

SEPTEMBER 2009

VOL. 69, NO. 9

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Halifacts

HALIFAX ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

Your Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative 



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Customer Appreciation

Halifax EMC wishes to express its appreciation to its members for their past and future patronage. Thursday, September 3, has been designated as Member Appreciation Day at the two offices of Halifax EMC.

Come meet the members of the Halifax EMC Volunteers In Action Committee while enjoying cookies and lemonade. The Volunteers will have special games for kids as well as several drawings for a chance to win a \$25 electric credit on your next bill. Each member will also receive one six-pack of CFL's.

You are cordially invited to

Halifax EMC

for

Member Appreciation Day

on

Thursday, September 3,

at the

Enfield & Macon Offices

from

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.!

Special Drawing
CFL Giveaway

Games for Kids
Customer Gifts

And Much, Much More!

Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

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District 4

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District 7

ROBERT EDWARDS

District 8 At-Large

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

“Energy audits are offered upon request to members at no cost.”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

Some of you may recognize his face, but for those of who do not know him, meet Brady Martin, Manager of Marketing and Economic Development at the Co-op. Brady, like all employees, wears many hats and juggles a lot of activities on a daily basis. One such activity is a very important service with which you may be familiar—a Halifax EMC residential walk-thru energy audit. So, what is an energy audit you may ask?

A residential walk-thru energy audit is the first step to evaluate how much energy your home uses and to consider what steps you can take to make your home more energy efficient. Audits also examine the efficiency of your home’s heating and cooling systems. Problems detected by an energy audit, when corrected, can, over time, add up to big savings.

In most cases, a customer is referred to Brady for a Halifax EMC energy audit if they notice an unusual increase in their electric bill from one month to the next. Ruling out any seasonal changes that can cause an increase in kwh usage, Brady will first examine the home’s 12-month energy usage history. Upon arriving at the home to conduct an energy audit, Brady will perform a site inspection, noting details such as the structure type (manufactured home, single-family detached, etc.), foundation type, and structure details such as the age of the home, square footage, exterior finish, type of roof and windows as well as other details that may apply.

The homeowner will also be asked several questions: Is anyone home during work hours? What is the average thermostat setting for summer and/or winter? How many people live in the home? Is every room in use?

Often, Brady will also conduct an energy profile of the home. This profile involves examination of the home’s HVAC systems, weatherization features and their condition, and energy consumption details of major appliances (water heater, clothes dryer, refrigeration equipment, etc.).

As you can tell, an energy audit consists of investigating many factors in the home that are energy related. By looking at each of the areas listed above, Brady can guide the homeowner in the right direction as to any problems that should be fixed in order to see a decrease in the electric bill and most importantly, make the home more energy efficient. Halifax EMC offers energy audits, upon request, to all of our members at no cost.

There are a few ways that the customer can assist in the energy audit before the audit takes place. Knowing your home’s square footage, a breakdown of major appliances in your home, and your day-to-day thermostat settings can be very helpful in pinpointing any problems before the audit is even performed.



Brady Martin



Energy-Efficient *Ideas*

Weatherizing your home is one of the best ways to help keep conditioned air in, and outside hot and cold air out. Here are a few simple tips to help you save your energy dollars.

- Seal doors and windows with caulk, weatherstripping, or plastic film.
- In the summer, close the blinds/ drapes on the sunny side of the house and open them on the shaded side. In the winter, reverse this procedure.
- Add foam gaskets behind all outlet covers and switchplates, and use safety plugs in all unused outlets. Be sure to shut the power off at the fuse box or circuit panel before attempting this.
- Check the exterior of your home for air leaks, especially around openings for water spigots, air conditioner hoses, dryer vents, and gas pipes. Use caulk or expanding foam to seal spaces.
- Tinted window film can help reduce heat gain during the summer, and it will keep furniture and carpets from fading.
- If drafts sneak in under exterior doors, replace the threshold. If that's not practical, block the drafts with a rolled-up towel or blanket.
- If you have a door or window you never use, seal the edges with rope caulk. Don't seal them shut permanently—you might need quick ventilation or escape during an emergency.
- Don't forget to weatherize the attic access. Secure batt insulation to the back of the hatch or door, and use weatherstripping to seal the opening.

Energy Audit Survey

- *Do you have any dripping faucets?*
- *Have you noticed any leaks around your water heater?*
- *Do you run out of hot water sooner than you should?*
- *Does your hot water seem hotter than usual?*
- *Have you changed the filters in your heating & cooling system lately?*
- *On what temperature do you have your thermostat set?*
- *Are your registers open?*
- *Have you noticed any unusual odors in your home, especially around the registers?*
- *Have you cleaned out your registers recently?*
- *Have you cleaned out the filter in your clothes dryer?*
- *Do you have a fireplace and if so, is the damper closed when not in use?*
- *Have you switched to CFL lighting?*
- *Have you dusted off your light bulbs?*



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

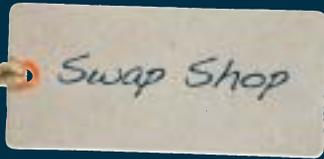
Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

- 6 medium sweet potatoes
- ½ cup orange juice
- 3 tbsp margarine
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 8-oz can crushed pineapple, drained
- Pecan pieces, optional)

Bake sweet potatoes at 375 degrees for 1 hour or until tender. Cut a 1-inch lengthwise strip from top of each sweet potato; carefully scoop pulp from shell

Keep oven at 375 degrees. In a mixing bowl, combine sweet potato pulp, orange juice, margarine, and salt; beat until fluffy. Stir in pineapple. Stuff shells with sweet potato mixture and sprinkle with pecans, if desired. Bake for another 10 minutes. Serves 6.

Source: "A Dash of Down East"

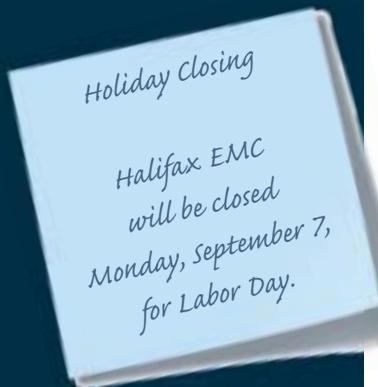


For sale: 2007 100 Series Bosch washing machine, like new, high efficiency 16 gal. front load, \$400. Call: 252-586-4397 (Enfield).

For sale: 2001 Sunlite camper, sleeps 3, \$2,500. Call: 252-826-2766 or 252-903-3305 (Scotland Neck).

For sale: 25" RCA color TV, floor model, excellent condition, \$100; stainless steel over-the-range microwave, excellent condition, \$100. Call: 252-586-5262 after 6 pm. (Littleton).

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).



Local Youth Participate in Basketball Camps

Matthew Richardson of Hollister participated in the Roy Williams Basketball Camp in Chapel Hill on a scholarship from Halifax Electric Membership Corporation. Matthew is the son of Howard and Gwendolyn Richardson.



Embria Jones (right) with Kellie Harper

Embria Jones of Enfield participated in the Kellie Harper Basketball Camp in Raleigh, also on a scholarship from Halifax Electric Membership Corporation. Embria is the daughter of Alishia and Patrick Jones.

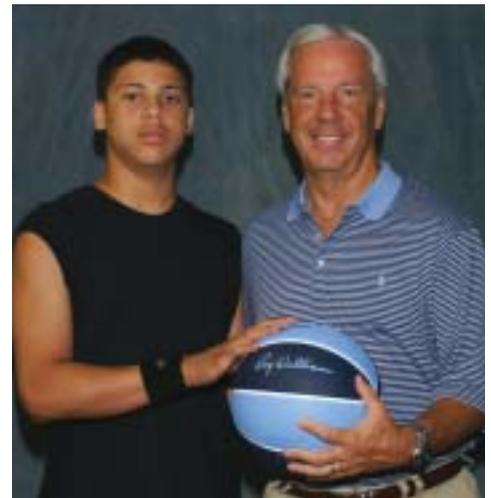
Matthew was one of the 27 deserving young men and Embria was one of the 26 deserving young women awarded scholarships from North Carolina's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives to attend the Roy Williams and Kellie Harper Basketball Camps this year. Winners of the Roy Williams and Kellie Harper Basketball Camp scholarships were selected by a panel of judges who reviewed an application that included an essay about the students' reason for wanting to participate in the camp.

Matthew and Embria were selected based on the excellence of their application and accompanying essay. The Roy Williams Camp was held June 21-25 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Kellie Harper Camp was also held June 21-25 at N.C. State University.

"Halifax Electric Membership Corporation is excited to reward our outstanding young co-op members with this wonderful opportunity year after year," said Charles Guerry, Executive Vice President & General Manager.

This is the fourth year that North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives, including Halifax EMC, have sponsored young men to attend basketball camp at UNC. The cooperatives have provided scholarships for young women to attend basketball camp at N.C. State for the past six years.

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



Matthew Williams (left) with Roy Williamson