

**MEMBER FOCUSED. PEOPLE POWERED.**

# NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH

**This month and every month, we excel for our members.**

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**P**EC is not just any electric company — we're a nonprofit cooperative rooted in community and accountable to our members, not shareholders. Serving you is what we do. It's the cooperative difference!

## **MEMBER-OWNED, MEMBER-GOVERNED**

The cooperative is owned by you and your fellow members. Instead of earning profits, PEC distributes any excess margins back to members through capital credits. Decisions about our rates, bylaws, and services are approved by the PEC Board of Directors, a democratically elected team of seven members just like you.

## **COMMUNITY**

The strength of our cooperative lies in the strength of our communities. Over 32,000 members are enrolled in PEC's Power of Change, which funds community giving through grants for nonprofits, educational resources, and our member assistance program. PEC employees give back, too. Most recently, they raised over \$215,000 by donating a portion of their paychecks through our United Charities program.

## **SAFETY AND RELIABILITY**

Our commitment to people over profits allows us to invest in our system to keep it safe, reliable, and resilient. According to the most recent report from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, PEC outage times were half the Texas average in 2024. This translates to the average member being without power for less than one hour for the entire year!

## **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

We pride ourselves on providing best-in-class customer service. In July, our outstanding 4.64 out of 5 member experience satisfaction score affirms that mindset. So far in 2025, our member relations team has resolved 90% of issues during the first interaction. As your friends, family, and neighbors, we are here when you need us.

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**This National Cooperative Month, we're celebrating what makes PEC so special — you! Thank you for being a member!**







2025

# TEXAS

## *Lineman's Rodeo*



# PEC RODEO TEAM TAKES ON STATE

## CREW IN BLUE BRINGS HOME 16 AWARDS

Congratulations, Team PEC! It was another successful year at the Texas Lineman's Rodeo. The annual competition held on July 19 in Seguin gave our crews an opportunity to practice safety measures, demonstrate their lineworker skills, gain insights from other crews across the state, and sharpen their craft.

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### **Cooperative Division Journeyman Teams**

*Third place:*

Darren Donhauser  
David Hernandez  
Michael Thyberg

### **Journeyman Senior Division**

*Second place:*

Juan Hernandez  
Jason Fric  
Kris Saladino

### **Journeyman Hurtman Rescue**

*First place:*

Darren Donhauser  
David Hernandez  
Michael Thyberg

*Third place:*

Caleb Brodock  
Thomas Logan  
Heath Finton

### **Journeyman Disconnect and Arrestor Changeout**

*Third place:*

Zachary McFee  
Zackery Gough  
Nick Morris

*Fifth place:*

Darren Donhauser  
David Hernandez  
Michael Thyberg

### **Journeyman Double Bell Changeout**

*First place:*

Crispen Davis  
Chris Gerchman  
Andy Ridge

*Second place:*

Caleb Brodock  
Thomas Logan  
Heath Finton

### **Apprentice Hurtman Rescue**

*Second place:*

Maverick Michael

### **Apprentice Three Phase Transformer Bank**

*Second place:*

Chayton Boyd

### **Overall Apprentice**

*Fifth place:* Trey Reese

### **Apprentice Obstacle Pole**

*Fifth place:*

Collin Dickinson

### **Barbecue Competition**

*Fourth place, chicken:*

Jeremy Abbott  
Aaron Alvarez  
Marshall Swoda  
Chris Wells

*Second place, ribs:*

Eric Villanueva  
Kyle Saucedo  
Grady Vasquez  
Preston Ingraham

*Fourth place, ribs:*

Brandon Womack  
David Aguilar  
Melvin Burns  
Braden Batey

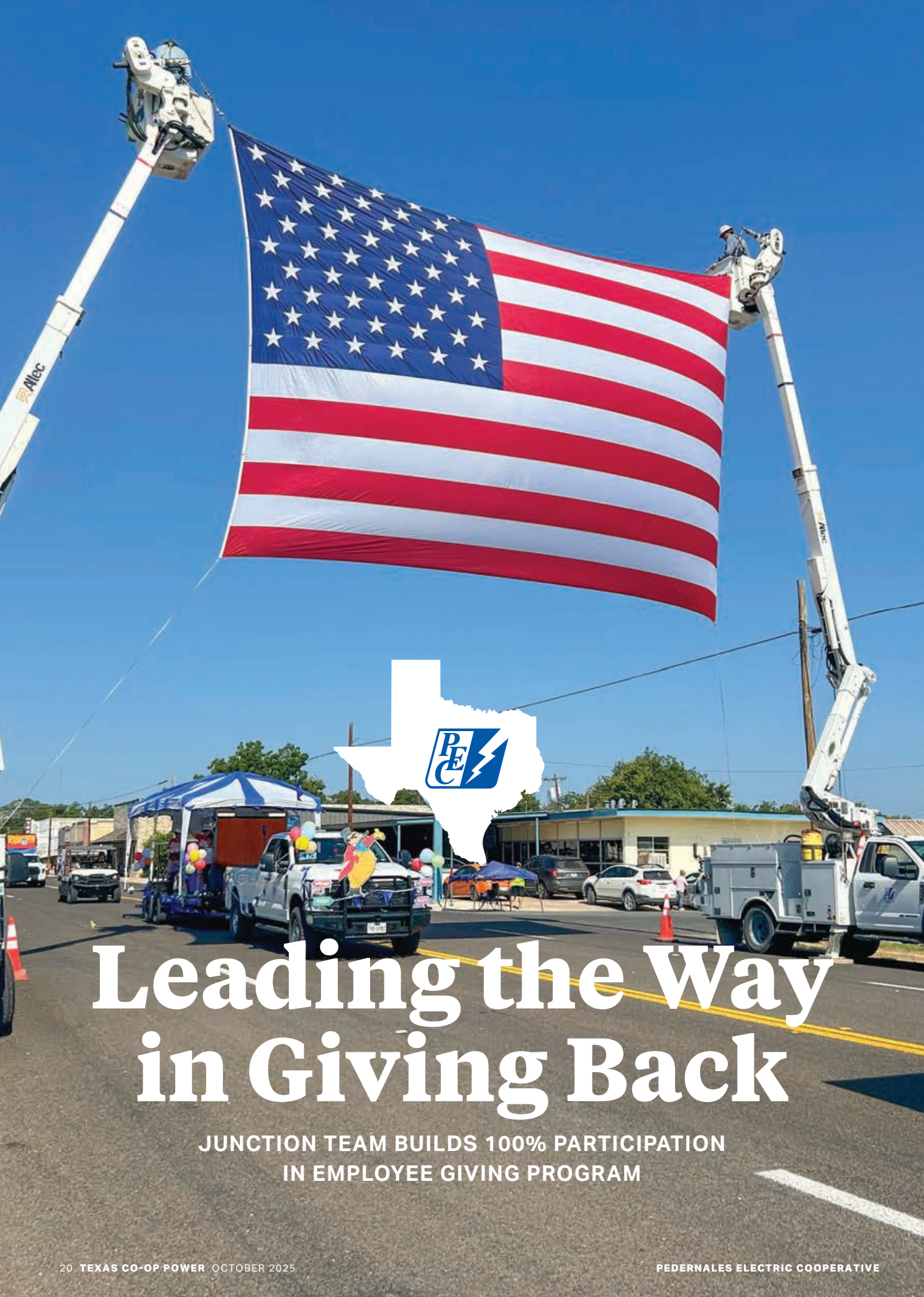
*Fourth place, brisket:*

Gilbert Valdez  
Dustin Tabbert  
Dylan Haltom  
Daniel Palacios

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Good luck at the International Lineman's Rodeo October 15-18 in Bonner Springs, Kansas.





# Leading the Way in Giving Back

JUNCTION TEAM BUILDS 100% PARTICIPATION  
IN EMPLOYEE GIVING PROGRAM



VOLUNTEERING IS IMPORTANT FOR THE JUNCTION TEAM. EACH YEAR, THEY SUPPORT MANY LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING MEALS ON WHEELS.



THE TEAM'S CULTURE IS STRONG, AND THEY ENJOY PARTICIPATING TOGETHER IN EVENTS LIKE THE TEXAS LINEMAN'S RODEO BARBECUE COMPETITION.



THEY ALSO COMPETE IN LOCAL COMPETITIONS LIKE THE "HIT FOR STICKS" SOFTBALL FUNDRAISER TOURNAMENT.

## WE DON'T JUST SERVE THE COMMUNITY. WE ARE THE COMMUNITY.

Earlier this year, PEC employees donated more than \$215,000 to nonprofits through our United Charities employee giving program. It was the largest collective total for the program in over a decade, and no PEC district led the charge quite like our team out west.

For two consecutive years, 100% of our Junction employees have donated to United Charities, setting the standard for the cooperative. Their giving supported multiple local programs, including facility and operational upgrades for Junction Youth Baseball, the Junction Community After School Program & Family Center, and the city's Meals on Wheels program, to name a few.

District Regional Operations Director Craig Meador led the effort.

"I usually sit down with new employees and explain what

we do and why it matters," Meador said. "Since they're usually active in the community, they're willing to jump in."

The proof of this team's commitment to philanthropy is in the numbers. This year, Junction employees gave more than \$20,000 to 16 organizations.

**"It's a team effort," Meador said. "Pretty much everybody here has ties to the community."**

This kind of impact didn't happen by accident. Nearly every Junction employee serves in the community, whether it's taking part in the "Hit for Sticks" softball fundraiser tournament, helping navigate traffic at Meals on Wheels events, or building a PEC-themed float and hanging a large American flag at the town's

biggest event, the Kimble County Rodeo Parade. They work hard to build trust with their neighbors.

This culture of community involvement is a primary reason the employee retention rate is so high at PEC. MarLea Chapman, an electrical distribution design and planning manager, has been with the co-op for nearly 37 years. She explained what a blessing it is to be part of an organization that cares about the people it serves.

"It's so great when you get to see the new generations coming and everyone has the same mindset of giving," she said. "Even if you can't get out and volunteer, you can at least give some money to help out."

**Learn more about our United Charities program and other ways we give back to our members at [myPEC.com/gives](https://myPEC.com/gives).**





# Safety Starts from the Ground Up

## CHECK OUR TIPS BEFORE PUTTING DOWN ROOTS

### **Call 811 before you dig**

Power lines and other utility equipment can be anywhere underground. Before you dig, call 811. It's the law and could save your life.

### **Keep the power lines in mind**

Before planting, consider the mature size of the species and ensure they're planted far enough away from power lines. See the safe distances at [myPEC.com/plants](http://myPEC.com/plants).

### **Be mindful of pad-mounted transformers**

You may be tempted to hide these green or gray metal boxes with shrubs or other plants, but

doing so can cause hazards for PEC lineworkers. Leave 10 feet of clearance in the front and 5 feet around the sides.

### **Need a trim?**

Check the trees on your property. If branches are at risk of coming in contact with power lines or the service drop at your home, please request **free** tree trimming through your account online or call us at 888-554-4732. Never trim trees near electrical equipment yourself!

**Learn more at [myPEC.com/plants](http://myPEC.com/plants).**



## Youth Tour applications are open now!

High schoolers in PEC's service area can have a once-in-a-lifetime, all-expenses-paid learning experience in Washington, D.C., next summer.

**Apply by 11:59 p.m. on November 10!**

**Learn more at [myPEC.com/youth-tour](http://myPEC.com/youth-tour).**

# BEWARE OF THE BOX



## IT'S NOT A MONSTER... BUT YOU SHOULD STILL STAY AWAY

**A**s your little ghouls and goblins roam the neighborhood in search of treats this Halloween, take a moment to look around. You just might spot a big green box hiding in plain sight.

They're not haunted, but these pad-mounted transformers do possess a powerful secret. This piece of equipment is a key part of your neighborhood's underground electric system, helping to deliver power safely and efficiently to homes. And while they don't bite, they do demand your respect and caution.

So as you decorate your yard with ghosts, skeletons, and spiderwebs, follow these important safety tips to avoid a real scare.

### **Don't play tricks near the transformer**

Remind children that pad-mounted transformers are not toys or jungle gyms. Don't sit on them, and definitely don't stick anything inside.

### **If the box is open, call us immediately!**

An open or damaged transformer is no Halloween prank; it's a real hazard. Contact PEC's emergency line right away at 888-883-3379 if you see one.

### **Don't decorate the transformer**

Painting or decorating these boxes may seem festive, but it puts our crews — and you — at risk. The green color and warning signs must be visible for quick identification and safe operation.

### **Keep plants away**

Pad-mounted transformers need breathing room. If you don't follow the guidelines listed on the previous page, our crews could be in for a scare. They need clear access to keep your lights on.

### **Give crews space to work**

Please keep a safe distance if you see crews working on a transformer. The equipment inside is powerful, and distraction can be dangerous.

Pad-mounted transformers aren't scary, but unsafe behavior around them is. Keep your Halloween happy, your costumes creative, and maintain a safe distance from the big green box.

**For more safety tips, visit [myPEC.com/safety](https://myPEC.com/safety).**