



August 2023

BRINGING ELECTRICITY TO THE NAVAJO NATION

During the first week of May, Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative linemen Jarret Brow and Alex Lutz traveled to the Chinle District in Arizona on the Navajo Nation to take part in the Light Up Navajo IV Project to bring electricity to members of the Navajo Nation.

For Brow, the fact that some people in America don't have power helped draw him to volunteering for the project.

"It's something to go to another country and help them, but in America you'd think everyone should have power if they want it," Brow said. "So, waiting 30-some years or longer to get it, that's something that's unheard of in America. To do it in America kind of means more to me than elsewhere."

Lutz said he volunteered for the experience.

"And to bring power to people who have never had it, that's something that you don't get to see very often, especially to build brand new power lines is very uncommon as well," Lutz said.

Brow and Lutz were part of a pole setting crew while working on the project. This included setting poles and helping put wires on the poles.



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POWER IN YOUR HANDS

From time to time we get asked what makes electric co-ops different than other types of utilities. We'd like to share our answer to that question.

Because we're a co-op, we operate a little differently than other utilities. Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative's decisions are made locally, by directors who also live right here in our community. Everyone



who pays to receive electricity from the co-op is a member. When you pay your electric bill each month, your money stays here – to pay for the electricity used, or to make improvements to our local system to strengthen service reliability. The money you pay the co-op doesn't line the pockets of shareholders five states away. We're a co-op, and we exist to provide a service to you, our local members.

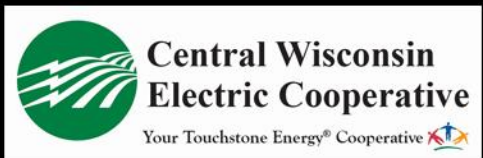
You may notice that throughout the year, we schedule opportunities for you to attend co-op events, like our annual meeting each April or our Member Appreciation Breakfast each October, so we can hear from you. We will on occasion conduct a survey to gather your feedback on co-op programs and services so that we can plan and adjust for the future.

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We're Proud to Power
**FRIDAY
NIGHT
LIGHTS**

To all the players, coaches and supporting staff, we wish you a great and safe 2023 football season. We're rooting for you.



2023 MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST

Cooperative is holding our annual photo contest for members’ photos to be featured in our 2024 calendar. Winning photos may be used in future newsletters or cooperative publications.

- Photos must be taken within the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative service area.
- Photos should capture life in rural Wisconsin (seasons, wildlife, landscape, people, etc.)
- Photos must have a horizontal (landscape) orientation.
- Photos can be in color or black and white.
- Contest will run until August 25, 2023; however, submitted photos can be taken during anytime of the year.



INFORMATION ON HOW TO ENTER

USE CAUTION WHEN USING BACK-UP GENERATORS

During long-term power outages, many rely on portable generators for emergency power. The growing popularity of portable electric generators has resulted in millions being placed in homes and small businesses across the nation. But it’s estimated only a small percentage are hooked up correctly. It is important that consumers understand the proper safety steps that must be taken.



If installed and operated correctly, use of standby or portable electric generators poses little danger. Improper installation or use could be dangerous to you and threaten the lives of your family, friends, neighbors and electric utility crews trying to restore service.

Prior to purchasing a portable electric generator, you should consult and discuss the purchase options with a reliable vendor, your electric supplier and contractors. These experts will know existing safety codes and the utility’s safety requirements, and can help you select the best equipment for your needs and situation.

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WILLOW SPRINGS SELLS PRODUCTS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

Dan Higgins said that he always had the drive to be his own boss and not punch a timeclock. That was part of the ambition for him and his wife, Karen, to purchase a piece of property in Wittenberg, along State Highway 45, in 1993. Prior to that, they both lived in Davenport, Iowa and looked all over the country for the right piece of property for them to eventually start a business on.



“We always liked the rolling hills and the trees and everything in Wisconsin,” Dan Higgins said. “We looked at property in the Wild Rose area, Green Bay area, and kept on telling the realtors, it’s not quite what we’re looking for. We knew having good highway access was important. And we wanted to get some land.”

Higgins acknowledged that back in 1993 they extended themselves in order to purchase the Wittenberg property, but everything “worked out great” over the next 30 years.

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Thinking about
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Community
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