

APRIL 2014

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Halifacts

HALIFAX ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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CELEBRATING
20 YEARS OF **BRIGHT IDEAS**
North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

Electric cooperatives across the state are celebrating a big milestone in 2014: our Bright Ideas education grant program, which provides funding to Tar Heel teachers for innovative learning projects, is turning 20 years old.

Since 1994, educators statewide have received more than \$9.1 million in Bright Ideas grant funding, and well over 1.6 million N.C. students have participated in 8,800 Bright Ideas projects. Last year alone, Halifax awarded over \$5,700 for seven supporting local teachers and students.

Halifax is now accepting applications for Bright Ideas education grants for the 2014–15 school year. Teachers in K–12 classrooms with creative ideas for hands-on learning projects are encouraged to apply for a grant up to \$2,000.

Grant applications will be accepted April 1 through September



19. It could pay to apply early: all teachers who submit their applications by the early bird deadline of Aug. 15 will be entered into a drawing for one of five \$100 gift cards.

Teachers can apply individually or as a team, and grants are available for all subjects. To apply, or for more information about the Bright Ideas grant program, visit www.NCBrightIdeas.com.

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

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

"The energy advisors at Halifax can help you determine the right steps for your home."

Adding a few items to your list of spring chores can help make your home more energy efficient and deliver electric bills that won't make you sweat when temperatures soar.

Start with your air conditioner

Spring and early summer are good times to make sure that your air conditioning unit is ready to work when you flip the switch:

- Get help from a professional who can inspect and service your unit.
- Give your air conditioner a do-it-yourself cleaning. Shut the unit off, and clear away leaves and yard debris outside. Inside the unit, clean or replace filters that can restrict air flow and reduce overall efficiency by making the air conditioner work harder on hot summer days. Dust the fan blades if you can do so safely. Make sure air can flow freely over the inside and outside coils. Vacuum registers to remove any dust buildup.
- Check weather stripping. When using window units, ensure that weather stripping is in place. Placement should be between the middle of the top window pane and the bottom pane.



shorten the life of your home faster than a roof leak, and even a minor one can damage your attic insulation before you know it. A roofing professional can assess and repair things like loose or missing shingles, repair leaks, and clear gutters.

Make your electric cooperative a resource

The energy advisors at Halifax can help you determine the right steps for your home, including whether an energy audit will help find more savings. You can also visit to find out how little measures around the house can add up to big energy savings as temperatures outside climb.

Information in this column was provided by B. Denise Hawkins, who writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association based in Arlington, Va.

Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, TogetherWeSave.com, and Energy.gov

Check out your roof.

See how well your roof has weathered the winter. Few things can





Annual Meeting **2014**

Remember to mark your calendar for the Co-op's 75th Annual Meeting of the Membership to be held Saturday, May 17, at Inborden Elementary/Enfield Middle School on Highway 481 in Enfield. Register between the hours of 9:30–11 a.m. so that

your name will be included in the drawing for door prizes, enjoy a continental breakfast served by the Volunteers In Action, check out the booths and guest vendors, let the kids play outside and have a BBQ and fried chicken plate provided by Abram's of Scotland Neck.

Important Dates

April 23	Notice of Annual Meeting & Ballots Mailed
May 14	Deadline for Ballots*
May 15	Validation & Counting Ballots
May 17	Annual Meeting (Inborden/Enfield Middle School)

*Return your ballot by May 14 in order to be entered in a an electric service credit.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

These days, it may be easier to trim your refrigerator's energy use than it is to trim your waistline. Consider this energy-saving and maintenance regimen to keep your refrigerator in shape. Set the refrigerator temperature above 37 degrees Fahrenheit. Make sure door seals are in place and are snug when closed. And keep outside coils unobstructed and clean; dirty ones could overwork the unit's compressor.

Source: Energy.gov

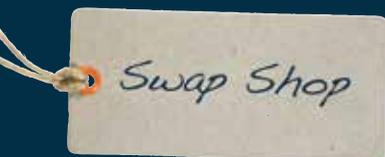
RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Pineapple Casserole

- 2 20 oz. cans pineapple chunks, drained
- 1 cup sugar
- 6 Tbs. flour
- 1 cup grated cheese
- 1 sleeve Ritz crackers, crumbled
- 1 stick margarine, melted

Mix pineapple chunks, sugar, flour and cheese together and pour into 9x13 casserole dish. Combine Ritz crackers and margarine, pour over pineapple mixture. Bake at 350° for 20–25 minutes.

Source: Linda Bozard and Ivey Locke, Bon Appetit by the Halifax EMC Volunteers in Action



For sale: Beautiful oak corner fireplace w/gas logs and built in blower, heats multiple rooms, \$1,000. Call: 252-586-2560 (Littleton).

For sale: 10"x10" storage shed w/6" porch, looks like old store bldg., insulated, shingle roof, gas heat, fridge, microwave and shelving, \$2,500. Deliver up to 50 miles. Call: 252-583-1398 (Littleton)

Holiday Closing

*Halifax EMC
offices will closed
on Good Friday,
April 18, for Easter.*

LOCAL STUDENT HONORED AT WOLFPACK WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GAME

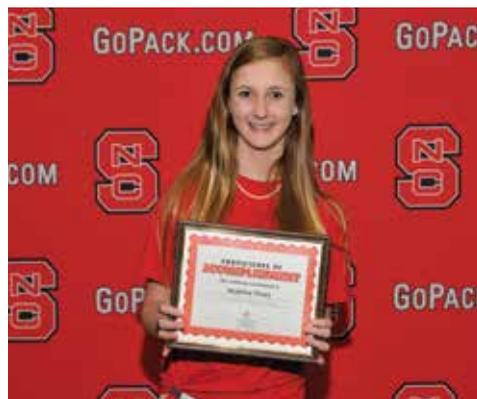
Stephanie Moore of Williamston was recognized during a Wolfpack Women's basketball game for winning a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship from Halifax EMC. Stephanie earned the scholarship based on her outstanding application and essay, and she is the daughter of Stephen and Tracy Moore.

Stephanie was selected from numerous applicants to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at N.C. State University last summer on an all-expense paid scholarship from Halifax EMC. She reunited with fellow basketball camp scholarship recipients from across the state at historic Reynolds Coliseum to receive her recognition and watch the Wolfpack Women take on Notre Dame on Sunday, March 2.

"We are proud to recognize Stephanie for her outstanding achievements in the classroom and in athletics," said Brady Martin, Manager of Marketing at Halifax EMC. "These scholarships are an excellent way for young women to broaden their horizons, experience life on a college campus, work with collegiate coaches and develop fundamental skills that will help them excel both on and off the court."

The scholarship winners and their guests received tickets to the game and a catered lunch. At halftime, the young women were recognized by name at half court and received a certificate of achievement. North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives also presented the Wolfpack women's basketball program with \$15,000 in support of the upcoming 2014 summer basketball camp scholarships.

The Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship program is part of the electric cooperatives' ongoing commitment to North Carolina communities.



Stephanie Moore is recognized for winning a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship from the Co-op at the N.C. State University women's basketball game on March 2.

Capital Credits Checks

A friendly reminder for those who received capital credits checks between February and March; please cash your check as soon as possible. Uncashed checks will be voided after 180 days.



**American
Red Cross**

Co-op To Host Enfield
Blood Drive
Thursday, April 10
12:30–4:30 p.m.