, attending Temple College.

STEPHANIE TOMASEK, Buckholt ISD, attending Blinn College.

STEFFANI ELLIS, Chilton ISD, attending Tarleton College.

ASHLEY COOTS, Rogers ISD, attending Texas A&M University.

AMBER BRADSHAW, Troy High School, attending Temple College.

WESTON L. ROSE, Milano ISD, attending Blinn College.

The board of directors and staff of Belfalls Electric congratulate this year's winners and wish them success in their endeavors.

SIMPLE TIPS FOR SAVING ENERGY THIS SUMMER

As careful as you are to keep the hot summer air outdoors where it belongs, your home can overheat because of what you're doing inside.

Appliances like stoves, dishwashers and even light bulbs generate heat and can compete with your air conditioner to keep the indoor air from staying cool.

FIGHT BACK!

- Avoid baking or broiling on hot days. Use the stovetop to heat food quickly. Keep the lids on the pots to hold heat in.
- Use your microwave oven, which produces little heat, to cook whenever possible. Or fix sandwiches, salads and chilled soups that require no heating.
- Trade your incandescent light bulbs, which burn hot, for energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulbs, which produce little heat.

- Turn off TV sets and lamps whenever you're not using them. They create heat when in use.
- Keep the temperature of your refrigerator between 38 and 40 degrees, and the freezer at about 5 degrees. Refrigerators that run inefficiently emit more heat.
- Defrost your freezer before ice builds up in it. Ice-laden freezer walls make the unit work inefficiently.
- Wash clothes and run the dishwasher after the sun goes down. Washers, dryers and dishwashers produce humidity, which can make the air inside your home feel uncomfortable. When you use these appliances, use cool water instead of warm.
- Run your kitchen exhaust fan whenever you cook in the summer, and turn on the bathroom fan about 15 minutes before you hop in the shower. This helps rid the house of humid air.

IN EMERGENCIES

These are the telephone numbers to call to report outages after business hours and on weekends and holidays.

Kenneth Fikes.....(254) 583-4556
 Larry Koslosky(254) 583-4555
 Doug Matous(254) 583-2957
 Bobby Skala(254) 583-7219
 Ernest Martin(254) 583-2219
 Joe W. Marek(254) 583-4016
 Josh Darden(254) 721-9712

STORMS CAN CREATE A CHARGED SITUATION

For Texans, “storm season” seems to be any and every season. Your electric cooperative would like to remind you of the increased electrocution risks that storms and flooding can cause, and offers these safety tips to avoid serious injury or death when dealing with the aftermath of a major storm or disaster.

The danger does not end when the storm does. People can be hurt or killed by hazards left behind, so it’s wise to be cautious in any cleanup effort.

Stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Treat all downed or hanging power lines as if they are energized. Warn others to stay away and contact the electric utility.

If using electric yard tools in cleanup efforts, do not operate them if it’s raining or the ground is wet, or while you are wet or standing in water. Keep all electric tools and equipment at least 10 feet away from wet surfaces.

Before re-entering storm-damaged buildings or rooms, be sure all electric and gas services are turned off.

Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box if you must stand in water to do so. If you can’t reach your breaker box safely, call your electric cooperative to shut off power at the meter.

Never step into a flooded basement or other area if water is covering electrical outlets, appliances or cords. Be alert to any electrical equipment that could be energized and in contact with water. Never touch electrical appliances, cords or wires while you are wet or standing in water.

Cleaning up and using water-damaged appliances also carry safety risks. Electric motors in appliances that have been drenched or submerged should be thoroughly cleaned and reconditioned before they are put back into service. It may be necessary to repair or replace electrical appliances or tools that have been in con-



tact with water. Do not use any water-damaged appliance until a professional has checked it out.

If after a storm or disaster, the power to your home is out for a prolonged period, know important safety rules, such as never using a charcoal or gas grill to cook inside. And if you use a standby generator, make sure a trans-

fer safety switch is used or connect the appliance(s) directly to the generator output through an isolated circuit before you operate it. This prevents electricity from traveling back through the power lines, what’s known as “back feed.” Back feed creates danger for anyone near lines, particularly crews working to restore power.

SAW SAFELY

Warm summer weekends have a way of bringing out our inner handyman.

Chances are, you’ll use a power saw before summer’s end to remodel a basement, fix a porch, build a deck,



or work on another warm-weather project.

Be aware: Contact with saw blades spinning at 5,000 revolutions per minute sends more than 84,000 people to emergency rooms every year.

“Kickback”—which occurs when the material you’re cutting binds or pinches the saw blade during a cut and

jerks the tool out of your hands—is the leading cause of power saw injuries. To avoid it:

- Know how to operate the tool before you power it up. Read your instruction manual.
- Choose the right saw for the job. For example, a circular saw isn’t designed for cutting tree limbs or logs. A chain saw is a better tool for that task.
- Set the “depth” of the cut to no deeper than a quarter-inch below the work piece. Kickback becomes more intense when more blade can be pinched.
- Use the right blade for the task. Clean, sharp blades in good condition reduce the potential for kickback.
- Never remove safety features such as blade guards or electric plug grounding pins.
- Turn the switch off before plugging the saw into the power outlet.
- Wear safety glasses.