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facebook.com/victoryelectric  
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# Electronews

## THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSN., INC.

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Director of Communications

### FROM THE CEO

## SmartHub Puts the Power in Your Hands



**Shane Laws**

Even if Punxsutawney Phil does not see his shadow on Groundhog Day and predicts an early spring, we likely will have more wintry

weather in the days ahead. Colder weather often means higher heating costs, too. The greater the difference between the outdoor temperature and the setting on your thermostat, the longer your heating system must run to maintain your preferred temperature — even if you don't adjust the temperature.

Though we can't predict the future any better than a prognosticating rodent can, Victory Electric's secure SmartHub system empowers you to make informed predictions about your electric usage. SmartHub's usage management tools allow you to view your monthly, daily or hourly energy usage and look for energy spikes and consumption trends. Analyzing your energy usage data regularly helps you make informed decisions, prevent surprises on your bill and understand

where changes to your habits will make the biggest difference.

Real-time usage data isn't the only benefit of using SmartHub. This powerful suite of tools also offers these benefits:

### CENTRALIZED ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT

SmartHub brings all your account information — billing, usage, notifications and payments — into one secure location. You can view your current account balance, see whether a payment has been received, update your contact information, and find other account information 24/7 on your SmartHub account.

### CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS

You can save the 78-cent cost of a stamp, avoid the possibility of lost or misdirected mail, and easily pay your bill online via SmartHub. The Auto Pay option gives you the added convenience of having your bill

automatically withdrawn from your bank account or paid with your card each month, eliminating concerns about due dates or late fees. Enroll

smart hub

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# Victory Announces Logo Refresh

Victory Electric is excited to announce a refresh of our cooperative's logo. This update reflects our commitment to powering the future and connecting with our member-owners in a rapidly changing world.

The new design incorporates modern design elements while honoring our rich heritage. Whether our refreshed logo appears on our trucks, digital platforms or in print, we hope it reflects our focus on growth and innovation and resonates with both current and future generations of members. There will be no additional cost



for members for the rebranding, as we will be making updates to items as part of our normal replacement cycle.

## COBANK SHARING SUCCESS GRANT

- Applications open from **JAN. 5 - MARCH 2**
- Apply at **VICTORYELECTRIC.NET**

A large, glowing lightbulb is positioned on the right side of the advertisement. The bulb is illuminated from within, casting a bright glow that radiates outwards in a circular pattern. The glow is composed of blue and white light streaks. The text "NONPROFITS: APPLY FOR UP TO \$30K IN FUNDING!" is overlaid on the left side of the lightbulb.

NONPROFITS:  
APPLY FOR UP TO  
**\$30K** IN FUNDING!

IRRIGATION MEMBERS:

# Horsepower Charges Renew on April 1

Victory Electric member-owners are reminded that annual horsepower charges for irrigation services are automatically renewed on April 1 each year. To avoid being billed for wells or horsepower you no longer need in 2026, please review your irrigation services before March 31, 2026, and let us know if you would like to:

- ▶ Disconnect any irrigation services that will not be used during the season.
- ▶ Increase or decrease horsepower on any services.
- ▶ Transfer or keep services in your name if you are leasing the ground.

Please notify Victory Electric at 620-227-2139 before **MARCH 31** if you need to make any changes or if you have questions.

To stop or adjust your annual irrigation service charges, we must be notified of any necessary changes before irrigation services are renewed on April 1. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter, which helps us efficiently manage your account services. We appreciate our irrigation service members and look forward to serving you in the coming year.



# Area Students Selected for Youth Trips

YOUTH TOUR

MAKE YOUR MARK!  
JUNE 13-19, 2026

COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP  
JULY 10-16, 2026  
COMMUNITY | LEADERSHIP | MEMORIES  
SPONSORED BY VICTORY ELECTRIC CO-OP

MEET OUR YOUTH TRIP WINNERS!

ADELINE ROBINSON  
DODGE CITY

EVA SHARMA  
DODGE CITY

BROOKLYN REED  
BUCKLIN

JAEDEN STIMPERT  
BUCKLIN

THEY'RE GOING ON A TRIP OF A LIFETIME!

Victory Electric is pleased to announce the winners of four cooperative leadership development trips for youth in 2026: **ADELINE ROBINSON**, who attends Dodge City High School; **EVA SHARMA**, Dodge City, who attends Rocket Online Schools (ROCS); and **BROOKLYN REED** and **JAEDEN STIMPERT**, who both attend Bucklin High School.

Victory Electric believes in developing the potential of today's youth to become tomorrow's leaders. To provide opportunities for building these skills, each year Victory Electric invites juniors from its cooperative service area to apply for all-expenses-paid trips to the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., and the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp (CYLC) near Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Adeline and Eva will attend Youth Tour June 13-19, and Brooklyn and Jaeden will attend CYLC July 10-16. The four winners will also receive a \$500 scholarship following their high school graduation.

This year, candidates were asked to create a short video sharing electrical safety tips in a creative and engaging way. A panel of judges selected the winners after evaluating the candidates' applications, résumés, videos and in-person interviews.

"We were impressed by the creativity of this year's student

applicants and their electrical safety videos and interviews. The annual youth trips show Victory's commitment to supporting community and youth, and we are confident the winners will represent Victory Electric and Kansas well this summer," said Director of Communications Chanda Schulte.

Youth Tour attendees will meet with state and national legislators in the nation's capital and build connections with thousands of high school students from across the country. The educational experience includes tours of Smithsonian museums, visits to the White House and other historic sites and monuments.

CYLC participants will raft on the Colorado River, tour a power plant and learn about the electric cooperative industry through hands-on sessions. Nearly 100 students from electric cooperative communities in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming are expected to attend the leadership camp this summer.

Support for these annual youth leadership opportunities reflects Victory Electric's commitment to community and youth development, and we know this year's winners will represent Victory well in their travels. The contest is held each fall for area high school juniors. For more information about Victory Electric's youth programs, visit [www.victoryelectric.net](http://www.victoryelectric.net).

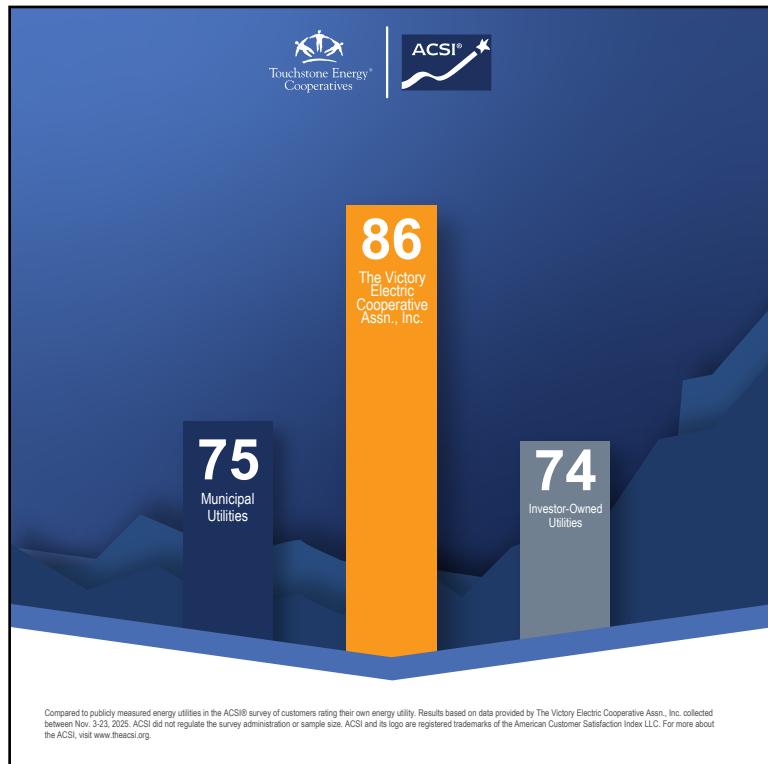
# Victory Electric's Member Satisfaction is STRONG

The Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. completed its annual member-wide customer satisfaction survey. The member responses were sent to the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI®), a company that measures customer satisfaction across multiple industries throughout the entire United States.

**FOR 2025, VICTORY ELECTRIC RECEIVED AN ACSI SCORE OF 86 ON A 100-POINT SCALE.**

Victory Electric's score is higher when compared to publicly measured investor-owned utility scores and municipal utility scores reported in the syndicated 2025 ACSI Energy Utility Study and places Victory Electric 12 points higher than the average investor-owned utility score of 74, as well as 11 points higher than the municipal utilities score of 75, per the industry ratings. For more information, please visit <https://theacsi.org/industries/energy-utilities>.

\*COMPARED TO PUBLICLY MEASURED ENERGY UTILITIES IN THE ACSI® SURVEY OF CUSTOMERS RATING THEIR OWN ENERGY UTILITY. RESULTS BASED ON DATA PROVIDED BY VICTORY ELECTRIC, COLLECTED BETWEEN NOV. 3-23, 2025. ACSI DID NOT REGULATE THE SURVEY ADMINISTRATION OR SAMPLE SIZE. ACSI AND ITS LOGO ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF THE AMERICAN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION INDEX LLC. FOR MORE ABOUT THE ACSI, VISIT [WWW.THEACSI.ORG](http://WWW.THEACSI.ORG).



## → SAVE THE DATE ← ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 14

2026

DODGE CITY

Boot Hill Casino & Resort Conference Center



Victory Electric employees donated almost \$1,200 to **ANGEL TREE** in 2025. Combined with matching funds from the cooperative, Victory purchased toys, blankets and other gifts for 65 area kids in need, ranging in age from newborn to 15 years old.



Victory Electric sponsored coffee at the **CHAMBER COFFEE** hosted by Red Beard Coffee in December. We appreciate our small business members and community leaders who make Dodge City thrive.



Victory Electric donated food items to **FRIENDSHIP FEAST**, which serves hot meals every weekday to people who are hungry and in need. Friendship Feast operates out of First Presbyterian Church in downtown Dodge City. Director of Communications Chanda Schulte (left) with Friendship Feast Manager Sarah Speakman and a volunteer.



Kevin Freeman, Trevor Grasser, Weston Pfeifer, and Xander Myers helped make some holiday magic for Northwest Elementary students in Dodge City. When the first graders' **GINGERBREAD MEN** "disappeared and ran up a tree," a Victory Electric line crew used a bucket truck to retrieve the runaway cookies and safely returned them to the excited kids below.



Victory Electric recently presented **CAPITAL CREDITS** allocations to the City of Dodge City and USD 443 for their ownership in the cooperative. TOP: Pictured at the City of Dodge City Commission meeting (from left) are Commissioner Chuck Taylor, Dodge City Mayor, and Victory Lead Construction Coordinator Daniel Pogue, Victory Key Accounts Coordinator Dylan Ratts, Victory CFO Angela Unruh, Commissioner Jeff Reinert, Vice-Mayor Michael Burns, and Commissioner Rick Sowers. LEFT: Pictured at the school board presentation (from left) are USD 443 Superintendent Jason Scheck, Key Accounts Coordinator Dylan Ratts, and USD 443 School Board President Ryan Ausmus.



# VICTORY ELECTRIC LOVES Our Communities

Feb. 14 is Valentine's Day, a great reminder of how much Victory Electric loves the communities we serve — and you, our members! We demonstrate the cooperative principle of Commitment to Community with outreach activities like helping kids at local schools, supporting local families who need assistance, and giving back to local small businesses and organizations. Community is at the heart of everything we do!

# SmartHub Puts the Power in Your Hands

*Continued from page 12A ▶*

in paperless billing if you want to cut down on paper clutter.

## CURRENT OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS

Sign up for email or text notifications on SmartHub to receive power outage alerts, updates and other valuable information from Victory Electric. On SmartHub you can also quickly report outages or service issues.

Interested in using SmartHub? Simply download the free SmartHub mobile app from your phone's app store, or visit <https://victoryelectric.smarthub.coop> if you would prefer to use SmartHub in a web browser. To create a SmartHub account, click "Don't have an account? Register now" and follow the instructions. You will need your Victory Electric account number, which is printed on your bill. Please contact Victory Electric at 620-227-2139 with any questions about setting up a SmartHub account or to learn more about its features.

SmartHub puts the power to manage and make

**Interested in using SmartHub? Simply download the free SmartHub mobile app from your phone's app store, or visit [victoryelectric.smarthub.coop](https://victoryelectric.smarthub.coop) if you would prefer to use SmartHub in a web browser.**

educated decisions about your energy usage in your hands. It gives you the ability to control your account information, payment options and notification settings. By regularly monitoring your energy usage and using SmartHub, you can prevent surprises on your bill and enjoy greater peace of mind throughout the changing seasons, no matter what the forecast may bring.

**THANKS, SHANE**

# LIGHTNER COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

**10**

\$1,000  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE



SCAN TO  
APPLY

TO APPLY, SCAN OR VISIT  
[VICTORYELECTRIC.NET/SCHOLARSHIP-OPPORTUNITIES](https://victoryelectric.net/scholarship-opportunities)

APPLICATIONS OPEN  
01.15 - 02.28  
2026

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS OR CURRENT STUDENTS AT A UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OR TECHNICAL SCHOOL WHO ARE DEPENDENTS OF A VICTORY ELECTRIC MEMBER, HAVE A 3.0 GPA AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED A COMMITMENT TO THEIR COMMUNITY ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

## LOOK UP & LOOK OUT

Do not get within **10 FEET** (in any direction) of a power line.

**BE AWARE** of power lines when working on a roof.

**DO NOT TRIM** branches or limbs near power lines.

Be careful when **CARRYING LONG OR TALL OBJECTS** such as ladders or poles.

# Look Up and Look Out

Electricity is so essential to our daily lives that we often don't think about it until there is an outage. But we must always keep electrical safety in mind when working outside. Whether you are working on a construction site, driving farm equipment, or undertaking a home improvement project, it is critical to identify all overhead power lines and maintain constant awareness of their location. Always keep yourself and any machinery or equipment a minimum of 20 feet away from overhead power lines.

Please contact Victory Electric if you need to complete any outdoor work near power lines. Victory Electric can cover power lines or possibly de-energize them to prevent accidental contact and assist with other safeguards to help keep you safe, at no charge to the member.

In addition to contacting Victory if you will be working near power lines and always maintaining a safe distance,

follow these tips to keep safe around overhead power lines:

- ▶ Assume all power lines are energized, and never touch anything that has come into contact with one.
- ▶ Never go near a downed power line or attempt to move it. Stay at least 50 feet away and contact Victory Electric.
- ▶ Stay away from meters, transformers and electrical boxes, and keep children and pets away from them, too.
- ▶ If you get something stuck in a power line or if an object goes inside a substation fence, do NOT attempt to retrieve it yourself but rather call Victory Electric for assistance.
- ▶ When using a ladder, always lower it before moving and carry it horizontally.
- ▶ When using farm machinery, lower grain augers or other equipment before moving them near power lines, and use a spotter to help you maintain a safe distance.

**The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one time per year benefit.**



WINTER CAN BE TOUGH.

GETTING HELP SHOULDN'T BE.

Applications open from  
**January 20, 2026**  
until 5 p.m. on  
**March 31, 2026.**

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION.

