



Coweta-Fayette



powerlines

TYRONE MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS HISTORICAL MOMENTS FROM CFEMC'S "FROM RURAL SPARKS TO POWERLINES"

Located in the heart of Tyrone, the town's newest museum will showcase historical research pieces from Coweta-Fayette EMC's book, *From Rural Sparks to Powerlines*, which was produced in 2012 to highlight the establishment of the cooperative as well as honor the memory of its original incorporators.

From Rural Sparks to Powerlines features dedications to pioneers of the community, including Coweta-Fayette EMC's longest-serving director Floy Farr - a Tyrone resident, extensive history of rural electrification and well-known recipes from local home economists.

The display will feature the story of how Floy Farr worked to establish telephone service in Tyrone. Positioned next to a vintage rotary telephone, the display will allow visitors to learn about how

Farr organized a group of Tyrone residents to install their own telephone line after being told that the already established telephone service in Fayette County would not run lines to Tyrone due to the distance out of their existing territory.

The museum also plans to display the story of how Farr was instrumental in bringing 150



jobs to Tyrone in the mid-1940s through assisting in the establishment of the rock quarry, the first industry in Fayette County. The display will feature Farr's involvement in convincing a local farmer to sell his land to accommo-

date the rock quarry - all in exchange for a new mule.

Tyrone Museum volunteers Amy Duell, Amy Finocchiaro and Linda Howard are responsible

for the displays, which will be available for public viewing this summer. Since the museum opened in May 2021, volunteers have strived to get and exhibit physical, cultural, and historical artifacts which reflect the story of Tyrone for future generations.

Tyrone Museum is located at 881 Senoia Road, Tyrone, GA. Museum hours are Wednesday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and Sunday from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The museum is currently searching for new artifacts to display including gifted and loaned items. For more information, please visit <https://tyronemuseum.wordpress.com/>.

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#THANKALINEMAN



**CFEMC's lineworkers always
rise to the challenge.**

**Check out our podcast, IN THE LOOP, this
month for more information on Lineman
Appreciation Month!**



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The President's Message

Chris Stephens
CEO

You've likely noticed CFEMC's crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is tough—but it's a job that's essential and must be done, often in challenging conditions. This month, as we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 11, I thought I'd share some interesting facts about electric lineworkers with you.

The work can be heavy, in more ways than one. Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds? That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Speaking of utility poles, lineworkers are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 120 feet tall. Needless to say, if you have a fear of heights, this likely isn't the career path for you.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career—because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present danger can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

Lineworkers often work non-traditional hours, outdoors in difficult conditions. While the job does not require a college degree, it does require technical skills, years of training and hands-on learning. Did you know that to become a journeyman lineworker at CFEMC takes more than 12,000 hours of training (or six years)? That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience and an ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work.

Despite the many challenges, CFEMC's lineworkers are committed to powering our local community. During severe weather events that bring major power outages, lineworkers are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their home and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done, often days later. That's why the lineworker's family is also dedicated to service. They understand the importance of the job to the community.

Nationwide, there are approximately 120,000 electric lineworkers. Here at CFEMC, 57 lineworkers are responsible for keeping power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year. To do this, they maintain approximately 6,700 miles of power lines across 8 counties. In addition to the highly visible tasks lineworkers perform, their job today goes far beyond climbing utility poles to repair a wire.

Today's lineworkers are information experts who can pinpoint power outages from miles away. Line crews now use laptops, tablets, drones and other technologies to map outages, survey damage and troubleshoot problems.

Being a lineworker may not seem like a glamorous job, but it is absolutely essential to the life of our community. If you're interested in becoming a lineman, I'd urge you to check out our Lineman Scholarship. Information is available on our website, www.utility.org. We're happy to partner with West GA Technical School on this program.

Without the exceptional dedication and commitment of these hardworking men and women, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life.

So, the next time you see a lineworker, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. After all, lineworkers are the power behind your power. Please join us as we recognize them on April 11, and follow "#ThankALineworker" on social media to see how others are recognizing lineworkers.