



## LEAVENWORTH-JEFFERSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# The Powerline

### Leavenworth-Jefferson Electric Cooperative, Inc.

#### Board of Trustees

**Larry Meadows**  
President

**Ken Bailey**  
Vice President

**Marty Shaw**  
Secretary

**Larry Stevens**  
Treasurer

**Bill Hadfield**  
Trustee

**Harlan Hunt**  
Trustee

**Jeanine Murphy**  
Trustee

**Ralph Phillips**  
Trustee

**Bill Pohl**  
Trustee

#### Staff

**Steve Foss**  
General Manager

**Joe Heinen & Chris Parr**  
Assistant Managers

**Tom Mitchell**  
Manager of Operations

## LJEC Trustee Election Process Begins

LJEC is governed by a Board of Trustees elected by you, our member-owners. LJEC's service territory is divided into nine districts, with each district having one member on the Board of Trustees. Each year, three Trustee positions become open after their three year term expires.

The following Trustees terms expire as of the LJEC Annual Meeting on April 22, 2014.

- ▶ **District 2—BILL HADFIELD**
- ▶ **District 5—LARRY STEVENS**
- ▶ **District 7—KEN BAILEY**

The process for being nominated to the Board of Trustees is beginning. The Trustees whose terms are expiring can either be nominated for reelection or they can choose to withdraw their name for



Bill Hadfield



Larry Stevens



Ken Bailey

consideration.

At the same time, other LJEC members who may be interested in serving on the Board of Trustees can be nominated for election to the Board of Trustees.

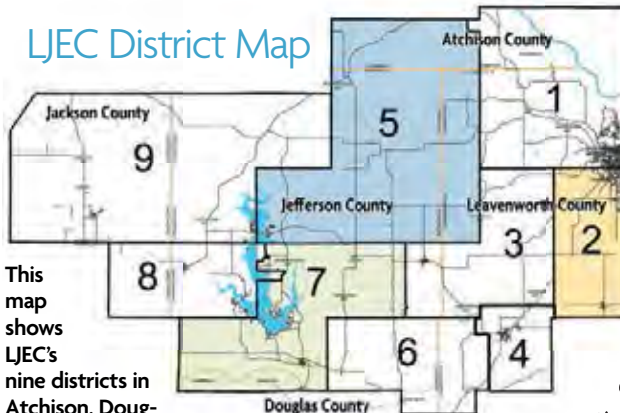
We are currently in the process of establishing a Nominating Committee that will meet in mid-February. This committee will review the names that have been submitted for consideration. The committee will then propose a slate of nominees to be presented to the membership at the LJEC

Annual Meeting for election.

If you are interested in seeking a position on the Board of Trustees, you can either contact the LJEC office at 888-796-6111 and submit your name or fill out the Trustee Application included on page 16-B and submit to the LJEC offices no later than **4 p.m. on Monday, February 10, 2014.**

Questions regarding the nomination and election process can be directed to LJEC Assistant Manager, Joe Heinen, at 888-796-6111.

### LJEC District Map



This map shows LJEC's nine districts in Atchison, Douglas, Jackson, Jefferson, Leavenworth and Shawnee counties. The highlighted districts have Trustees with terms expiring.

### Tip of the Month

Fighting winter chills? A crackling fire in the hearth warms the house, but don't let it heat up your electric bill. To cool energy costs, keep the fireplace damper closed when not in use. Caulk around the fireplace hearth. Double up on wood-earned warmth by lowering the thermostat setting to between 50 degrees and 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Learn more at [www.energysaver.gov](http://www.energysaver.gov).

## Topeka Farm Show Celebrates 25th Anniversary

The 2014 Topeka Farm Show will celebrate its 25th Anniversary January 7-9 at the Kansas Expo-centre in Topeka.

The 1989 first-year show has grown to the use of six buildings, over three hundred exhibiting companies, five hundred fifty booths and added attractions that include a purebred cattle expo, daily horsemanship clinics, and leadership seminars produced daily by the Shawnee County Extension and K-State University.

Free parking, free admission, free health care programs and events for the entire family make this show one of a kind attracting over thirty thousand attendees each year.

Stop by and say "hi" to an LJEC staff member. We'll be there sharing a booth with other electric cooperatives from Kansas.

### 2014 Topeka Farm Show Schedule

- ▶ Tues., Jan. 7, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶ Wed., Jan. 8, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- ▶ Thurs., Jan. 9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Kansas Expo-centre  
One Expo-centre Drive  
Topeka, KS 66612**

## What Makes a Good LJEC Trustee?

The LJEC Board of Trustees provides a vital connection with our membership and the community at large. You may ask if you have what it takes to serve on our Board.

We seek those who possess a sincere interest in preserving the strength of LJEC's operations and maintaining a productive relationship with our members. We look to our Trustees to maintain open lines of communication with those in the district they serve.

In addition, Trustees work together to ensure equitable treatment to all members across the system, as well as strive to be knowledgeable about trends and circumstances that may affect the members and communities that LJEC serves.

The time commitment for an LJEC Board Member averages about eight hours per month. Some

months will be less; some months will be more, depending on the issues and decisions that must be made for the cooperative.

Questions regarding serving as a Trustee can be directed to LJEC Assistant Manager, Joe Heinen at 888-796-6111.

### LJEC Board of Trustees Eligibility

#### Potential Trustees Must

- ▶ Be an LJEC member.
- ▶ Have a bona fide residence in the district with an opening.

#### Potential Trustees Cannot

- ▶ Be employed by or financially interested in an enterprise selling electric energy or services.
- ▶ Be employed by or financially interested in a business that sells services or supplies to LJEC.
- ▶ Be a current LJEC employee or have been an employee within the past three years.
- ▶ Be a close relative of a current LJEC Trustee or employee.
- ▶ Have entered a plea of guilty or no contest or have been adjudged as guilty of a felony crime.

### LJEC Trustee Application—Due February 10

I, the undersigned, a member of LJEC, hereby applies as a nominee for Trustee of LJEC from district \_\_\_\_\_ and requests that my name be considered by the Nominating Committee to be placed on the ballot for the next election during the LJEC Annual Meeting on April 22, 2014.

I certify that my account is current and that I am a member in good standing with LJEC.

I certify that I am a resident of district \_\_\_\_\_ and am receiving electricity from LJEC.

I certify that I am not in a competing business with LJEC.

If elected Trustee, I agree to abide by the Board Code of Ethics, Board Policies, the articles of incorporation and bylaws of LJEC.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to LJEC (P.O. Box 70 McLouth, KS 66054) no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, February 10.

# Keep Food Safe During a Power Outage

We've all been there: a winter storm rolls through, toppling trees and damaging power lines. The lights go out. And although it may only be a matter of minutes or hours before your electric co-op gets things up and running again, thawing food in the refrigerator and freezer can make that relatively short time seem like an eternity.

It's important to keep cold food safe during a power outage, and a little advanced preparation and know-how can keep your family safe from food-borne bacteria.

First and foremost, keep your refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to maintain the cold temperature: if unopened, a refrigerator will keep food safely cold for about four hours; a full freezer will do so for about 48 hours (24 hours if it's half-full).

A sure-fire way to know if food is safe is to monitor its temperature. Meat, poultry, fish, and eggs should be refrigerated at or below 40 degrees Fahrenheit and frozen food at or below 0 degrees Fahrenheit. If the power goes out, a digital, dial, or instant-read

food thermometer and appliance thermometers will help you know if the food remains at safe temperatures.

If the power stays out for a prolonged period, there are a few ways to aid your refrigerator and freezer in the fight to keep things cold. The simplest tip is to keep your freezer full. If it's not full, group items close together to preserve the cold.

Dry ice can help keep freezers chilly: find it by scanning for "ice" or "carbon dioxide" in the phone book. It will take about 25 pounds to keep a full, 10-cubic foot freezer safe for three to four days. Fifty pounds of dry ice should hold an 18-cubic foot full freezer for two days. Wear heavy-duty gloves or use tongs when handling dry ice—the temperature of dry ice is -216 degrees Fahrenheit—and separate it from food with cardboard to prevent freezer burn.

During cold months, it may be tempting to store food outside. Although this may work for cold drinks, food can spoil in direct sunlight. Curious animals may also take advantage of an outside stash.



Keep food during a power outage by monitoring the temperature

Rather than putting the food outside, consider taking advantage of the cold temperatures by making ice. Fill buckets, empty milk cartons, or cans with water and leave them outside to freeze. Then transfer the homemade ice to your refrigerator, freezer, or coolers.

Power back on? Make sure your food is still safe by either checking its temperature or looking for ice crystals. If frozen food is 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below or ice crystals are visible, it's safe to refreeze. Discard any perishable refrigerated food (meat, poultry, fish, eggs, and leftovers) that have been above 40 degrees for two hours.

## 2013 LJEC Property Taxes

LJEC recently received its 2013 tax bills from the counties in which the cooperative owns and maintains property (line and infrastructure). For the first time since 2008, LJEC is seeing a small decrease of 2.4% in total property taxes for the year but the last 5 years, LJEC has seen an over 25% increase in taxes.

Through payment of property taxes, rural electric cooperatives share the cost of the state's educational system, highways and city and county facilities such as roads, libraries, parks and hospitals.

LJEC strives to maintain our rates while facing increases such as these. Material prices throughout all aspects

of the cooperative business continue to rise. We are continually looking for ways to improve our operational efficiency as well as shopping for best

pricing on materials.

If you have any questions or concerns, we encourage any member to contact us at 888-796-6111.

### Paying our share of taxes is one way LJEC and nearly 1,000 other rural electric cooperatives help build a stronger America

| County           | 2009 Taxes          | 2010 Taxes          | 2011 Taxes          | 2012 Taxes          | 2013 Taxes          | 5 Yr.% Change |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Atchison         | \$8,860.32          | \$8,529.83          | \$10,640.37         | \$10,568.51         | \$10,057.00         | +13.5%        |
| Douglas          | \$264.96            | \$253.80            | \$310.56            | \$634.88            | \$557.42            | +110%         |
| Jackson          | \$33,012.72         | \$32,298.13         | \$40,902.42         | \$38,885.30         | \$38,591.46         | +16.9%        |
| Jefferson        | \$267,636.50        | \$293,229.22        | \$355,973.73        | \$363,399.48        | \$360,577.17        | +34.7%        |
| Leavenworth      | \$162,899.98        | \$162,062.78        | \$199,028.77        | \$199,144.50        | \$187,711.80        | +15.2%        |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$472,674.48</b> | <b>\$496,373.76</b> | <b>\$606,855.85</b> | <b>\$612,602.67</b> | <b>\$597,494.85</b> | <b>+26.4%</b> |
| Fort Leavenworth | 190,302.98          | \$196,722.58        | \$204,941.94        | \$204,229.50        | \$206,896.60        | +8.7%         |

Taxes paid at Fort Leavenworth do not affect the bottom line of the cooperative as these taxes are reimbursed through a monthly payment LJEC receives from the government.



21st Annual

# Home Efficiency Fair

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

McLouth Elementary School Gymnasium

Exhibits open at 6 p.m. Program begins at 6:30 p.m.



- ▶ Low/no cost ideas to lower your utility bills
- ▶ New construction and remodeling efficiency ideas
- ▶ Ground Source Heat Pumps
- ▶ Insulation
- ▶ Water Heaters
- ▶ Air Source Heat Pumps
- ▶ Energy Star Appliances
- ▶ Home Energy Audits

**Take Control of Your Utility Bills!**

**For more information contact  
LJEC at 888-796-6111**



## Attention High School Juniors Win an All-Expense-Paid Trip!

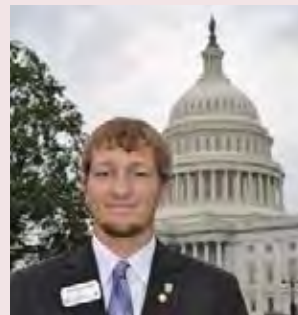
**Electric Cooperative Youth Tour: June 12-19, 2014**

**Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp: July 12-18, 2014**

LJEC is sponsoring two all-expense-paid trips for high school juniors whose parents or guardians are LJEC members.

LJEC will send one student to the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., June 12-19, and two students to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO, July 12-18.

Upon receipt of the application below, applicants will be mailed a contest packet. Applicants will complete a quiz and a personal interview at the LJEC offices on Sunday, March 23, 2014.



John Courtney poses in front of the U.S. Capitol.



Kelsey Willits and Cody Koch pose at Lookout Mountain outside of Denver.

**2014 LJEC Youth Tour Application**—Return applications by March 14 to LJEC, P.O. Box 70, McLouth, KS 66054

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Primary residence must be in LJEC service territory)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby grant permission for the above named applicant to enter the 2014 Youth Tour competition sponsored by LJEC.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian (Must be an LJEC Member)