

Lumbee River

Electric Membership Corporation



JANUARY 2007 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Lumbee River EMC Allocates Funds for LREMC Cares Energy Assistance Program

Lumbee River EMC understands that many of our members already have to stretch their money each month just to make ends meet. When a crisis or emergency occurs it can really create a hardship.

Oftentimes, choices have to be made between medicine, food and electricity.

As part of our continued commitment to improve the quality of life for our members, LREMC began a program to assist our members who are experiencing a crisis in their life. This program, LREMC Cares, is administered by community service agencies in each of the four counties we serve.

| County | Agency | Contact Info |
|------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Cumberland | Fayetteville Urban Ministry | (910) 483-5944 |
| Hoke | Dept. of Social Services | (910) 875-8725 |
| Robeson | Robeson County Church & Community Services | (910) 738-5204 (910) 843-2004 |
| Scotland | Scotland County Church & Community Services | (910) 276-8330 |

Community service agencies will begin administering funds to our members January 1, 2007, until allocated funds are depleted. The agencies will use their existing criteria to determine member eligibility for funds. Eligible members can receive up to \$150 in assistance one time a year.

Agencies will begin taking applications for funds on January 1. Please contact the agency for your county to learn more.

Lumbee River EMC Employees Sponsor Christmas Care

Lumbee River EMC employees gathered on December 11 for a chance to give back to their community through the employee's Christmas Care program.

The program allows employees to donate their time and money to assist our members that are less fortunate at Christmastime by putting together baskets that include toys for the children and food for the family. This year, 120 families will benefit from the program.

Employees founded the program in 1981, when they decided to donate money to purchase toys and food for families in our service area. Shortly after the program's implementation, others joined in to support this much needed and appreciated program. Today, LREMC's Board of Directors donates money to support the employees efforts. Other organizations and vendors in the communities also lend their generous support to the program.

Based on contact throughout the year, employees identify members who might need help. In addition, applications are accepted from October to late November from those members requesting to be recipients of a basket. A committee of employees reviews all applications and evaluates each based on need. The program has grown more than 500% since it began in 1981 and employees hope to continue the tradition for a long time to come.

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College Scholarships Available to High School Seniors

Lumbee River EMC will award six local high school seniors more than \$18,000 in educational assistance this spring as part of its scholarship program. The Lucy Smith, John S. O'Briant, Thomas Wade Bethea and Elias Rogers Scholarships are for students planning to attend a four-year college or university. Each scholarship is valued at \$4,000. The J. McN. Gillis and J. W. Hunt Scholarships are for students planning to attend a two-year college or technical school. Each scholarship is valued at \$1,200.

"Lumbee River EMC established this program over 30 years ago out of a desire to help students who otherwise might not have the opportunity to continue their education," said Ronnie E. Hunt, President and CEO. "We are committed to members and their families and we are honored to be able to invest in the education and development of future leaders."

Applications will be available at any LREMC office, from Lumbee River EMC's Web site, and the guidance counselor at most area high schools beginning January 1, 2007. To qualify, you must be a senior whose parents or guardians are members of the cooperative. The application itemizes all necessary qualifications and requirements.

Applications must be received on or before Friday, March 2, 2007, by 5 p.m. For additional information, please call (910) 843-4131, or visit www.lumbeeriver.com.

Students: Apply Now for Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

Like the blooming of the cherry blossom trees in Washington, D.C., we also have an annual rite of spring here at our cooperative: the selection of high school juniors to visit the nation's Capitol. The students see the sights and sounds of our government in action and learn about the electric cooperative movement through NRECA's Youth Tour Program.

Students don't go alone. They join others, selected by their local cooperatives, and together make a strong delegation representing our state and nation. This annual event is no small undertaking. It brings more than 1,400 students, chaperones and teachers together from across the country. Representatives from Alaska, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Texas, Tennessee and California add to the union of co-op youths.

Why is this program important? This is a question that we revisit every year. Here are other questions we ask ourselves: Is it important to reach out to the younger members of our communities? Is it important for our future leaders to meet their legislators and to see government at work? Is it important for our students to share ideas and experiences with others just like them, but from all across the country? Is it important for these students to learn what a cooperative is, and how it works? And finally, will these students be better citizens in the communities they choose to live as a result of this experience?

The answers to these fundamental questions are always a resounding 'Yes.' The value is undeniable. The facts speak for themselves: this program has been around more than 40 years and now boasts over 40,000 participants all across the country.

The role of past Youth Tour participants include current state legislators, farmers, housewives, attorneys, business-owners and even a few congressional staffers. Often the investment in the life of these individuals isn't seen in the short term, but it is one that will pay dividends for years to come.

High school juniors whose parents or guardians are members of the cooperative are eligible for the Youth Tour. A short essay will determine the winners.

Applications will be available at any LREMC office, from Lumbee River EMC's Web site, and the guidance counselor at most area high schools beginning January 1, 2007. Applications must be received on or before Friday, March 2, 2007 by 5 p.m. For additional information or to obtain an application, please call (910) 843-4131, or visit our Web site at www.lumbeeriver.com.



If selected to attend the Youth Tour, high school juniors will travel to Washington, D.C.

2006 Bright Ideas Grants



More than 4,173 students will benefit from 19 Bright Ideas Grants awarded by Lumbee River Electric Membership Cooperative at a luncheon on November 28 at the cooperative's main office.

The Bright Ideas grant program, sponsored by North Carolina's electric cooperatives, strives to improve education in North Carolina classrooms by awarding grants to teachers for innovative, classroom-based projects in grades K-12 that would not otherwise be funded. The annual Bright Ideas grants fund creative teaching ideas to meet the needs of area students.

Lumbee River EMC has contributed more than \$200,000 to area schools in the program's twelve-year history. Lumbee River EMC has reached 407,035 students, and has funded 170 projects

in various disciplines. The Bright Ideas Grant Program is part of Lumbee River EMC's commitment to improve the quality of instruction by providing support to our schools and teachers in the communities we serve.

The funds go to teachers, principals and other educators serving grades K-12, with awards of up to \$2,000 being offered for projects in any discipline.

The guest speaker for this occasion was Bill Bowman, Chief Executive Officer for Kidsville News, Inc. and Publisher for Up & Coming Weekly.

To read a summary of their grant idea or for more information about the Bright Ideas Grant program please visit our Web site at www.lumbeeriver.com.

Winning teachers, schools and grants

Cathy Adams

*South Scotland Elementary
Museum on a Cart*

Chad Barbour

*Douglas Byrd High School
Fueling the Future*

Ryan J. Brooks

*Scotland High
Animal Behavior*

Marian Elliott

*Upchurch Elementary
Many MIDI Musicians*

Jan Fields

*Long Branch Elementary
Not "Jester" Average
Middle Ages Study*

Vicki Gibson

*Oxendine Elementary
Reading Garden*

Kim Gualtieri

*Wagram Primary
Fun With Spanish in
Kindergarten*

Billy Haggans

*CIS Academy
JumpStart Math*

Larece Hunt

*Janie Hargrave Elementary
Walking for a healthier you!*

George Jackson

*East Robeson Primary
What A Novel Idea!*

Richard M Johnston III

*Brentwood Elementary
Rocketing through education*

Margaret E. Jones

*Hoke County High
ABC's of the FD&C*

Meghan Kellhofer

*Brentwood Elementary
Phases of the Moon*

Phyllis Y. King

*Lumberton Junior High
Studio 82: Producing
Language into Life*

Sibyl King

*W H Knuckles Montessori
Write To The Point: Make
Writing a Priority*

Sandra Oxendine

*Long Branch Elementary
Books and Beyond*

Bonnie Parker

*Littlefield Middle School
Proud Heritage of Diversity*

Donna Pope

*John Griffin Middle
Robotics in Real Life*

Jan Lee Santos

*Robeson Co Information
Technology High
Designer Challenge*

Upcoming FireAntz events promote achievement to students



As part of Lumbee River's ongoing partnership with the Fayetteville FireAntz, here are two upcoming events that we are excited about:

Get Fit With FireAntz

On January 26, local schools are invited to bring their students to the Crown Coliseum to watch the Fayetteville FireAntz practice. Head

Coach John Marks and the team will discuss the importance and benefits of physical fitness, teamwork, and leadership.

This event will take place from 10–11:30 a.m. at the Crown Coliseum. All students who attend will receive a voucher for a free ticket to that Saturday night's game on January 27. If you are interested in having your students attend, contact Teresa Sexton at 321-0123.

Blades for Grades

In addition to the Get Fit with the FireAntz program, Lumbee River EMC, WKML, and the Fayetteville FireAntz Professional Hockey team are partnering this year on a new program called "Blades for Grades." This outreach program is designed to promote higher achievement through academics.

This is the most extensive educational outreach program ever implemented in the greater-Fayetteville area. The program consists of player appearances at schools to read with children and explain the importance of education.

If you are a teacher or principal and are interested in participating in the "Blades for Grades" program check out the FireAntz Web site at www.fireantzhockey.com. You can click on the Blades for Grades link to sign up.

SURVIVING *Winter Storms*



North Carolina may not experience the harsh winters that other regions of the United States do. However, North Carolina is no stranger to severe winter ice storms.

The extreme cold temperatures of winter ice storms make staying warm and safe a challenge. Create a winter survival kit to help your family survive the cold grasp of winter:

Essentials

- **Food:** Stock items that require no cooking or refrigeration such as bread, crackers, cereal, canned foods, and dried fruits. Remember baby food and formula if needed.
- **Water:** In case water pipes freeze or rupture, keep a supply of tap water or purchase bottled water. The recommended amount of water to keep is five gallons per person.
- **Medicines:** Roads may be inaccessible for several days due to the storm. Make sure to order or refill any prescriptions that family members may need.
- **Identification:** Keep forms of identification with you such as social security card, passport, photo ID, and driver's license. In addition, make sure to have bank account information and insurance policies.

Emergency materials

- Blankets
- Matches
- First Aid Kit and instruction manual
- Multipurpose, dry-chemical fire extinguisher
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered radio, clock/watch
- Extra batteries
- Shovel
- Rock salt
- Non-electric can opener

Alternate heating methods

- Dry firewood for a fireplace or wood stove
- Kerosene for a kerosene heater
- Furnace fuel (coal, propane, or oil)
- Electric space heater with automatic shut-off switch and non-glowing elements

When creating a winter survival kit, take into consideration factors specific to your home and family. For example, if your home is isolated or on the outskirts of a residential area, stock additional amounts of food, water, and medicine. Listening to weather forecasts regularly can provide you with several days' notice to allow you to stock-up on essential supplies.



LUMBEE RIVER EMC

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