VVECLINELFE

MAY 2024 | PUBLISHED FOR MEMBERS OF VERDIGRIS VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING | WWW.VVEC.COM



LINEMAN APPRECIATION!

Celebrating the grit, strength and bravery of the ones who laid the groundwork as well as those climbing today!





0681500503

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For the next few months, tree crews will be working to clear right-of-way in the North Bartlesville and Verdigris substation areas. Once completed, crews will move to the Collinsville substation area until it is complete.

Please contact Thomas Martinez at 918-586-6208 with any questions.



Do you know where this is? Be the first to guess the location during the month of April and receive a \$50 bill credit! Call Megan Jackson at 918-371-2584 to submit your guess!

On February 28th as they were returning from an outage, Verdigris Valley Linemen Adam Prickett and Dillon Cox noticed smoke just off the highway. Their decision to listen to their gut and check things out was a blessing to Bill and Jodi Basore as their barn had caught fire with their bunnies and calf inside. The Basores were not home at the time of the fire.

"There was a lot of smoke and the doors were really hot so I didn't even try those. I hopped the fence and got to work." said Cox. Prickett and Cox ran for the fire extinguishers on their work truck, called 911, turned off the breakers and began saving animals

and putting out the flames. They had the fire extinguished by the time the fire department arrived!

"These guys are the greatest. A lot of people would have just drove on by and not done anything but they didn't. They saved our animals, the boat, our 5th wheel... I love that I got to meet them and thank them - they're heroes!" said Basore to which Prickett replied, "We were just in the right place at the right time."

What could have been a horrific and total loss was limited to smoke damage because of the bravery of two men. We are <u>so proud</u> of our guys for consistantly going above and beyond their call as linemen and doing it all with strength and humility.









Pictured above, left to right: Adam Prickett, Bill Basore and Dillon Cox . Top right: Elsa the calf; the boat and 5th wheel saved; Peter the bunny

EMPLOYEE SPOTL GHT BRAD UPTON





This month, our spotlight is on an ornery, 40-year lineman - Brad Upton. Brad is married to Jinny and has plenty of kids and grandkids that keep him busy – especially on the racetrack! Brad loves to race on dirt tracks and travels to many other states to compete!

Brad works in our Bartlesville area has kept the same position over the entirety of his career. He loves the members, their uniqueness and how he experiences something new every day. "Most of the people we get to meet are really happy to see us and are glad we show up to help – especially on storm response or during natural disasters", said Brad.

"All the supervisors I've had – and VVEC as a whole – have always been fair and understanding about everything. That's huge." Congrats on a job very well done, Brad!

"Some of the hardest times are the most memorable. You don't remember the days when everything goes right so learn from it, hang in there and keep going. It goes by fast!"

JOIN US FOR MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

COME SEE US FROM 11 AM - 2 PM ON MAY 31ST, 2024 FOR A FREE HOT DOG, CHIPS AND DRINK!



SPRING STORM PREP!

It's Spring so the possibility of severe storms is upon us! Here are a few things you can do to prepare:

•Be ready with emergency generators and/or backup batteries for medical equipment

- Stock your pantry with non-perishables and bottled water
 Insure flashlights are in working order with spare batteries on hand
- •Charge cell phones and any portable power banks
- •Top off fuel tanks in vehicles
- Have a back-up plan for preparing meals (local restaurants may be without power as well)









HEROES IN HARD HAIS

In the 85 years since the establishment of Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, our linemen have consistently gone above and beyond whether they are constructing new line, getting called out at 2 AM in the middle of a storm or up in a bucket truck in negative temperatures or blistering sun. They are always right there - ready to head out and take care of our members.

To our linemen - THANK YOU! Thank you for doing a dangerous job in a way that is worthy of being held in such high regard. Our lives are better because of you!

To your families - you are seen! Those 2 AM mornings, 24+ hour outages and days or weeks of storm response certainly aren't easy but your support is absolutely crucial - big thanks to you, as well!

Being in the LineFamily can be tough but you are so very appreciated for ALL your hard work and dedication so our members continue to receive the excellent service provided - above and beyond.





















"And on the 8th day God looked down on His planned paradise and said, "I need someone to leave the warmth of his bed in the middle of the night, climb a pole, handle 7200 volts of electricity and risk his life to restore power to those without."

SO GOD MADE A LINEMAN.



WEC IS LOOKING FOR LOST MEMBERS - CURRENT ADDRESSES NEEDED

From time to time members move out of VVEC's service territory or pass away but Capital Credits still have to be allocated for the energy used while members had active service. Sometimes VVEC's last known address is not correct and the capital credit checks that are sent out come back to the cooperative. We need your help to find these former members. If you see a name on the list that you recognize and you have information about a current address, please contact us at 918-371-2584.

00420 FARMS ABBOTT LARRY **ABERNATHY JOHN** ABERNETHY WILLIAM ABRAMS PAMELA ABREGO ROBY ACOSTA JENNIFER ADAIR CONSTRUCTION ADAMS SCOTT AGENT AUDRA AKIN KENDALL ALDACO EFREN ALEXANDER CHAD **ALEXANDER JANET** ALEXANDER-BOESE SUSAN **ALLEN RICHARD** ALLEN CRYSTAL **ALTMAN LEWIS** ANDERSON ANDREW ANDERSON JUSTIN ANDERSON STOREY ANDERSON ROBERT ANDERSON CHARLES ANDERSON JERRY ANDERSON M J ANDERSON JAMES ANDREW MARY ANDREWS CHARLES ANGER ROBERT ANGLIN LINDA ANGUS PAUL ARACENA AUTUMN ARCHER JOANNE **ARGO BETTY** ARMSTRONG KARA ARMSTRONG CAROLYN ARNOLD STEVEN ASKEW LETTSIE ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH AUBREY SWAN SR FAMILY TRUST

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BOOHER ERNEST BOONE PATRICK BOSTICK ALISHA BOSTON JIM BOUDREAUX PHILLIP BOWMAN LARRY ROYD FREDDIF

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BLOOD PHYLLIS

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BURGESS JULIA BURKHEAD DARRYL **BURKINSHAW JEFFREY BURNETT DANIEL BURRESS ELIZABETH BURROWS TYLER BURROWS KRYSTAL**

BUSCH-OKCANO CORPORATION BUSSEY SPENCER BUSTER YVONNE

BUTLER DAVE BUTLER KALAH BYNUM SUZZANNE BYWATERS NIMIOUEL CALDWELL DWAYNE **CAMPBELL JULIE** CAMPBELL RUSS CAMPBELL JAMES **CANNON HEATH CANTU BRENNAN CAOUETTE PAULINE** CARMACK CAROL **CARNES GWEN**

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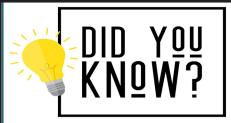
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HTTPS://WWW.VVEC.COM/ CAPITAL-CREDITS

YOU CAN SEARCH FOR LOST MEMBERS ON OUR WEBSITE

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CONTACT US

VVEC Headquarters 8901 E 146th St N Collinsville, OK

Mailing address
P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021

Phone number 918-371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948

Office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon-Fri

Line Life Editor: Megan Jackson

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CLASSIFIEDS

SUBMIT ADS to classified@vvec.com or send to ATTN: Classified, P.O. Box 219 Collinsville, OK 74021. Ads must be in writing. Your account number, name, address and a phone number is required on all ads. The deadline for all ads is the 1st of the month. Ads submitted by the 1st of the month will run in the following month's newsletter.

Classified ads are a free service to VVEC members only. As many ads as space allows will be included in each issue. VVEC reserves the right to delete or shorten items or descriptions..

- Professional, personalized dog grooming at your home. Small dogs only. Most dogs only \$40.00. Over 40 years experience. 918-381-1170
- New Ninja Air Fryer 4 Qt AF101U7 \$80 still in box. 918-273-8696
- New Ninja Foodi TenderCrisp Pressure Cooker OP300 Series; \$100. Contact 918-273-8696
- New Zeeland white breeder rabbits \$20.00 each; 918-230-1356
- Purple Martin Nest Boxes (2); 8 gourds; 2 poles (12 ft) - \$100 for all; 918-876-2677
- Tonutti 9 wheel inline rake; 918-255-6508
- Reese 2400 Drum Mower 8 ft, 3 pt. 918-255-6508

- 24' ext. alum ladder \$250; 7-8' coated steel flower bed edging \$25.00; Wheel barrow \$25.00; 100 year old piano with stool; Free 918-857-3336
- 2019 Honda Ridgeline, low miles, excellent condition 918-255-6508
- Pull behind mower aerator / seed spreader: \$50. GMC Hubcaps set of 4: \$30. Car ramps: \$10. 918-409-5870
- One screen top glass locking tank for a pet.
 Excellent condition; includes water dish and foe wood bark shelter. \$100.00; 918-230-1356
- Snapper Rotor Tiller; will till toughest soil; very good condition. \$1500. 918-638-0873
- •2 lift chairs recliners. Very good condition; \$500; 918-440-5483

Did you find your account number hidden in the newsletter? Call Megan Jackson at 918-371-2584 during the month of April and claim your \$50 bill credit!

IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE

- First, check your fuses or circuit breakers. Every service is different. You may have fuses or circuit breakers in your house, on the side of your house, under your meter, or all three places. Check to see if your neighbors have electricity.
- •Then, call the co-op at 371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948. Have your account number, name as it appears on the account, and address handy to give to the dispatcher. If you should get a recording, leave your information; every message will be answered.
- •Download the SmartHub app at www.smarthubapp.com to report outages from your smartphone.

WINTER RESIDENTIAL RATES

October through March usage; November through April billing

Customer Charge | \$40.00 Energy Charge | \$.08279/kwh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 62.088 mills per kwh. In addition, a gross receipts tax of 2% of revenue will be included, plus additional taxes, if applicable.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.