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VVEC sponsors grants to support local community

Apply now for the 2021 Adopt-A-School and Rural Fire Department grant programs

As an electric cooperative, VVEC's primary objective is to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to our members. However, we are also a concerned partner in the development of the local community. One of the ways VVEC demonstrates our concern for the community is by offering grants to schools and rural fire departments in our service territory.

Each year teachers, school administrators and fire department personnel are invited to submit an application for funds through VVEC's Adopt-A-School and Rural Fire Department grant programs. Applicants are asked to explain how they will use the funds to improve the classroom experience for students or to help protect residents' lives and property from fire damage.

"The grant has helped out classrooms quite a bit," VVEC Member Services Representative Chub Brewer says. "It allows schools to fund something that's not in their budget to enhance the students' learning experience."

Likewise, fire departments purchase tools and equipment they might not otherwise be able to afford. In turn, these purchases help improve the safety of the members of the community.



Anyone with questions or those who need an application mailed to them can contact Misti Frazier, program coordinator, by calling 918-371-2584, ext. 6226 or by emailing her at mfrazier@vvec.com. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

"It's a great program. We're able to help and give back to the community. That's what we try to do," Brewer says. ■

Apply today!

The application deadline for 2021 Adopt-A-School and Rural Fire Department grants is Monday, March 29th, at 4 p.m.

Grant applications are available at www.vvec.com under the "Community Programs" tab. Send completed applications to Misti Frazier at P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021.



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Power Circuit Editor

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Power Circuit is published monthly by Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, Collinsville, Oklahoma (ISSN 10884378) for its members in Tulsa, Rogers, Washington, Nowata and Osage counties. Periodical postage paid at Tulsa, Oklahoma and other additional mailing offices. Subscription price is \$0.19 per month.

POSTMASTER - send address changes to Power Circuit, P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021.

LOCAL HIGHLIGHT & RECIPE

Linemen to the rescue

VVEC lineworkers bring family pet to safety

A lineman's duties often involve heroic work like restoring power in the aftermath of a storm. But on a cold December morning, VVEC linemen Josh Merritt and Danny Bement became heroes of a different sort.

The evening before, Kari Kraft noticed the family's beloved cat, Chip, had gone missing. She searched the neighborhood to no avail. In the morning, her husband Gregg found the forlorn feline in their front yard—35 feet up in a pine tree.

A VVEC bucket truck happened to be in their neighborhood. Kari Kraft explained the situation and within minutes, Bement and Merritt had safely rescued Chip from the tree. The Krafts expressed their gratitude to the linemen and to VVEC.

"I am so thankful for Josh and Danny your VVEC crew members," Kari Kraft says. ■



Photo courtesy of Kari Kraft



Flourless Peanut Butter Cookies

Yields 1.5 dozen cookies

1 cup creamy peanut butter

1 cup granulated sugar

1 egg

Preheat the oven to 350°F. In a medium bowl, combine peanut butter, sugar and egg. Using a small cookie scoop, place dough balls on parchment paper-lined cookie sheet. Flatten with fork to make traditional peanut butter cookie crisscross pattern. Bake 8-10 minutes until done. Cool thoroughly before removing from cookie sheet. Store in an air-tight container.

Photo and recipe courtesy of Family Features

Baby, it's cold outside!

Five easy ways to stay cozy this winter

When you're feeling chilly at home, there are several budget-friendly ways you can keep comfortable without turning up the thermostat. And, don't forget the hot chocolate!

1 Whether you're experiencing extremely cold winter weather or you simply "run cold," an electric blanket can deliver quick warmth like a regular throw or blanket cannot. Electric blankets can include a variety of features, like timers and dual temperature settings (if your cuddle buddy prefers less heat). This winter, consider an electric blanket instead of turning up the heat—your energy bill will thank you.

2 One of the easiest ways to stay cozy at home is to keep your feet warm. Our feet play a critical role in regulating body temperature, so when your feet are warm, your body automatically feels warmer. Try a pair of comfortable wool socks or house slippers to stay toasty.

3 On winter days when the sun is shining, take advantage and harness natural warmth from sunlight. Open all curtains, drapes and blinds in your home to let the sunshine in—you'll be able to feel the difference.



4 Another way to make your home cozier is to use a humidifier. Cold air doesn't hold water vapor like warm air, so by adding humidity inside your home, you can feel a little warmer. A favorable level of humidity inside your home can also help clear sinuses, soften skin and improve sleep.

5 Beyond adding visual appeal to your home, area rugs can also provide extra insulation and a warm surface for your feet on cold winter days. Use large area rugs in rooms where you spend the most time. You'll enjoy the new colors and textures of the rug, and the additional warmth will help keep your home comfortable. ■



VVEC's headquarters in Collinsville, Oklahoma

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. Or, download the SmartHub app to report outages from your smartphone.

WINTER RESIDENTIAL RATES

October through March usage, November through April billing

Customer Charge | \$30.00

Energy Charge | \$.07772/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 59.87 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 & employer.

VOLUME 80 | NUMBER 2
FEBRUARY 2021

Has your status changed?

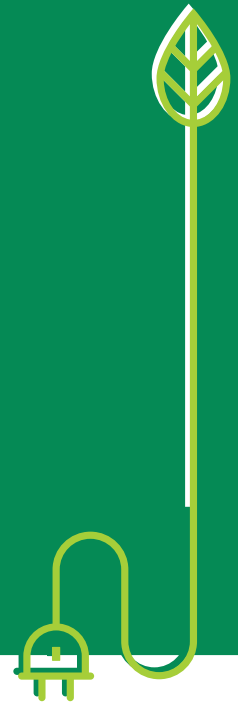
If you recently tied the knot, got divorced or were widowed, please call us so we can update your account. We need up-to-date, accurate information for your capital credit account, but also to make it easy for you to conduct business with us. Federal legislation enacted after Sept. 11, 2001, prevents us from discussing an account with anyone not listed on it. If you have been widowed, your account will be placed in your name, but we need you to update your application. If your parents or another family member were VVEC members and have passed away, we need to be aware of that because we cannot have an account in the name of a deceased person. We will be glad to work with you on updating your account. Please call our consumer service representatives at 918-371-2584.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Use wool or rubber dryer balls in the clothes dryer to reduce drying time and static.

Wool dryer balls can also absorb extra moisture. These are an efficient alternative to dryer sheets, which can create buildup on the dryer's filter and reduce air circulation. If you prefer dryer sheets, scrub the filter once a month to remove buildup.

Source: www.energy.gov



VVEC IS LOOKING FOR LOST MEMBERS: CURRENT ADDRESSES NEEDED

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.

STENDER, T, B	SWARTZ, JANE	THORPE, MERLE, D	REVOCABLE TRUST	WASSOM, BILL	WILKINS, GEORGE	WITT, JOSEPH
STEPHENS, BOBBY	SWEARINGEN, ROSS	THRASH, DON	VERBY, SHIRLEY	WATKINS, BARNEY, B	WILLARD, SANTAISJA, L	WOLFE, LUTHER, L JR
STEPHENS, MARTIN	SWEARINGEN, JIMMY	THURSTON, DANA, M	VERNON & BETTY	WATKINS, WAYNE	WILLCOX, JAMES	WOLLERT, EDNA, M
STEPHENS, RANDALL, G	SWIFT, JOSHUA, L	TISDALE, JOHNNY, J	LANDES REV LIVIN	WEAR, GORDON, V	WILLIAMS, ASHLEY, M	WOOD, CANDICE, M
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STEPHENS, SCARLET, E	TAHENY, FRANK	TOLLEY, RONALD	VIERHELLER, ED	WEAVER, PAMELA	WILLIAMS, CECIL	WOODHAM, WILLIAM
STEVENS, BOB	TAJO HOMES	TOMASSONE, ANTHONY	VILLAREAL, RHONDA	WEBER, RYAN, J	WILLIAMS, CHARLES	WOODSON, DEREK, C
STEWART, GENE	TAJO REALTY	TRAPP, FAYE	VINSON, BILL, L	WEBSTER, THERESA	WILLIAMS, DON	WORTHINGTON, ALVIN
STITHEM, CAROL, J	TALLEY, CAMILLE, D	TRESNER, ROLLIE	VOSS, DAVID	WEISER, MIKE, K	WILLIAMS, DOYLE, C	WRIGHT, GENE
STOCKMAN, BRENNON	TANNER, RAY	TRIMM, ERIK, W	VOYLES, DONALD, E	WELCH, MARK	WILLIAMS, EDWARD, C	WRIGHT, JEFF, K
STOKES, SHAUNTELLE, R	TATRO, DAWN, M	TROTTLINGWOLF, BRIAN	VOYLES, JOHN	WESLEY, LEE	WILLIAMS, JEFFREY, M	WRIGHT, JOE, I
STONE, STEPHEN, K	TAYLOR, CARRIE, J	TRUSTY, LARRY, R	W R NEWMAN &	WEST, CRAIG	WILLIAMS, JOHN, L	WRIGHT, JOHNNY
STONER, AARON, J	TAYLOR, ELMER	TUCKER, CLARENCE, F	ASSOCIATES INC	WEST, FELIX	WILLIAMS, M, D	WRIGHT, LESLIE, J
STOTLER, REBECCA, L	TAYLOR, FLOYD, M	TUCKER, FAY, S	WADE, LARRY	WEST, JOHN, H	WILLIAMS, MIKE, L	WYNN CONSTRUCTION
STRANDLIEN, KRISTI, M	TAYLOR, JOHN, C	TULIP OIL COMPANYY	WALKER, DAVID	WEST, KELLY	WILLIAMS, PATTL, J	XIONG, YANG
STRICKLIN, KRISTI, D	TAYLOR, MARK, K	TURNER, TOMMIE	WALKER, JOHNNY, S	WEST, STANFORD	WILLIAMS, STEVE, L	YANG, SHERRY
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SUMTER, SHAUN, W	THOMPSON, CHARLENE	VAUGHN, DONALD, G	WARD, SKYLAR, M	WICKS, PAUL	WINKLER, H, V	ZHANG, ZEFU
SUNBURST PETROLEUM	THOMPSON, RANDY	VELASCO, ANGELA, G	WARE, JONATHAN, F	WIGINTON, KEITH, E	WINTERMUTE,	ZIEGLER, GEORGIA, W
SUTTON, NAOMI, L	THORNTON, JAMES, RIII	VELTUM, MICHELLE, D	WARLICK, ANN, M	WILKES, JOHN, K JR	KIMBERLY	ZINCKE, PAM
SWAN, RICK	THOROUGHMAN, L, M	VERA ESTHER MCNEIL	WASKA, SHERYL	WILKINS, DOYLE	WISE, TERRY, D	ZINK, JACQUELINE, A