

Powerline Press

NEWSLETTER

Photo Credit: Angela Jones



A Supplement of Oklahoma Living Published by Lake Region Electric Cooperative for its members.

MAY 2020

Member Photo Contest

Springtime is in the air, and a friendly reminder LREC has a Photo Contest! Your photo could be featured in our newsletter. Lake Region is looking for great photos of our beautiful scenery, local landscapes, interesting buildings, structures, barns, livestock, power lines, and rural life 1118800.

Please submit photos to pics@lrecok.coop. A \$50 energy credit prize will be awarded at the end of the year to the member with the best photo. Lake Region may use your photos in our newsletter, website, or social media. By submitting a photo, you are granting LREC permission to use the image. We are looking forward to seeing colorful Oklahoma through your lens.

Annual Report Online

LREC's Board of Trustees and staff members are continuing to monitor COVID-19 closely and take all reasonable actions to mitigate the impact on our local communities

We are sorry LREC was unable to host this year's Annual Meeting. We missed seeing everyone that attends. We know that shutting our doors and restricting access to our employees can be frustrating. Our number one priority is to keep employees and members safe. We will post our 2019 Annual Report and financial audit on our website for members to view next month:
www.lrecok.coop/annual-reports

Pay your bill:

Access your account 24/7/365 online: www.lrecok.coop or the SmartHub app.

For more info on our SmartHub app, give us a call or visit our website, <https://www.lrecok.coop/smarthub>

Call our offices and use a secure phone payment system.
918-772-2526 or 800-364-LREC

Drop your payment off at our drop box or drive-thru window,
516 S Lake Region Road Hulbert OK 74441.

Report an electric outage or Internet service issue:

For electric service issue or to report an outage, call LREC at 918-772-2526.

To report an internet, TV, phone service issue, or to get help with tech support, call LRTC at 918-772-2526.

Ask general questions:

Call us 918-772-2526, visit our websites: www.lrecok.coop or www.lrecok.net
Email us: www.lrecok.coop/contact-us

Retirement Wishes for Freda Purtle



Left to right, daughter Tara and Freda

Freda Purtle followed in her father's foot steps, when she took her job at LREC, and this past March, she recently retired. While Freda's dad, Fred Gulager, also retired from LREC with 30 years of service as a line foreman.

Freda began her career with LREC as a receptionist/cashier at the Hulbert main office, then worked in the Tahlequah office location for eight months. She also held the position of HR/Benefits Specialist before moving to the Executive Administrative Assistant.

"Freda always had a great attitude. I never saw her complain about anything. She was a great help to me by organizing my daily activities. I will miss not having her around the office, but I know that she was looking

forward to her retirement and I wish her the greatest retirement," said Hamid Vahdatipour, CEO.

"LREC was the most excellent place to work. We are all family; I truly, believe we all love one another at LREC. One thing I will also remember is standing at the drive-thru window, and three deer strolled past the window. I was a new employee and ecstatic, a corporate job in a rural, small-town atmosphere. I know LREC was right for me and going to be awesome," said Freda.

Freda has been with the co-op for nearly 25 years and has seen many successful advancements. LREC purchased LRED, a water company, and she also has seen the implementation of the fiber-to-the-home subsidiary, helping the members with essential services.

"Since being at LREC, Freda has become one of my closest friends. We have worked together, laughed together, cried together, and even cruised together. If she thinks retirement is a way to get rid of me, she is wrong, and we have many more places to visit and memories to make," said Juanita Keener, LREC co-worker. "I wish her the best in retirement and will miss seeing her around the office."

Freda plans to have more time to enjoy her grandkids and Poppy, her Boston Terrier. Freda mentioned she is also going to enjoy doing nothing at all. Freda loves to work in her yard and be outside. That was one challenge while working at LREC; she had to stay inside at her desk. Now retired, Freda will enjoy more beautiful days outdoors.

Dry multiple loads in a row for maximum efficiency



Staying at Home, Save at Home Save on dryer energy costs with this simple trick.

Speed up the chore of doing laundry and save energy in the process. Drying multiple loads [2874801](#) back-to-back gives you a jump-start on every load by putting the heat remaining in the dryer to good use. The leftover heat minimizes the time it takes your dryer to heat up and how long you'll have to run it, so your machine becomes less of a drain on your household energy use.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO

in an auto accident with power lines?



**If the car you are in hits a utility pole,
your vehicle and the surrounding area
can become energized!**

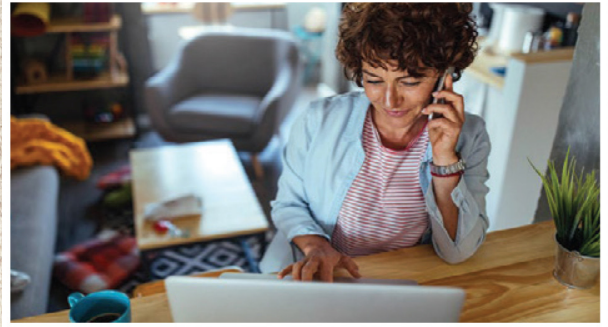
**Even if you do not touch the lines or equipment,
you can still be killed or seriously injured.**

1. Do NOT leave the car, and warn others to stay away.
2. Call 911 to have LREC notified.
3. Wait until a utility professional has told you it is safe.

The only reason to exit the car is if it's on fire.

**If the car is on fire, jump clear of the vehicle
with feet together and without touching the
car and the ground at the same time.**

**Continue to HOP AWAY with your feet together as far
as you can. Don't walk, hop away.**



SCAMMERS ARE OUT THERE

We all know scammers are out there; playing the odds that someone will fall for one of their tricks. As they become more sophisticated, consumers must become more skilled at identifying and avoiding their traps.

Is it a scam?

Scammers often try to engage you by appearing to be a person or an organization you trust. Here's how you can avoid being scammed.

Be suspicious of emails or texts on your cell phone that don't include a logo or legitimate contact info and examine the URL where the message is coming from. If you are not sure whether the contact info provided is correct, call the company.

Don't send money or give out personal info (SSN, bank info, etc.) in response to an unexpected request - whether it comes as a text, phone call, or an email.

Be cautious before paying for anything upfront. Scammers might ask you to pay in advance for things like discounts on services. They might even say you've won a prize, but first you have to pay taxes or fees.

As your local electric, internet, TV, and phone provider, we care about your online safety. If you have any questions about messages you receive from us, please contact us at 918-772-2526 or www.lrecok.coop/contact-us.



Zoom conference call with employees.

Ordering Groceries online.

Downloading online school work.

Online Doctor visits & refill medication.

Online news and research.

HOW DO YOU CONNECT?

You Can Count on Lake Region Fiber Optic Service?

As the COVID-19 has impacted our local members and economies, we want you to know how you can count on us. We will not shut off your internet if you are unable to pay your bill, please call us regarding your account. We have the bandwidth that homebound customers need. Our network is handling the increased internet traffic and, rest assured, it is ready for more. We are using the most advanced and reliable technology and have a team of technicians dedicated to maintaining it.

Fast Internet | Simple TV | Reliable Home Phone

register.lrecok.net / 918-772-2526 / 

** Live service not available in all areas. Must pre-register for service. 24/mo contract is required for free installation. Other terms may apply.*

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Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Telephone

**800-364-LREC or
918-772-2526**

Website:

www.lrecok.coop
www.lrecok.net

Locations

Hulbert, Wagoner &
Tahlequah, OK.

Main Office Address

P.O. Box 127
Hulbert, OK 74441

Hidden Account Number

Look for your account number hidden in this issue of the *Powerline Press*. If you find your number, Lake Region Electric will credit your next bill. To claim your credit, notify LREC's Hulbert office by phone during the month of publication.

The amount increases by \$10 with each issue your prize goes unclaimed to a maximum of \$50.

Cooperative bylaws are available upon request at Lake Region Electric Cooperative's office in Hulbert.

