



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1511 14,000 Rd, P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330

866-784-5500

[www.twinvalleyelectric.coop](http://www.twinvalleyelectric.coop)

**TWIN VALLEY  
ELECTRIC CO-OP**

# NEWS

## **Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

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### **Staff**

**Angie Erickson**  
CEO

### **Office Hours**

Monday-Friday  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### **Contact Us**

1511 14,000 Rd.  
P.O. Box 368  
Altamont, KS 67330  
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## **FROM THE MANAGER**

## **Hope, Comfort and Blessings for the New Year**



**Angie Erickson**

As we reach the end of 2020, most of us are exhausted from the onslaught of political and pandemic messaging and are counting down to the new year with hopefulness in our hearts and minds.

As I write this, the nation waits for election results. Whether our candidates won or lost, we must take into account that we are all Americans and we must pull together for the benefit of this country's future. Just as Cooperative Principle No. 6 — Cooperation Among Cooperatives — suggests, working together is the best strategy to empower all of us and build stronger co-op communities.

I would argue that since our daily lives experienced upheaval in relation to the pandemic, cooperation within our rural communities hasn't wavered, even with social distancing and other new protocols in place. Homegrown small businesses with fewer than 20 employees, the heart of our rural communities accounting for 89% of all U.S. businesses, continue to find creative ways to adapt to the new reality of the coronavirus. And we, their friends and neighbors, continue to support their endeavors to keep our community strong. I'm not saying things have been easy. Far from it. But every day I witness the encouragement and care for those striving to keep

their businesses going despite the obstacles.

The pandemic brought new challenges to our education system as well but our school administrators, support staff and teachers continue to manage the constant adaptations required with grace and resolve. For some, distance learning is a must and parents unexpectedly find themselves not only tackling the challenges of "new math" but also technology that can be frustrating at times to say the least.

On a larger scale, the pandemic opened just about everyone's eyes to the inequities of broadband internet access for rural America, which may finally lead to improvements for those of us who struggled to manage online education, business transactions, and video-conferencing for work or with quarantined family. Yes, it took a global pandemic to shine the light on this issue, but we may now have traction to help close the internet gap.

But there have been silver linings during this unparalleled year. From rediscovering the simple yet enjoyable game night with family to finally organizing junk drawers and garages, Kansans prove (once again!) the prospect of hope and comfort can be unearthed in every difficult situation.

The saying, "It's always darkest before the dawn" obviously was not penned by a Kansan. If it had been, it would read more like, "It may be darkest before the dawn, but find the light that will see us through."

Twin Valley Electric wishes you and yours continued blessings in 2021.

# Attention High School Juniors

## Apply for a FREE Trip of a Lifetime!



During the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., students meet with our elected officials. This year's tour will be June 14-21, 2021.



Each year, campers go rafting during Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, which is scheduled for July 16-22, 2021.

Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. will send one **HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR** to the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., and one to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. To find out more, contact Marsha Moses at 866-784-5500.

### To Qualify

Applicants must be high school juniors living within the cooperative's territorial boundaries and the child of a Twin Valley Electric member.

### To Apply

To apply, complete, sign and return the application below by mail or deliver to Twin Valley Electric, 1511 14,000 Rd., P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS, 67330 **BY DEC. 16, 2020.**

### Selection Process

Applicants will study information about electric cooperatives provided by Twin Valley and take a quiz. There will also be a **SHORT INTERVIEW ON JAN. 18, 2021.**

## Contest Application for Youth Tour — Due Dec. 16, 2020

Mail or deliver to Twin Valley Electric, 1511 14,000 Rd., P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330.

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Twin Valley Account # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

**I hereby grant permission for the above-named applicant to enter the 2021 Youth Tour competition sponsored by Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

*The safety of our students and chaperones is our top priority. If the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour or Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp organizers believe that travel is unsafe due to concerns with the coronavirus (or any other acts of terrorism, disaster, civil disorder, or curtailment of transportation facilities), the trip will be canceled.*