

Little Lineworkers

In honor of the 15th annual Lineman's Gaff-n-Go Rodeo, we salute our linemen. You're invited to the rodeo May 19-20 at Meadow Event Park (the state fairgrounds) in Caroline County. Visit www.gaff-n-go.com for details.

WATTS UP, WILLIE? ▶

This might come as a shock, but Ellie, 9, knows who Willie Wiredhand is. Willie has been the official mascot of electric cooperatives for the last 67 years.

Photo submitted by father Mark DeChristopher, a Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative employee.



MULTI-MEGAWATT

SMILE ▶ Barb and Alan Jacobs, members of Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, are rendered powerless when their 22-month-old granddaughter, Elianna, flashes her multi-megawatt smile.



A LINEMAN'S LITTLE LAD ▶ When the lights go out, so does 5-year-old Layne's father, a Community Electric Cooperative lineman. "Layne has been attending the Gaff-n-Go Lineman's Rodeo for the last three years," writes father, Jonathan Powell.



BRIGHT-EYED BROTHERS ▶ The smiles of these handsome brothers — Holt, 3, and Gage, 4 — are certain to brighten up anyone's day ... especially their father, who is a Northern Neck Electric Cooperative lineman. Photo submitted by Derek and Gwen Pierson.



SAFETY IN STYLE ▶ When it comes to safety, these two kids — Kayla, 2, and Blake, 5 — know watts watt as they show off their favorite hard hats. Photo submitted by father Jonathan Cromer, who works for Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative.



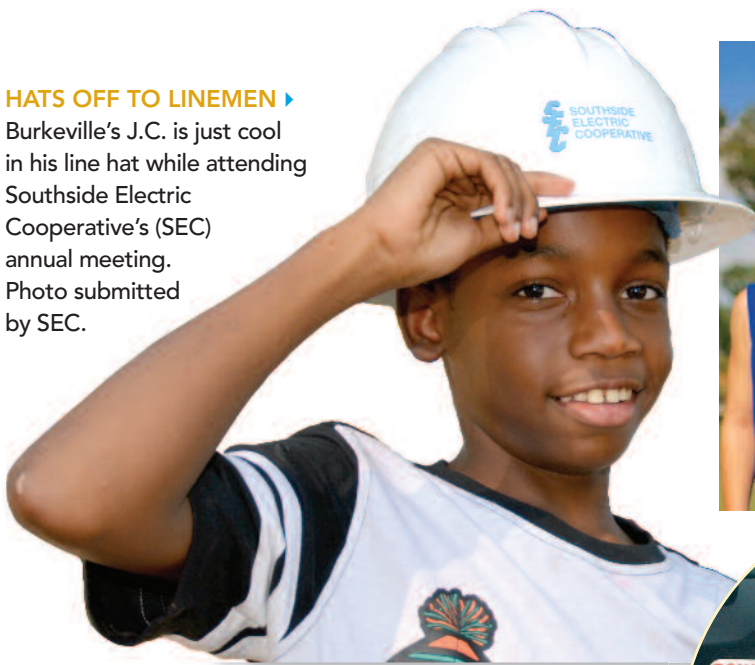
HARD HAT HAPPINESS ▶ Shiann Chaplan, 6, poses with her BARC Electric Cooperative hard hat. Photo submitted by BARC.



CHOPTANK CHICK ▶ This little lady had a great time at the county fair while wearing her Choptank Electric Cooperative hard hat. Photo submitted by Choptank Electric Cooperative.

HATS OFF TO LINEMEN ▶

Burkeville's J.C. is just cool in his line hat while attending Southside Electric Cooperative's (SEC) annual meeting. Photo submitted by SEC.



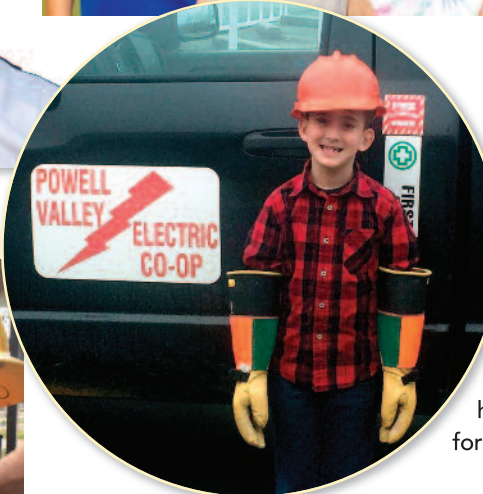
THREE LITTLE LINEMEN ◀

Jeter, Wesley and Adam know that linemen take heroism to new heights. Photo submitted by proud grandparents, Rhina and David Jones, members of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative.



SON OF A STORM SOLDIER ▶

Most dads light up your life. A rare few light up the world. Drake, 6, is the son of Shawn Rogers, a Delaware Electric Cooperative lineman.



CO-OP KID ◀

Dakota, 7, is the son of Merle and Michelle Middleton, members of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative. He's also the grandson of Frankie Garrett, who has worked for the co-op for 43 years.

BORN TO CLIMB ◀

Mason, 2, watched his Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative lineman father, Josh Ouellette, compete at the Gaff-n-Go Lineman's Rodeo last year and wanted to climb his own "pole." "Mason looks up to his dad and is always in his shadow," writes mother, Morgan Ouellette.



WATTS UP, CUTIE! ▶ There's no camouflaging these dangerous levels of cuteness. Aiden, 5, is the son of A&N Electric Cooperative lineman Mac McIntyre. Photo submitted by mother, Jennifer McIntyre.

SAFETY FIRST! ◀ What did the hard hat say to the necktie? "You hang around and I'll go on ahead." No corny jokes needed, though, to make this young man smile at Prince George Electric Cooperative's (PGECC) annual meeting. Photo submitted by PGECC. ■