

Partnering With Our Community

Adopt-A-School Grant; Rural Fire Department

Grant season is back for school systems and rural fire departments in our service area! School representatives and fire department personnel may apply to receive funds from these programs and explain how they will use the funds to improve their classroom or fire department. Once all applications have been reviewed, program personnel will decide how many requests the program can grant! The funds from these grants can help in purchasing items and equipment they may not have been able to acquire otherwise.



Grant applications are being accepted until March 15th, 2024 at 4P.M. Contact Misti Frazier at 918-371-2584 or mfrazier@vvec.com or visit www.vvec.com and go to Community Programs for more information.



VVEC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- District 1:** Jim Brackett - 720-4531
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- District 7:** Charles Huerter - 914-1498
- District 8:** Ken Howard - 724-9965
- District 9:** Buddy McCarty - 272-5364

General Manager: Alice Lawson

CONTACT US

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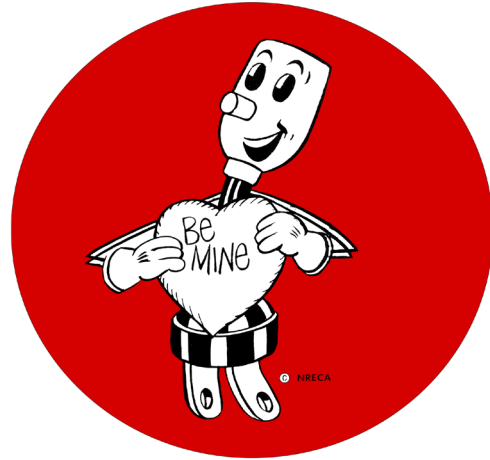
Phone number
918-371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948

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

Power Circuit Editor:
Megan Jackson

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY

TIP OF THE MONTH

FIND AND SEAL LEAKS

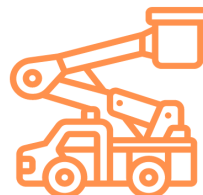


Seal air leaks around utility cut-throughs for pipes, gaps around chimneys and recessed lights in insulated ceilings, and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets.

Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.



BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY 2024 AND FOR SEVERAL MONTHS THEREAFTER, TREE CREWS WILL BE WORKING TO CLEAR RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE NORTH BARTLESVILLE AND VERDIGRIS SUBSTATION AREAS. PLEASE CONTACT THOMAS MARTINEZ AT 918-586-6208 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The 2024 student essay contest for 8th Graders and High School Juniors begins January 2, 2024!

VVEC is proud to once again offer YouthPower Energy Camp and Washington Youth Tour to eligible students who attend schools in our coverage territory. Energy Camp is geared for 8th graders ready to explore the world of energy while learning leadership skills and making unforgettable memories! Youth Tour is for High School Juniors who want to forge new friendships while broadening horizons and learning skills that will help shape your future!

As a bonus, for each contest we are offering a Teacher Incentive, too! If a teacher administers this essay contest as part of a whole classroom assignment and produces a contest finalist, he or she could be rewarded with \$100.00 toward the purchase of classroom materials or equipment and be featured in VVEC's Newsletter and/or Facebook page! We'd love your participation!

Official rules and regulations may be found on our website www.vvec.com - Community programs and view YouthPower or Energy Camp. For more information, please contact Misti Frazier, Youth Programs Coordinator 918-371-2584 or mfrazier@vvec.com.



Washington Youth Tour JUNE 14-20, 2024



ESSAY TOPIC:
PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES ARE, HOW THEY ORIGINATED AND THE MANY WAYS OUR COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM THEM.

YouthPower Energy Camp May 28-31, 2024



ESSAY TOPIC:
WHAT IS AN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE AND WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

On Fridays, we wear **PINK** as we proudly stand in honor, strength and love for those who are battling breast cancer!



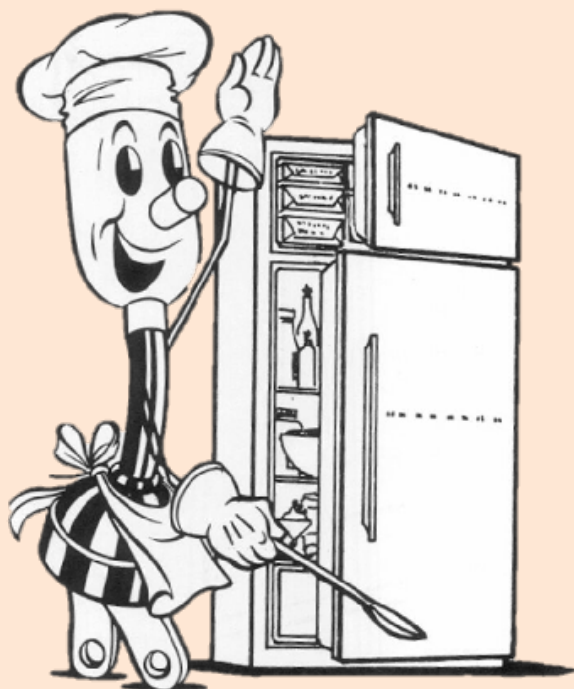
Willie's Throwback Recipe

Layered Cherry Cake

- 1 can cherry pie filling
- 1 lb. 4 oz can crushed pineapple, slightly drained
- 1 lb. 5 oz box white or yellow cake mix
- 1/2 c. nuts finely chopped
- 2 sticks margarine
- Cool Whip (optional)

Lightly grease a 9 x 13 inch pan and spread pie filling evenly in pan. Spread pineapple over pie filling, sprinkle with dry cake mix, then with nuts. Thinly slice margarine and place over nuts. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 45 minutes. Tastes delicious when topped with Cool Whip!

Published in The Servin' Spoon III



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. Over 40 years experience. Most dogs only \$40. Contact 918-381-1170.

Gold's Gym XR45 & Weider Pro 800 work out bench and weights. Original cost over \$3,000, selling for \$1,500. Contact 918-639-8492.

Large front load washer and gas dryer like new and about 1 year old. \$400 for pair. Contact 918-639-8492.

Queen size bed, solid wood, large head and foot board, \$300. Contact 918-639-8492.

Old time black metal clock with key, \$100. Contact 918-639-8492.

Ski boots size large, white, boys, \$45. Salomon inline street skates size 12, \$50. Hyperlite ski board, make offer. Contact 918-639-8492.

Aunt Jamama cast iron bank, old, \$100. Contact 918-639-8492.

Rolling 1968 Harley Davidson frame and parts, \$1000. Contact 918-639-8492.

1940's -1950's ice bucket with plastic handle, \$50. Contact 918-639-8492.

Square dining room table and four chairs, dark wood, Mathis Brothers, \$250. Contact 918-639-8492.

Child's leather saddle, 12" seat, with cinch, \$50. Contact 918-371-3295.

J&L Nuisance Wildlife Control, Specializing in nuisance beaver removal. Contact 918-671-5436.

Ex-Cell 1250 lb Capacity Engine Stand model W2001, like new, see and make offer. Contact 918-808-9051.

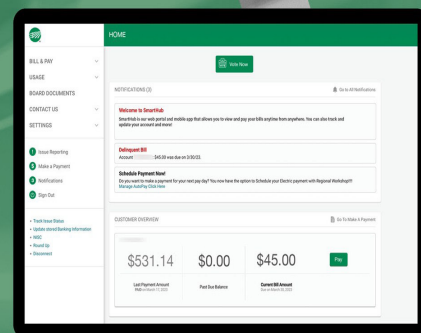
Ex-Cell 2 Ton Engine Hoist, like new, see and make offer. Contact 918-808-9051.

1957 Piper PA-22-150 basket case, complete, current registration. Contact 918-808-9051.

Vintage kitchen table with enamel metal top. Silverware drawer and 2 slide outs. Measures 24 x 40 x 30, each slide out measures 10 x 40. Includes matching 4 wood chairs. Contact 918-272-0164.

NEWLY REDESIGNED SMARTHUB

Save time and money by managing your account at anytime from anywhere.





nothing! He's already got a fence and barn to build on land recently purchased and eventually, a new home to construct! They also hope to raise some cattle and chickens and spend as much time as possible with the grandkids!

When asked what Ron will miss the most, his immediate response was his fellow employees and the members. "You get a rapport with a lot of them and they know your voice when you answer the phone. It's neat!", said Ron.

Happy Retirement!

Ron Cornett began his profession as a lineman in 1989 at Harmon Electric in Hollis, OK – the area he was raised. Fourteen and a half years later and wanting a change, he came to VVEC where he's called home since February of 2004. Ron has spent time on maintenance and construction crews, a service truck and will retire as dispatcher after a long and fulfilling career!

Celebrating Ron's retirement with us are his wife, Carolyn, a retired teacher, his son, three step-daughters, ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren but don't think he'll be sitting around doing

What he's definitely not going to miss are the ticks and chiggers from when he was in the field - you can always cool down or warm up but you can't get away from them!

Without VVEC, life would be very different for Ron. He stated, "It's unbelievable what they've provided me and how they've given me an avenue to pursue something I wouldn't think I'd ever be able to do as far as life after retirement."

Best wishes and big congratulations on a job well done, Ron!



"I never dreamed I'd wind up in northeast Oklahoma but the best move I ever made was coming here."



FUN FACT!

When Ron was taking his drug test to begin work, another gentleman was sitting in the waiting area waiting to do the same thing. They began to speak and realized they were both new hires at VVEC -- it was Logan Wells!

Years of Service Celebrated



Employees who hit benchmarks in their Years of Service during 2023 were recognized at the Employee Christmas Dinner. Thank you so much for your hard work and dedication in serving our members! Pictured as follows: Front row, left to right: Garrett Laughlin (10); Thomas Martinez (15); Danny Bement (25); Michael Mattox (25); Jodi Cooper (5); Reese Howard (5); Adam Prickett (20); Nate Day (15) Back row, left to right: Josh Jackson (25); Josh Merritt (10); Johnna Jones (25); Suzy McClain (5) Not pictured: Kim Ford (20); Robert Rouse (25)

Employee of the Year: Kim Ford

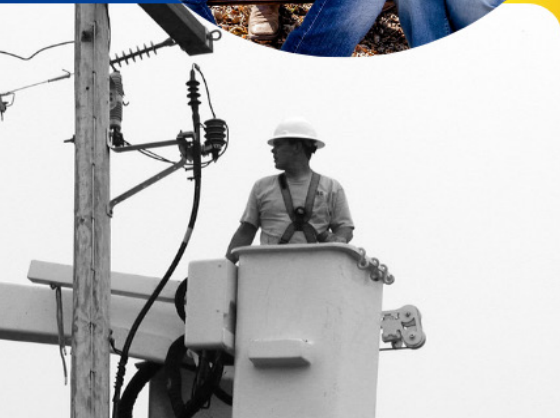
Congratulations to Kim Ford being voted 2023 Employee of the Year - an honor that was announced at the Employee Christmas dinner! Kim was not able to attend the dinner but a big round of applause was had in her honor among her coworkers. Kim is a twenty-year Verdigris Valley employee, working in Data and most recently, Office Services. Kim frequently goes the extra mile and takes special care when communicating with members. Office Manager, Annie Stout, said of Kim, "She's got a very giving heart and makes sure everyone else is taken care of before herself without ever expecting anything in return. She's extremely family focused and that crosses over into her work." Congratulations on a job very well done!





Employee Spotlight

Logan Wells



Twenty-year Lineman, Logan Wells, started his climb in February 2004 in construction, moving to maintenance for a few years and is currently Foreman of one of the overhead crews! Logan is married to his beautiful wife, Elisha and together, they have two children, Tatum and Cole.

Being outdoors is a big part of Logan's day and one of the best – he loves how there's always a new place to go and how you're never in the same place long! That aspect also translates into his interests beyond work – his favorite things include hunting, fishing and his kid's activities in sports and showing animals in Ag which undoubtedly keeps him pretty busy!

Helping people is important for Logan and he said it was incredible during the aftermath of Hurricane Gustav in 2008 how people responded with love and an enormous amount of gratitude toward the linemen for being there and helping restore their lives.

Thank you for your awesome work and leadership, Logan! Great job!

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 & employer.

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.