

Roanoke Electric FLASHES

The Roanoke Center offers free tax help

The Roanoke Center, located in Rich Square, is gearing up to provide VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Preparation) for area citizens in preparing their 2009 income tax returns. "The VITA program plays an important role in our overall strategy to help families become financially stable and to take the next steps to long-term financial independence," stated Diana Mitchell,

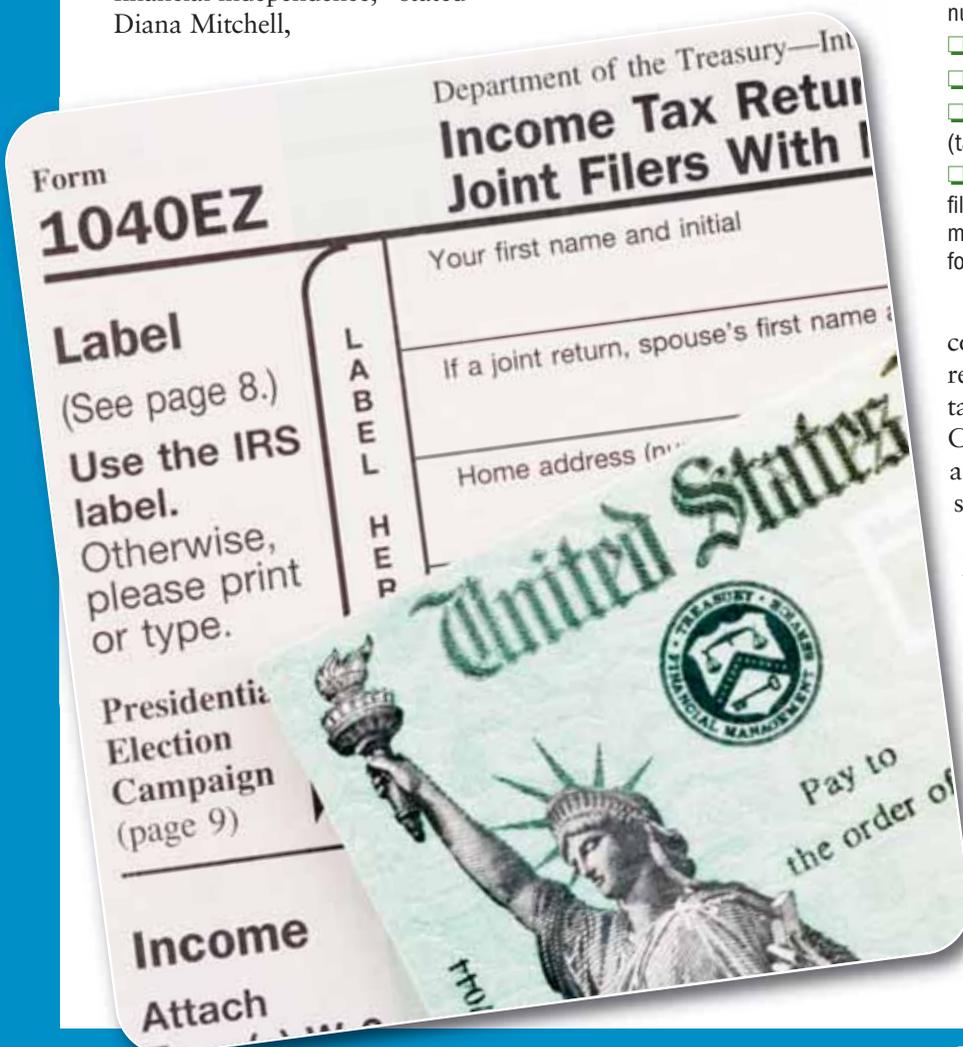
Director of The Roanoke Center.

From the beginning of February through April 15, IRS-trained volunteers will prepare 2009 income tax returns at no cost, providing your annual income did not exceed \$40,000. Taxpayers need to bring the following items to have their tax returns prepared:

- Photo ID
- Social Security cards for the taxpayer, spouse, and dependents
- Birthdates for primary and secondary earners and dependents
- All wage and earning statements (W-2, W-2G, and 1099-R forms)
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (1099 forms)
- A copy of 2008 tax returns if available
- Bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit
- Information for all deductions
- Payments for day care
- Day care providers identifying number (tax ID or SSN)
- To file taxes electronically on married filing a joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms.

Last year, volunteers at the site completed approximately 300 tax returns. "In addition to providing tax assistance, The Roanoke Center also provides counseling and referrals for personal financial stability," said Diana Mitchell.

Anyone interested in having his or her taxes prepared at The Roanoke Center should call for an appointment. For churches, small community organizations and/or civic groups interested in arranging on-site tax preparations, please contact Shirley White, VITA-EITC Coordinator (stands for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance-Earned Income Tax Credit), to make an appointment at (252) 539-4600, ext. 602.



Roanoke EC will select high school senior for the 2010 Roanoke EC Scholarship

Established in 1985, the Roanoke Electric Cooperative Scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded to a selected high school senior whose parents or legal guardians are members of the Cooperative.

The Scholarship is to aid a young person who:

- has exhibited an understanding of the cooperative way of doing business.
- he/she must have limited financial resources and
- exhibits outstanding scholastic and leadership abilities in his/her school and community.

CRITERIA

The criteria for the selection is:

- Need: 50 percent
- Scholastic Achievement: 25 percent
- Extra Curricular Activities and Cooperative Question 25 percent.
- In addition, the winner must have been accepted by an accredited two or four-year college or university in North Carolina.

The scholarship application deadline is April 23, 2010. For more information or to obtain an application, contact Robin Phillips



at rphillips@roanokeelectric.com, (252) 209-2259 or visit www.roanokeelectric.com.

Community



It's what we're all about.



And through Operation RoundUp® you can join us in supporting some of our area's most important non-profit organizations like your local fire department, rescue squad, community center, and health care facility. By allowing Roanoke Electric to round off your electric bill to the next highest dollar, you can make a donation to this special program.

It literally costs you only pennies a month, but the pennies of all members who participate add up to powerful dollars. There is a Board of Directors, made up of members just like you, that disperses the monies. Your gift is also tax deductible. You can fill out the attached coupon and mail it in or bring it into the office with your next payment.

Call REC at (800) 433-2236 or (252) 209-2236 for more information. The mailing address is: REC, P.O. Drawer 1326, Ahoskie, NC 27910. You can also email your request to contribute@roanokeelectric.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Account Number: _____

www.roanokeelectric.com

Roanoke Electric Cooperative

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Roanoke Electric Cooperative, Ahoskie, North Carolina, is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture's policy, this organization is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or disability. The person responsible for coordinating this compliance effort is Curtis Wynn, Executive Vice President and CEO of Roanoke Electric Cooperative. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). Both USDA and Roanoke Electric Cooperative are equal opportunity providers and employers.

Apply Now! Co-op offers Kellie Harper, Roy Williams basketball camp scholarships

North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives, including Roanoke Electric Cooperative, are providing all-expenses-paid scholarships for deserving young women to attend the Kellie Harper Basketball Camp in Raleigh and young men to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp in Chapel Hill this summer.

Both camps will work closely with each camper to develop fundamental skills that will help the young athletes excel both on and off the court.

Rising sixth through eighth graders are eligible to apply and the cooperatives began accepting applications on January 4. The deadline to apply is March 31. Applicants will be judged on their academics, extra-curricular activities and accompanying essay.

Students can download an application at www.ncelectriccooperatives.com.

The Kellie Harper Basketball Camp will be held on June 20-23 on campus at N.C. State University and the Roy Williams Basketball Camp will be held on June 19-23 at UNC-Chapel Hill.

The Touchstone Energy Sports Camps program provides a unique educational and athletic opportunity for outstanding students across our state and is yet another way the cooperatives are demonstrating their commitment to North Carolina communities.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Robin Phillips at (252) 209-2259 or rphillips@roanokeelectric.com.



WHY ELECTEL COOPERATIVE FCU? WHY NOW?

BECAUSE NOW IS A BETTER TIME THAN EVER TO JOIN YOUR ELECTEL COOPERATIVE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

- Have your banking fees increased?
- Have your lending rates increased?
- Do you pay an ATM fee?
- Has your credit card interest rate increased?
- Have your loan limits decreased?
- Are you having difficulty obtaining a loan?
- Have your lending policies changed?
- Do you have high cost, low quality service?

If you answered "yes" to these questions, make the switch to ElectTel Cooperative FCU.

You'll be glad you did!!!



WWW.ELECTELCCU.ORG/800-849-5600



Let roanokeelectric.com work for you

It wasn't too long ago when the only option for paying a utility bill meant jumping in your car and driving to the nearest remote station. Imagine the amount of gas you might have saved by making those payments online.

The World Wide Web has advanced in recent decades, providing access to value-added real-time member service features and information. Getting questions answered and finding out about electric utility service programs and other service offerings can now be accessed at your desktop computer.

Roanoke Electric Cooperative provides everything you need to know about your electric utility provider and the services it offers at www.roanokeelectric.com. It's quick and easy, and it saves you time and money.

Roanokeelectric.com provides information about how to read your bill, money-saving and electrical safety tips, scholarships, grants, economic development loan programs, online bill payment options, small and minority-owned business programs, workshops and seminars—you can even obtain a copy of the annual report, guidebook, by-laws, and a rate schedule, at the click of your mouse.



Visit our Web site, www.roanokeelectric.com, for more resources.

Leave no lint behind for efficient, safe laundry

Household chores like laundry seem fairly safe. But hidden problems like lint buildup in a dryer could lead to higher energy bills due to inefficiency and, ultimately, hazardous conditions in your home.

"Cleaning the lint filter after every cycle is one habit we want to encourage," recommends Jill

Notini, communications & marketing director for the Washington, based Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM).

"Repetition builds a habit."

AHAM urges consumers to clean the lint filter after each load and occasionally remove the filter and wash it with a nylon brush and hot, soapy water to remove residue. This simple chore not only improves air flow and energy efficiency, but also reduces the chance of a dryer fire.

Manufacturers whose products carry the UL mark are required to ship dryers with safety instructions that specify cleaning the lint screen before or after each load. Instructions also recommend keeping dryer exhaust openings and adjacent surrounding areas free from accumulated lint, dust, and dirt, and having qualified service people periodically clean the dryer's interior and exhaust duct.

Without adequate air circulation, heat flow becomes stymied, clothes take longer to dry, and it costs more to operate the appliance. Like ovens and stoves, dryers apply extreme heat on potentially flammable materials.

Most have the dryer in basement, garage or closet. So this out-of-sight, out-of-mind laundry chore makes it essential that a dryer be maintained on a simple and regular basis.

Source: *Underwriters Laboratories*

Roanoke Electric FLASHES

Published monthly
for the member-consumers of
Roanoke Electric Cooperative

P.O. Drawer 1326,
Ahoskie, NC 27910
Office: (252) 209-2236
or 1-800-433-2236

For outages call: 1-800-358-9437

For electronic bill payment:
www.roanokeelectric.com

We accept VISA, MasterCard
& E-check.

Editor: Robin Phillips

Visit our web site at:

www.roanokeelectric.com

Executive Vice President/CEO

Curtis Wynn

Board of Directors

Allen Speller, *president*

Robert "Nat" Riddick,

vice president

Delores Amason,
secretary-treasurer

Johnnie P. Garner,
assistant secretary-treasurer

Carolyn Bradley

Chester Deloatch

Kenneth Jernigan

Millard Lee

Darnell Lee