

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

P.O. Box 1335, 3230 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Dodge City, KS 67801  
620-227-2139  
[www.victoryelectric.net](http://www.victoryelectric.net)

## THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# electronews



### The Victory Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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### FROM THE MANAGER

## Co-op Power: Reliable, Affordable Environmentally Responsible

At Victory Electric, we have three top priorities: provide you safe, reliable access to electric power; offer that service as affordably as possible; and do both of those things in a fiscally and environmentally responsible fashion.

Because Victory Electric is a not-for-profit enterprise—which means your money stays local; we don't have to worry about distant shareholders—we are well-positioned to make any necessary investments for ensuring safe, reliable and affordable electricity. However, fulfilling our commitment to environmental stewardship in a fiscally responsible manner has become more challenging. Today, many environmental laws that were adopted by Congress decades ago are being used by federal agencies and the courts to address issues for which they were never intended.

For example, the federal Clean Air Act is now 40 years old and was last amended in 1990—more than two decades ago. Much has changed in the intervening years, including technology, our understanding of the environment, and the electric utility industry.

Today, officials with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—often under court order—are trying to modify the Clean Air Act to fit new circumstances. Without a doubt, new EPA rules being issued will wind up back in the courts—and lengthy litigation will ensue.

Reasonable people can and will disagree over how to find a balance between protecting the environment, guaranteeing a reliable supply of power, and keeping electric bills affordable.

Under the right circumstances, Congress eventually will have to

*Continued on page 16-H* ▶



Terry Janson

*“We are well-positioned to make any necessary investments for ensuring safe, reliable and affordable electricity.”*



### CFL Charlie Says

## "Come Get Your Free CFL Bulb!"

And this month's winners are...Kay West, Phil Travis, Glen Stein, Dale Loder, Diann Castro, Nancy Becker, Bruce Faulkner, & Leandro Huizar. Come by Victory Electric, talk to Josh or Jerry and get your free compact florescent light bulb (CFL).

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

**Congratulations winners!**

## Letter from the President

*Victory Seeking Board Member Nominations*



**Richard Lightner**

**Dear Victory Electric Members,**

It is time once again to start thinking about Victory Electric's Annual Membership Meeting held on April 10, 2012. We are currently soliciting nominations for Victory Electric's Board of Trustees.

Positions up for election are:

- ▶ Dist. 1 **DARYL TIEBEN**, Dodge City
- ▶ Dist. 3 **CARL HUBBELL**, Spearville
- ▶ Dist. 8 **CEDRIC DREWES**, Dodge City
- ▶ Dist. 10 **MAX JANTZ**, Dodge City.

To qualify, you must be a naturalized U.S. citizen; and your principal residence must be served by Victory Electric and located within our territory and within the district which you wish to represent. Also, if a close relative of yours—within the third degree—is an employee or a trustee of Victory Electric, you are not eligible to run for a trustee position.

Duties of an elected trustee include: attending a monthly six-to-eight hour board meeting, board training opportunities, and some travel will be required.

If you would like to run for a position, or you know someone interested, please send a letter of interest with qualifications to Terry Janson or Richard Lightner at Victory Electric, P.O. Box 1335, Dodge City, KS 67801.

**Sincerely,**  
**Richard Lightner, Board President**

## Sign Up for Online Bill-pay & Automatic Bank Draft

Is your electric bill due and you don't have time to mail it? Do you wish it were more convenient to pay your bill? Victory Electric has a great option for you to pay your electric bill from the convenience of your own home.

Our website, [www.victoryelectric.net](http://www.victoryelectric.net), gives members the option to pay online with a credit card. You are able to view your billing and payment history on the website. You can also view your usage and print a paper bill if you lost yours. This gives you the ability to compare your monthly usage and payments right on your computer.

In addition to paying your bill online, Victory's website features a variety of other useful informa-

tion, including copies of the monthly Victory Electric newsletter and the latest co-op news and information about the various programs at Victory Electric.

If you don't wish to pay with a credit card online, you can visit our office to set up Automatic Bank Draft. With Automatic Bank Draft, Victory sends a file to your bank once per month and the bank deducts your payment from your account and sends it electronically and directly to us. Unlike the mail or other sources, your bill is guaranteed to be paid on-time with Automatic Bank Draft.

Our ultimate goal is to make paying your bill easier, faster and painless. If you have any questions, please contact Victory Electric at 620-227-2139.

## Area Third Graders Receive Children's Dictionaries



Montezuma (left) and Cimarron (right) third graders receive dictionaries courtesy of Victory, Cimarron Rotary, and United Telephone.



This year, Victory Electric has teamed up with local Rotary Clubs, United Telephone and several local businesses to donate a children's dictionary to every third grader in our service territory.

The Rotary Club Dictionary Project is a 501(c) (3) non-

profit organization. The goal of this program is to assist students in completing the school year as good writers, active readers and creative thinkers by providing students with a personal dictionary. The dictionaries are a gift to students to use at school and at home for years to come.

## Statement of Non-discrimination

The Victory Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's non-discrimination compliance efforts is Terry Janson, General Manager of The Victory Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may file a written complaint with this organization; the Director, office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Services, Washington, D. C., 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discriminatory action, or by such later date to which the Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Civil Rights or the Administrator of RUS extends the time for filing. Identity of complainants will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Dodge City Christmas Parade of Lights and Chili Contest

The Christmas Parade of Lights and Chili Contest was held on November 28 in Dodge City.

Sponsored by *The Dodge City Globe*, Victory Electric and Western Beverage, the events attracted hundreds of visitors to Dodge City.

The Chili Contest had an impressive 30 entries. The lucky winners in the Judges Choice category were **LEON FELDT**, first place; **MIKEY GODDARD** of Victory Electric, second place; and **UNITED WIRELESS ARENA**, third place.

Those who impressed the crowd won the People's Choice category. Winners were **HEADCASES SALON**, first place; **UNITED WIRELESS ARENA**, second place; and **LEON FELDT**, third place.

All winners received a plaque sponsored by Victory Electric.

The parade sported more than 25 entries, ranging from an old fire truck, to flying reindeer, to floats decked out in lights.

Thanks to all who attended, and we hope to see you next year!



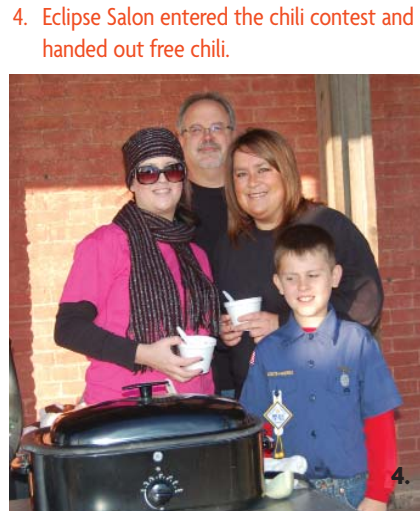
1.



2.



3.



4.

1. Santa waves to the crowd atop the Victory Electric truck.
2. Maupins parade entry flew through the parade.
3. The night's big winner, Leon Feldt.
4. Eclipse Salon entered the chili contest and handed out free chili.

# Revealing R-values

## Peel back insulation for layers of cost savings

When the weather's brisk, it's smart to wear a coat. Your home needs the same kind of protection, too—insula-

tion to keep cold air out and warm air in. Just as a coat closet features thin jackets for fall and heavy jackets for

winter, different types of insulation, ranked by R-value, exist to keep your home comfortable and your electric bills affordable.

R-value reflects the ability of insulation and other parts of your home, like windows, to resist the transfer of heat. The rating depends on material, thickness, and density, and a higher R-value indicates more effective insulation.

Multiple layers of insulation may be combined for a higher cumulative R-value. Boosting the R-value of a wall from zero to R-10 cuts 90 percent of heat loss from one side of the wall to the other. This makes an immediate difference you can feel. Adding an additional layer of R-15 insulation (a total R-value of 25) only cuts another 6 percent of heat transmission. Further increasing insulation thickness from R-25 to R-35 helps only by a little more than 1 percent.

### How Insulation Works

Metals and liquids easily transfer heat, making them bad insulators. Air, however, does not conduct heat, making it a strong insulator when isolated in small pockets.

Just as fur keeps animals warm, insulation holds heat in (or out) of a building. Fur is a collec-

tion of hair—tiny hollow cylinders. Air fills the cylinders and spaces in-between. The smaller the space for air in between the cylinders and the more spaces there are (longer hair equals more space), the greater the insulation.

Building insulation works on the same principle. Fiberglass insulation, for example, exists as a collection of hollow fiberglass cylinders. Be careful to preserve the air—the bulk of your home's protection—when installing insulation. When an installer squeezes 3 inches of insulation into a 1 inch space, critical air pockets are eliminated. For this reason, actual insulating R-values may not always match the label. Insulation must be installed correctly to maximize protection—and electric bill savings.

### The Value of R-Values

The first layer of insulation pays for itself fastest, saving more than half of the energy dollars spent on heating or air conditioning. However, as more insulation is added, efficiency gains dwindle.

In some regions with several months of very cold winds, increasing attic insulation values from R-25 to R-35 or even R-50 can be worth the investment over the life of your home. In most seasonal climates, however, replacing single-pane windows saves more energy than adding insulation in your attic, floors, or walls

*Continued on page 16-G* ▶

### Comparing Insulation VALUE

Adding insulation? Check the material's R-value—the ability of insulation to resist the transfer of heat. R-value depends on material, thickness, and density. A higher R-value indicates more effective insulation, saving energy dollars.



#### Compare R-values and common uses for several types of insulation:

Type of Insulation	R-value per inch (range)	Common Uses	Installation Method
<b>Batts, Rolls</b>			
Fiberglass	3.17 (3.0-4.0)	Wall, floor, and ceiling cavities	Fitted between studs, joists, or rafters
Rock Wool	3.17 (3.0-3.7)	Wall, floor, and ceiling cavities	Fitted between studs, joists, or rafters
Cotton	3.2	Wall, floor, and ceiling cavities	Fitted between studs, joists, or rafters
<b>Loose, Poured, or Blown</b>			
Fiberglass	2.2 (2.2-4.0)	Ceiling cavities	Poured and fluffed, or blown by machine
Rock Wool	3.1 (2.8-3.7)	Ceiling cavities	Poured and fluffed, or blown by machine
Dry Cellulose	3.2 (2.8-3.7)	Ceiling cavities	Blown by machine
Wet-Spray Cellulose	3.5 (3.0-3.7)	Wall cavities	Sprayed into cavities
Perlite	2.7 (2.5-4.0)	Hollow concrete block	Poured
Polyurethane	6.2 (5.8-6.8)	Wall and ceiling cavities, roofs	Foamed into cavities
Open-cell Isocyanurate (Icynene™)	3.6	Wall and ceiling cavities	Foamed into open or closed cavities
Magnesium Silicate (Air Krete®)	3.9	Wall cavities	Foamed into open cavities

Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, E-Source

# High School Juniors: Win a Free Trip to Washington, D.C., or Steamboat Springs, Colorado



2011 D.C. winners were (from left) Jessica Lampe, Spearville, and Evan Kisner, Copeland.

## Two Winners, All-Expenses-Paid

"Government in Action" Youth Tour  
June 14-21, 2012, in Washington, D.C.



2011 camp winners were (from left) Claire Leis, Minneola and Norma Avalos, Dodge City.

## Two Winners, All-Expenses-Paid

Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp  
July 14-20, 2012, in Steamboat Springs, CO.

If you are a high school junior and would like to increase your leadership skills, meet new friends and travel, you can apply for the Youth Tour through Victory Electric.

During the Government In Action Youth Tour, June 14-21, 2012, 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.

At the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, July 14-20, 2012, students will join youth from Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma and Kansas. Campers form a mock cooperative, participate in leadership activities, and learn about the cooperatives.

Students will be selected based on a résumé, application and an interview. To apply, contact your high school counselor, high school principal, or Jerri Imgarten at Victory Electric Cooperative by calling 620-371-7730 or 800-279-7915 for more information about the contest.

The deadline for applications is February 10, 2012.

## Victory Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Application

*The deadline for applications is February 10, 2012*

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parents or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Home Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true. \_\_\_\_\_

*(Signature of Applicant)*

I hereby grant permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the 2012 Youth Tour competition sponsored by The Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. \_\_\_\_\_

*(Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian)*

## Revelando Valores R

### Quitar capas de insulación posterior para ahorros

Cuando el tiempo esta fresco, lo más inteligente es llevar un abrigo. Su casa necesita el mismo tipo de protección,

también—insulación para mantener la salida de aire frío y aire caliente. Al igual que un armario de abrigos

delgados para el otoño y abrigos pesados para el invierno, existen distintos tipos de insulación, clasificados por R, para mantener su hogar confortable y sus facturas eléctricas asequibles.

R refleja la capacidad de insulación y otras partes de su casa, como ventanas, para resistir a la transferencia de calor. La clasificación depende del material, grueso y densidad, entre mas alto esta el R indica un insulación más eficaz. Varias capas de insulación pueden combinarse para un mayor valor.

#### Cómo Funciona la Insulación

Metales y líquidos fácilmente transfiere calor, haciendo mal insulación. Aire, sin embargo, no conduce el calor, convirtiéndolo en insulación fuerte cuando insulación en

pequeñas bolsas.

Como el pelaje mantiene caliente a los animales, insulación mantiene calor adentro y fuera de un edificio. Su pelaje es una colección de pelo—pequeños cilindros huecos. Aire llena los cilindros y espacios intermedios. Cuanto menor sea el espacio de aire entre los cilindros y los espacios más hay (cabello más largo es igual a más espacio), mayor será el insulación.

Construcción de insulación trabaja en el mismo principio. Insulación de fibra de vidrio, por ejemplo, existe como una colección de cilindros de fibra de vidrio hueco.

Tenga cuidado de preservar el aire—el grueso de la protección de su hogar, al instalar insulación. Cuando un instalador aprieta 3 pulgadas de insulación en un espacio de 1 pulgada, bolsas de aire críticos son eliminados. Por esta razón, R insulación -valores reales pueden no coincidir siempre con la etiqueta. Insulación debe instalarse correctamente para maximizar la protección—y ahorro de la factura eléctrica.

#### El valor de los valores de R

La primera capa de insulación paga por sí mismo más rápido, más de la mitad de la energía ahorro dólares gastados en calefacción o aire acondicionado. Sin embargo, cuando se añade más insulación, disminuyendo eficiencia.

Aumentar el valor de R de un muro de 0 a R-10 recortes de 90 por ciento de la pérdida de calor de un lado de la pared a la otra. Esto hace una diferencia inmediata que puede sentirse. Agregar una capa adicional de insulación R-15 (un R-valor total de 25) sólo corta otro 6 por ciento de transmisión de calor. Aumentando el espesor del insulación de R-25 R-35 ayuda sólo por un poco más del 1 por

**Continúa en la página 16-G** ▶

### Comparando el valor de insulación

¿Adición de insulación? Comprobación r del material-la capacidad de insulación para resistir a la transferencia de calor. R depende del material, grueso y densidad. Un R-valor más alto indica insulación más eficaz, dólares de ahorro energético.

#### Comparar valores de R y los usos comunes para varios tipos de insulación



Tipo de insulación	Valor R por pulgada (rango)	De los usos comunes	Método de instalación
<b>Batt, rollos</b>			
fibra de vidrio	3.17 (3.0-4.0)	pared, piso, techo y cavidades	instalado entre los postes, vigas
lana de roca	3.17 (3.0-3.7)	pared, piso, techo y cavidades	instalado entre los postes, vigas
algodón	3.2	pared, piso, techo y cavidades	instalado entre los postes, vigas
<b>Suelto, Puro, o Soplado</b>			
Fibra de vidrio	2.2 (2.2-4.0)	cavidades de techo	vertido y esponjadas o soplado por la máquina
Lana de Roca	3.1 (2.8-3.7)	cavidades de techo	vertido y esponjadas o soplado por la máquina
Celulosa Seca	3.2 (2.8-3.7)	cavidades de techo	soplado por la maquina
Húmeda de Celulosa Spray	3.5 (3.0-3.7)	cavidades de pared	rociado cavidades
Perlita	2.7 (2.5-4.0)	bloques de hormigón huecos	vertido
Poliuretano	6.2 (5.8-6.8)	paredes y techos huecos	espuma en las cavidades
célula abierta isocianurato ucynene (Icynene™)	3.6	cavidades de la pared	espuma en las cavidades cerradas
Silicato de magnesio (Air Krete®)	3.9	cavidades de la pared	espuma en las cavidades abiertas

Fuente: Departamento Federal de la Energía

► **Continuación de la página 16-F**

ciento.

En algunas regiones con varios meses de vientos muy fríos, aumentando los valores de insolación del ático de R-25 R-35 o incluso R-50



Fibra de vidrio rociado o aislante de celulosa se utiliza a menudo en los edificios de metal y muros de mampostería

vale la pena la inversión durante la vida de su hogar. En climas más estacionales, sin embargo, reemplazando ventanas ahorra más energía que la adición de insolación en el ático, pisos o paredes (suponiendo que es común en toda la casa R-25 R-30).

Una ventana típica solo cuenta con un valor R- de 0.9. En contraste, un recubrimiento de baja-emisividad insolación triple tiene un valor R de 8.3. Basado en un costo de electricidad de 10 centavos de dólar por kilovatios (kWh), una casa con 18 ventanas (4 pies cuadrados cada una) podría perder \$94.32 en gastos innecesarios a través de tres meses (suponiendo 12 horas diarias de un 40 grados Fahrenheit temperatura interior exterior diferencial). Una ventana más eficientemente costaría \$10.20 durante el mismo tiempo. Después de un año, el ahorro de conmutación de las ventanas podría superar \$300

Personal cooperativas eléctricas está capacitados para discutir los pros y contras de mejoras de eficiencia de energía. Para obtener sugerencias de insolación adicional, visite [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov). O descubra cómo pequeños cambios puede sumar en [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).

*Kris Wendtland escribe sobre las escrituras en cuestiones de eficiencia de energía para the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*

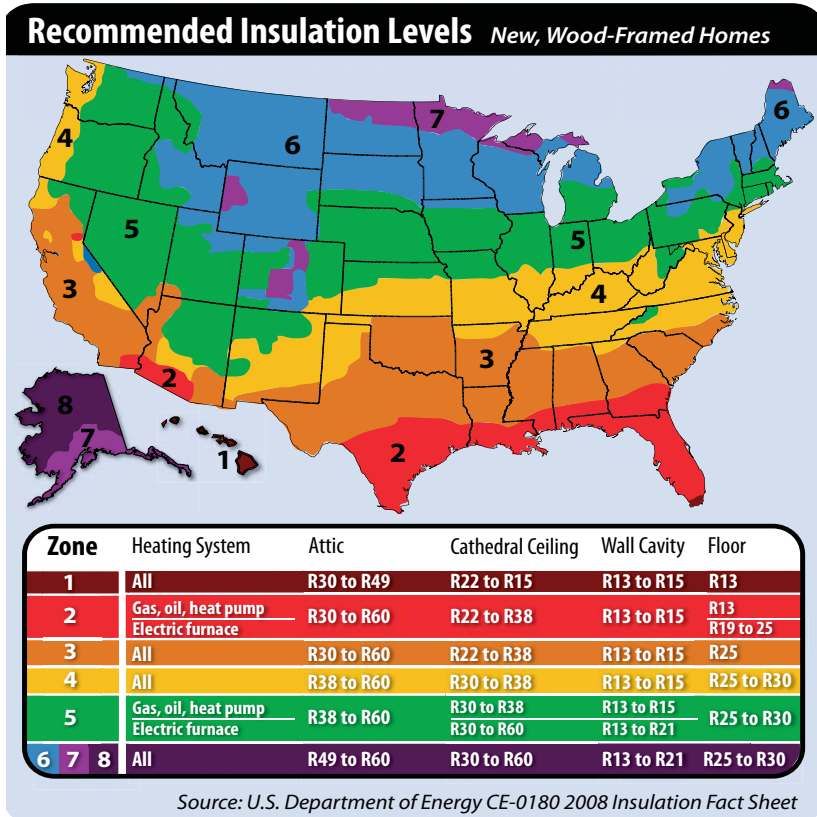
## Revealing R-values Continued

(assuming R-25 to R-30 is common throughout the home).

A typical single-pane window boasts an R-value of 0.9. In contrast, a triple-glazed pane assembly with low-emissivity (low-e) insulated coatings have an R-value of 8.3. Based on an electricity cost of 10 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), a home with 18 single-pane windows (4 square feet each) could waste \$94.32 in unnecessary expense across three months (assuming 12 hours per day of a 40 degrees Fahrenheit indoor/outdoor temperature differential). A more efficient window assembly would cost \$10.20 over the same time. After a year, savings from switching out the windows could surpass \$300.

Electric cooperative staff are trained to discuss the pros and cons of energy efficiency upgrades. For additional insulation tips, visit [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov). Or find out how little changes can add up at [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).]

*Kris Wendtland writes on writes on energy efficiency issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*



## Manager's Message Cont.

revisit the Clean Air Act and update it to fit the needs of the 21st century. In the meantime, Victory Electric will keep you updated on our efforts to encourage lawmakers and regulators to strike the proper balance on these concerns.

*'Til Next Time, TJ*

## Irrigation and Technology Seminar Scheduled

Victory Electric announces the 14th Annual Irrigation and Technology Seminar. The seminar will be held on February 3, 2012, at Victory's office located at 3230 N. 14th in Dodge City.

We will send invitations soon to the irrigators on our system. If you have any questions, please call 620-227-2139.

## Visit our Website & Join us on Facebook



Visit our website at [www.victoryelectric.net](http://www.victoryelectric.net). On our website, you will find a calendar of events, frequently asked questions, bill pay and energy calculators—just to name a few tools!

You can also become a fan of Victory Electric on Facebook at [facebook.com/VictoryElectric](http://facebook.com/VictoryElectric) or by searching for The Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. Check our page for updates, outage information and energy efficiency tips. Facebook is a great way to stay in touch.

## Why Buy Local?

Why buy local? There are numerous benefits to buying local. First, when those coveted big, job creating, businesses look to locate in a city or town, they look at the statistics of how many people buy local. Ford County has total retail sales of \$484.7 million, and compared to other towns and counties approximately the same size, Ford County doesn't do as well.

In Finney County (Garden City), they have total retail sales of \$680.7 million, almost \$200 million more in sales than in Dodge City. Great Bend and Liberal do approximately the same in total retail sales, but they have approximately 2,000 less households than Dodge City.

Therefore, towns like Garden City, which is approximately the same size as Dodge City, will attract more businesses because they draw in more local buyers.

Another important fact that many forget when they travel is the cost to travel to those places. Using Wichita and Garden City as examples, using the calculation (IRS mileage rate

x the miles) + (average Ford County hourly wage x time to drive), the average person is spending almost \$17 going to Garden City and \$57 going to Wichita, without even opening your wallet at a store.

Victory Electric recognized a need for a buy local campaign. Along with United Wireless, Cox Communications, Dodge City Community College, and Weece Furniture Outlet, Buy Close By was formed.

The idea behind the marketing campaign is to encourage consumers to stay in Dodge City and Ford County for their holiday shopping. Many local businesses are offering discounts, coupons, special holiday products, drawings, giveaways and much more.

For more information on the discounts being offered, please visit the website at [www.buycloseby.com](http://www.buycloseby.com) or [facebook.com/buycloseby](http://facebook.com/buycloseby).

If you are a business and are interested in participating, contact Josh Schmidt at 620-227-2139 or Micaela Morales at 620-371-7744.

**DON'T MESS WITH YOUR SAFETY!**  
CALL VICTORY ELECTRIC'S ELECTRICIAN SERVICE TODAY!



If you are worried about your safety or have an electrical problem, Victory Electric's Electrician Service is here to meet your needs. Our qualified electricians do residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural work. Call Jim Mies today for more information.

**620-227-2139 OR 800-279-7915**