



# HOT LINES

November // December 2016 CECC Newsletter

## Arkansas Linemen Electrify Bolivian Villages

Thirteen Arkansas Electric Cooperative linemen have returned from rural Bolivia where they set off to bring power to three remote villages. The mission, dubbed "Operation Razorback" was a success, resulting in electric service to more than 360 residents in 72 homes. Located near Guararamerian at the Brazilian border, the villages had previously been without electric power and likely would have remained in the dark without the help of the local electric cooperative.



Shannon Strope (foreground left) and the rest of the crew pose after a hard days work.

The volunteer linemen represented electric cooperatives across Arkansas and worked closely with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) International team on the project. The Arkansas crew worked with the Guayaramerin Electric Cooperative, or COSEGUA, on the project helping to construct a substantial number of distribution lines.

Shannon Strope and Aaron Yearta represented Craighead Electric Coop on the mission. "The Operation Razorback - Bolivia crew have changed lives in Bolivia," said Brian Duncan, CEO of Craighead Electric. "These

men volunteered their skills and showed a passion for serving their fellow man. Their efforts will result in an increased quality of life for the villagers and future generations."



Aaron Yearta (center) installs this homes first light bulb.

A lineman scales a cement pole to hang power lines.



Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas crews have assisted in establishing electric service to approximately 1,500 residents in rural Bolivia and Guatemala since 2013. Read more about our mission of international electrification at [electric.coop/international](http://electric.coop/international).

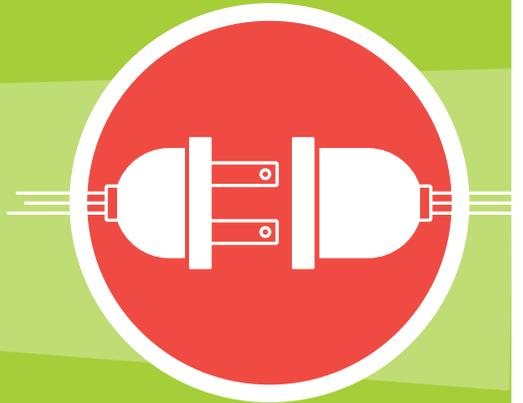
**Craighead Electric will be closed  
November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> for  
Thanksgiving, and December 23<sup>rd</sup>  
and 26<sup>th</sup> for Christmas.**

# **H**OLIDAY LIGHTING SAFETY TIPS



Consider purchasing LED holiday lights; they are cool to the touch and more energy efficient than incandescent bulbs.

Test holiday lights by connecting each strand before hanging them.



Make sure there are no broken bulbs or damaged or frayed cords. Discard any defective strands.

Use holiday lights that include the Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) label.



Avoid resting bulbs on tree needles and branches. Try using a clip to keep the bulbs upright.

Do not overload electrical outlets or extension cords.



Turn off all indoor and outdoor holiday lighting before leaving the house or going to bed.

