



MESSAGE FROM THE COOPERATIVE

Lineworkers are ready when it matters most

As President/CEO Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, I have the unique privilege of seeing firsthand what it truly takes to keep the lights on for our members. In April, we take time to pause and recognize the 18 individuals at HWEC who make that possible every single day — our lineworkers.

When storms affect our communities and outages occur, many people experience inconvenience, but our lineworkers see a call to action. Our crews are always ready when it matters most — leaving family dinners, working through the night, and heading into challenging conditions to restore power safely and quickly as possible. That readiness is not accidental. It comes from rigorous training, deep experience, and a shared commitment to serving others.

What makes cooperative lineworkers especially remarkable is that they aren't just restoring power to a system — they're restoring power to their own communities. They live here. They raise their families here. They understand that electricity is more than a convenience; it's essential to daily life, to local businesses, to schools, farms, and emergency services. Powering the places we call home is personal to our lineworkers.

Electric cooperatives like Holmes-Wayne were built on the principal of neighbors helping neighbors, and our lineworkers embody that spirit every day. They are the first to respond and the last to leave, often working long hours behind the scenes. At times, serving our neighbors means going beyond our own service territory through a process known as mutual aid. During major outage events, HWEC crews stand ready to assist neighboring co-ops — sometimes close to home, and sometimes across state lines — to help restore power. This spirit of mutual aid strengthens all cooperatives and ultimately benefits the members we serve.

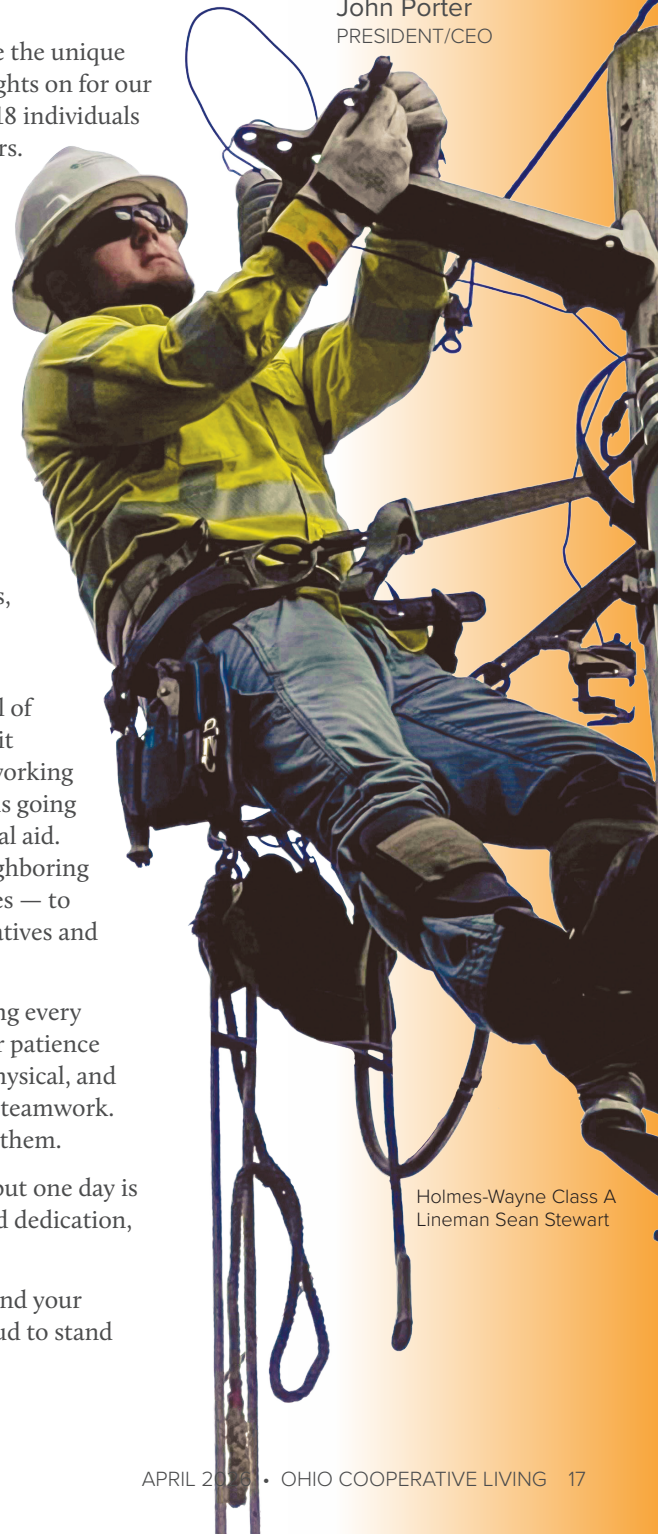
We understand any time the lights go out can be frustrating, bringing every day life to a halt. We are incredibly grateful to our members for your patience and encouragement during these times. Line work is demanding, physical, and dangerous. Our crews approach each job with a focus on safety and teamwork. They take pride in their craft and in the trust our members place in them.

On April 13, 2026, we will celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day, but one day is hardly enough. Every day, we thank lineworkers for their service and dedication, which are the backbone of our cooperative.

To our lineworkers, thank you for your hard work, your readiness, and your unwavering commitment to the communities we serve. We are proud to stand behind you and grateful for all that you do.



John Porter
PRESIDENT/CEO



Holmes-Wayne Class A
Lineman Sean Stewart



Cardinal Plant to receive part of \$175 million grant supporting coal-fired generation

The U.S. Department of Energy has selected Buckeye Power's coal-fired Cardinal Power Plant as one of six national projects to receive a share of \$175 million in federal funding. Buckeye Power Inc. is the electricity generation and transmission cooperative owned by Ohio's 24 electric distribution cooperatives, including Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative.

Kyger Creek Station, which is part of the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation and partially owned by Buckeye Power, was also named as a recipient.

The DOE grant was established to modernize, retrofit, and extend the operational life of coal-fired power plants serving rural communities while also supporting grid reliability and energy affordability.

Buckeye submitted \$35 million in projects and could receive up to that amount, though it has not yet been notified how much of the \$175 million it will receive. The funds will be directed toward critical upgrades for Cardinal Plant's Units 1 and 2.

The \$175-million initiative is part of a broader federal strategy to strengthen the national electric grid by keeping reliable, existing, and efficient coal-fired generation plants online.

"We are grateful to be selected and excited for the opportunity to use these funds on projects that will make Cardinal station even more efficient," says Craig Grooms, president and CEO of Buckeye Power and Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, the statewide organization for electric co-ops. "Coal-fired power generation has served our cooperatives in Ohio well for decades and has allowed us to keep electricity reliable and affordable for our members. Cardinal Plant is a crucial component of our diverse power generation resource mix, and we continue to believe coal plants have a critical role to play in meeting growing future demand for electricity."



Holmes-Wayne recognizes **POWER STUDENTS**

HWEC is proud to announce our Power Student winners! Education helps us shape the leaders of tomorrow. That's why Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative is recognizing students for their hard work and dedication. These students had a minimum of three A's on their most recent report card and were the lucky winners of our drawing for a \$30 gift card. For more information on how to enter your student, visit our website at <https://www.hwecoop.com/power-students-program>.



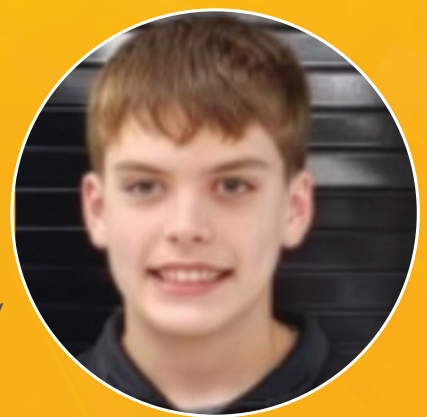
Olin Abele

Son of John & Karla Abele
8th grade, Hillsdale
Middle School



Carys Hassenzahl

Daughter of David & Kelly
(Cochrell) Hassenzahl
8th grade, Norwayne
Middle School



Nathan Steiner

Son of Jared & Beth Steiner
8th grade, Triway
Middle School



HOLMES-WAYNE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES



Effective April 30, 2026, local banking institutions will no longer be processing HWEC payments. But we do offer:

SEVEN CONVENIENT WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL WITH NO PROCESSING FEES



**Holmes-Wayne
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

CONTACT

866-674-1055 (toll-free)
www.hwecoop.com

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Millersburg, OH 44654-0112

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