

ENCHANTMENT

THE VOICE OF NEW MEXICO'S RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

**OTERO COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

OCTOBER 2025

No Time for Clowning Around

James "Bozo" Cordova built a pair of Santa Rosa businesses—
Bozo's Garage and Route 66 Auto Museum **Page 14**

BOZO'S GARAGE & ROD SHOP

Anna and James "Bozo" Cordova have run Bozo's Garage
since 1980. PHOTO BY THOM MOORE



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Mario Romero

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Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday-Friday)

Board of Trustees

President

Charles Mulcock, SE District

Vice President

Denny Burnett, SE District

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Marty Mills, Central District

Treasurer

Scott Shafer, NW District

Kenny Blazer, SW District

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Cheri Hass, Central District

David Powers, NE District

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Board Meeting

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Seasonal Energy Efficiency

Save energy and money this season with a few simple home updates.

A programmable or smart thermostat lets you control settings to match your schedule and temperature preferences. Keep it at or below 68 degrees during the day and cooler at night to save up to 10% on monthly heating and cooling costs.

Windows and doors are common sources of energy loss. Seal cracks with caulk or foam, use weatherstripping and door sweeps, and add window coverings, such as cellular shades or curtains to block drafts.

Proper insulation reduces heat loss in winter and heat gain in summer. Check insulation levels in your attic, and aim for at least 14 inches in

warmer climates and 18 inches in colder ones. Sealing air leaks will also improve efficiency.

Your HVAC system runs more efficiently with regular care. Replace furnace filters monthly or every other month, schedule annual service and seal leaky furnace ducts to avoid higher utility bills.

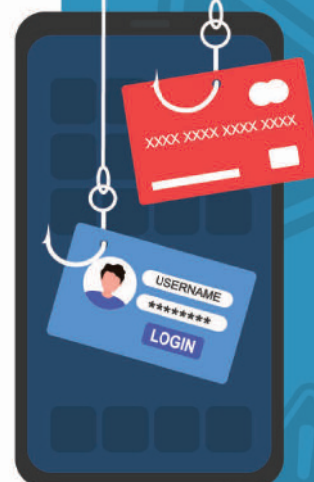
Outdoor maintenance also helps improve efficiency. Trim shrubs, clear yard debris, and keep gutters and drainage clear. A heat pump needs good circulation to work efficiently, so make sure there is a 2-foot clearance around the outdoor compressor.

With a few simple steps, you can boost your home's comfort while lowering energy costs year-round. ■

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Do you know the warning signs of an energy scam? Scammers will often use **high-pressure tactics** that create a sense of urgency. They may also ask for **unusual payment methods** such as gift cards or cryptocurrency. **Dodgy communication** is typically associated with a scam, including poor grammar, spelling errors or unusual email addresses. If you spot any of these warning signs, take a moment to pause and determine if it's legitimate or if it's a scam.





Powered By Purpose

Cooperatives are guided by doing what is best for their members

This month, electric cooperatives across the country celebrate National Co-op Month and reflect on the unique advantages of being a cooperative. It's the perfect time to thank you—the members who make it all possible. For us, it's not just a celebration. It's a chance to reaffirm the values that guide everything we do.

We see purpose in action every single day. Unlike investor-owned utilities, our co-op doesn't exist to make profits for distant shareholders. We exist to serve you—our members, neighbors and communities. That purpose sets us apart. It's why we were founded, and it continues to drive every decision we make.

Being a cooperative means we are member-owned and locally controlled. That's not just a tagline. It's the very heart of our business model. Members have a voice in how our co-op operates. You elect board

members who live right here in our service area and understand the unique challenges and opportunities our communities face. Decisions aren't made in corporate boardrooms hundreds of miles away, they're made here at home, by people who care about the same things you do.

This local accountability means we can stay focused on what matters most: delivering reliable, affordable electricity and providing real value to the people we serve.

We do that by investing in essential infrastructure upgrades and technologies that strengthen our local grid and improve electric service. We work hard to manage costs and keep rates as low as possible—because we know how much rising prices affect families and small businesses in our area. And when storms hit or outages occur, Otero County Electric Cooperative crews are here and ready to respond quickly, because we live here too.

But our commitment doesn't end at the power lines.

Co-ops were built to meet community needs, and that purpose extends well

beyond delivering electricity. Whether we're supporting local schools, sponsoring youth programs or partnering with volunteer organizations, we are always looking for ways to improve the quality of life in the places we serve. Community support isn't an afterthought—it's part of our mission.

We're also planning for the future. As electricity demand grows due to new technologies and economic development, electric co-ops are working to ensure we continue to meet those needs with a balanced, reliable energy mix. We know our members care about affordability and dependability, and we're committed to delivering both.

This National Co-op Month, we encourage you to take pride in your cooperative membership. You're not just a customer—you're an owner, stakeholder and vital part of keeping our community strong, connected and energized.

Thank you for the trust you place in us. We're proud to be your local electric cooperative. ■