

Connection

Communicating local energy news to Four County Electric members

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

inside
Four County
Connection

Co-op Donates Fans to Help Senior Citizens

Summer months—June through August—inflict considerably high temperatures and humidity in our area. Seniors living in homes without air conditioning or circulating air face a greater risk of heat-related injuries and fatalities during the summer.



p. 20

Youth Leadership Scholarship Winners p. 19

Bright Ideas Grants: Apply Now! p. 20

Get the Scoop Independence Day



Four County EMC offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Have a safe and happy holiday!

During the month of May, Four County EMC donated fans to facilities that serve elderly citizens. In turn, agencies like Bladen County Division of Aging give them to the elderly who do not have access to fans or air conditioned living.

“We are glad to assist and help as many elderly citizens as possible stay cool during the hot summer months. Long term exposure to the heat without proper cooling equipment can have harmful results,” explains Gay Johnson, Director of Corporate Communications.

Four County EMC employees distributed a total of 110 fans to Bladen County Division of Aging, Elizabethtown; Pender Adult Services, Burgaw; Sampson County Department of Aging, Clinton; Duplin Senior



Four County EMC's Chris Ingram delivered fans to aid elderly citizens in six counties.

Center, Kenansville; Garland Senior Center, Garland; and Columbus County Department of Aging, Whiteville.

If you would like to donate a fan(s) to a facility, contact the senior center in your county.

“We are glad to assist and help as many elderly citizens as possible stay cool during the hot summer months.”

Gay Johnson, Director of Corporate Communications

Save the
DATE!

October 8, 2018 – Annual Membership Meeting

Voting Procedures for Your Board of Directors Explained

The election of three members to the Cooperative's Board of Directors will be held at the 2018 Annual Meeting. The meeting is set for Monday, October 8, at the Elizabethtown Middle School Gymnasium in Elizabethtown.

In accordance with the Four County EMC bylaws, the terms of the following directors will expire this year:

Ronald J. Allen – West Bladen Directorate District; S. Eugene Jordan – West Pender Directorate District and John S. Matthis – West Sampson Directorate District.

The bylaws require that the Board of Directors appoint a nominating committee of not less than 10 persons, with the appointments made not less than 45 days, nor more than 90 days before the annual membership meeting. Each of the eight directorate districts will be represented on the nominating



As a member, you are part of the co-op and get a vote in how it operates. Save the date for this important event!

committee by at least one (1), but not more than two (2) persons.

The nominating committee will meet and prepare a list of nominations for directors, listing the nominee or nominees for each directorate district, and post that list at least 30 days before the annual membership meeting.

Further, the bylaws provide that any 50 or more members, working together, may make additional nominations by filing a petition. The petition must be on Four County EMC provided forms and be presented to the Cooperative at least 30 days prior to the annual membership meeting.

At least 10 days prior to the annual membership meeting, a statement of nominees for each directorate district will be mailed to every member of the Cooperative along with the official notice of the annual meeting. This list of nominees and the official meeting notice will appear on the cover wrap of the October edition of Carolina Country magazine. Please note that you will not receive a separate mailing listing this information; it will appear only on the cover wrap of Carolina Country.

For more information, please feel free to call Four County EMC at 1-888-368-7289.

The Nominating Committee will meet on Thursday, August 2, to establish a list of nominees for directors whose terms expire this year. The list will be published on the cover of the October edition of Carolina Country and will be mailed to all members in late September. The nominees will be presented for election at the Annual Membership meeting on Monday, October 8, 2018.



Congratulations to our 2018 Scholarship Winners!

Local Students Receive Youth Leadership Scholarships

Isa Lu from Topsail High School and Jacy Matthias from Pender High School have each received a Youth Leadership Scholarship from Four County EMC.

Isa and Jacy are rising seniors and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship each to assist with college expenses once enrolled in the college of their choice.

Both students were chosen from students who attended this year's Youth Leadership Weekend.

Students attending the weekend camp were selected by their schools (either through junior class teachers and/or guidance counselors). To be eligible to apply for the Youth Leadership Scholarship, attending students were encouraged to write an essay about



Jacelyn Matthias

their experiences during the weekend camp. A committee judged the entries and made their



Isa Lu

selection from the applicants which submitted essays.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Make sure your refrigerator door seals are airtight for maximum energy efficiency. Test the seal by closing the door over a piece of paper (so that it's half in and half out). If you can easily pull the piece of paper out, your seal may need to be replaced or the latch may need to be adjusted.

meet your employees...

In an effort to introduce the employees of Four County to you, each month one employee is being featured. The July employee is Katelyn Toler.

Katelyn, customer services representative in the Burgaw office, has been employed by the Cooperative since April 2011. Katelyn works in the Call Center and speaks with members daily concerning account information, assists with payments, manages service calls and handles calls during outages and much more. Our customer service team is often the face of the Cooperative and in this case the voice. If you have called our office, you most likely have had the opportunity to speak with Katelyn concerning your Four County business. Our members' experiences will be defined by the skill

and quality of support they receive from Katelyn and our entire customer services department.

"Having the opportunity to work at Four County EMC has been such a blessing. I love that we are part of the same community that we serve on a daily basis. I enjoy spending time getting to know our members and learning ways to better serve them." Toler says.

In her spare time Katelyn enjoys cooking, traveling and making memories with her family.



Katelyn Toler, Burgaw Customer Services Representative

Winning Recipe

from the editor



- 1 cup pecan halves
- 12 oz Cool Whip
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1 box powdered sugar
- 3-3½ cups blueberries
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 Tsp. lemon juice
- 2-3 Tsp. cornstarch
- (2) 9-inch deep dish pie shells

Let pie shells thaw about 15 minutes. Press pecan halves in pie shells and bake at 400 degrees until golden brown. Mix cream cheese and powdered sugar together then fold in Cool Whip. Set aside in refrigerator.

Blueberry Pie



On stove top combine blueberries, sugar, cornstarch and lemon juice. Cook until thick on low heat, stirring as mixture cooks. Set mixture aside to cool. Spread cream cheese mixture in bottom of pie shells then add cool blueberry mixture. Top with Cool Whip.

Educators: Apply now to fund your Bright Ideas!

Do you have an idea for an innovative classroom project? The Bright Ideas grant program is offered by Four County EMC and 25 other electric coopera-

tives in North Carolina that support educators in need of funding to implement creative, hands-on learning projects. NC Teachers in K-12 classrooms are encouraged to apply for a grant up to \$2,000.

As a member-owned cooperative, Four County EMC is committed to supporting local communities, and last year, Four County EMC awarded \$19,860 in Bright Ideas funding to local teachers.

Grant applications are being accepted now through Sept. 28. It could pay to apply early: all teachers who submit their applications by the early bird deadline of Wednesday, Aug. 15 will be entered into a drawing for one of five \$100 Visa 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 NCBrightIdeas.com.



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

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:



Priscilla Stringfield
Kelly, NC

Board of Directors

Franklin Williams
President

Bertice Lanier
Vice President

Gene Jordan
Secretary-Treasurer

Ronald J. Allen
R.W. Blanchard, Jr.
Arlester Fullwood
Clayton Hollingsworth
Steven Matthis
Carlton Raynor
Kenneth Thornton, Jr.

Executive Staff

Mitchell Keel
Chief Executive Officer

Dan Allen
Vice President Customer Services

Gary Chitwood
Vice President Finance and Accounting

Gregg Cohn
Vice President Engineering

Don Gatton
Vice President Human Resources

Doug Krynicki
Vice President Information Technology

Billy McGavock
Vice President Operations

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

We believe in the Power of Human Connections

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

Burgaw259-2361
Elizabethtown862-3551
Rose Hill289-4534