

CO-OP CONNECTION SPOTLIGHT

Shop Local with Spearville Grocery Store

Serving as a small-town grocery in southwest Kansas, **KELLY'S CORNER GROCERY** of Spearville offers great prices and a great experience for local shoppers.

Built in 1901 and opened in 1910, Kelly's Corner Grocery has been a part of the rural western Kansas community for decades. Serving as the only grocery store in the community, Kelly's Corner Grocery is more than just a grocery.

"It's a whole lot more," said **KELLY PERSINGER**, Kelly's Corner Grocery owner. "We have tools for rent, seasonal items, gifts, ice creams and deli sandwiches and enchilada dinners on Wednesday nights!"

Persinger is no stranger to Western Kansas or the grocery business. While he is a Pratt native, he has also lived in Johnson, Garden City, Liberal, Dodge City and now Spearville and has been in the grocery business for more than 20 years.

His grocery career started in high school and since he bought Kelly's Corner Grocery from the original family in 2010, he hasn't looked back.

"We have a really loyal customer base," Persinger said. "They are the reason I stay in the business. As an agricultural community, when it's good for farmers, it's good for us. We have families who have moved away from Spearville and still come in to shop when they are home from Oklahoma or Texas."

The grocery operates with ten employees and it's the same hometown feel people have appreciated for years. Persinger himself said the community was part of what drove him to buy the grocery store.

"My wife, Kayla, and I moved our kids from Dodge to Spearville, it's a nice quiet town," Persinger said. "We

appreciated that."

Located in a rural and agricultural based community, Kelly's Corner Grocery even sets their hours around harvest. During the winter season, the grocery is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. but during harvest, the store is open from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

"We need to cater to our customers needs," Persinger said. "We don't have a problem accommodating their needs."

The local grocery is home to the customer-acclaimed "best steaks in southwest Kansas" due to the old-timed process still in place.

"Our steaks come from National Beef and are aged in house," Persinger explained. "All ground beef is whole meat, not packing chuck like other ground beef you'll find in other stores. All of our meat is wrapped in the white paper in front of the customer once they choose what they want."

Persinger and his employees prides themselves on providing a true home-town feel and the best prices in the area. Persinger believes there is no reason to raise prices and keeps prices as low as possible to keep him operating and the people coming back.

Kelly's Corner Grocery is located at 301 N. Main St. in Spearville, so stop in and start saving today.

Several businesses like Kelly's Corner Grocery are local and a part of Victory Electric's Co-op Connections program. The Co-op Connections card is free to all members with no strings attached. Find a complete listing of businesses at victoryelectric.net.

Victory Electric encourages members to take advantage of the Co-op Connections Card.



Kelly's Corner Grocery of Spearville has more than just groceries. Save with your Co-op Connections Card.

Usted tiene opciones para termostatos programables

Vamos a empezar con un poco de historia. ¿Te diste cuenta de que el termostato programable es más de 100 años? Honeywell introdujo el primer termostato programable en 1906, nombrando el Jewell. Era un producto simple, reloj-powered que permitía establecer tiempos para subir y bajar la temperatura. Quien es fanático del estilo Steampunk (piensa tecnología victoriana y estilo en ropa y artículos modernos) estaría orgulloso de tener este dispositivo en sus paredes. Mientras que es crudo por los estándares actuales, fue realmente un producto pionero.

El termostato programable básico ofrece cuatro periodos de programación: despertar, salir, retorno y dormir. Establece el tiempo de la temperatura de día y blanco para cada período según los días de la semana. Los modelos con precios más bajos le ofrecerá una opción de 5-2 días. Aquí puede usted ajustar los cuatro periodos de la semana laboral (lunes al viernes) y el fin de semana (el sábado y el domingo). El modelo siguiente para arriba será un 5-1-1 opción de día. Esto permite diferentes horarios para el sábado y el domingo. Y por último, usted puede comprar un modelo que permite programar individualmente cada día de la semana. Cabe señalar que cada día de la semana de programación puede convertirse rápidamente en tedioso.

La Agencia de protección ambiental (EPA) ha establecido recomendaciones para la programación adecuada, y con los años, hemos visto los termostatos que viene reprogramados con sus sugerencias. Recuerda el comentario "tedioso". Compra un modelo previamente programado soluciona ese problema muy bien. Usted puede anular esta programación, pero lo hace para un fácil montaje para arriba.

Así que ¿qué sugiere la EPA? Un calentamiento máximo de 68 grados Fahrenheit y un enfriamiento mínimo de 78 grados Fahrenheit para esos momentos cuando estás casa. Estiman que puede ahorrar el 1 por ciento en su factura de energía por cada grado de temperatura cambio cuando lejos.

En promedio, esperan ahorrar alrededor del 10 por ciento anual de su factura de calefacción. El tamaño del cambio de temperatura cuando ausente o dormido es otra área de discusión. Campamento recomienda mantener el rango estrecho sobre la teoría de que la casa pierde también mucho de su acondicionamiento y la energía ahorrada se pierde como los sistemas de trabajan para volver a la temperatura adecuada. Otro dice sistemas funcionan más eficientemente cuando está ajustado a una temperatura bastante modesta (refrigerador para la calefacción y calentador para enfriamiento) y dejen en paz. Y el último es opinión de la EPA que un cambio de 10 a 15 grados durante un periodo de ocho horas ofrece los mejores ahorros, un cambio respecto a las recomendaciones anteriores. Una advertencia ofrecida por la EPA es que usted no debe usar un termostato programable para bombas de calor. Al mismo tiempo bien en modo de enfriamiento, hacen que la bomba de calor ineficientes en modo calefacción. Termostatos diseñados específicamente están disponibles



El termostato programado ofrece cuatro periodos de programación: despertar, salir, retorno y dormir.

para las bombas de calor resolver este problema. Si usted tiene una bomba de calor, le recomendamos uno de estos.

No hay discusión de termostatos programables está completa sin entrar a sus parientes "inteligentes". Este fenómeno relativamente nuevo tiene tracción con la introducción del nido. Un termostato inteligente puede ser programado, pero su verdadero atractivo radica en la capacidad de "configurar y olvidarse" ellos, permitiendo que su software construir un programa alrededor de la manera de vivir. Su segunda mayor atractivo es la capacidad de interactuar con ellos a través de la Web o su teléfono inteligente. Aunque caro, más opciones están llegando al mercado, así que si esto es una idea interesante, vigila que los precios están empezando a caer.

Experimentación le ayudará a determinar la mejor solución para su hogar, ya que cada uno es diferente debido al aislamiento, sellado de tiempo, eficiencia del sistema y cómo te operas. Dicho esto, un termostato programable definitivamente te ahorrará dinero. Escoja uno de los descendientes de Jewell hoy y comience a ahorrar.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Dodge City, KS 67801
616-227-2139
victoryelectric.net

THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

electronews



The Victory Electric Co-op Assn., Inc.

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FROM THE CEO

Find Ways to Save with Co-op Energy Efficiency Programs

As a member of Victory Electric, you are in a unique position to take advantage of energy efficiency programs offered by your cooperative. Because we are a not-for-profit organization, our goal is to provide safe, reliable power at the most affordable price for our members. This means helping you save money on your monthly electric bill.

So, how does practicing efficiency habits save you money? It's common sense that if you use less electricity, your bill will be lower. But there's more to

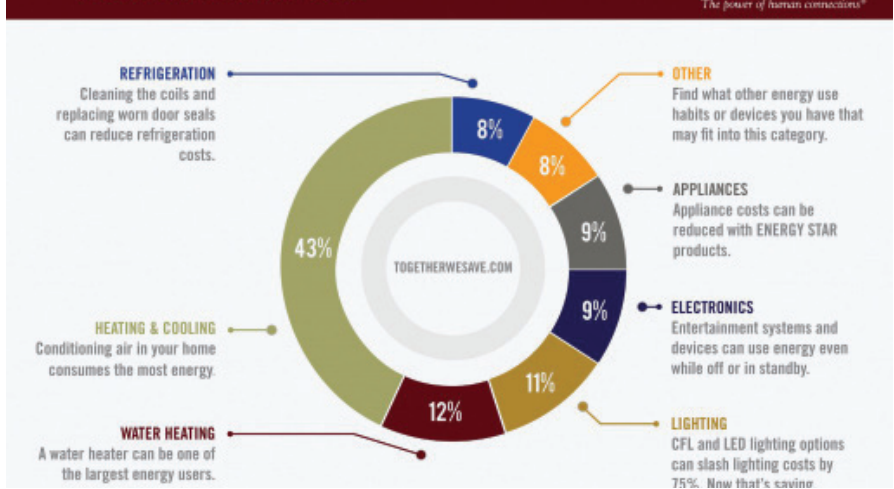
it. Victory Electric purchases electricity from Sunflower Electric and Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, both generation and transmission cooperatives. When electric use is high, we pay peak demand charges for the electricity we purchase. By incorporating energy efficiency into your daily routine, you help reduce the demand for electricity, thus lowering overall costs. As a co-op, we pass these savings



Shane Laws

Continued on page 16-B ▶

HOME ENERGY USE



CFL Charlie Says "Come Get Your Free CFL!"



This month's lucky winners are...
JOSE J. ALFARO, KAREN BLASI, JEAN BONE, JAIME HERNANDEZ, LIONEL PADILLA, DICK SEARS, and MALINDA THAYER.
 Come by Victory Electric Cooperative to get your free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL). Every month, Victory Electric gives members free CFL light bulbs. Congratulations winners!

Class Tours Victory Electric

The Youth Entrepreneurs class from Dodge City High School toured Victory Electric on March 8, to learn about electric cooperatives.



Visit our Website & Join us on Facebook

Visit our website at victoryelectric.net. Here, you will find a calendar of events, frequently asked questions, bill pay, scholarship information, and energy calculators—just to name a few tools!
 You can also become a fan of Victory Electric at facebook.com/VictoryElectric. Check our page for updates, outage information and energy efficiency tips. Facebook is a great way to stay in touch.

Mark Your Calendars!

April 2016						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

The 70th Annual Meeting of Victory Electric is this month, April 12, at the Western State Bank Expo Center. We hope to see you there!

Co-op Energy Efficiency Continued from page 16-A

directly on to you! Let's take a look at some of the ways you can save. Basic energy efficiency practices, like caulking around windows and doors, turning off lights when you leave the room and using a programmable thermostat are great ways to start saving.

We also offer rebates to members who are replace outdated and inefficient electric water heaters and heat pumps. Members qualify for a \$200 rebate on all-electric water heaters and can receive \$200 per ton rebate on heat pumps that have a minimum SEER rating of 14.5.

Monitor your energy use with MyMeter. By using this free service, you can keep tabs on your energy use, what appliances use the most electricity and other details about your energy use. This information

is quick and easy to find and will help you keep energy savings at the top of mind. The link to MyMeter can be found on our website at victoryelectric.net.

When you use electricity is just as important as how much you use. Use MyMeter to monitor your peak demand use. Typically, most households use larger amounts of electricity in the mornings and in the evenings—when most people are either getting ready for their day or returning home.

Victory Electric is proud to offer these energy efficiency programs for you, our members. As you can see, there are many ways to save, and we want to be your trusted energy resource. To find out more about energy efficiency programs and tips, contact us at 616-227-2139.

Thanks, Shane

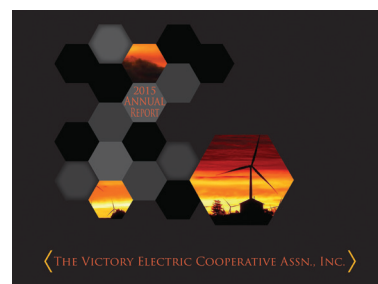
Annual Report & Voting Ballots Mailed

The business and affairs of the cooperative are directed by the board of trustees.

The cooperative territory is divided into districts, all of which are represented by a trustee. Trustees are elected at the annual meeting for a three-year term.

Districts five, seven, nine and 10 are up for election this year. Every member of Victory Electric will receive an Annual Report in the mail.

Inside this Annual Report



Your Annual Report is on its way.

will be ballots for the four voting districts. Ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on April 11.

2016 Candidates for the Victory Electric Board of Trustees

District 5

GARY GILLSIESPIE *Dodge City*

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the members of Victory Electric as a trustee. I would appreciate your consideration and your vote as I run for another term.

To be a more educated and productive member of the board of trustees, I have attended multiple trainings and earned the Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate.

I am committed to Victory Electric's mission to provide safe, reliable electricity at an affordable rate. During my tenure as a trustee, we have worked diligently as a board to keep costs down while also making many improvements to the system.

If re-elected I will continue as an advocate for you, the member-owners of Victory Electric.



Gary Gillsiespie

District 7

JIM OCHS *Jetmore*

It has been an honor to serve as your district seven voice for Victory Electric. Since being elected three years ago, I have earned my credentials by completing classes that have taught me the roles and responsibilities of a trustee on the board.

Please consider me again as a candidate for this position. My various jobs as a self-employed farmer and rancher have helped me to successfully discuss and resolve issues that affect our electric cooperative.

As board members, we stay abreast of the latest changes to technologies that generate electricity.

We board members work to make our electricity as safe and affordable as possible. If re-elected, I promise to make decisions that not only serve us well now, but also into the future. It has been a privilege to serve you.



Jim Ochs

District 7

BRAD OCHS *Jetmore*

Most of you already know, I am Brad Ochs. As a life-long resident of Hodgeman County, I believe this community and way of life has great value.

It has given much to me personally and to my farming and ranching operation. I would embrace the opportunity to give something back through service in this organization. That is why I am running for the Victory Electric board for district seven.

As a farmer/rancher and a rural resident, I understand the importance of rural electrification. I am very interested in serving cooperative members, other businesses, neighbors and friends by looking for opportunities to improve the cost, safety and reliability of our electricity.

It would be a privilege to serve our rural communities. I would very much appreciate your vote in April.



Brad Ochs

District 9

RICHARD LIGHTNER *Dodge City*

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me as a trustee on the Victory Electric board for district nine. Your support is appreciated as I seek another term this month. I am a farmer south of Garden City and, as a trustee, would work to bring our cooperative forward to meet future challenges.

Our business is greatly influenced by external pressures, one being the Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC). The strict regulations associated with the LPC affect work hours and budget.

The different power sources are challenging in their own ways, such as increased regulations on coal emissions the effect of wind power on current generation facilities and the future of solar and other emerging technologies in the industry.

Again, thanks for your past and present support. I would appreciate your vote.



Richard Lightner

District 10

PAT MORSE *Dodge City*

As I run for another term on the Victory Electric Board of Trustees, I want to thank the residents of Dodge City, the Victory Electric staff, and the rest of the board for their support the past nine years.

I currently serve as secretary/treasurer of the Victory Electric board and am Victory Electric's board representative to our state-wide association, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. As Senior Vice President of a national telecom company, FairPoint Communications, my 35 years of experience in operations and state and federal regulatory/legislative affairs allows me to work with the board and staff on ways to continue operating Victory Electric in a safe, reliable and cost-effective manner, keeping electric rates reasonable.

I would appreciate your vote for the position of district 10 trustee.



Pat Morse

McGill Welcomed to Victory Electric as IT Manager

Victory Electric is pleased to announce the selection of **DENZIL MCGILL** as the new Manager of IT, effective March 21, 2016.

"I'm really excited about coming to Victory Electric," McGill said. "Having worked for an electric cooperative for 19 years, I'm already familiar with working along-side folks that are passionate about members and want to provide the best possible product they can for the most value. Victory Electric is in a great position to continue to provide innovative services to its members and I can't wait to be a part of such a great organization."

McGill comes from Complete Energy Services (CES), in Oklahoma, where he was the IT manager. McGill is no stranger to the electric cooperatives. Previous to his role at CES, he worked for CoServ Electric in Corinth Texas. In his 19 years at CoServ, McGill started in the engineering department and moved his way up to the director of IT.

"Denzil has an extensive background in IT," said Shane Laws, Victory CEO. "He will be a great

addition to the management team and I have no doubt she will be a huge asset to both the IT department and the cooperative."

McGill and his wife of 27 years, Janet, have four daughters. The oldest, Julie, is a nurse, his twin daughters, Andi and Perri, are sophomores at Southwest Christian University, and his youngest daughter, Tracy, is a junior in high school.

We look forward to Denzil being with the Victory Electric team and what he can do to help our members.



Denzil McGill

Victory Celebrates National Lineman Appreciation Day on April 11

America's electric cooperatives have designated the second Monday of April as National Lineman Appreciation Day. On April 11, 2016, Victory Electric will honor the hard working men who often work in challenging conditions to keep the lights on.

"Electric linemen do not often receive the recognition they deserve," said Shane Laws. "They work all hours of the day, often in hazardous conditions far from their families, going above and beyond to restore power to their communities. Our linemen, as well as linemen from across the nation, truly deserve this special day of recognition."

We proudly recognize all electric linemen for the services they perform around the clock in dangerous conditions to keep power flowing and protect the public's safety. Victory Electric invites members to take a moment

to thank a lineman for the work they do. Use #ThankALineman to show your support for the men and women who light our lives.



Victory Electric thanks our linemen who keep the power on.