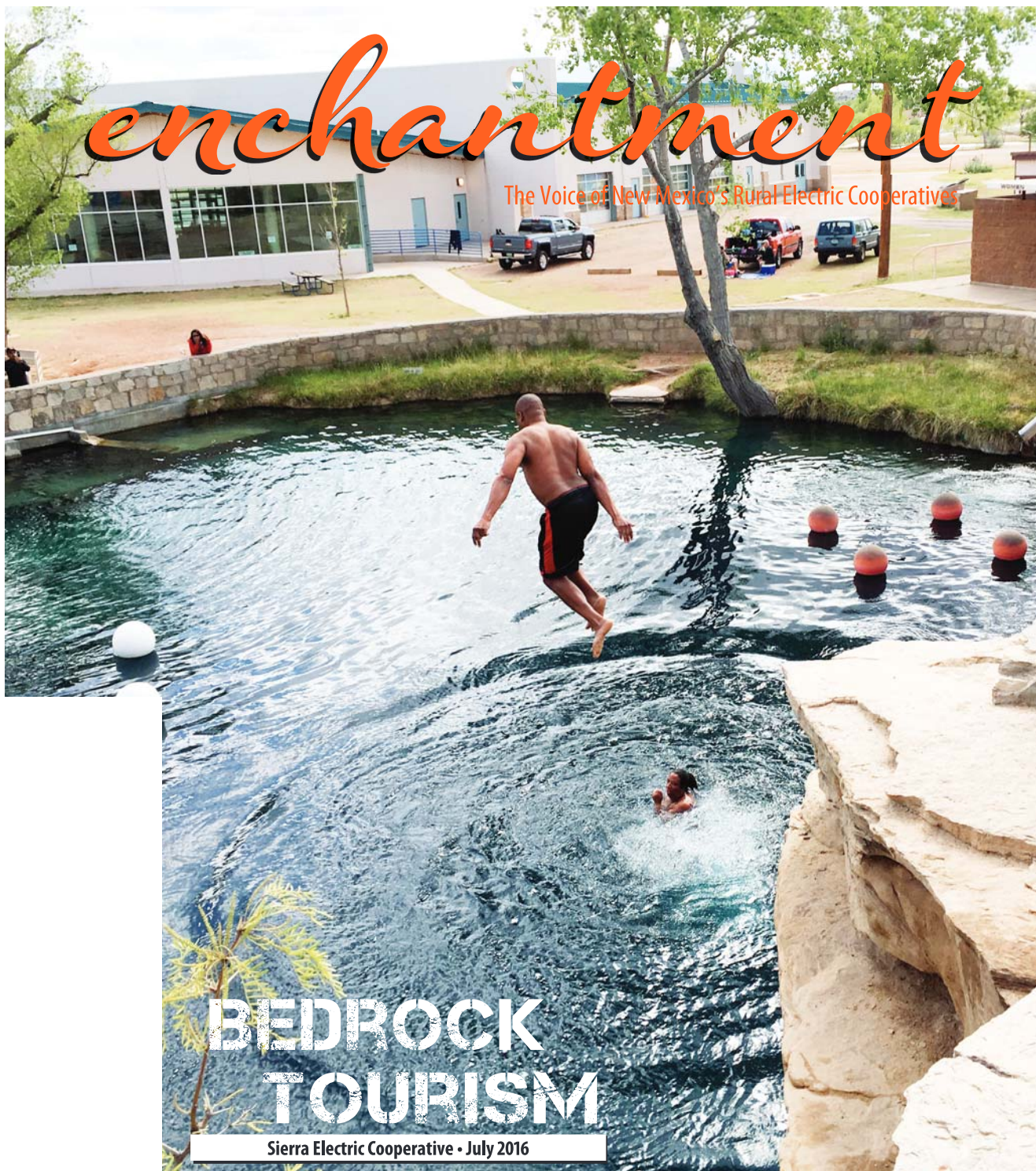


enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's Rural Electric Cooperatives

BEDROCK TOURISM

Sierra Electric Cooperative • July 2016



2016 Coloring Contest Winners

Sierra Electric sponsors an annual safety coloring contest, along with electric cooperatives throughout New Mexico in conjunction with the New Mexico Marketing and Member Services Association. There were 180 students in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades of Sierra Elementary, Truth or Consequences Elementary and Manzano Christian schools who colored the posters earlier this year. The contest is just one of the ways Sierra Electric shows support for its community and educates children on the importance of safety around power lines.

Congratulations to all the winners!



Picture from l to r: Layla Moorhead, Nayeli Barron and Kaydena Torres.



Pictured from l to r: Matthew Rodriguez, Renata Amezcua and Kerianne Apodaca.



Zoe Ramos



Recycle Your Old Refrigerator

If you have an older refrigerator in your basement or garage, it could be costing you nearly \$300 per year to run it. Recycling it has the added advantage of ensuring that the refrigerants and other components are removed and properly recycled. If you need a second refrigerator year round, replace the old one with a new Energy Star certified model. If you only use your extra fridge around the holidays or for special events, unplug it when it's not needed.

More than 60 million refrigerators and refrigerator-freezers in the U.S. are over 10 years old, costing consumers \$4.4 billion a year in energy costs.

You may also qualify for an energy efficiency rebate upon purchase of a new Energy Star rated refrigerator and proof of recycling your old refrigerator. Ask Sierra Electric for details!

Sierra Electric offices will be CLOSED
Monday, July 4,
in observance of
Independence Day.

Energy Efficiency for Hot and Dry Climates

Starting from the top, it makes sense that light-colored roofs reflect the sun's heat away from the home, whereas a dark color absorbs the heat. Make sure you have a vented area directly under your roof to allow some of the heat to dissipate and reflect back. A vented roof effectively shades the rest of the home. It is also important to properly seal your home's thermal envelope. Leaky ducts, windows and doors can cause energy loss, making the HVAC system work much harder and drive up your energy costs. It pays to seal windows, doors and ductwork. According to the Department of Energy, on average, households lose approximately 20 percent of their heated and cooled air through the duct system to the outside. Homes that are "sealed tight" are easier to keep cool and dry.

Indoors, where possible, shade windows that don't have a deep overhang. Using a ceiling fan in conjunction with your AC allows you to increase the thermostat setting to approximately 4°F with no reduction in comfort. In hot climates, it's all the more critical to replace any remaining incandescent bulbs with LEDs, as the waste heat from the old bulbs impacts energy use and creates unwanted heat. Sierra Electric offers LED light bulbs for sale to their members at the office in Elephant Butte. In addition, move TVs and lamps away from the AC thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from the appliances and may cause the AC to run longer than needed. If you would like more information about how to save energy, contact the Sierra Electric energy experts at 575-744-5231.

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Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the third Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the cooperative boardroom.



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