




# Connection

Communicating local energy news to Four County Electric members

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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### Get the Scoop

Four County EMC offices will be closed Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day.

**Have a safe and happy holiday!**

## Save the Date!

### Celebrate Being a Member at This Year's Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting is set for Monday, October 9, at the Pender High School Gym located at 5380 NC Hwy 53 West in Burgaw. Four of 10 seats on the Board of Directors are up for election that day, and co-op officials will present members with the annual state-of-the-co-op message.

### Reasons to Attend

Every member of the Cooperative is encouraged to attend this once-a-year event to cast your vote for directors of the Cooperative, share in community fellowship, and learn more about the business practices of Four County EMC. You will also have the opportunity to meet and greet your

directors and Four County EMC employees who work to keep the lights on. There will be great prizes for those who register, including the grand prize of a 2010 GMC Sierra pick-up truck!

### Registration and Entertainment

Registration will begin promptly at 5 p.m. "The

*"The Whisnants" will be performing gospel music this year.*



*There will be great prizes for those who register, including the grand prize of a 2010 GMC Sierra pick-up truck!*

Whisnants" will be performing this year, and have performed gospel music all across the nation and around the world, including Canada, Hawaii, Bahamas, Belize and Mexico. Entertainment begins at 5:30 p.m.—a performance you will not want to miss! This will give you an opportunity to enjoy the entertainment before the beginning of the business meeting which kicks off at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served beginning at 5 p.m.

Remember to look for your annual meeting registration card and official notice of the meeting on the front cover of the October issue of the Carolina Country magazine! Please bring this card with you to the meeting.

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## Annual Meeting

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### Children's Area

The Children's Area is a safe, secure and fun place where you can leave your children (ages 4-9 years old) at the beginning of the meeting and pick them up at meeting's end. All you need to do is sign them in at the Children's Area before the business meeting begins. Many activities will be on hand for the children to enjoy!

### Business Meeting

The Business portion of the meeting will consist of reports on the progress of Four County EMC during the 12 previous months, updates on the financial condition of the Cooperative including details on future organizational and program plans, as well as the election of directors.

In accordance with Four County's bylaws, a committee is appointed prior to each annual meeting to make nominations for directors to fill any expired seats. The 2017 Nominating Committee consists of:

Archie Corbett, Kelly; Gwendolyn Sutton, Teachey; Scott Brown, Chinquapin; Henry T. Smith, Rose Hill; Daniel Carr, Jr., Willard; Gordon McIntyre, Ivanhoe; E.C. Johnson, Jr., Ivanhoe; Henry Lucas, Jr., Turkey; James G. Smith, Elizabethtown, and Kenneth Lanier, Maple Hill.

Terms of the following directors will expire this year: Arlester Fullwood-At-Large Directorate District; E. Carlton Raynor-East Duplin Directorate District; S. Franklin Williams-West Duplin Directorate and R.W. Blanchard, Jr.-East Sampson Directorate. These incumbents were nominated by the Nominating Committee at its August 3 meeting and will be presented for re-election on October 9.

### Proxy Voting

If you are unable to attend this meeting, you can still vote by using a proxy\* form. Proxy forms will be available on the reverse side of your registration card that will

appear on the cover wrap of the October issue of Carolina Country magazine. Any member may vote his or her vote and one (1) proxy vote on behalf of one residential member and (1) one additional proxy vote on behalf of members such as churches, businesses, organizations or similar groups, provided the member is so designated as the authorized representative of the organization. Moreover, all proxies must be valid as determined by the Credentials and Election Committee.

To assign your proxy vote for another member, you must fill out the information on the back of the registration card, including the name of the person you give your proxy. Please date and sign your name to the proxy and have someone witness your signature.

Mark your calendars to attend this year's meeting of the members on Monday, October 9. Hope to see you there!

*\*Proxy forms are not eligible for prizes.*

## Four County Electric Membership Corporation

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### Tip of the Month

Cooler temps will be here soon! No matter what kind of heating system you have in your home, you can save money and increase your comfort by properly maintaining and upgrading your equipment. Contact a licensed professional to inspect your system before the winter chill arrives.

*Source: U.S. Department of Energy*



## Fall Community Meetings Set

### Attend a Meeting Near You!

Mark your calendar for a community meeting in your neighborhood. Four County EMC will hold community meetings to share information about new developments at your Cooperative and in the electric utility industry. Some of the topics we will cover this year include a variety of programs and services we offer, ways you can save and what we can do to improve your service. We hope to see you at one of the meetings listed below.

Meetings are scheduled with registration starting at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

**Colly Freewill Baptist Church**

8906 Hwy 41 East  
Harrells – 10/30/17

**Bethel Baptist Church**

707 Old NC Hwy 41  
Dublin – 11/02/17

**Island Creek Baptist Church**

325 Harrison Creek Road  
Rocky Point – 11/06/17

**Laniers Chapel Church**

746 Ludie Brown Road  
Chinquapin – 11/09/17

**Moore's Creek National Battlefield**

Patriots Hall - 40 Patriots Hall Drive  
Currie – 11/13/17

**Wilson Chapel Church**

4867 New Hope Church Road  
Turkey – 11/16/17

A light meal will be served and members will be entered to win prizes during the evening. For information about a community meeting in your neighborhood, call Four County EMC 1-888-368-7289.

## Electrical Hazards on the Farm

It's that time of year for many farmers to begin gathering their fall crops and Four County EMC wants to remind you to be safe around power lines. Those who live on a farm know that not only is it hard work, but it can be dangerous, too. Each year, farmers are electrocuted when large farm machinery comes into contact with overhead power lines.

Often, the situation occurs because a newer, bigger piece of equipment no longer clears a line the way a smaller one did. In addition, shifting soil may also affect whether or not machinery avoids power lines from year to year.

The following tips will help keep everyone on a farm safe:

- » Look over work areas carefully for overhead power lines and utility poles.
- » Store large equipment properly if near or under power lines. When planning new construction, factor in existing power lines.
- » Train all farm workers to keep an eye out for overhead power lines.
- » Make sure you have ample clearance when moving large machinery such as combines, grain augers, pickers, bailers, and front-end loaders. Do this every year as equipment sizes or soil conditions may change.
- » Be extra careful when working around trees and brush; they often make it difficult to see power lines.

*Be certain of sufficient overhead power line clearance when working with large machinery, such as this combine.*



## Winning Recipe

from the editor



### Ingredients

- » 6 cups chopped and peeled apples (blueberries, pears and peaches may also be used, minus the cinnamon)
- » ½ cup sugar
- » 1 large crushed can pineapple, drained
- » Cinnamon to taste
- » 1 box yellow cake mix
- » 1 cup pecans
- » 1 stick of butter or margarine

Spray 13 x 9 inch glass casserole dish with cooking spray. Mix chopped apples, sugar and cinnamon. Spread evenly on bottom of casserole dish. Dump pineapple evenly over apple mixture. Sprinkle dry cake mix evenly over pineapple. Sprinkle with pecans and

### Apple Dump Cake



dot with butter. Bake 1 hour or until top is lightly browned and bubbly around the edges. Delicious served warm and topped with vanilla ice cream. Enjoy!

## Teachers: Apply for a Bright Ideas grant by September 18

**Apply Now**

**BRIGHT IDEAS**

Go to [ncbrightideas.com](http://ncbrightideas.com)

Time is running out for teachers to apply for grants of up to \$2,000 from Four County EMC's Bright Ideas education grant program. Educators with creative ideas for hands-on classroom projects must submit their application by Monday, September 18. Interested teachers can find the application, grant-writing tips and more information on the Bright Ideas grant website at [www.ncbrightideas.com](http://www.ncbrightideas.com).

## Four County Connection

**Gay Johnson**, Editor

Published monthly by Four County Electric Membership Corporation, P.O. Box 667, Burgaw, NC 28425, as a service to our members like:



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Long Creek

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### A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

We believe in the Power of Human Connections

1-888-fourcty (368-7289)  
customer@fourcty.org

Burgaw .....259-2361

Elizabethtown .....862-3551

Rose Hill .....289-4534

### Four County Electric

#### Our Mission

To provide highly reliable electric service, innovative energy solutions and outstanding service to our Members and Communities.

#### Our Values

- Respect
- Integrity
- Trust
- Teamwork
- Commitment
- Excellence

#### Our Vision

To be an advocate for our Members by:

- Exceeding members' expectations
- Utilizing well trained, motivated employees
- Achieving excellence
- Operating efficiently
- Maintaining hometown values