



# the COOPERATOR

March 2022 | For the members of Kay Electric Cooperative  
A supplement to Oklahoma Living

## K-Up Foundation Honors Good Deeds of Kaw Lake Resident

Grant will build "Doc's Landing" emergency flight pad at Bear Creek Fire Department

The K-Up Foundation couldn't save the life of a beloved resident of the Kaw Lake area, but it will help the philanthropic legacy of Neil "Doc" Doctorman live on in his name. With a \$2,500 K-Up grant, plus donations from residents and materials donated by the Kay County Commissioner's office, the Bear Creek Rural Fire District will install a 30-foot by 30-foot helicopter landing pad and sidewalk for emergency medical transport services.

In honor of Doctorman, the pad will be named "Doc's Landing."



"Doc" Doctorman

Sadly, Doctorman experienced a ride via medical helicopter on September 5, 2021, when Air Evac Lifeteam flew him to a Wichita hospital following a serious home accident. He died shortly afterward.

Air Evac Life Team provides emergency flight services for rural residents across the state. When responding to a call for help, one of their biggest challenges is finding a safe landing spot.

In the Kaw Lake area, Fire Department Treasurer Jan Heffner said that location is the fire department's gravel parking lot.



The Bear Creek Volunteer Fire Department with a big check from the K-Up Foundation. Back row: County Commissioner Jack Godberson, Eliot Tucker, Ernie Engelking, and Tony Randol. Front row: Margaret Doctorman, Lori Overton, and Jan Heffner. PHOTO/KAYELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

As witnessed by Fire Chief Lori Overton and other volunteers responding to Doctorman's accident, the gravel surface made it difficult for EMS responders to push the gurney from the ambulance to the waiting helicopter. The experience prompted the department to take action at their next meeting. Soon efforts were underway to raise funds needed to create a concrete landing pad and sidewalk.

While Doctorman was unable to benefit from the new landing pad, he would no doubt support the fire department's decision—and he would probably want to help. At fundraisers, school events, local festivals, and more, Doctorman could always be counted on to be there to show his support,

*Cont'd next page*



## OUR MISSION

Founded in 1937, Kay Electric Cooperative remains focused on our primary mission: to provide safe, affordable and reliable power for our member-owners. Today, our service territory includes 2,400 miles of line and more than 5,800 meters located in Kay, Grant, Noble, Osage and Garfield counties.

## CONTACT US

Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
580-363-1260 | 800-535-1079  
300 W. Doolin Ave. | PO Box 607  
Blackwell, OK 74631  
[www.kayelectric.coop](http://www.kayelectric.coop)

## REPORT AN OUTAGE

Call 800-535-1079 or use Kay Electric's SmartHub at [www.kayelectric.coop](http://www.kayelectric.coop) or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Max Hohmann, President | Dist. 4  
Verl Brorsen, Vice President | Dist. 9  
Ron Shoffner, Secretary/Treasurer | Dist. 3  
Jake Olsen | Dist. 1  
Chad Otto | Dist. 2  
Mike Lebeda | Dist. 5  
Brady Hostetler | Dist. 6  
Kent McAninch | Dist. 7  
Dr. Tim Blanton | Dist. 8

Jason Boesch | General Manager/CEO

## EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

- Pay online using SmartHub at [www.kayelectric.coop](http://www.kayelectric.coop) or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.
- Pay over the phone: 800-535-1079.
- Pay in person at Kay Electric or use our 24-hour payment drop box located at 300 W. Doolin Ave. in Blackwell.
- Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account or major credit card. Sign up for auto-pay online at [www.kayelectric.coop](http://www.kayelectric.coop).

# Doc's Landing

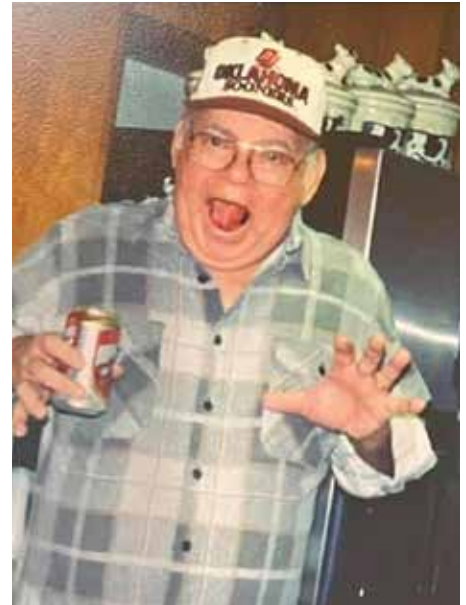
*Cont'd from page 1*

"He was a very viable volunteer in his community," Heffner said. "He would go out of his way to ensure you had what you needed for an event or whatever. He was always available to help."


In a small town, where needs are high, and tasks fall to the willing few, Doctorman's outgoing personality and selflessness will be missed, she added, but his namesake landing spot will serve as a reminder.

Heffner said the base of the pad is ready for concrete and gives special thanks to Kay County Commissioner Jack Godber-son for his assistance. The department will hold a dedication ceremony after the concrete is poured and the sign is in place. 1321500

As Heffner pointed out, it will be a fine memorial to Doc Doctorman and many other unsung heroes who give their time to improving their rural communities.



"Doc" Doctorman captured in a candid moment. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY MARGARET DOCTORMAN.

"I see Doc's Landing as a symbol of all of those who volunteer their services, like our fire department volunteers. They aren't paid, but they are responsible for saving our property. I can't say enough good things about them," Heffner said. 

■ **Air Evac Lifeteam** provides life-saving medical transport services for rural residents. For more information, please visit [www.lifeteam.net](http://www.lifeteam.net) or call 800-793-0010.

■ **The Bear Creek Rural Fire District Association** provides fire protection services to home and business owners in the Kaw Lake area. To contact them, please call 580-362-3758.



## FUNDS AVAILABLE

Could your organization use a little help? Apply for a grant. For details, please visit:

[www.kayelectric.coop/  
content/foundation](http://www.kayelectric.coop/content/foundation)

The next application deadline is **April 4**.



## Weather Watch

If March rolls in like a lion, remember to check your co-op Facebook page for weather updates.

In the event of a power outage, our online outage map at [www.kayelectric.coop](http://www.kayelectric.coop) will allow you track the restoration process across our system.



## THE VOTES ARE IN Kay Electric Named Best Place to Work

When the *Blackwell Journal Tribune* asked local residents to cast their ballots for the Best Of Kay County awards, the people responded. The result? A list of the county's most popular restaurant, hair salon, grocery store, bank, and more, all handpicked by those who use their services.

Kay Electric Cooperative is proud to be on that list twice. The co-op was voted the Best Place To Work in Kay County. Kay Electric employee Tom Gleason, was named Best Electrician.

Thank you to Kay County for making our day! 📞 1368505



Tom Gleason, Kay Electric electrician, and Jason Boesch, Kay Electric CEO, show off awards earned in the annual Best of Kay County awards program.

Save the  
**DATE**



## KAY ELECTRIC *Drive-Thru* ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, April 8

Registration 3 pm - 7 pm

Kay Electric Cooperative  
300 W. Doolin  
Blackwell

Watch for your meeting registration card in the mail. Bring your card with you and you could win one of the following grand prizes!

- John Deere Pressure Washer
- John Deere Zero Turn Mower
- John Deere Gator

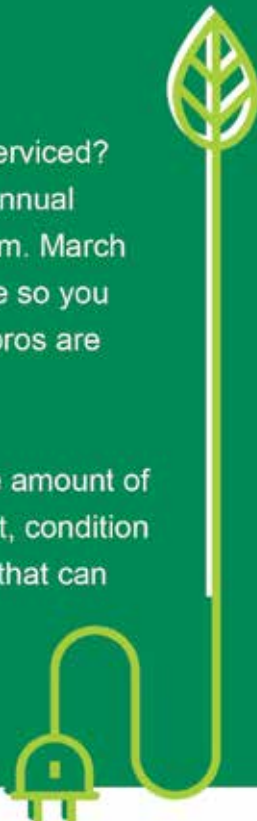


## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When was your cooling system last serviced? Most manufacturers recommend an annual tune up for your home's cooling system. March is a great time to schedule this service so you can beat the summer rush when the pros are busiest.

A qualified professional can check the amount of refrigerant, accuracy of the thermostat, condition of belts and motors and other factors that can greatly impact the efficiency of your system.

Source: Dept. of Energy



## GOOD COOKIN'



### Layered Lemon Pie

#### Ingredients

- 1 pkg (8 oz) cream cheese, softened
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 can (15 ¾ oz) lemon pie filling, divided
- 1 carton (8 oz) frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 graham cracker crust (9 inches)

#### Instructions

In a small bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth

Beat in half of the pie filling.

Fold in the whipped topping.

Spoon into crust.

Spread remaining pie filling over cream cheese layer.

Refrigerate for at least 15 minutes before serving.



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

### JAY TRIPP

MAPPING AND STAKING TECHNICIAN

Jay Tripp's career at Kay Electric began over 19 years ago. For most of that time, he worked as a journeyman lineman. Eighteen months ago, he switched tracks to become a mapping and staking technician for the co-op. What Tripp enjoys most about his job? Interacting with members.

Born and raised in Blackwell, Tripp and his wife Michelle currently live north of Braman with their sons, Colton and Cash. Tripp sites his grandfather as his greatest inspiration because "he taught me to be a good dad." Tripp enjoys snow skiing and live music in his spare time. Together, he and his wife have attended 100 concerts!



100  
LIVE CONCERTS



DREAM VACATION:  
ST. LUCIA



RAISED IN  
BLACKWELL

## \$25 is hiding in this issue!

If you spot your account number hidden in these pages, please contact Kay Electric to claim a \$25 credit on your electric bill. If no account numbers are claimed, the prize money will carry over to the next month for a maximum bill credit of \$50. Call 800-535-1079 or email [contact@kayelectric.coop](mailto:contact@kayelectric.coop) to claim your prize.

## FOLLOW US!



for community highlights, contests, outage restoration updates and more

Pay your bill, report outages, view your usage, all via SmartHub. Access SmartHub through [www.kayelectric.coop](http://www.kayelectric.coop) or download the smart-phone or tablet app.

