

# Area Juniors Win VVEC-Sponsored Youth Tour Trip to Washington D. C.

## *Several Students Win Cash Scholarships*



**Barnsdall Youth Tour winners** From left to right: VVEC Member Services Representative, Chub Brewer, who presented the certificates, Logan Bryant Essay winner, Kali Owens Essay 2nd Runner-up and their teacher, Wilma Logue.



**Oologah-Talala Youth Tour Winners:** Pictured from left to right are the student's teacher, Rebekah Askew, winners of Essay 1st Runner-up, student Chelsea Allen and Test Exam 1st Runner-up, Justin Snook and Chub Brewer VVEC Member Services Representative who presented the certificates. Brandon Ingram, Test Exam Winner and Charlene Hines, Test Exam 2nd Runner-up, were not available for pictures.

*"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it." ~Thomas Jefferson*

Two lucky students are heading to Washington D.C. as winners of VVEC's 52nd Annual Youth Tour Contest. Several others will be recipients of cash scholarships for their strong efforts as Runner-ups.

VVEC offered students the choice of taking a test or writing an essay. This year's essay title was "Who owns VVEC and what are the advantages of Co-op ownership." The Youth Tour Competition is always open to any Junior attending a high school or who is home schooled in the VVEC service territory. Participant's parents do not have to be members of VVEC.


Logan Bryant, son of Chance and Sayra Bryant, of Barnsdall, is the Essay winner, while

Brandon Ingram (not available for picture), son of Patricia and Wes Ingram of Oologah, is the Test/Exam Winner. These young men will be rewarded with an exciting youth tour to Washington D.C. The fun begins in OKC on Friday, June 12th, 2015 with a banquet. Then they will depart Saturday June 13th and return June 18th, 2015.

Scholarships of \$750 each were awarded to the 1st Runners Up. Chelsea Allen of Oologah-Talala, daughter of Ricky and Kim Allen is the Essay 1st Runner Up. Justin Snook, also of Oologah-Talala, son of Beth Snook, is the Test/Exam 1st Runner Up.

Second Runners Up were awarded \$500 scholarships. Kali

Owens, daughter of Melissa and Eric Owens of Barnsdall, is the Essay 2nd Runner Up. Oologah-Talala student, Charlene Hines (not pictured), daughter of JoAnne Hines, won the Test/Exam 2nd Runner Up.

A big thanks goes out to all seventy students that participated in this year's contest. Without the commitment of their teachers, this program would wither. As always, Rebekah Askew teacher of the Oologah-Talala students, was instrumental in producing several winners. VVEC is appreciative of her and her continuing support of this program. And finally, to Wilma Logue, Barnsdall teacher of two winning participants, VVEC salutes you as well! 

## Good to Know

You could say Inez Wright is the face of VVEC. Inez is the first smiling face you see when you enter our office. She's the cheerful cashier who receives your payments while chatting with you in a positive down-home manner. Inez is one of the lucky people who truly adores her job! "I love my job and always enjoy visiting with the members", remarks Inez. "I've been in this position for nearly eighteen years and never wanted to do anything different. VVEC is a good place to work and it really does feel like family".



## Armed Forces Day May 16th

Many Americans celebrate Armed Forces Day annually on the third Saturday of May. It is a day to pay tribute to men and women who serve the United States' armed forces. Armed Forces Day is also part of Armed Forces Week, which begins on the second Saturday of May.



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 Monday through Friday  
**Editor** - Vickie Chamberlain

VVEC offices will be closed Monday, May 25th, 2015 in recognition of Memorial Day. Please Call 918-371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948 if you need to report an outage.

### Summer Residential Rates

April through September usage,  
 May through October billing

Customer Charge	\$25.00
Energy Charge	
1st 2,000 kWh	\$0.0809/kWh
Over 2,000 kWh	\$0.0860/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 55.993 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.

### What to do if Your Power Goes Off

1. 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.
2. Call the Co-op at 371-2584, or 1-800-870-5948 if the call is long distance for you. 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, please don't hang up; leave your information. It will be retrieved and given to the correct department. Every message is answered.



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# VVEC Linemen Complete Substation Re-Certification



On a semi-annual schedule, VVEC linemen are trained and refreshed by KAMO personnel on the proper procedures for working in substations as part of their continuing education.


KAMO Electric Cooperative based in Vinita, owns most of the substations that VVEC takes its distribution power from. GRDA owns three of the 22 substations, but has work-

ing agreements with KAMO. In order for the problems to be resolved quickly and safely in the substations, KAMO personnel continually train VVEC linemen on the proper switching and restoration methods.

KAMO line personnel are usually not able to respond as quickly to an outage situation in a substation as VVEC linemen can. The KAMO personnel may not be in the area or if it's after

hours, may not live close to the substation that has the problems. That's where the training of the local distribution coop lineman comes into play.


VVEC linemen are the first to get the call that there is a power outage reported by our members and then during our troubleshooting, occasionally the problem may be in the substation. Our crews are already on-site so it is only logical that they are trained in the basics of restoring power to the substation thus restoring power to our members.

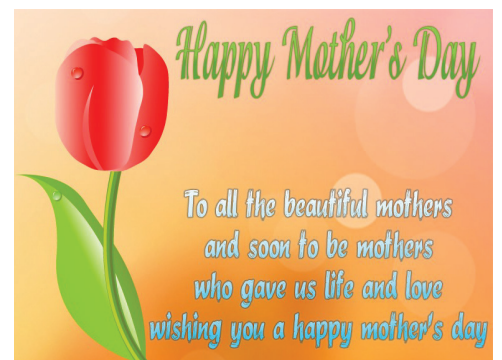
Since VVEC crews do not deal with substation work every day (as KAMO crews do), the training is very beneficial and a mandatory session for our linemen that may be called upon to complete the work. 

## Highway 60 Line Relocation

VVEC construction crews are finishing a line relocation project for State Highway 60 improvements west of Bartlesville. The project covered about 3 miles of feeder line that ran alongside Highway 60 in the Osage Hills State Park area. The feeder supplies power to the area west of Bartlesville around the airport and south to the Osage Casino.

VVEC crews are often called upon to relocate lines when the existing poles and lines are in the way of improvements to roadways and such.

The project began late last fall and has been worked on anytime the weather would allow. This type of labor has to be worked into the regular schedule of the crews building new service to members in addition to their other duties such as upgrading lines and feeders for new growth. 



# VVEC Offers Rebates

VVEC offers rebates on electric water heaters, ground source, air-source, mini-split and dual-fuel heat pumps, and air conditioners. All of the appliances must be Energy Star rated.


**ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS** for new construction or gas conversions, and which have an energy factor of .90 or greater, are rebated up to \$199 if purchased elsewhere, or full price (less taxes) if purchased from VVEC. These units must be installed and available for an on-site verification within 90 days of the purchase date. We also offer a \$50 rebate on a 40-gallon or larger replacement unit when the old unit has less than .90 efficiency rate and the new unit has .90 efficiency rate or greater. The replacement rebates are limited to services using 6,000 kWh or more per year. Tankless and hybrid heat pump water heaters are not eligible for rebates.

**ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS** are eligible for \$50 rebates if they are Energy Star rated. The rebate will apply toward the purchase of one new unit or the replacement of an existing unit.

**GROUND-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS** for new construction or gas conversions are rebated at \$300 per ton and must be Energy Star rated with an EER value of 19.1 or greater. Replacement units will be rebated at \$150 per ton, but must meet the same EER criteria and be a gain of at least 3 EER over the old unit. Replacing an air-to-air heat pump with a ground-source heat pump meeting the above requirements will also be eligible for the \$150 per ton rebate.

**AIR-TO-AIR HEAT PUMPS** (with electric resistance backup) meeting a 16.5 SEER or greater, will be rebated at \$150 per ton for new construction or gas conversions only. Replacement units are not eligible for rebates.

**DUAL FUEL HEAT PUMPS** (using natural gas, propane or fuel oil for supplemental heating) and **MINI-SPLITS** meeting the above ratings will be rebated at \$150 per ton for new construction or replacement units. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact our member services department or download a rebate form from our website.

**THE COMPLETED FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED TO US WITHIN 90 DAYS OF PURCHASING THE APPLIANCE.** New units are subject to on-site verification. Rebates are subject to change and certain restrictions apply, so contact our member services department at (918) 371-2584 if you have any questions. 



## RECIPE

### Deb's Bow Tie Pasta Salad



- 1 box bow tie pasta
- 1 or 2 peeled, seeded and diced cucumbers
- 1 bell pepper, seeded and chopped
- 3 or 4 stalks celery,, chopped
- 1 red onion, diced
- 1 can diced tomatoes, drained well
- 1 Tbsp. parsley (fresh or dried)

#### Dressing

- 3/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 3/4 cup white vinegar
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- salt and pepper to taste
- 3 garlic cloves, pressed

Cook pasta and drain. Cut veggies and combine with pasta in large bowl. Pour dressing over all combine well. Refrigerate at least 2 hours before serving. You can add or remove any vegetables you like.