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Proudly serving the members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

Albemarle Sounds

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**Albemarle Electric Membership
Corporation**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

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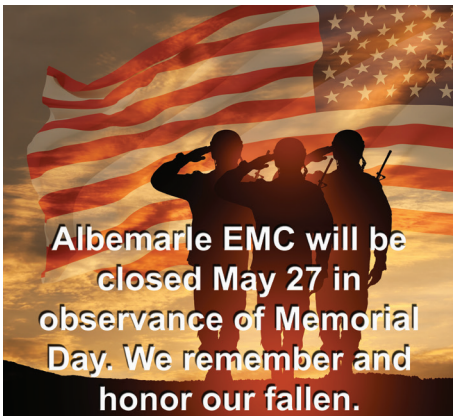
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*Albemarle EMC is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*

Closed for Memorial Day



**Albemarle EMC will be
closed May 27 in
observance of Memorial
Day. We remember and
honor our fallen.**

Co-ops Meet with Congressman



Representatives from Albemarle EMC, Roanoke Cooperative and Edgecombe-Martin County EMC recently met with Congressman Don Davis (seventh from left) to discuss issues of importance to electric cooperatives. Discussions included power affordability and reliability, employee recruitment and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Filing Period to Open for Prospective Nominees

At their May meeting, the Albemarle EMC Board of Directors will select members to serve on this year's Nominating Committee. The committee will nominate a slate of candidates to run for seats on the cooperative's board of directors.

Anyone wishing to be nominated to run for a seat has until early July



Three seats will be up for election at this year's Annual Meeting on Sept. 21.

to inform the co-op of their intention. Qualifying members who wish to be considered for nomination should notify Public Relations Coordinator Chris Powell by email (chris.powell@aemc.coop) or by addressing a letter to Chris Powell, Albemarle EMC, P.O. Box 69, Hertford, NC 27944. The prospective nominees will be given the names and addresses of the nominating committee members they will need to contact. The nominating committee will meet in mid to late July. Up for election this year are board of directors seats for the counties of Pasquotank and Camden as well as one at-large seat for all counties. The co-op's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Perquimans County Recreation Department, located at 310 Granby St., Hertford.

Bright Ideas Application Period Opens



Teachers now have the chance to bring their dream lesson plans to life with the help of Bright Ideas education grants from Albemarle EMC. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the local electric cooperative providing grants to enhance educational experiences through creative and engaging projects. Teachers can apply online at www.ncbrightideas.com.

“Albemarle EMC is proud to be part of a 30-year history of helping to bring additional teaching resources into classrooms,” said Kevin Heath, general manager of Albemarle EMC. “We hope many teachers will take advantage of this opportunity by applying for a grant.”

Albemarle EMC expects to award more than \$16,000 in Bright Ideas grants to local teachers during the 2024-2025 school year. Funding is available for K-12 classroom projects in all

curriculum areas including art, history, math, reading, science, technology and more. Educators can apply as individuals or as a team and must include a budget, project goals, implementation plan and description of how the project will engage students and enhance their success. The final deadline to apply is Sept. 15.

The Bright Ideas education grant program is a shared initiative of all 26 electric co-ops in North Carolina. Collectively, Albemarle EMC and North Carolina’s electric cooperatives have awarded nearly \$16 million in grants, supporting more than 14,700 projects benefiting close to four million students statewide.

Director Earns Certification



Albemarle EMC Board Director Ray Albertson (right) recently earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director Program certification. He is congratulated by board President John Spence.

Parsons Promoted



Sarah Parsons has been promoted from member service representative to billing associate. Among other duties, Parsons will be responsible for processing and completing service orders, reviewing daily meter-reading reports, coordinating estate capital credits and assisting as a backup for the co-op’s dispatcher.

AEMC Participates in Career Day



Albemarle EMC employees Bridget Sawyer and Chris Powell recently participated in Career Day for Chowan Middle School students. More than 300 students were able to visit with various employers throughout our region to learn about different occupations. Students were informed about requirements needed to pursue a variety of career paths at the cooperative.

Co-op Supports Marine Corps



Albemarle EMC is a proud sponsor of the MCAS Cherry Point Air Show, which will be held May 11-12. Admission is free as well as parking. However, premium seating can be purchased. This year’s event will feature the Blue Angels and several other performances in the air as well as on the ground. For more information, visit cherrypointairshow.com.



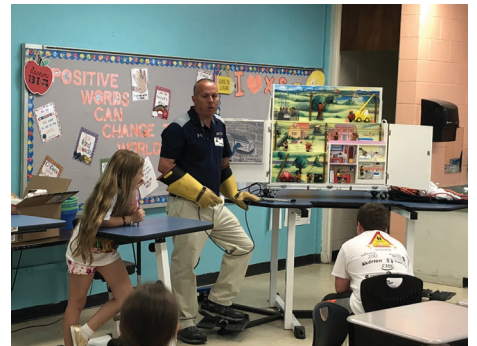
Albemarle EMC is at Your Service



May is National Electricity Safety Month

by Chris Powell, coordinator of public relations

On May 29, I will be giving electricity safety demonstrations to students at Hertford Grammar School as part of the Perquimans County Cooperative Extension’s Safety Day. It’s always fun to interact with the students and educate them about how to avoid harm from an electrical contact. I use a demonstration device called a Hazard Hamlet. This device uses actual arching electricity to emphasize dangerous situations in which children could find themselves. It is fortunate timing that this event will take place in May, which is National Electricity Safety Month. Albemarle EMC puts considerable effort into educating the public about electricity safety. The co-op also utilizes a high-voltage electricity demonstration trailer to emphasize unsafe scenarios outside of the home. Operated by linemen, this trailer demonstrates what happens when a person makes contact with high voltages, such as when a metal ladders comes close or contacts a power line.



Chris Powell, coordinator of public relations for Albemarle EMC, gives an electricity safety demonstration to students at Hertford Grammar School.

Inside:

- Never put anything other than an electrical plug in an outlet. Use outlet covers to protect children.
- Examine electrical cords often for fraying or cracking, and discard any worn cords.
- Extension cords are for temporary use. They are not intended for use as permanent home wiring.
- Don’t run cords under carpets or rugs.
- Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) outlets should be used in any area where water and electricity could mix, including kitchens, bathrooms, garages and outdoor. They should be tested monthly.
- Never touch electrical appliances with wet hands or use them near sinks, tubs, toilets or showers.
- Don’t use extension cords or multi-outlet converters for appliances. All major appliances should be plugged directly into a wall outlet.

Outside:

- Never go near or drive over a power line. If you encounter a downed line, stay far away and notify police.
- Keep kites, model airplanes and metallic balloons away from power lines.
- Watch for overhead lines when using a ladder, working on a roof or carrying a long, metal object.
- Call 811 before any digging project.
- If it is necessary to use a portable generator, always operate the generator outdoors in an open area. Use an extension cord to connect the generator directly to the appliance, and ensure the extension cord has three-prongs and is rated for the amount of power used by the appliance. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring unless the work is completed by a licensed electrician. This prevents backfeeding, which could electrocute utility workers.
- If you are outside during a thunder storm, stay away from tall objects such as trees. Lightning will typically take the shortest path to the ground, which is usually the tallest object. Instead, seek shelter in a car or home or stay low to the ground.



Staking Technician Ken Winslow speaks with students at Perquimans Central School about electricity safety, as Albemarle EMC linemen use the High-Voltage Demonstration Trailer to demonstrate unsafe scenarios.

For more safety tips and information, visit www.aemc.coop and the Electrical Safety Foundation International at ESFI.org.