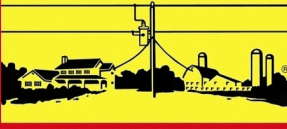



**MECKLENBURG  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

# POWER FACTS

An informational publication for members of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative concerning electricity and related subjects.

**FEBRUARY 2014**

## Service is the Heart of our Community



Your friends at Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative are seeing red (and pink). Valentine's Day could be a great holiday, but the cards, balloons, and candy cramming aisles this time of year still miss the mark. We need a card for our community.

It's great to let loved ones know you care about them, but let's go a step further. As your member-owned electric cooperative, we're committed to powering our community and empowering you to improve your quality of life.

On February 14, take time to send a card to a police officer or firefighter. Give candy (or an apple) to a school teacher. Visit a retirement home and spend time with the folks who built our community. Send balloons—or better yet, a donation—to your favorite charity.

These champions are the heart of our community. At Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative, we are sending cards, posters, and goodies to a local soldier and his platoon overseas to express our appreciation for what they do for our community and country.

On Valentine's Day (and every day), let's celebrate service, the heart of our community.

## Extreme cold may impact bills



With the frigid air that we have experienced lately, Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative wants to remind you that colder temperatures can bring higher than expected electric bills. January's temperatures dropped into the low teens, and even the single digits, on several occasions causing heating units to run constantly.

On average, January is usually the coldest month of the year – so please keep this in mind as you open your February electric bill, which reflects January consumption. However, if you feel that your energy use is too extreme - even considering the cold temperatures - please give us a call. Our representatives are always on hand to help you isolate issues that may be causing you to use more electricity than normal.



### Energy Efficiency

### *Tip of the Month*

Fighting winter chills? A crackling fire in the hearth warms the house, but don't let it heat up your electric bill. To cool energy costs, keep the fireplace damper closed when not in use. Caulk around the fireplace hearth. Double up on wood-earned warmth by lowering the thermostat setting to between 50 degrees and 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Learn more at [www.energysaver.gov](http://www.energysaver.gov).

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



# Attention Graduating Seniors!!

## Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative (MEC) Scholarship

Each year MEC awards a \$500 scholarship to students in nine different high schools throughout our service territory.

### Requirements:

- Parent or guardian must be a member of MEC
- Student must plan to attend an accredited institution of higher learning to obtain a two or four-year degree.
- Must have maintained at least a 3.0 GPA (based on 4.0 being an A)
- Exhibit commendable leadership abilities
- Demonstrate exemplary school spirit



Caleb Rowles, 2013 MEC Scholarship Recipient  
Chatham High School  
Son of Marty and Annette Rowles  
Danville Community College

\*\* Please see your school's guidance counselor for an application and deadline. \*\*

## Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives' (VMDAEC) Educational Scholarship



Any high school or home school senior graduating in 2014 whose parents are members of MEC and whose primary residence is served by the cooperative is eligible to apply.

The Board selects recipients based on a combination of criteria:

- Financial
- Academic Achievement
- Personal Statement

\*\* Deadline – February 12, 2014 \*\*

(Visit [www.vmdaec.com](http://www.vmdaec.com) for requirements and an application)

Abigail Hatley, 2013 VMDAEC Scholarship Recipient  
Fuqua High School  
Daughter of Timothy and Sharon Hatley  
James Madison University



MEC Offices Will be Closed on  
Monday, February 17, in observance of  
Presidents' Day.