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Local Playwright Raises Awareness For Alzheimer's Disease

Every 70 seconds, someone in America develops Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common form of dementia in the elderly and currently affects more than 5.3 million Americans.

Without major intervention, the number of Americans age 65 and older who have or will have the disease is projected to be a staggering 13.5 million by 2050.

Local award-winning playwright Garrett Davis is from Lickskilllet in Warren County, and like so many families he knows the devastation Alzheimer's disease has on the family caregiver as well as the patient. He created the stage play "Forget Me Not" as a tribute to his grandmother and the family members who provided care for her as she endured the effects of Alzheimer's disease.

Now, his stage production has been incorporated into an innovative outreach program known as "The Forget Me Not Project." It brings together the arts and science to educate, entertain and empower families across the country.

The project is a collaboration of celebrity talent, forums, and informative workshops presented in a two-day event. Events include a prayer breakfast, a presentation of the play "Forget Me Not," and a gala evening featuring celebrity entertainment that will include

"American Idol" Ruben Studdard, "American Idol" finalist Scott Saval, and Bernadette Stanis, who played Thelma from the 70's sitcom "Good Times."

The project's goal is to outreach to 12 million people in the next 24 months through multimedia, internet social networking and by touring the project to rural towns and cities across the country, and it all starts here in North Carolina. The North Carolina initiative began in February in Warren County. Other stops include Fayetteville on March 11-12, and at the Lakeland Cultural Arts Center in Halifax County on March 18-19, leading up to the launch of the national tour with a kick-off gala in Raleigh on April 9 at the Marriott Crabtree.

To offer your support and for more information, please contact G. Davis Productions at www.gdavisplays.com and www.fmnproject.com or call (888) 901-9726, ext. 2.

Hali-facts

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Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President
& General Manager*

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Business Hours

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Locations

Enfield: (252) 445-5111

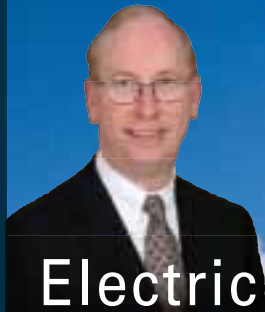
Macon: (252) 257-3900

www.halifaxemc.com

Tell Us...

Halifax EMC is your electric cooperative. Your comments and questions are very important to us. Please tell us how we may improve our service.

Return your comments/questions along with your payment, or e-mail them to bamartin@halifax-emc.com. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



Electric Lines

“IVR gives members access to their account at any time.”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

Halifax EMC is always looking for ways to better serve our members. One way is by offering our members access to their account information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Recently, HEMC installed an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system. IVR is an automated telephone system and it has many benefits to offer.



Our Energy, Our Future

A Dialogue With America

IVR gives members access to their account at any time, day or night. All you need is your account number to get started and with voice recognition, members can simply speak their responses or use a touch-tone phone keypad for data entry. The system is available after business hours by dialing (252) 445-5111 or any time by dialing (252) 445-6700.

Upon calling, IVR will prompt members to say or press the corresponding number for the following options: to access information about your account, say or press the number 1; to pay your bill by credit card, say or press the number 2; to update your telephone number in our system, say or press the number 3; and to speak to a customer service representative, say “operator” or press 0.

Members will have access to information such as the amount of their last payment, the date of their

last payment and the amount and due date for their current bill. The system will allow for full or partial payments with a credit card. The system does NOT store your credit card information so you must have your credit card handy, along with your HEMC account number, each time you make a payment over the phone.

Members may also update their home or mobile number using the IVR system. Keeping your phone numbers updated is very important. When you call to report an outage, our outage system identifies your location by the telephone number you have listed on your account. If that information is incorrect, it will take longer to restore your power.

Not only is the IVR system a valuable tool for members, but it will also allow HEMC to contact members about their accounts. HEMC will have the ability to notify members of upcoming planned outages in their area. This notification will allow members to make the proper preparations for any interruptions of their service. HEMC could also use IVR to remind members of important upcoming events such as the Annual Meeting.

The IVR system should not be confused with HEMC’s outage reporting system, Porche. You must still dial 1-800-690-0522 to report power outages.



Annual Meeting **2011**

The Committee on Nominations will meet Wednesday, March 9, to make their nominations for Districts 3, 5 and 7.

Any member who would like to be considered as a candidate

for Districts 3, 5, and 7 of the Halifax EMC Board of Directors may contact the cooperative office after March 1 for the names of Committee on Nominations members. Members then contact the committee member in their districts to indicate their desire to be candidates. The incumbents for these seats are Jerry Packer, District 3; Robert Harris, District 5; and Richard Greene, District 7.

Director Qualifications

- must be a bona fide member of Halifax EMC in his/her own name;
- must have their primary residence in the directorate district for which he/she seeks election



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Sweet Shamrock Pretzels

Canned refrigerated bread stick dough
Colored sugar
Cinnamon

Line a cookie sheet with aluminum foil and lightly coat with cooking spray.

To create the clover shape, mold 3 sections of bread sticks into hearts and press them together as shown in the picture. Attach a small stem, decorate, bake according to the package directions, and serve them up to your lucky guests. This is a great baking project to do with the kids!

Source: FamilyFun.com



What can you do in
ten minutes?
Set up your new online ElecTel Credit Union account

FREE ten minute online account opening & funding Ability to join online through our secure website | Can add to existing accounts | Entire process takes approximately 10 minutes | Account opened the same day

FREE e-statements 24 hour secure site | 18 month storage | Protect your account from mail fraud

Email notification that statement is ready to view | Help save the environment by using less paper

FREE online bill pay Unlimited transactions | One log in | Easy Merchant set up | Set up recurring transactions

24/7 FREE ANYTIME DAY OR NIGHT

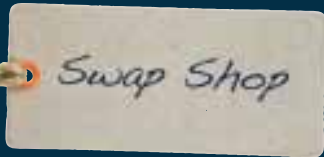
ElecTel24—Manage your account 24 hours a day | Access to all of your accounts | Transfer payments | Transfer between accounts | Account alerts | Personal Financial Management features (budget graphs, balance sheets, charts, etc.)



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www.electelccu.org





For sale: Yamaha digital piano w/bench, purchased in 1994, barely used, wonderful cond., \$750. Call: 252-257-2496 (Macon).

For sale: Singer electric sewing machine, ex. condition, \$100 (negotiable); gas heater w/frame (not vented), ex. condition, \$75; recliner, beige fabric, good working condition, \$75. Call 252-257-4594 (Warrenton)

Lawn maintenance: Complete lawn maintenance for commercial/residential, fully insured, free estimates. For more details, Call: 252-904-1598 or 252-826-3957 (Lawn Ranger, Sonny Padgett, Scotland Neck).

Don't forget, the deadline for Halifax Helps applications is Thursday, March 31!

The application is now available online at www.halifaxemc.com. Simply click on the Halifax Helps Application link, print and fill out the form and mail into our office.

Employee Retires After 24 Years



Dean poses with her grandchildren, Mackenzie, Kate and Hampton, during her reception.

Margaret "Dean" Hudgins who has been employed with Halifax Electric Membership Corporation for 24 years, retired as of January 3, 2011. Dean came to work with HEMC on October 16, 1986, as Secretary before assuming the position of Communications Specialist. She also served as the Advisor for the Volunteers In Action Committee for 15 years.

On Thursday, January 6, Dean was honored for her years of dedicated service to the cooperative with a retirement reception given by Halifax EMC directors and employees. Also attending the reception were other Halifax EMC retirees, members of the Volunteers In Action Committee, and friends and family.

Dean is now enjoying retirement by sleeping in, catching up on projects

around the house, teaching children's music at her church and spending time with her family, especially her three beautiful granddaughters.

Since Dean loves to shop, the employees gave her a monetary gift so she could purchase something special for herself. The Volunteers In Action presented Dean with a gift-card to one of her favorite stores, Michael's. Dean has quite the knack for crafts and frequents the craft store often. She was also presented with a plaque and a monetary gift from the board of directors.

Dean will be greatly missed at Halifax EMC. She is so talented and creative, and always seems to know something about everything. Just ask any employee and they will tell you if they were not sure of the answer, they always called Dean.

Important Scholarship Deadlines

The deadlines are fast approaching for great scholarship opportunities sponsored by HEMC. Don't miss out!

Youth Basketball Camp Application **March 31**

Slade-Ellen Scholarship Application **April 1**

Visit www.halifaxemc.com to fill out an application.



Daylight Saving Time

Spring is just around the corner and one sign of that fact is that Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 13. So, remember to "spring forward" by setting your clock ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday evening.