

NEWS Central

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

SEPT 2018

POINT OF VIEW

Keeping electricity affordable

YOUTH TOUR

Students travel to D.C.

SPORTS CAMP

Co-op sponsors youth

Cooperative hosts Kenan Fellow for summer

This summer, Central Electric had the unique opportunity to partner with the Kenan Fellows Program for Teacher Leadership at NC State University and N.C.'s Electric Cooperatives to host a local educator as a 2018 Kenan Fellow. Daria Fredrick, a career technology teacher at Bragg Street Academy in Sanford, spent the summer learning the "in's and out's" of the electric cooperative world.

One of 25 teachers selected from across the state of North Carolina, Fredrick worked alongside mentors at the cooperative, learning how power is generated and delivered, and also how the co-op is continually innovating to better serve its members. After her short summer stay at the cooperative, she will now transfer the technical and career opportunity knowledge of the co-op to local students through her classroom and network of local educators.

"Central Electric is honored to have hosted Daria with us this summer and we are very excited about the impact it will have on our local students," said Morris McClellion, Central Electric General Manager and CEO. "Her enthusiasm was remarkable from day one and it will without a doubt carry over into her classroom as she uses the knowledge she gained this summer to positively impact her students."



Kenan Fellow Daria Frederick received a complete "hands on" experience at the cooperative this summer. She was able to learn how the co-op operates, all the way from distributing electricity to seeing first-hand how serving members is the top priority.



- ▶ The Central Electric office will be closed Monday, Sept. 3, for Labor Day. Crews will be on-call.
- ▶ Applications for fourth quarter Operation Round Up® grant requests are due Nov. 1. For more information, visit the "Operation Round Up" section under the "Community" tab at CEMCPower.com.

POINT OF VIEW

Keeping electricity affordable

From the desk of CEO & General Manager Morris McClellion

Many of you may remember dropping into the Central Electric office on Steele St. in downtown Sanford, or maybe at our current office on Wilson Rd., with your parents or grandparents to pay the light bill. Today, whether we do that in person, by mail, online or through our new mobile app, paying your monthly bill does a lot more than just keep the lights on.

Electricity keeps us connected to our modern world. Consider all the necessities and conveniences we enjoy in part

because of the power lines running to the electric meter outside your home.

Count up your televisions, computers, tablets, gaming consoles, music devices, etc. Whether they get used every day or just occasionally, the electricity that keeps them working comes from the cooperative.

Have you looked around the rest of your home lately? Maybe it's the coffee maker, refrigerator, heating and air conditioning, the water heater or maybe the tools in your



shop. We use electricity to run all of these devices.

The good news is, even as we rely more on electricity, it's still a bargain, especially compared to other things we pay for regularly. Since 2012, electricity costs for our members have only risen 1.8 percent on average annually. However, over the same time period, medical care, rental rates and education have increased at rates of 3 percent or more per year. Butter, meat and egg costs have been up by more than 2 percent annually. And these are just to name a few.

When it comes to value, electricity is a clear winner, and we're always looking for ways to work with you to make it even better. Know that as a not-for-profit electric cooperative, owned by our members, you are the first priority in each decision that is made. Our goal is to continue providing service that is not only reliable, but also affordable, to keep you and your family connected.

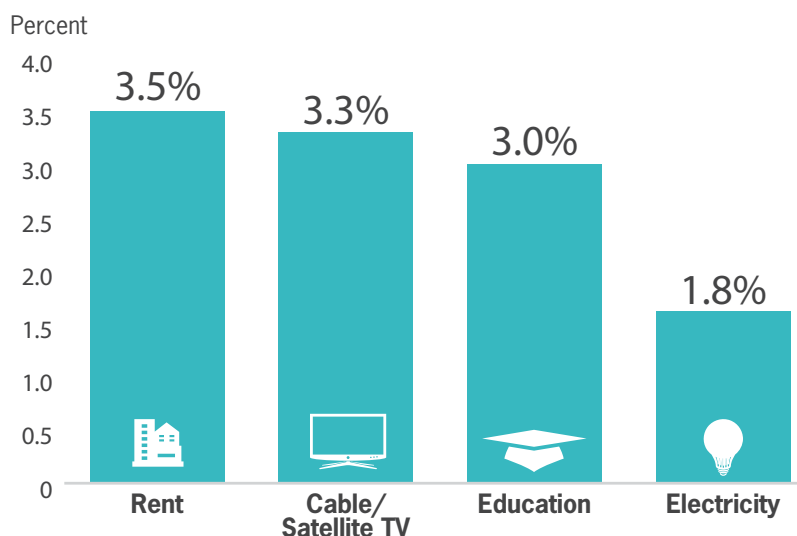
Until next time,

Morris McClellion

ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

The cost of powering your home rises slowly when compared to other common expenses. Looking at price increases over the last five years, it's easy to see electricity remains a good value!

Average Annual Price Increase 2012-2017



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index

Investing in the future leaders of tomorrow

Ever wonder what it is like to walk the halls of the Capitol with members of Congress?

Local students Olivia Rojas and Gabriel Hinsley were recently sponsored by Central Electric to take the trip of a lifetime as part of the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Olivia, a student at Lee County High School and Gabriel, a student at Overhills High School, joined over 1,800 youth from across the country June 9-15 in D.C.

While there, they were able to sightsee at some of D.C.'s most famous attractions and historic memorials, enjoy a theatrical experience at the Kennedy Center, as well as engage in discussions with U.S. senators and several members of the U.S. House of Representatives on Capitol Hill. In addition to meeting members of Congress, they learned more about American history and the electric cooperative business model.

Central Electric sponsors two local high school students each year for the Youth Tour. If you will be a high school junior or senior during the 2018-19 school year, the application period for next year's Youth Tour will begin this month and run through January 2019. For more information about this great program, visit the "Cooperative Youth Tour" page at CEMCPower.com.



(L-R) Olivia Rojas and Gabriel Hinsley represented Central Electric during the 2018 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.



Get your applications in!

There is still time remaining to apply for a Bright Ideas education grant for the 2018-2019 school year. Educators in K-12 classrooms are encouraged to apply for a grant up to \$2,000. Grants are available for all subjects and teachers can apply individually or as a team.

This year, Central Electric will award Bright Ideas grants totaling approximately \$15,000. Over 2,700 students in our community were positively impacted this past school year as a result of Bright Ideas grants.

To apply, educators must include a budget, explain the creative elements, implementation, goals and evaluation of the project, and have approval from the school principal. The final deadline for all grant applications is Sept. 19. For more information or to submit an application, visit NCBrightIdeas.com, or visit the "Education Programs" section under the "Community" tab at CEMCPower.com.

Students rewarded for classroom efforts

Five outstanding students earned a Visa® gift card for receiving at least one “A” on their recent report cards. The reward is in connection with Central Electric’s “Give us an A” program.

Local students from kindergarten to college with a grade of at least one “A” are invited to send in a copy of their most recent report card. Four times each school year, Central Electric will draw from the entries and award a \$25 Visa gift card to four winners with at least one “A” and a \$50 Visa gift card to one winner with all “A’s.”

If you have at least one “A” on your next report card, send in a copy to Janet Jackson at Central Electric by Nov. 19 for a chance to be selected in the next drawing.



Peyton Atkins
Boone Trail Elem.



Hailey Hayes
Greenwood Elem.



Madeline Lehman
New Century Middle



Ce'arah Stringfellow
JR Ingram Elem.



Katherine Leonard
Moncure School



Morris McClellion
CEO & General Manager

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24 hours a day: (877) 766-6769

James Taylor, *Editor*

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

Scholarships boost youth

Two local students recently participated in basketball camps at two of the state’s largest college campuses, thanks to Central Electric’s Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship program.

Jeremiah Eaton of Sanford attended the Roy Williams Carolina Basketball Camp June 16-20 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Ashley Ragland also of Sanford, attended the Wolfpack Women’s Basketball Camp June 10-13 at North Carolina State University.

At each camp, students stayed in dorms on campus, shot hoops, ran drills and worked alongside coaches to hone basketball skills and practice working cooperatively with teammates.



Jeremiah Eatmon



Ashley Ragland