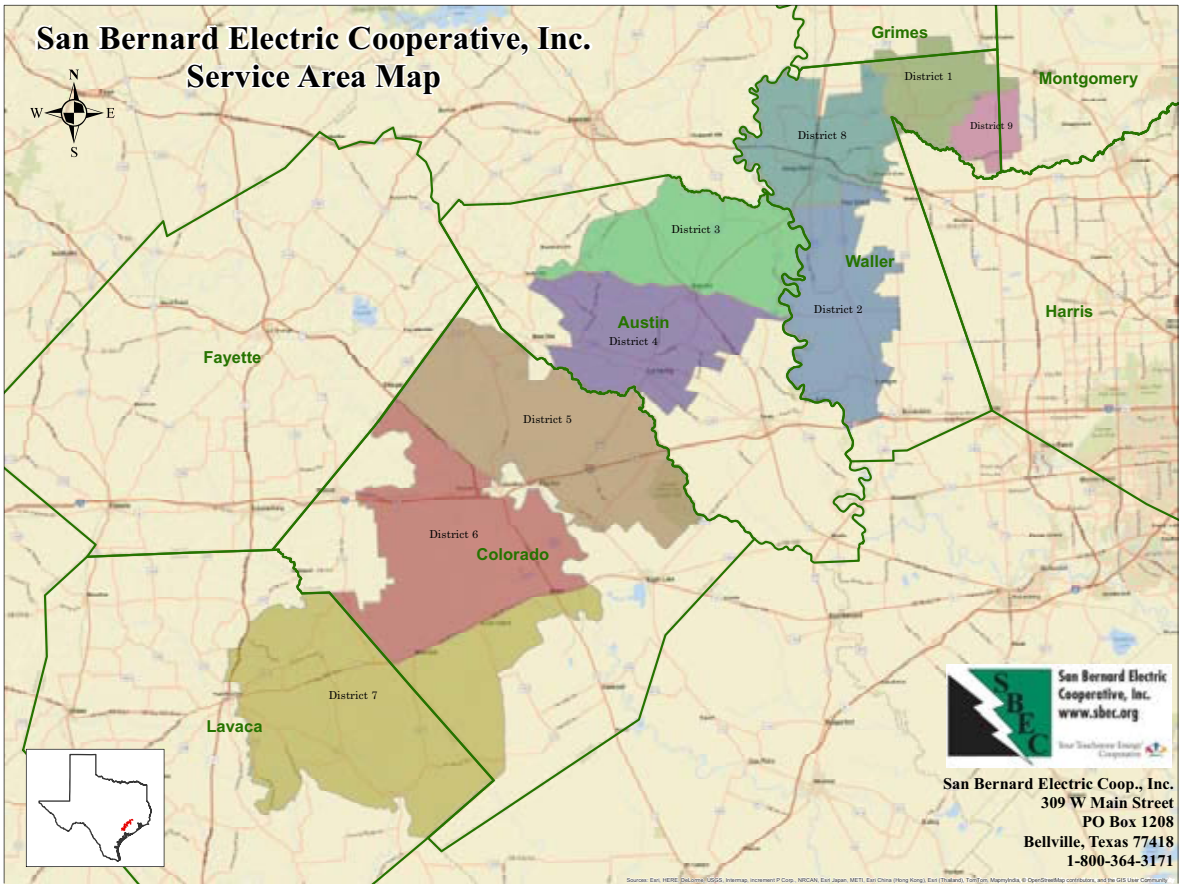
SAN BERNARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

78TH ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 19, 2018

Austin County Expo Center, Bellville



BRING THIS REGISTRATION CARD AND PRIZE TICKET WITH YOU.

SAN BERNARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

78TH ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, May 19, 2018 • Austin County Expo Center, Bellville

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. • Door prizes and election of directors

BRING THIS CARD WITH YOU TO THE MEETING—IT'S YOUR PRIZE TICKET!

OFFICIAL NOTICE
OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

San Bernard Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Bellville

To All Members:

Pursuant to the bylaws of San Bernard Electric Cooperative, the annual membership meeting will be held at the Austin County Fair and Expo Center, 159 E., Bellville, Texas, on Saturday, May 19, 2018, to take action on the following:

1. Reports of directors, officers and committees.
2. Election of three directors. In connection with the election of directors scheduled for this meeting, the following named members have been nominated by a committee on nominations appointed by the SBEC Board of Directors, pursuant to the bylaws:

   BOARD DISTRICT 3
   Bruce Pilcik
   3003 Pilcik Road, Industry 78944

   BOARD DISTRICT 5
   Sammy Condra
   2824 FM 949 N., Cat Spring 78933

   BOARD DISTRICT 7
   Charles Matula
   240 CR 129, Hallettsville 77969
3. Hear comments and questions.

Every member is urged to attend the annual membership meeting.

Respectfully,

CHARLES MATULA
Secretary-Treasurer
San Bernard Electric Cooperative
Dated this 21st Day of March 2018

ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Saturday, May 19, 2018 • Austin County Expo Center, Bellville

REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS . . . 8:30 a.m.
Registration closes at 10 a.m.

BUSINESS MEETING . . . . . 10 a.m.
Call to Order
Invocation
Reading of Notice of Meeting
Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Reports of Officers
Questions and Answers
Drawing for Attendance Prizes

BARBECUE MEAL . . . . . 11:30 a.m.
One free ticket per member; additional tickets may be purchased.

SEE PAGES 20–21 INSIDE FOR MORE ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION.

2018 NOMINEES FOR SBEC DIRECTORS

BOARD DISTRICT 3

BRUCE PILCIK has lived in the Industry community his entire life. He is a retired building contractor and rancher. Upon graduation from Bellville High School, he continued his education at Blinn College and received a Bachelor of Science in animal science from Sam Houston State University. He is a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. Pilcik serves on the San Bernard Electric Cooperative Board of Directors and would like to continue to represent the members of District 3. His main objective is to provide the most reliable services at the most reasonable prices to SBEC members.

BOARD DISTRICT 5

SAMMY CONDRA has been a resident of Bernardo for 33 years. He is the owner of Condra Communications in Columbus. Condra graduated from the Institute of Electronic Science at Texas A&M University in 1978. He worked in the utility business both before and after graduation and brings this lifelong experience to the board of directors. Condra is a member of St. Roch Catholic Church, the Bernardo VFD and St. Roch Knights of Columbus Council.

BOARD DISTRICT 7

CHARLES F. MATULA is a Hallettsville native and has been a San Bernard director for the past 20 years. After graduating from Sacred Heart Catholic High School, he continued his education at Texas A&I University (now Texas A&M University) where he received a Bachelor of Science degree. Following graduation, Matula entered the oil and gas industry, where he worked for the past 40 years. Matula is an active member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Hallettsville, volunteering his time for the past 35 years as a cook for church picnics. He is also a member of the church council, an usher and volunteer high school football coach. He will utilize his experience to deliver reliable, affordable and safe electrical service in today's ever-changing economic environment. He would like to continue to serve as a director of SBEC in order to help maintain the co-op's consistent and reliable system that provides stability for its members.

AT THE 78TH ANNUAL MEETING, BE SURE TO STOP BY THESE BOOTHS:

- **Member Service:** Visit with our member service representatives about programs SBEC offers to help our members reduce their energy consumption and about rebates for energy-efficient homes.

- **Engineering and Safety:** Be sure to stop by and visit Hazard Hamlet and the gang to learn more about electrical safety. While you are visiting the booth, register the kids for the safety drawing and they could win a new fishing pole, outdoor play equipment and even a bike!

We look forward to seeing our members at this year's annual meeting!

OPERATING STATEMENT

As of December 31, 2017, and December 31, 2016

	2017	2016
REVENUE		
Sales of Electric Power	$72,261,703	$67,310,912
Other Electric Revenue	7,413,768	3,697,764
TOTAL REVENUE	**$79,675,471**	**$71,008,676**
EXPENSES		
Purchased Power	$50,431,601	$42,360,317
Operations and Maintenance	9,066,734	9,008,104
Administrative and General	5,955,215	5,932,311
Depreciation	7,249,266	6,979,631
Taxes	308,566	308,871
Interest	3,739,974	3,492,125
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$76,751,356**	**$68,081,359**
MARGINS		
Operating Margins	$ 2,924,115	$ 2,927,317
Nonoperating Margins	552,203	548,696
TOTAL MARGINS	**$ 3,476,318**	**$ 3,476,013**

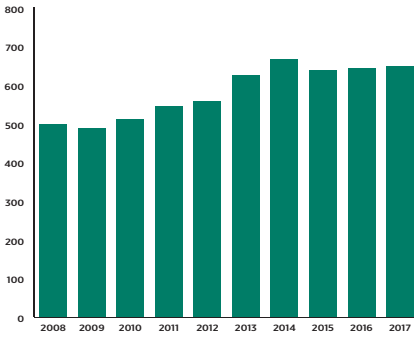
BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2017, and December 31, 2016

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Net Utility	$169,171,771	$165,724,862
Investments	4,373,937	4,511,637
Cash	1,021,925	1,215,992
Notes and Accounts Receivable	3,906,826	2,441,763
Materials and Supplies	3,667,671	3,634,439
Other Current and Accrued Assets	2,090,208	2,000,261
Deferred Charges	10,028,560	10,541,982
TOTAL ASSETS	**$194,260,898**	**$190,070,936**
EQUITY		
Memberships	$ 61,615	$ 63,975
Patronage Capital and Margins	84,058,844	80,673,124
TOTAL EQUITY	**$ 84,120,459**	**$ 80,737,099**
LIABILITIES		
Long-Term Debt	$ 97,921,245	$ 95,071,530
Accounts Payable	5,802,732	6,539,650
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities	4,601,327	5,914,990
Deferred Credits	1,815,135	1,807,667
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**$110,140,439**	**$109,333,837**
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	**$194,260,898**	**$190,070,936**

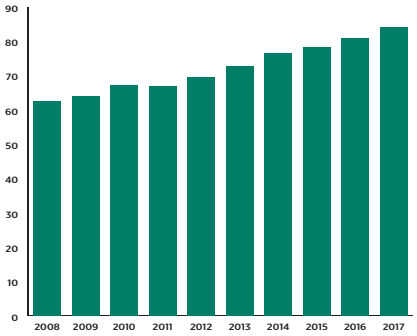
KWH SALES

(Millions, Past 10 Years)



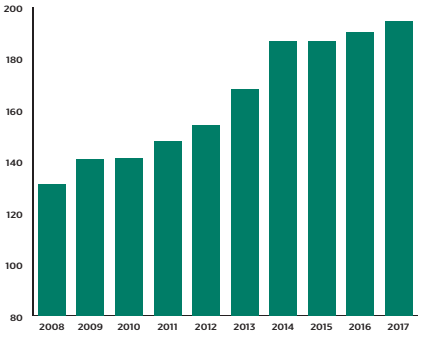
EQUITY

(Millions of Dollars, Past 10 Years)



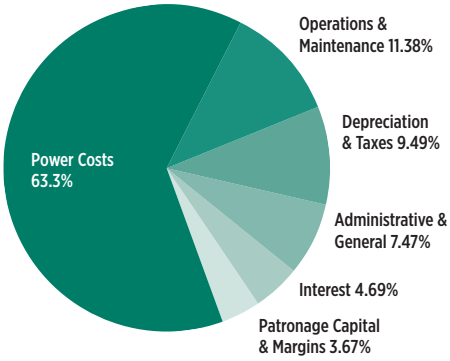
ASSETS

(Millions of Dollars, Past 10 Years)



USES OF REVENUE

2017 Revenue Allocation



ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Austin County Expo Center
Highway 159 E., Bellville 77418

Registration of Members 8:30 a.m.
(Registration closes at 10 a.m.)

Business Meeting 10 a.m.

Barbecue Meal to follow

We look forward to seeing you at the SBEC Annual Membership Meeting.

Annual Membership Meeting May 19

THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING IS SET FOR SATURDAY, MAY 19, at the Austin County Fair Expo Center in Bellville. This issue of *Texas Co-op Power* has a special dust cover that will serve as your registration card and door prize ticket. We used the same card registration last year, and it helped alleviate long registration lines. Please take a moment to separate the card located at the bottom of the front cover.

Or, if you are not sure, just bring the whole magazine to the annual meeting. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to call any of our offices. Our customer service representatives are always happy to help you!

Summary of SBEC Bylaws

Pertaining to membership, annual meeting, board representation, nominations and election procedures

MEMBERSHIP: ANY NATURAL PERSON, FIRM, ASSOCIATION, COR-poration, business trust, partnership, Federal agency, State or political subdivision thereof, or any body politic (each hereinafter referred to as person or applicant) shall be eligible to become a member of and at one or more premises owned or directly occupied or used by the member, to receive electric service from San Bernard Electric Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter called the Cooperative). No person shall hold more than one membership in the Cooperative.

Annual Meeting: For the purposes of electing directors, hearing and passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year, and transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting, the annual meeting of the members shall be held on the third Saturday of the month of May each year, at such place in one of the counties in Texas within which the Cooperative serves, and beginning at such hour, as the Board of Directors shall from year to year fix ... Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting or an annual meeting at which business requiring special notice is to be transacted, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail, by or at the direction of the Secretary, or upon a default in duty by the Secretary ... If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at the member's address as it appears on the records of the Cooperative ... At all meetings of the members, all questions shall be decided by a majority of the members voting thereon, except as otherwise provided by law or by the Cooperative's Articles of Incorporation or these By-laws. Members may not cumulate their votes.

Directors: The business and affairs of the Cooperative shall be managed by a Board of nine (9) Directors. The Board shall exercise all of the powers of the Cooperative except such as are by law or by the Cooperative's Articles of Incorporation or By-laws conferred upon or reserved to the members. No person shall be eligible to become or remain a director of the Cooperative who is a close relative of an incumbent director or of an employee of the Cooperative, or is not a member in good standing of the Cooperative and receiving service therefrom in the district that he/she is elected to represent. No person shall be eligible to become or remain a director of, or to hold any other position of trust in, the Cooperative who is not at least twenty-one (21) years of age or is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise, or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to, among others, the members of the Cooperative. At each annual meeting of the members, directors shall be elected by secret written ballot by the members.

SAVE THE DATE!

SBEC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Nominations: It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint not less than eighty (80) days, nor more than one-hundred thirty (130) days before the date of an annual meeting of the members, a committee of nominations for each district from which a director is to be elected consisting of three members and two alternates, all of whom shall be members in good standing of the Cooperative and shall reside within the district.

Each committee shall nominate at least one but not more than two members from their respective districts and shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least thirty (30) days before the meeting a list of nominations for each directorship up for election. Any fifty or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition not less than thirty (30) days prior to the me eting and the Secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. Any member making a nomination by petition shall be a member in good standing of the Cooperative and shall reside within the district for which the nomination is made. Each member shall mark the ballot and deposit same for counting by the credentials and election commit tee. The candidate from each district from which a director is to be elected receiving the majority of votes of those members at this meeting who cast ballots shall be declared elected as director. The credentials and election committee shall report the results thereof before the meeting adjourns.

Complete copies of the cooperative's bylaws are available from the headquarters upon request.

CALENDAR: TAPHOUSE_STUDIOS | © ISTOCK.COM

Kneblik Retires from SBEC

ON APRIL 30, JIMMY KNEBLIK RETIRED AFTER DEDICATING 10 years to working for the members of San Bernard Electric Cooperative.

When Kneblik joined the SBEC team in 2008, he was classified as a general helper and is happily retiring as an equipment operator for our Columbus office.

"I mainly ran the front end of the digger truck in this area," Kneblik explained. "I hauled the poles, dug the holes and set the poles for the crews."

Kneblik is about as humble as they come and wanted to acknowledge the great group that he works with. He appreciates the camaraderie of the Columbus and Hallettsville offices and his time at SBEC. He will always have a special place in his heart for his SBEC family.

When asked about what advice he would give his co-workers or new SBEC employees, Kneblik said, "It is a great place to work with good benefits. Maybe at first your pay isn't what you will want, but be patient and it will get there."

Kneblik is ready to stop keeping a schedule and enjoy retirement, working around the house and spending time with his wife, Kathy, their children and their seven grandsons. He is also excited to spend time restoring his 1967 Ford Mustang.

SBEC Educates Third-Graders on Electrical Safety

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION IS ONE OF THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCI-ples, and San Bernard Electric Cooperative is proud to have shared electrical safety practices on Progressive Agriculture Safety Day, hosted March 8 by the Texas AgriLife Extension of Austin County at the Austin County Expo Center. SBEC spoke to Austin County third-graders about electrical safety in and around the home and the proper way to exit a motor vehicle if it comes in contact with an electric pole. Greg Adams, SBEC member services energy advisor, was on hand to address students' questions and concerns.

If you are interested in a safety presentation for your organization, please contact Member Services at 1-800-364-3171 or email John Spiess at jpiess@sbec.org.

San Bernard Electric Cooperative

PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER
Billy Marricle

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Bruce Pilcik, 1st Vice Chairman, *District 3*
Karl N. Micklitz, 2nd Vice Chairman, *District 2*
Sammy Condra, 3rd Vice Chairman, *District 5*
Charles Matula, Secretary-Treasurer, *District 7*
Lori Walker, *District 1*
Norman Kiecke, *District 4*
Vance Elliot, *District 6*
Colt Haack, *District 8*
John Allen, *District 9*

Contact Us

HEADQUARTERS—BELLVILLE
(979) 865-3171
1-800-364-3171
309 W. Main St. • P.O. Box 1208
Bellville 77418

COLUMBUS SERVICE CENTER
(979) 732-8346
4285 Highway 71 S. • P.O. Box 309
Columbus 78934

FIELDSTORE SERVICE CENTER
(936) 372-9176 or
(936) 372-9177
29244 FM 1488 • P.O. Box 1367
Magnolia 77353

HALLETTSVILLE SERVICE CENTER
(361) 798-4493
1686 U.S. Highway 90A East • P.O. Box 610
Hallettsville 77964

PAY BY PHONE
1-844-201-7199

FIND US ON THE WEB
sbec.org
facebook.com/sbecoop

Practical Pointers for Electrical Safety Month

MAY IS NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH, AND SAN BERNARD ELECTRIC COOP-erative is working to raise awareness about potential home electrical hazards and the importance of electrical safety.

Our modern lives depend on electricity, and if you don't properly maintain your electrical products, they can create hazards. The good news is that eliminating electrical hazards from your home doesn't have to be difficult or expensive.

Many homes and their electrical systems were built before most modern-day home electronics and appliances were even invented. Today's increased demand for energy can overburden an older home's electrical system. If you notice flickering or dimming lights, it may indicate your home's wiring is inadequate for your needs. Have it checked by an electrician.

San Bernard EC offers the following tips to help identify and eliminate electrical hazards to protect yourself, your family and your home:

- Make sure televisions, game systems and computer equipment have plenty of space around them for ventilation.
- Use extension cords as temporary solutions only.
- Do not place extension cords in high-traffic areas or under carpets.
- Use a surge protector to help protect your computer, televisions and other electronic equipment from damage caused by voltage changes.
- Heavy reliance on power strips is an indication that you have too few outlets for your needs. Have additional outlets installed by a licensed electrician.
- Keep liquids away from electrical items such as televisions and computers.
- Recurring tripped circuit breakers or multiple blown fuses can signify a serious and dangerous electrical problem. Contact a licensed electrician immediately.

JUANMONINO | ISTOCK.COM

Mark Your Calendar for Savings

NEED A NEW, MORE ENERGY-EFFICIENT dishwasher or refrigerator? If you time it right, you can enjoy a tax-free purchase on qualifying appliances soon. The statewide Energy Star Sales Tax Holiday takes place Memorial Day weekend. This year, it begins Saturday, May 26, at 12:01 a.m. and concludes Monday, May 28, at 11:59 p.m.

Eligible tax-free appliances include:

- Air conditioners (models priced at $6,000 or less)
- Refrigerators (models priced at $2,000 or less)
- Ceiling fans
- Incandescent and fluorescent lightbulbs
- Clothes washers
- Dishwashers
- Dehumidifiers
- Programmable thermostats

Keep in mind that appliances purchased for just a few dollars over the allowable amounts will be fully taxed. For example, a refrigerator that costs $2,050 will be taxed on the entire purchase price, not just the $50 in excess of the limit. Similarly, if an item's sale price is within the price cap but an additional delivery fee pushes it over the limit, the entire purchase is taxable.

Start researching now so you can take advantage of savings on items that will likely lower your energy bills.

FRIDAY
5 P.M.
TO
11 P.M.

May 18-19
2018

MAGNOLIA DAYS
Festival

Big time fun in small town Texas!

SATURDAY
12 P.M.
TO
12 A.M.

Courthouse Square • Columbus, TX

LIVE MUSIC • HISTORIC HOMES TOURS
HORSE & CARRIAGE RIDES
STREET VENDORS • BEER & WINE

FAMILY FUN & KIDS ACTIVITIES: Petting Zoo • Camel Rides
Trackless Train • Games & More

SPONSORED BY

Double G Ranch
Schneider Hall
Pipers Creek Vineyard
Kathleen Wick Insurance Services
DRYMALLA Construction Company
Columbus Historical Preservation Trust

Photo courtesy of The Colorado County Citizen

WWW.MAGNOLIADAYS.ORG

WHAT TO DO: IF YOUR CAR CRASHES INTO A UTILITY POLE

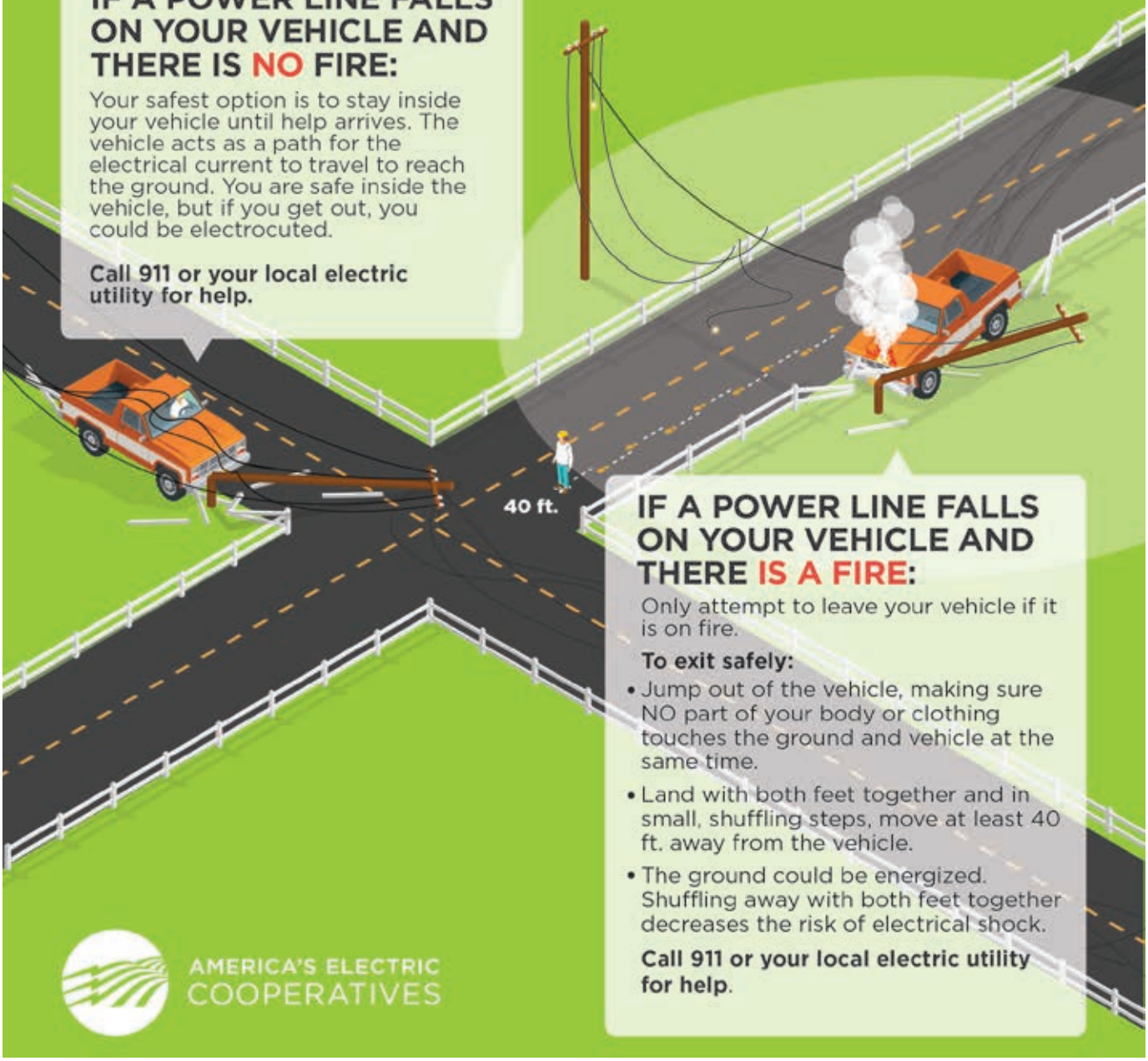
Accidents happen. Would you know what to do if your car crashed into an electric utility pole? Knowing what to do could be the difference between life and death.

Always consider power lines and other electrical equipment to be live and dangerous!

IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS NO FIRE:

Your safest option is to stay inside your vehicle until help arrives. The vehicle acts as a path for the electrical current to travel to reach the ground. You are safe inside the vehicle, but if you get out, you could be electrocuted.

Call 911 or your local electric utility for help.



IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS A FIRE:

Only attempt to leave your vehicle if it is on fire.

To exit safely:

- Jump out of the vehicle, making sure NO part of your body or clothing touches the ground and vehicle at the same time.
- Land with both feet together and in small, shuffling steps, move at least 40 ft. away from the vehicle.
- The ground could be energized. Shuffling away with both feet together decreases the risk of electrical shock.

Call 911 or your local electric utility for help.

AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

TRADING POST

FOR SALE

NEW STEEL-TOE WORK BOOTS—In box, style 5606, Red Wing, 13WW, $65. Call (979) 877-7257.

FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES—Queen-size bed, $75; Amana chest freezer 24"x30"; Whirlpool washer, $50; Kenmore portable dishwasher, $50; tan upholstered chair, $25. All stored in Bellville. Call (979) 357-2041.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE—Drop-leaf table, 38"x54" with turned legs; dresser, 19"x 39", 3 drawers, glass knobs, $160. Call (281) 851-6174.

TIRES—Three Goodyear Marathon ST225/75 R15 Load range D, great for a hay trailer, 5 years old, about 10,000 miles on them, lots of tread left. $30 for all three. In downtown Weimar. Call (979) 725-8007.

ELECTRIC WINCH—3-ton pulling power, $50. Call (281) 658-8896.

MASTER PORTABLE GENERATOR—MGH10000c portable generator, 10,000 watts, powered by 20-hp Honda, 17 hours on unit, $1,200. Call (979) 484-9250.

NEW GOLF CART ENCLOSURE—For 2-passenger golf cart, beige, 72x41x54-in., $50. Call (979) 865-8820.

UTILITY TRAILER—20-ft. long with 4-ft.-high sides and 14,000-pound axles, $3,150. Call (281) 658-8896.

TRAVEL TRAILER—2011 Wildcat, 28-ft. 5th wheel, 2 slides, awning, queen bed, rear kitchen, new A/C, housed, only one trip, $19,000. Call (361) 573-2062.

VARIOUS—Houston-Lamar High School 1971 yearbook "Orenda," $35; bookcase with two shelves and enclosed bottom, 28 in.x6 ft.x 12 in. deep, $40; Metal desk 3 ft.x5 ft., $30. Call (979) 877-7257.

VARIOUS—2008 Ford F-250 crew cab, gasoline, automatic, 245,000 miles, great farm or work truck, new tires and new battery, $5,995; Santa Marsala 3-row diatonic accordion in keys of G/C/F, $200; Weltmeister single row diatonic Cajun-style accordion in key of D, $495. Call (281) 723-1859.

VEHICLE—Land Pride 4x4 utility vehicle, 200 hp Honda engine, 530 hours, has electric dump, $3,500, Columbus area. Call (713) 882-6930.

HOMES FOR SALE IN PATTISON AREA—Lomax Road. First home is a 3BR/2BA with garage on ½ acre, 1,200 sq. ft., plus bonus 520 sq. ft. storage/apartment, $149,000. Second home is also on ½ acre, 2.5BR/1BA, 917 sq. ft, $139,000. Available to view on weekends. Will sell together. Call (281) 902-8869 for more information.

OLD BOLEN TRACTOR—Has not run in years, may be good for parts or may run again. It comes with 3 implements. $400 OBO. Call (281) 682-1009.

1994 GMC SIERRA—Runs good, will trade for 3-point auger OBO. Call (361) 676-1079.

SUV—2010 Subaru Forester X Limited, 151,111 miles, all power, one owner, no smoke, no pets. Call (979) 530-7975.

SOLID OAK TABLE AND FOUR CHAIRS—two captain and two plain. Asking $200. Lavaca County. Call (361) 798-3134.

WANTED

LOOKING FOR A SMALL DONKEY OR BURRO—Call Gene/Betty at (210) 846-5676 or (979) 484-1875.

OLD HOUSE/BARN WOOD—Willing to take down. Please call (979) 255-6960.

DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME—In good condition. Weimar/Columbus area. Call (979) 733-8474.

OLD/ANTIQUE GAS PUMPS—Please call Richard at (979) 865-3098.

LOOKING TO PURCHASE 100+ ACRES—In Colorado County area. Property can be in any condition.

OLD/ANTIQUE CARS, TRUCKS, CAMPERS—Any condition. Send photos to (713) 899-0999.

USED CATTLE PANELS OR USED CORRAL PANELS—Call (979) 877-7257.

TRADE—5-month Blue India peahen for another Blue India peahen 3 years or younger. Call or text (281) 389-5407.

SERVICES

FREE WILD HOG REMOVAL—Use dogs, well experienced, willing to travel. Call (832) 715-1130.

FREE

¾-INCH POLY IRRIGATION HOSES—Call (281) 658-8896.

ADVERTISE IN THE TRADING POST

SBEC members are invited to submit ads for the Trading Post to P.O. Box 1208, Bellville, TX 77418 or lsamford@sbec.org. **However, no commercial business ads will be accepted.** Ads are placed on a first-come, first-served basis, and we reserve the right to refuse any ad. Please submit your ad by the **20th** of each month. (If you submit an ad by May 20, it will appear in the July issue). Your ad will be published in two consecutive issues, then deleted. If you want the ad to run another two months, you must resubmit the ad. **The ad will not exceed four consecutive months.**

HEADER: HEMERA | THINKSTOCK