

**ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS

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Electric Co-op, Inc.

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Beloit, KS 67420
785-534-1601 or 800-530-5572

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For outage
updates,
energy
efficiency
tips and cooperative news.



Remember to

#ThankALineworker

Lineworkers serve on the frontlines of our nation's energy needs, and **ON APRIL 10, 2023**, Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, along with electric cooperatives across the country, will honor the men and women who work hard to keep the lights on.

Line crews work around the clock, sometimes in difficult and dangerous conditions, to keep power flowing to our local communities. Whether they're restoring power after a major storm, or maintaining critical infrastructure to our electric system, lineworkers are at the heart of our co-op.

When a storm hits, they set aside their personal priorities because

Mother Nature doesn't work around holidays, vacations and birthdays. A service-oriented mentality is one of the many admirable characteristics of an electric lineworker.

Rolling Hills Electric is proud to honor our lineworkers and operations staff who maintain over 6,400 miles of power lines in our service territory.

Rolling Hills Electric invites all co-op members to take a moment and thank a lineworker for the important work they do. On April 10, you can use #ThankALineworker on social media to show your support for the brave men and women who power our lives. We're extremely grateful to have such a dedicated and hard working crew!



Rolling Hills Electric honors the men and women who keep our lights on.

Smith Rescues Bald Eagle in Lovewell State Park

On Saturday, Feb. 25, Rolling Hills Lineman/Foreman, Casey Smith, was called out for a job that falls under the “other duties as assigned” in a lineman’s job description. Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks contacted Rolling Hills for assistance to help with a



A bald eagle is caught in a tree in Lovewell State Park.



Rolling Hills Lineman/Foreman Casey Smith was able to quickly and safely free the bald eagle using a Rolling Hills bucket truck.

bald eagle who was caught in a tree at Lovewell State Park in Jewell County. Smith was able to quickly and safely free the eagle and get it back on its way again.

This story was originally published on our Facebook page and went viral — at the time of this article, the post

“reach” is at 137.4K! This feel-good story was also picked up by local and national media outlets. Topeka’s KSNT News interviewed Smith about his experience. To check out the news segment, visit our Facebook page or search for it on the KSNT website!

WORKING ON THE Line

This “free” 1910 Dutch Colonial house in Lincoln, Kansas, was saved from demolition and moved safely to its new destination a few miles outside of Lincoln. Member-owners, **EDDIE** and **JULIE FLORES**, will rehab it as their new family home. Rolling Hills Electric crews assisted with moving power lines along the journey to its new foundation.

Follow These Pages to Watch the House Come Back to Life:

- ▶ **FACEBOOK:** Nursing Back to Life
- ▶ **INSTAGRAM:** @NursingBacktoLife
- ▶ **WEBSITE:** <http://nursingbacktolife.com/>



RHEC crew assisting with raising power lines for the house move.

PHOTO BY ALLISON JOHNSON



RHEC crew assisting with raising power lines for the house move.

PHOTO BY ALLISON JOHNSON



Annual Meeting

2023

Join us

Friday, April 21, 2023, for Rolling Hills Electric Co-op Annual Meeting

Rolling Hills Electric Headquarters | 3075B U.S. Highway 24 in Beloit, Kansas

5:30 P.M. REGISTRATION & MEAL

6:30 P.M. MEETING

Don't forget to return your ballot!

Please return your directors election ballot via mail, hand delivery or delivery at the annual meeting. Please do not send your voting ballot with your bill payment.



RSVP BY MAIL

RSVP by mail by cutting on the dotted line and mailing this portion to Rolling Hills Electric, P.O. Box 339, Beloit, KS 67420.

NAME

ACCOUNT #

PHONE #

TOTAL # OF ATTENDEES

ADULTS

KIDS (12 & UNDER)

Bales Receives \$1,000 KEC Auxiliary Scholarship



Reagan Bales

At the Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (KEC) Annual Meeting on Jan. 23, the winners of the KEC Auxiliary scholarship program were announced and

included **REAGAN BALES** who received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Bales is a sophomore at Liberty University in Virginia. He was selected by Rolling Hills for the 2020 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour — which was canceled due to the pandemic. Instead, he attended a virtual youth leadership conference. He is studying accounting and data analysis.

The KEC Auxiliary encourages educational advancement by awarding high education scholarships to eligible students. The Auxiliary's purpose is to promote electric cooperatives through participation in local community activities, as well as on a statewide basis. The Auxiliary's primary focus is to educate and encourage youth participation in the selection process for the youth programs sponsored by the local cooperatives and coordinated by KEC each year.

"Winning the KEC Auxiliary Scholarship has been an honor and a privilege," Bales said. "This competition presented me with an incredible opportunity to bring attention to the men and women who serve rural Kansas day and night. Without these lesser-known heroes, rural communities across the nation would look radically different. To God be the glory!"

RHEC Participates in CVA Producer Safety Exchange

Rolling Hills Electric was invited by Central Valley Ag Cooperative to perform an electrical safety demonstration for their Producer Safety Exchange on Jan. 25. The day was filled with a range of farm-related safety topics covering electrical safety, grain bin safety/rope rescue techniques, brake tolerance and personal protective equipment. Along with the producers in attendance, local first responders also attended which made for some great questions and conversation. This is a great example of two different cooperatives working cooperatively, Cooperative Principle No. 6, for the betterment of their members and community!

The electrical safety demonstration is for ALL ages and reminds everyone

to use caution around power lines and how to respond if they ever find themselves in a situation that involves electricity. Contact Catie Mellies, member services, if your group would be interested in a FREE electrical safety demonstration at 785-534-1601.



JR Hynek creates a bright arc demonstrating the dangers of coming into contact with a power line

2022 Property Taxes by County

Rolling Hills Electric's property taxes in 2022 totaled \$1,452,480. This was a 4.49% decrease from 2021.

The chart at right shows the 2022 amount for each county as well as the prior year for comparison.

The members of Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, ultimately pay this bill.

This is where part of the money goes when you pay your electric bill each month, as property taxes directly affect the cooperative's bottom line.

NOTE: PROPERTY TAXES FOR ROLLING HILLS ARE ASSESSED BASED ON REVENUE RATHER THAN ACTUAL PROPERTY VALUE.

County	2022	2021
Barton	\$273.12	\$300.22
Clay	\$1,311.52	\$1,365.96
Cloud	\$118,533.20	\$126,820.36
Ellsworth	\$162,832.56	\$161,970.70
Jewell	\$139,110.24	\$138,904.34
Lincoln	\$110,681.88	\$111,624.88
Mitchell	\$311,679.29	\$350,818.24
Osborne	\$161,403.98	\$173,701.64
Ottawa	\$233.02	\$494.16
Phillips	\$1,671.64	\$1,681.80
Republic	\$176,764.92	\$177,038.60
Rooks	\$8,405.54	\$8,891.12
Russell	\$82,204.62	\$88,944.75
Saline	\$537.58	\$556.92
Smith	\$132,703.68	\$132,365.53
Washington	\$44,133.21	\$45,309.94
TOTAL	\$1,452,480.00	\$1,520,789.16