



Apply now for the Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
~ page 22



Lines from the V.P. of Member and Industrial Development: "Fostering Business Expansion"
~ page 23



Submit your Bright Ideas grant before the "Early Bird" deadline
~ page 24

Sales Tax Update for Farmers

ALONG THE LINE

Effective July 1, 2014, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 105-164.13E(1) provides an exemption from sales and use tax for electricity sold to a qualifying farmer that is measured by a separate meter or another separate device and is used by the qualifying farmer in the planting, cultivating, harvesting, or curing of farm crops or in the production of dairy products, eggs, or animals, other than preparing food, heating dwellings, and other household purposes. Effective July 1, 2014, a qualifying farmer is a farmer who has an annual gross income for the preceding taxable year of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more from farming operations or who has an average annual gross income for the three preceding taxable years of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more from farming operations and includes a dairy operator, a poultry farmer, an egg producer, a livestock farmer, a farmer of crops, and a farmer of an aquatic species, as defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 106-758.

In order for a qualifying or conditional farmer to claim the exemption from sales and use tax on sales of electricity billed on or after July 1, 2014, the qualifying or conditional farmer must issue Form E-595E or other exemption information required per N.C. Gen. Stat. § 105-164.28 to the retailer. Where a qualifying or conditional farmer issues or has issued such form or other exemption information consistent with the requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 105-164.28 to a retailer, the retailer may continue to rely on such to exempt from sales and use tax sales of electricity billed to a qualifying or conditional farmer, provided the gross receipts derived from sales of electricity to the qualifying or conditional farmer are measured through a separate meter and used for a qualifying farm purpose.

As always, you should consult your tax advisor in order to determine your specific reporting requirements. You can stay abreast of these and other important tax changes by visiting www.dorncc.com.

Consumers of electricity (farmers, manufacturers and data centers) who wish to receive a reduced tax on electricity must complete a Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement Certificate of Exemption, Form E-595E, and supply it to the utility in connection with the electricity which qualifies for the reduced tax.

In order to qualify for the reduced tax rate, the electricity must be measured by a separate meter. Electricity sales in connection with any of these type accounts will not be deemed eligible for a reduced sales tax rate until a Form E-595E is received for a specific and separately metered account.

Last Chance To Apply for Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships

The deadline for all Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarship applications is quickly approaching. All applications must be received online through our website or dropped-off at our office by July 18, 2014. Scholarships are offered to members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC who plan to complete a one or two-year vocational/technical/community college program of study. The technical school or community college must be accredited in North Carolina.

These scholarships give prospective students the opportunity to further their education so they can acquire new skills and knowledge to improve their livelihood.

In 2013, the Volunteer Action Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC awarded three Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships to Angela Dancy,

Tanner Harrison and Ashley Powell.

Scholarships will be awarded at the beginning of the Fall 2014 semester. You can access, complete, and submit applications online at www.ememc.com. If you wish to receive an application form by mail, please call the cooperative at (252) 823-2171.

The Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships are made possible through the dedicated work of the Volunteer Action Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC and other private donations. The Volunteer Action Committee helps raise funds for the scholarship by selling desserts and raffling off various items at the Annual Meeting of Members each year.

Researchers Predict Less Active Hurricane Season

The scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are predicting a "less active than normal" 2014 hurricane season. NOAA's 2014 Atlantic hurricane season outlook calls for 3 to 6 hurricanes, with 1 or 2 of those becoming major storms. A major storm is a Category 3 or higher.

This prediction comes one year after the least-active season so far this century. Since 1950, there were only five other hurricane seasons less active than 2013. Many scientist believe this is due to the El Nino events, which tend to suppress tropical cyclone development due to increased wind shear. In 2013, the equatorial Pacific was in a neutral state, neither El Nino, or its opposite, La Nina was in play.

Although the less-active prediction is promising, scientist warn that you should not become complacent due to the prediction. You should always make plans and prepare ahead of time for a major storm so you are not caught off guard. Take time to lay out a hurricane plan and gather the necessary supplies to keep you safe.

2014 Atlantic Hurricanes

**Arthur
Bertha
Cristobal
Dolly
Edouard
Fay
Gonzalo
Hanna
Isaias
Josephine
Kyle
Laura
Marco
Nana
Omar
Paulette
Rene
Sally
Teddy
Vicky
Wilfred**



HOLIDAY CLOSING

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC will be closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Payments after office hours and on holidays can be made at the kiosk under the drive thru canopy, placed in the night deposit box or you may choose to utilize the convenience of online bill-pay by logging on to www.ememc.com.

To report a loss of power or an emergency after hours, please call 1-800-690-0657.

LINES FROM THE V.P. OF MEMBER AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Working To Help Businesses and Our Communities Grow

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC has been involved in economic development activities for several years, relying on partnerships with state, regional and local government to help recruit and attract business and industry into our service area. The ultimate goal of this partnership has been to create jobs and ultimately improve the quality of life for cooperative members and their families. Edgecombe-Martin has been successful in this partnership by helping to locate business and industry such as QVC, Acme United, Harvey Grain and Fertilizer and Syfan Manufacturing just to name a few.

Once a business or industry locates on the cooperatives electrical system, a big part of the success of that business is the ongoing relationship our cooperative has with these businesses and industries in making sure we provide quality electric service as well as tools and services that help that business expand and grow. Services the cooperative offers range from energy audits, engineering advise, power quality monitoring and access to funding to expand and grow the business.

Recently your cooperative had the opportunity to assist Syfan Manufacturing in their plans for a \$6.5 million investment to expand their manufacturing headquarters for the United States and North America which is located in the Everette's Industrial Park in Martin County. Syfan plans include the addition of a new manufacturing line that will increase the size of the facility by 24,000 square feet and will add 24 new jobs to the existing 74 positions. This expansion will allow Syfan the opportunity to increase it's production capabilities and position them as a leader for shrink wrap production in North America.

Edgecombe-Martin County was able to access a \$2 million zero-interest loan for Syfan through the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program, which is administered through the United States Department of Agriculture. This loan program allows our cooperative to borrow the funds and redistribute to the end user (in this case, Syfan) for a term of ten years.

This loan is not the first for the cooperative, as we have used this program in the past to assist Edgecombe County with it's landfill methane gas to electricity project and a previous loan to Syfan Manufacturing to assist them in a equipment

purchase that increased the facilities process efficiency.

Edgecombe-Martin will continue to assist all of our businesses and industry in the future to help assure their success and help fulfill our mission and commitment to improve the quality of life for our members and their families.



Cooperatively Yours,

Eddie Stocks

Eddie Stocks



Fireworks Safety

The Fourth of July is one of the most festive and patriotic holidays, and no Independence Day would be complete without backyard barbecues, waving flags and crackling fireworks. Fireworks make brilliant displays of light and color, but they can be dangerous, especially when set off at home. According to U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 8,700 home fireworks-related injuries were treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments in 2012. Most of those incidents occurred during a month-long time period that encompassed the Fourth of July, and 74 percent of the injured were males. Fingers and hands accounted for 41 percent of the injuries, and other injuries were distributed among the head, legs and eyes.

- Familiarize yourself with the law. Look up specifics, but as a rule of thumb, fireworks that spin, leave the ground or fly through the air are illegal in North Carolina.
- Only buy fireworks from a reliable vendor.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.
- Keep a water hose or bucket full of water nearby in case of a fire emergency.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Always read and follow directions before using fireworks at home.
- Keep children at a safe distance and never allow children to handle fireworks.
- Only light fireworks outside and away from structures or vegetation.
- Never re-light a malfunctioning firework.
- Before cleaning up fireworks and throwing them away, douse them in water to make sure they are fully extinguished.

Use good judgment when celebrating the Fourth of July this year. There's a lot worth celebrating.

ALONG THE LINE

www.ememc.com

Board of Directors

Millie Lilley, President
Elbert Ray Pitt, Jr., Vice Pres.
Joseph Suggs, Secretary
Floyd H. Harrell, Treasurer
Billy Trevathan
Jimmie Jernigan
Norman A. Roberson
Dennis C. Briley
Edward B. Simmons, Attorney

CEO

Bob L. McDuffie

Editor

Winston T. Howell

Hwy. 33 East, P.O. Box 188
Tarboro, NC 27886
252-823-2171 • 1-800-445-6486
Office Hours: 8a.m. - 5p.m. (M-F)
After Hours Outage Reporting
1-800-690-0657

Teachers! Submit Your Grant Before the Early Bird Deadline



**BRIGHT
IDEAS**

There is no better time to brainstorm your Bright Ideas grant into existence than over your summer break! **In fact, teachers who submit their applications by August 15 will be entered into a drawing for one of five "Early Bird" \$100 VISA gift cards.**

If you're a K-12 grade teacher and have an idea you think would help make learning in your classroom more fun, go to www.ncbrightideas.com and submit your Bright Ideas application online. The website offers grant writing tips and describes some previous grants that have been funded across the state. Each year, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC funds creative grants that help teachers implement savvy ideas into their classrooms.

So teachers, do your students a favor and don't let this summer pass without letting us here about your creative project. Who knows, you could be one of this year's Bright Ideas grant winners, but you must submit your application before it's too late! The deadline for all submissions is September 19.