



this issue

Electric Lines 30

Recipe 31

2012 Annual Meeting 31

Blood Drive 32

Holiday Closings:

The offices of Halifax EMC will be closed on the following dates:

Friday, April 6,
Good Friday

Monday, May 28,
Memorial Day

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

On Saturday, February 11, a woman named Allison from Littleton walked into Ace Hardware of Lake Gaston and entered a raffle. She walked out that afternoon with something that could save her hundreds of dollars on her energy bills. The prize she won was a programmable thermostat, which can reduce the energy usage of the average homeowner by 3.24 percent.

Clean Energy Durham, a nonprofit based in Durham, North Carolina, sponsored the raffle.

The organization has trained eight local residents to become Energy Volunteers. The volunteers are an integral part of Clean Energy Durham's home energy reduction program.

"We really couldn't do it without the help of the volunteers. They're so passionate about the program, and they've each dedicated so many hours of hard work to assisting us. We are grateful to have them on board!" said Susan Creary, Warren County Community Outreach Fellow at Clean Energy Durham.

The program's foundation is a neighbors-helping-neighbors model

in which the Energy Volunteers gather with community members for workshops, and lead them in projects that can save money and reduce energy usage. Participants learn alongside their friends, families and neighbors in the workshops, and are then encouraged to share what they've learned with others in their community.

The model was first tested in Durham, and was successful in helping close to 2,000

local households reduce their energy use. Halifax EMC welcomed the opportunity to bring the success of the Clean Energy Durham program to Warren County with the hopes of offering the program to the entire service territory in the future.

"We've refocused our direction to more energy-efficient programs for our customers. We want to help our customers better use electricity and emphasize that we are still member-owned, and that this program is members-helping-members," said Brady Martin, Manager of Marketing and Economic Development at Halifax EMC.



continued on page 32

Hali-facts

Published monthly by Halifax Electric Membership Corporation, Enfield, NC. Comments, articles, and photographs are welcomed.

Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President
& General Manager*

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Business Hours

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Locations

Enfield/Macon: (252) 445-5111

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@halifaxemc.com. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



Electric Lines

“Halifax EMC is proud to promote creativity and enhance learning.”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

North Carolina's electric cooperatives, including Halifax EMC, have earmarked more than \$600,000 for innovative classroom-based projects through the Bright Ideas education grant program.

Teachers may begin applying this month for grants of up to \$2,000. To learn more about the program and start an online application, visit www.ncbrightideas.com.

Halifax EMC is proud to promote creativity and enhance learning in North Carolina by giving teachers new tools to create memorable classroom experiences. Last year, the cooperatives collectively funded 580 grants benefiting more than 140,000 students through the program statewide.

The deadline to submit applications for the 2012–2013 school year is September 21. Teachers who submit their application by the early-bird deadline of August 17 will be entered in a drawing to win a \$500 Visa gift card.



Since 1994, Halifax EMC has contributed more than \$65,000 and North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives have awarded Tar Heel teachers more than \$7.9 million to fund 7,700 projects benefiting 1.4 million students.

We have the utmost respect for teachers in our state and look forward to continuing to do our part to improve their jobs

and invest in the future of our state through the Bright Ideas program.

This year's online application includes an explanation of the creative project and its potential benefits to students. Examples of past projects and grant-writing tips are available on the Bright Ideas website. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ncbrightideas for regularly updated information regarding the program.

You may also contact our office directly if you have any questions about the application process. Please contact Julia Allsbrook at (252) 445-5111 or jallsbrook@halifaxemc.com.



Annual Meeting **2012**

Remember to mark your calendar for the Co-op's upcoming Annual Meeting to be held Saturday, May 19, at Inborden Elementary/Enfield Middle School on Highway 481 in Enfield.

Register between the hours of 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. so that your name will be included in the drawing for door prizes, enjoy a continental breakfast provided by the Volunteers In Action, check out the booths and guest vendors, let the kids play outside and listen to the talented Mills Family! We sure hope to see you there!

Important Dates

April 24	Notice of Annual Meeting & Ballots Mailed
May 16	Deadline for Ballots*
May 17	Validation & Counting Ballots
May 19	Annual Meeting

* Return your ballots by May 16 in order to be entered in a drawing for an electric service credit!

Roanoke Valley Rocks!

If you have been to Halifax County lately you may have noticed a few bright additions to area businesses and attractions. In 2011, the Halifax County Convention and Visitors Bureau kicked off The Roanoke Valley Rocks campaign. The campaign is designed to uplift and inspire the Roanoke Valley, as well as attract visitors.

The highlight of The Roanoke Valley Rocks campaign is brightly and creatively painted rockfish statues that are installed all around the Roanoke Valley. The rockfish was chosen as the campaign mascot to pay homage to one of the world's premier sport fish that chooses to return home to the Roanoke Valley each Spring.

The campaign is sponsored by the Halifax County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Halifax County Arts Council and North Carolina's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.

On February 14, 2012, Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck released its rockfish, which was donated by Halifax EMC, Roanoke EC and other electric cooperatives of North Carolina.

A pair of red breasted geese, which can be seen at the bird park, are portrayed on the rockfish. They are a species that SHWP Executive Director Mike Lubbock helped breed for the Queen of England. The colors of the fish's tail are from the peacock bass.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

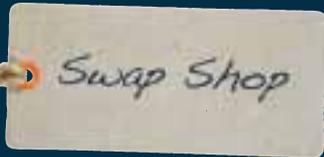
Apple Pie Dumplings

- 2 Granny Smith Apples, peeled, cored and sliced
- 2 pkgs crescent rolls
- ½ stick butter, melted
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 bottle caramel syrup
- 1 can Mountain Dew crushed pecans cinnamon

Spray baking dish. Put one piece of sliced apple, a few chopped pecans and a squirt of caramel on a crescent roll and roll up. Continue until all apples and crescent rolls are used and place in baking dish. Mix sugar and melted butter and spoon on top of crescent rolls. Sprinkle with cinnamon. Pour Mountain Dew in bottom of pan. Bake at 375° for 45 minutes to 1 hour. Sprinkle more pecans and caramel syrup on top after baking.

Source: Robert T. Harris, retired HEMC Director

continued from page 29



For sale: MTD riding lawn mower - 42" cut, 14 1/2 horsepower, good cond.; Whirlpool 30" electric range, 4-eye burner; 3-cushion sofa, light color w/flowers. MAO. Call: 252-257-3224 (Macon).

For sale: MTD riding lawn mower - 42" cut, 18 horsepower, new battery and tires, \$200. Call: 252-586-3687 (Littleton).

For sale: HP desktop computer w/ 19" monitor, keyboard and mouse, \$75; \$300 gift card to Generation Salon & Day Spa located in Raleigh, \$200. Call: 252-826-5194 (Scotland Neck).

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).

Lawnmower repair: Service and repair all lawn equipment, pick-up and delivery. For more details, Call: 252-257-2549 or 252-915-0299 (Jimmy's Lawnmower Service & Repair, LLC, Macon).

During 90-minute workshops, which can be held in homes, community centers, churches etc., two to three projects are completed with the participation of each member of the group. Though the projects can be small, they can translate into big savings on home energy bills.

"People don't understand that they can take their bill from \$300 to a lot less. A lot of people are not aware that they have control [of their energy costs]. It's an empowerment issue that they can change things and make a difference," said Tom Higgins, Energy Education Director at Clean Energy Durham.

Eight workshops have already been held in Warren County, and there will be several more in the near future. For participating in workshops, Halifax EMC members receive a coupon for an instant 10 percent off, plus an additional 25 percent mail-in



rebate off their first \$100 in energy saving supplies at Norlina Hardware and Appliance, Littleton True Value Hardware, Ace Hardware of Lake Gaston, and the Lake Gaston Supply Company.

Energy Volunteers and Clean Energy Durham staff will also have a booth at the Annual Meeting on May 19. Stop by for a few quick lessons on simple, do-it-yourself projects that can save you money on your home energy bill.

Clean Energy Durham and Halifax EMC are committed to helping Warren County residents use less energy and save on their energy bills. Susan Creary and Shaneese Little have been hired as Community Outreach Fellows to coordinate workshops and develop community ties. If you would like to host or attend a workshop, or if you would like more information on the program, call Susan or Shaneese at (252) 776 4747 or email halifax@cleanenergydurham.org.

Mr. Pat Bello (pictured standing), an HEMC member and Energy Volunteer, conducted a workshop at Warren County Senior Center in November along with fellow Energy Volunteer Mr. David Duxbury.



**Co-op To Host Enfield
Blood Drive
Thursday, April 12,
12 noon-6 pm**

Account Updates

February Winner

The winner of the February drawing for a \$50 electric service credit is Horace Evans, Jr. of Scotland Neck, NC.

