



VVEC LINE LIFE

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86th Annual Meeting RECAP



HELLO december

- 12.21 First day of Winter!
- 12.24-25 Christmas - Offices Closed!
- 12.31 New Year's Eve!
- 01.01 New Year's Day - Offices Closed!



December Mystery Picture! Do you know where this is? Be the first to correctly guess the location during the month of December and receive a \$50 bill credit! Call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 to submit your guess!

November's Location correctly guessed by Judy - Little Hudson Lake, Bartlesville

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

VVEC Brush Coordinator: Thomas Martinez 918-586-6208



Millions take to the highways over the holidays, making it one of the busiest travel times of the year.

If you're traveling by car this season, follow these safety tips:

- 1. Prepare Your Home**
Cancel mail, pause deliveries and have someone check on your home. In snowy areas, arrange for snow removal.
- 2. Reduce Fire Risks**
Unplug all nonessential electrical devices and check smoke detectors.
- 3. Don't Overshare**
Avoid posting travel plans on social media to prevent potential break-ins.
- 4. Inspect Your Car**
Ensure tires are inflated and carry jumper cables, as cold weather can drain batteries.
- 5. Pack an Emergency Kit**
Include a car phone charger, blankets, food and water, coats and a flashlight with batteries.
- 6. Check the Weather**
Check the weather before and during your trip to avoid storms.
- 7. Buckle Up & Slow Down**
Increase your following distance to safely navigate slick roads and allow extra time to get to your destination.
- 8. Take Frequent Breaks**
Winter driving challenges can be tiring. Stop every few hours to stay alert and stay hydrated to avoid fatigue.
- 9. Share Your Itinerary**
Let family or friends know your travel plans, whether you're on your way out or heading back home.
- 10. Put that Phone Away**
Avoid Distractions - winter driving requires your full attention.

Stay Safe!



Holiday Safety Tips

TO KEEP YOUR PET SAFE

Safe Electricity.org®



Take special care during the holiday season. Pets may be tempted to chew on or play with decorative light strands, getting more than they bargained for.

Scan the QR code for more information about keeping your pets safe this holiday season!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

MISTI FRAZIER



December's spotlight is shining brighter than all the twinkle lights in Collinsville! Misti Frazier came to Verdigris Valley in 2009 as a billing representative, transitioned to a records clerk and is currently the Member Services and Youth Programs Coordinator.

Misti enjoys being rooted and involved in her community so being in Member Services and Youth Programs is right up her alley! She loves helping people, whether that be our youth or our senior citizens - she's always willing to help wherever she can.

When Misti isn't working, she's likely spending time with her husband, Shane, and spoiling their fur-babies! She's involved with her church and anyone who is lucky enough to know Misti, knows she loves laughing, having a good time and she LOVES Christmas! But once it warms up, she's planting flowers and enjoying her time outside!

Congratulations on a job very well done, Misti!



"I'm so thankful for the opportunity to be employed here. The friends I've made and members I've come to know over the years... you can see so much good in our communities and I'm grateful to be a part of it."

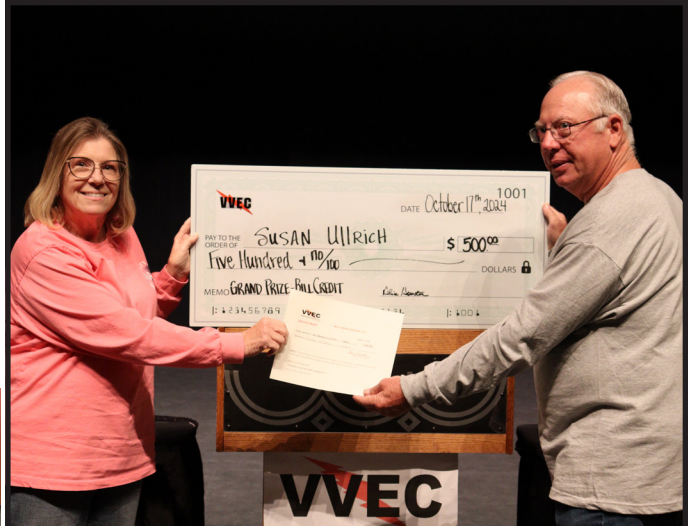


WELCOME TO **VVEC** ANNUAL MEETING

The 86th Annual Meeting of members was held on October 17th, 2024 with nearly 300 people filling the Bartlesville Community Center. Those in attendance were treated to photo ops with Willie Wiredhand, gift bags, vouchers for a variety of food truck options, live music by The Thomas Martinez Band and door prizes! Additionally, a variety of booths were set up in the dining hall to learn more about some of the many services VVEC provides to it's members.

Kenny Sparks, Former Director of Legislative & Regulatory Affairs for the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives, was on-hand as the featured speaker for the evening. No business could be conducted due to lack of quorum so District 8 Trustee Ken Howard began the door prize portion of the evening before adjourning the meeting. Big thanks to all our members, vendors and guests for taking the time to make the evening such a success! We are already looking forward to next year!





GRAND PRIZE WINNER
Susan Ullrich, pictured above with District 8 Trustee Ken Howard, won the Grand Prize of a \$500.00 bill credit!
CONGRATULATIONS!





HURRICANE RELIEF: Mutual Aid continues in states impacted by recent hurricanes

In late September, Hurricane Francine formed in the Gulf and made landfall in Louisiana. Later that month, Hurricane Helene, a Category 4 hurricane, formed over the Western Caribbean and landed in the Big Bend region of Florida. But it wasn't over yet... On October 5th, Hurricane Milton formed in the Gulf of Mexico and rapidly gained enough intensity to become a Category 5 hurricane with winds hitting 180 mph.

And when Verdigris Valley was called on for additional help, our linemen did what our linemen do. They packed their bags, loaded their trucks, said goodbye to their families, and drove into the storm. They picked up where our first crew left off and began restoring power to areas of widespread destruction.

"I consider it an honor to be a part of a cooperative who is willing to send our crews when there's such a great need," said Danny Bement, Director of Operations and Engineering Services. "These guys drop everything at a moments notice for the benefit of others. It's such a personal sacrifice; I'm really proud of them and also their families here at home for taking care of everything while they're gone. It's truly a team effort."

Linemen who respond to storms witness a lot of devastation and at times, hostility, but they also have those moments when they see the signs of gratitude and hear the applause and cheers as they work to restore power from people who are truly relieved and grateful to see help on the way.

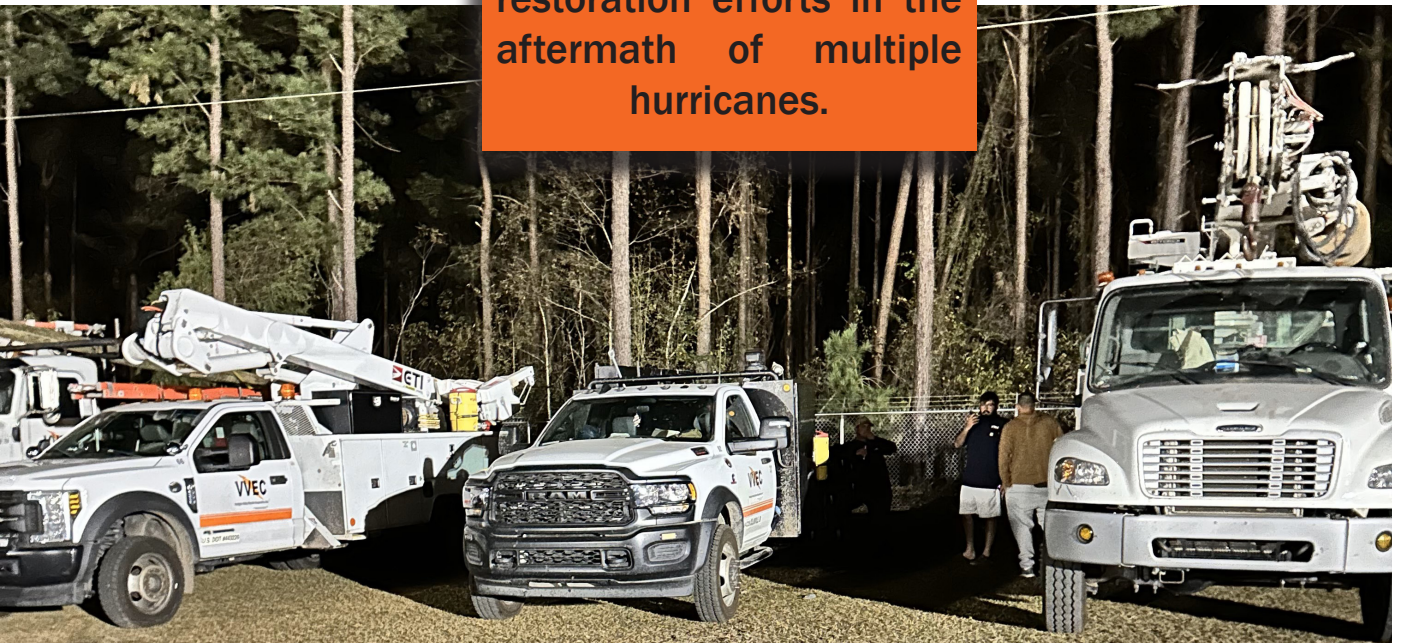
Thank you to the communities who stand behind our guys when they're giving it all they've got!



COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES



In total, Oklahoma proudly sent over 100 linemen from 12 different electric cooperatives to aid in restoration efforts in the aftermath of multiple hurricanes.



VVEC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- District 1: Jim Brackett - 720-4531
- District 2: Jack Bogart - 371-9587
- District 3:
- District 4: John Hibdon - 847-2320
- District 5: Jimmy Lambert - 760-7029
- District 6: Dennis Lenox - 289-5961
- District 7: Charles Huerter - 914-1498
- District 8: Ken Howard - 724-9965
- District 9: Buddy McCarty - 272-5364

General Manager: Alice Lawson

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You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Director: Office of Adjudication
 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
 Fax: 202-690-7442
 Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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PECAN PIE BROWNIES

This seasonal twist on brownies skips the pie crust, and combines two classic desserts in one delicious bite. The syrupy pecan pie topping seeps into brownies, making them rich, flavorful, and just the right amount of moist.



Cooking spray

- 1 (18-oz.) box brownie mix, plus ingredients called for on box
- 2/3 c. light corn syrup
- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 5 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted, cooled
- 1 Tbsp. molasses
- 2 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 3 large eggs
- 2 c. whole pecans, toasted
- Caramel sauce, for serving (optional)

Preheat oven to 325°. Grease a 9"x9" baking pan with cooking spray and line with parchment. Prepare brownie batter according to box instructions. Bake brownies until slightly under-baked and a tester inserted into the center comes out with a few moist crumbs attached, about 20 minutes. Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, whisk corn syrup, brown sugar, butter, molasses, vanilla, and salt until smooth. Whisk in eggs until combined. Stir in pecans until coated. Increase oven temperature to 350°. Top brownies with pecan mixture, evenly spreading. Continue to bake until pecan topping is springy to touch and thickened, about 40 to 45 minutes. Let brownies cool to room temperature. Refrigerate until cold and set, about 1 hour. Drizzle with caramel sauce, if using. Enjoy!

Is your account number 2411401803? If so, call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 during the month of December and claim your \$50 bill credit! CONGRATS!

FROM ALL OF US AT
 VERDIGRIS VALLEY ELECTRIC
 COOPERATIVE,

*Merry Christmas
 and Happy New Year!*



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.

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.