

Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees Welcomes **ATTORNEY GENERAL GENTNER DRUMMOND**

On a crisp morning at VVEC's headquarters, the cooperative welcomed a familiar face from Osage County: Attorney General Gentner Drummond. A lifelong VVEC member, Drummond lives on his family's generational ranch near Hominy.

With sincerity and gratitude, he began his remarks by thanking the board and members for the chance to speak, adding that what makes VVEC unique is its purpose. Unlike investor-owned utilities, VVEC stands apart because everything is done for the membership—not for shareholders, a reminder of the cooperative principle that guides every decision.

Drummond traced his own path of public service back to a conversation with his grandfather when he was just 14 years old. That exchange, he explained, planted the seeds that ultimately grew into his calling to serve. After graduating, he went on to serve in the military before returning home to Oklahoma, where he raised his family and continued building the foundation that would eventually lead him to the office of Attorney General.

Looking ahead, Drummond shared four principles he believes are critical as he pursues the governor's office: building and honoring tribal relations and compacts, addressing the growing problem of illegal marijuana grow-house operations, strengthening transparency through open meetings and public records across all levels of government, and protecting the separation of religion and state—even in the context of education.

Drummond concluded with words of resolve. He reiterated his support for law enforcement, expressed his gratitude for the honor of serving as Attorney General, and announced to the VVEC membership that he is officially a candidate for governor.



“Do the right thing - regardless of the cost.”

GENTNER DRUMMOND

VVEC encourages the safe, efficient use of electricity and actively supports community initiatives that benefit our members and the public.

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

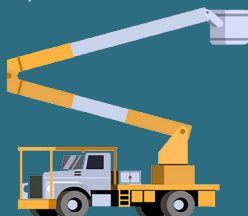
Customer Charge	\$40.00
Energy Charge	\$.08279/kwh

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.

Tree crews are working to clear right-of-way on the Elm Creek, Vera, and Ramona substations.

Brush Coordinator:
Chub Brewer
918-586-6208



LET OUR LIVES BE FULL OF THANKS AND GIVING.



Happy
THANKSGIVING!

OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON
THURSDAY & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27-28, 2025
IN OBSERVANCE OF THANKSGIVING.

WE WILL RE-OPEN ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025 AT 7:30 AM.



thank you
FOR YOUR SERVICE

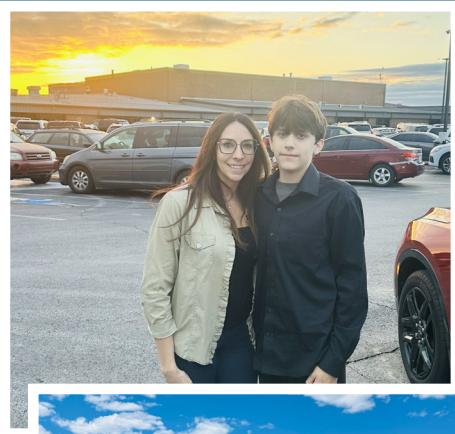
We pause to honor all veterans—including our own here at Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative—who have proudly served our country.

Your courage, sacrifice, and commitment—both in uniform and in service to others—are deeply appreciated. We are grateful for your dedication to protecting our freedom and for continuing to embody the cooperative spirit.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

DESIREE HUNT



Since joining VVEC in July 2023 as a Member Service Representative, Desiree Hunt has transitioned into her current role as Billing Clerk — bringing her upbeat energy and humor along the way. When asked what she enjoys most about working at VVEC, she didn't hesitate — “the people.” Desi says her coworkers make every day enjoyable, and she loves being part of such a supportive, fun, and hardworking team.

Desiree's advice for anyone starting out reflects her straightforward, good-natured personality: “Always be on time, work hard and just be yourself!”

Outside the office, Desi enjoys watching football, riding motorcycles, going to concerts, and spending time with family and friends. She and her husband, Derek, share a busy, joy-filled life, and she especially loves time with her son, Landon. Whether she's playing basketball with Landon or fitting in a Pilates session, Desi finds joy in staying busy and surrounded by the people she loves most.

Congratulations on a job well done, Desi!

“START EACH DAY WITH A POSITIVE THOUGHT AND A GRATEFUL HEART!”

Sharing Smiles with Baptist Village of Okasso Nursing Home Residents

Our recent nursing home visit was filled with warmth and joy as we delivered flowers and hats to residents. The simple gifts brought big smiles and brightened the day for everyone.

We're grateful for the opportunity to share a few moments of kindness and connection with our community.



SEASON OF GIVING



As the holiday season approaches and the air turns crisp, we're reminded that this truly is the season of giving. It's a time for gratitude, generosity and looking out for one another—and at Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, that's something we take to heart year-round.

You've probably heard us talk about our concern for community. It's not just a nice phrase—it's one of the core principles that makes electric cooperatives like ours different from other utilities. We're not just here to keep the lights on (though of course, we're always working hard to do that). We're here to make life better for the people we serve—our members, our neighbors and our friends.

Over the years, we've faced challenges together, and every time, our co-op family has stepped up. We've come together to support those in need, to keep our community strong and to build something better for the future. That spirit of generosity is never more evident than during the holiday season.

Take our "Wrapped in Warmth" program, for example. Thanks to the generosity of members like you who are bringing blankets, we're able to provide a present and a smile to residents at our local nursing homes.



We're also proud to support local students through the Youth Tour program, where we send some of our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., to see democracy in action and dream big about their futures. That's giving in the most meaningful way—by investing in tomorrow's leaders.

Each year, VVEC sponsors eighth-grade students to attend Oklahoma's Energy Camp, a hands-on summer adventure that teaches leadership, teamwork, and the power of cooperative values. Students learn about electricity, safety, and the role co-ops play in their communities—all while making lifelong memories and friendships.

You'll also find our team out in the community beyond work—coaching youth sports, volunteering at local events, serving on non-profit boards, and partnering with our Chamber of Commerce to keep our local economy strong. Because when you're part of a co-op, giving back isn't a requirement—it's just what you do.

While the holiday season is a festive time, we understand these can be tough times for many. If you need advice on saving energy to reduce your energy bills, want to explore payment plan options, or you simply have questions—please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help, not just during the holiday season, but all year long.

At VVEC, we believe concern for community is more than a value—it's the heart of who we are. And during this season of giving, we're especially grateful to be part of such a caring, generous community.

From all of us at Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, we wish you and your loved ones a joyful, safe and bright holiday season.

To make changes to your account, please call 918-371-2584 and speak to an Office Services Representative, Mon - Fri from 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

Wrapped in Warmth

BLANKET DRIVE

DONATIONS ACCEPTED:

October 1 - November 26, 2025
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM, Monday - Friday

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative
8901 E 146th St N
Collinsville, OK 74021

Questions?
Call 918-371-2584
www.vvec.com

All blanket donations will be wrapped and delivered to nursing homes in our service area throughout December!



**Thank You for
Your Donation!**

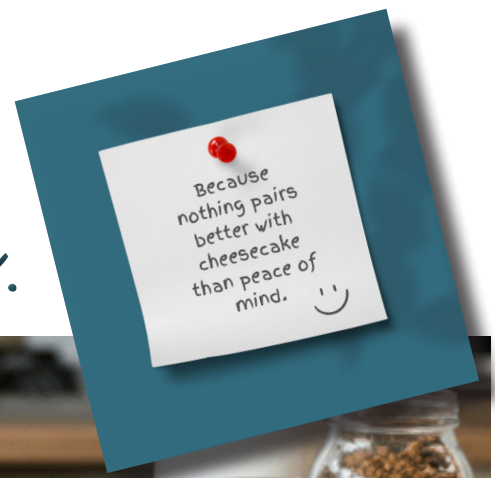


Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.®
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**PLEASE DONATE NEW
FULL, TWIN OR THROW
SIZED BLANKETS**



THE SECRET INGREDIENT THIS HOLIDAY? *Safety.*



The kitchen can be one of the busiest places in the house during the holidays. From prepping Thanksgiving sides to baking Christmas cookies (and, of course, sneaking a few samples along the way), it's where memories are made. But whether you're a seasoned cook or just trying your hand at holiday baking, it's also important to keep electrical safety in mind.

A few common hazards can cause electric shock in the kitchen, such as worn cords, faulty wiring, or using damp cloths or water near appliances. To help keep your holiday cooking safe, always follow the directions that come with your appliances and dry your hands before handling plugs or cords.

If a cord gets wet, don't plug it in until it's completely dry, and never handle appliances while standing in water. When unplugging something, gently pull on the plug itself—not the cord.

Take a quick look around your kitchen before the cooking starts. Make sure cords aren't stretched under rugs, across walkways, or draped where someone could trip. Inspect cords and plugs for any cracks, frays, or exposed wires, and toss anything that looks questionable. Only handle the insulated part of a cord, and never remove the third prong from a plug—that's an important safety feature.

Extension cords, power strips, and surge protectors should only be used as temporary helpers, not permanent fixes. Be sure they're in good condition and the right size for the job (a lower gauge number means they can handle more power). And if you ever wonder about your home's electrical system, don't hesitate to call a licensed electrician to check things out.

Most importantly, make sure everyone in your household knows how to safely turn off your home's power in an emergency. A little preparation goes a long way in keeping your kitchen a safe, happy place to cook, share, and celebrate throughout Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the holiday season.

Learn more at www.safeelectricity.org.



Brownie Bottom Pumpkin Cheesecake



INGREDIENTS

FOR THE BROWNIE

Baker's Joy Baking Spray
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup dark cocoa powder
1/2 tsp. Kosher salt
1/4 tsp. Clabber Girl Baking Powder
1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, cut into 1/2" pieces
1 3/4 cups semisweet chocolate chips
3/4 cup granulated sugar
3/4 cup packed light brown sugar
3 large eggs, room temperature
1 tsp. Spice Islands Pure Vanilla Extract



FOR THE CHEESECAKE

2 (8-oz.) blocks cream cheese, softened
3/4 cup packed light brown sugar
2 large eggs, room temperature
2/3 cup pure pumpkin puree
2 Tbsp. sour cream, room temperature
1 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. Spice Islands Pure Vanilla Extract
1 tsp. Spice Islands Pumpkin Pie Spice, plus more for garnish
1/4 tsp. Kosher salt
Thick caramel sauce and whipped cream, for garnish

DIRECTIONS

Recipe courtesy of www.delish.com

STEP 1

Preheat oven to 350° and grease a 9" springform pan with baking spray. Make brownies: In a medium bowl, whisk the flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, and salt until combined.

STEP 2

In a large microwave safe bowl, combine the butter and chocolate chips, microwave until just melted, about 1 1/2 minutes. Whisk until smooth. Whisk in the granulated and brown sugar. Add the eggs, one at a time, whisking to fully combine before adding the next. Whisk in the vanilla. Fold in the dry ingredients.

STEP 3

Pour batter into the prepared pan and bake until brownie is set and a toothpick comes out clean, about 45 minutes. While brownie is still warm, use a spoon to press the brownie down and compact into an even crust that comes halfway up the pan. Let cool completely on a wire rack.

STEP 4

While the crust cools, make the cheesecake filling: Preheat oven to 325°. In a large bowl using a hand mixer, beat cream cheese and sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, mixing well between each addition. Beat in pumpkin puree, sour cream, flour, vanilla, pumpkin pie spice, and salt until evenly combined.

STEP 5

Wrap bottom of pan in aluminum foil, then pour cheesecake mixture over brownie crust and place in a deep roasting pan.

STEP 6

Transfer to the oven, then pour in enough boiling water to come up halfway in the pan. Bake until the center of the cheesecake only slightly jiggles, about 55 minutes. Turn off heat, prop open oven door, and let cheesecake cool in oven, 1 hour, then remove aluminum foil and refrigerate cheesecake in pan until firm, at least 5 hours and up to overnight.

STEP 7

Drizzle with caramel, dollop outer rim with whipped cream.

Sprinkle whipped cream with more pumpkin pie spice.

ENJOY!





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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.*

- Yamaha Outboard Motor 15HP; 4 stroke, electric start, short shaft. Well maintained and low hours. Recently tuned with new water pump. No issues and excellent condition. Like new. \$2,900. Call or text 918-344-6374. Boat optional.
- Winchester 12 gauge 2134 \$325 Call or text 918-914-9744
- 2006 Honda CRV \$4,000 OBO. Straight body, clean interior, consider trade. Can text pictures. 918-231-6385
- Professional, personalized dog grooming at your home. Small dogs only. Most dogs only \$40.00. Over 40 years experience. 918-381-1170
- Antique folding ironing board / step stool combo. Measures 3 feet tall when in locked ironing position. Made of heavy oak. \$150. Call or text 344-6374.
- 12 Ft. Patriot Kayak with custom built trailer. \$750. Call or text 918-344-6374
- Handyman service to repair and remodel; affordable plumbing and electric. Call or text for free estimate; references available. 918-231-6385
- 1989 Ford 3/4 Ton 4WD XLT Lariat Extended Cab 460 engine - auto trans. Hydraulic / over electric bale spear. Mechanically sound - good farm truck. \$3,000. 620-870-9999



Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 2, 2025.

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour. Now is also a good time to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors.



IS YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER 2611411002?
If so, call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 during the month of November and claim your \$50 bill credit! **CONGRATS!**



NOVEMBER MYSTERY PICTURE
Think you recognize the location? Call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 **starting Nov. 1** to submit your guess. The **first** correct answer wins a \$50 bill credit!

Contest runs through the end of November.

Sept. Mystery Location: Old Skoven Park; Old HWY 169 and 166th St N
(No mystery location in October's Annual Report)