

THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

electronews



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FROM THE MANAGER

Invitation to our Annual Meeting



Terry Janson

Next week, Victory Electric Cooperative will host its 66th Annual Meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at the Dodge City Civic Center. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner served at 6 p.m. (to the first 800

meeting starts at 7 p.m.

I invite you to come out, have a steak dinner, and visit with our board members, management and employees.

In addition to a great steak dinner, there will be a registration gift to the first 600 residential members attending, and chances to win lots of great door prizes.

Soon, you will receive an annual report in the mail. It will have lots of information about the cooperative, and it includes your registration card for the annual meeting. So keep watch in your mailbox for the annual report and more information on the annual meeting.

Our annual meeting is a time that we get to see and visit with our members and we would love to see you there on April 12.

'Til next time, TJ

April 2011						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

“Our annual meeting is a time we get to see and visit with our members”



Happy Easter!

Congratulations

2011 Youth Tour Winners



From left: Evan Kisner, South Gray HS, and Jessica Lampe, Spearville HS

**"Government In Action"
Youth Tour in
Washington, D.C.**



From left: Claire Leis, Minneola HS, and Norma Avalos, Dodge City HS

**Cooperative Youth
Leadership Camp in
Steamboat Springs, Colorado**

Victory Electric is sponsoring four local high school juniors to participate in the Youth Tour programs.

Evan Kisner, South Gray, and **Jessica Lampe**, Spearville, will attend the "Government-In-Action" Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., in June.

During the Youth Tour, the students will

join 1,500 youth from across the nation in Washington, D.C. Participants will visit the monuments and other attractions, as well as visit Capitol Hill to learn more about how our government works.

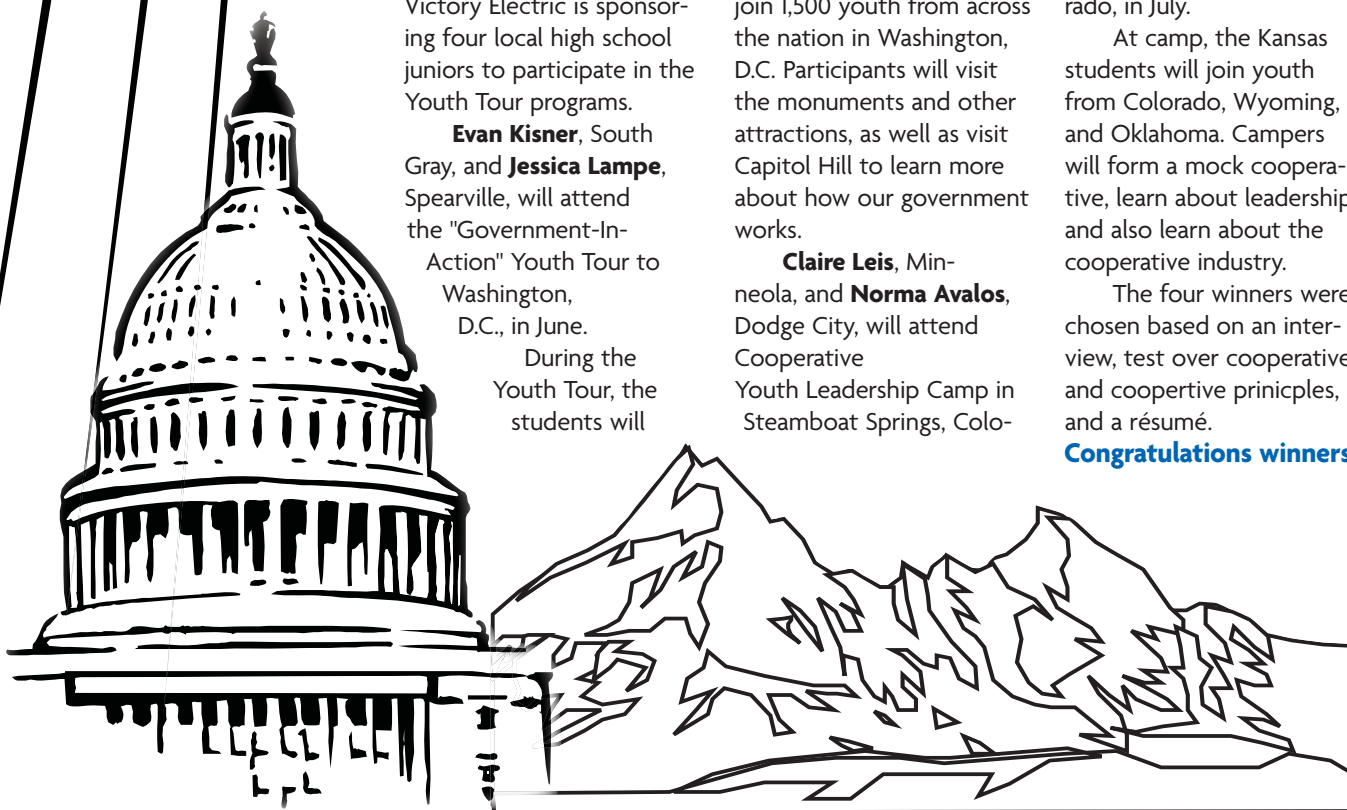
Claire Leis, Minneola, and **Norma Avalos**, Dodge City, will attend Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colo-

rado, in July.

At camp, the Kansas students will join youth from Colorado, Wyoming, and Oklahoma. Campers will form a mock cooperative, learn about leadership and also learn about the cooperative industry.

The four winners were chosen based on an interview, test over cooperatives and cooperative principles, and a résumé.

Congratulations winners!



Stay Safe All Year Long

Calendar provides reminders to keep your home safe

When a light goes out, it's hard not to notice the bulb needs to be replaced (unless you like to stay in the dark). But how can you tell if your power outlets are working properly? You don't want an electrical fire to serve as a wake-up call.

"Many homes are equipped with new technologies to help prevent electrical fires and injuries," explains Brett Brenner, president of the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI). "Unlike a lightbulb that goes dark when it needs to be replaced, there may not be any indication when these safety features aren't working properly. That's why ESFI recommends testing them every month."

Ground fault circuit interrupter

(GFCI) outlets and combination-type arc fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) circuit breakers are just some of the many safety features in your home that need regular attention.

"It's possible an outlet or circuit may work, but the protection isn't there—the only way to know is to push the 'test' button," notes Brenner.

May is National Electrical Safety Month, a time when electric cooperatives educate consumers on ways to stay safe at home and on the job. But safety awareness shouldn't stop on May 31.

ESFI provides a Home Safety Calendar to help you remember when to perform routine maintenance and safety checks around the house.

Some things, like vacuuming coils and changing furnace or air conditioning filters, should be done every three months. Other items, like testing GFCI outlets and smoke alarms, need to happen monthly.

"Taking care of these safety items on the first of the month when you're paying bills is a great time to knock a few things off the list. Then you don't have to worry about them for the rest of the month," recommends Brenner. "We created the calendar so you can put it on your refrigerator as daily reminder of simple steps to take every month to keep your family safe!"

Learn more about home electrical safety by visiting ESFI's Virtual Home at <http://virtualhome.esfi.org>.

Electrical Safety Calendar

Use this handy calendar to help keep your home safe. For more tips, visit esfi.org.

JANUARY

- Check and replace furnace filters

FEBRUARY

- Vacuum refrigerator coils

MARCH

- Replace smoke and carbon monoxide alarm batteries if not done in last 12 months

APRIL

- Check and replace furnace filters

MAY

- Clean air conditioners or schedule annual inspection
- Vacuum refrigerator coils

JUNE

- Dust light fixtures/lamps
- Schedule annual inspection of gas-powered dryer

JULY

- Check and replace air conditioning filters

AUGUST

- Vacuum refrigerator coils

SEPTEMBER

- Schedule annual furnace cleaning and inspection

OCTOBER

- Check and replace furnace filters

NOVEMBER

- Vacuum refrigerator coils

DECEMBER

- Dust light fixtures/lamps

ESFI recommends hiring a licensed, qualified home electrical inspector if:

Your home is more than 40 years old; your home had a major addition or renovation or major new appliance added in the last 10 years; and/or you are the new owner of a previously owned home.

Every month you should:

1. Inspect all electrical and appliance cords for damage

2. Test GFCIs & AFCIs

Whether you have a receptacle-type or circuit breaker-type ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI), pushing the TEST button should turn off power to the circuit. To restore power, press the RESET button. To test arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) push the TEST button. The breaker handle should go to the middle or off position. To reset, move the breaker handle to the OFF position and then to the ON position.



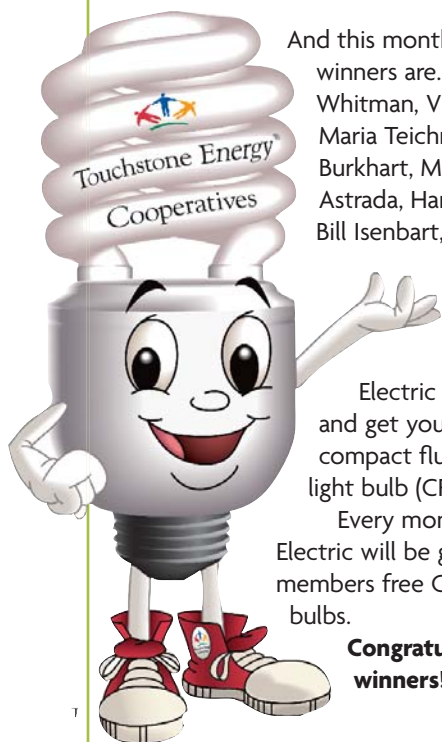
3. Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms

Push the TEST button or use other procedures recommended by the manufacturer. Smoke alarm batteries should be changed at least once a year. If an alarm "chirps" or "beeps" to indicate low batteries, change them right away. Replace all smoke alarms at least every 10 years.



CFL Charlie Says

"Come Get Your Free CFL Bulb!"



And this month's lucky winners are... Gene Whitman, Victor White, Maria Teichroeb, Terry Burkhart, Miriam Astrada, Harold Gabel, Bill Isenbart, and

Rebecca Hardin.

Come by Victory

Electric Cooperative and get your free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL).

Every month Victory Electric will be giving members free CFL light bulbs.

Congratulations winners!

When the power goes out, the little things can become surprisingly big!



Small comforts you rarely think about are the things you may miss the most during a power outage. That's why Kohler generators build the fastest-responding generators in the industry. Learn more at KohlerSmartPower.com. Victory Electric is now selling Kohler generators. Please contact Josh at 620.227.2139 for more information.



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