

Making life better, the cooperative way



## Photo of the year

Blue Grass Energy won the *Rural Electric Magazine* Photo of the Year Award—a national award featuring electric co-ops. This photo is titled *Teamwork at the Top* and features our line technicians Derek Bell, left, and Jason Isaacs. The photo was taken by Denise Myers during the 2018 Kentucky Lineman's Rodeo.

## The commitment of an electric lineworker

#### LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY APRIL 8, 2019

**APRIL 2019** 

n April 8, we celebrate National Lineworker Day. Blue Grass Energy's lineworkers are responsible for keeping power flowing day and night, regardless of national holidays, vacations, birthdays, weddings or other important family milestones. Beyond the years of specialized training and apprenticeships, it takes internal fortitude and a purpose-oriented outlook to be a good lineworker. In fact, this service-oriented mentality is a characteristic of lineworkers. The job requires lineworkers to set aside their personal priorities to better serve their local communities.

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#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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## Plugging in to electric vehicles

There was a time when most of us regarded the idea of driving an electric car to be about as likely as traveling in George Jetson's flying saucer. But no more.

The era of the electric vehicle (EV) has arrived. Lower prices, improved technology and longer driving ranges are just a few of the reasons our members are interested in EVs. This has also prompted us to take a closer look at them ourselves.

Whether it's a vehicle powered by electricity or gasoline, we all like to check out what's under the hood before buying. Earlier this year, we replaced a vehicle in our fleet with an all-electric Chevrolet Bolt. This will help give us, and our members, a first-hand look at this vehicle technology.

We will share our travel experiences on our social media and on bgenergy.com to help interested members know if this type of transportation is right for them.

So that you can get a closer look, our Bolt will be on display at our annual meeting on June 6 at Keeneland Entertainment Barn in Lexington. I invite you to come learn more about these cars. If an EV is in your future, we want to help you make an informed decision.

Not only is our commitment to providing information to our members one of our cooperative principles, it is a fundamental part of our purpose of making life better, the cooperative way.

> By President/CEO Michael I. Williams

#### **CONTINUED FROM 38A**

#### **SAFETY IS TOP PRIORITY**

Laboring high in the air wearing heavy equipment and working directly with high voltage can create a dangerous environment. But electric lineworkers are up to the task. These dedicated workers are committed to safety, as well as the challenges of the job. At Blue Grass Energy, safety is first in everything we do.

#### **FAMILY SUPPORT SYSTEM**

To perform their jobs successfully, lineworkers depend on their years of training, experience and each other to get the job done safely. Equally important is their reliance on a strong support system at home. A lineworker's family understands and supports their loved one's commitment during severe storms and power outages.

This means in times of prolonged outages, the family and their lineworker may have minimal communication and not see each other for several days. Without strong family support and understanding, this challenging job would be all the more difficult.

#### **COMMUNITY COMMITMENT**

The purpose-focused mentality

of helping others often extends beyond their commitment to their work at the co-op. Lineworkers can often be seen volunteering in the community. They can be found coaching youth sports teams, leading Boy Scout troops and volunteering for local charities.

#### **THANK YOU**

Monday, April 8, is Lineworker Appreciation Day. We know the dedication of our lineworkers; we want to take a moment and offer them a thank you for all they do, on the job and off the job, for our communities.

# Benefits of tree trimming

learing trees and overgrown vegetation is vital to provide safe, reliable, affordable power to our members.

Areas in our service territory are maintained in order to:

- Keep power lines clear of vegetation
- Keep crews and members of our community safe
- Restore power outages more quickly
- Reduce unexpected costs for repairs

Vegetation management improves service reliability and safety for you.





# ENERGY Making life better, the cooperative way

### CHARITY PARTNER KENTUCKY WOUNDED HEROES

Kentucky Wounded Heroes will have a booth at Blue Grass Energy's Annual Meeting on June 6 at Keeneland Entertainment Barn. Visit the booth and learn more about what this organization offers our communities.

Find more information and a list of all upcoming events at kentuckywoundedheroes.net or call (502) 235-4262.

Each year, Blue Grass Energy chooses a charity to work with for the year. We partner with a local nonprofit organization that benefits the communities in which we live and serve. Our fundraising efforts for the entire year go to that cause. This year, we are partnering with the Kentucky Wounded Heroes.



## **Making a difference**



ur employees get creative each year with ways to raise money for our annual charity. In 2018, we raised a record \$21,236.34. We sold T-shirts, candy bars and door hangers. We had blue jean days, a chili cook-off, ice cream social and luncheons. We also hosted our annual silent auction at the annual meeting.

Many had a part in making this donation possible. Thanks to each of you for helping us help others.



## Our offices will be closed Friday, April 19, for Good Friday.