

Roanoke Electric **FLASHES**



A symbol of cooperation: Roanoke Electric celebrates opening of new headquarters

An idea is just an idea, without the cooperation of people working together.

Since 1938, Roanoke Electric Cooperative (REC) and electric cooperatives across the state have attributed their progress to member cooperation.

Over the past five years, REC enlisted local economic developers, contractors, public officials, community leaders, board members, and special committees to transform an idea to construct a new headquarter building. One that would be cost efficient, allow easy access to members, comfortably accommodate members, and be located on a site with access to adequate water, wastewater and electric infrastructure.

Now that the idea has materialized, REC's new headquarter building stands as a symbol of members and community leaders working together.

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

In January, hundreds of co-op members and affiliated organization leaders turned out to celebrate the grand opening and open house of the new one-story, 20,000 square-foot facility in Aulander.

President and CEO of REC, Curtis Wynn, delivered a presentation on the planning, history and progress of the \$6.5-million project. Some of the many considerations taken into account

throughout the planning process were the potential of expanding the older Rich Square facilities, evaluating sites in Northampton and Hertford Counties, and selecting an architect and construction manager. In an effort to stimulate the economy, extra effort was made to provide opportunities for local construction contractors, sub-contractors, and suppliers to construct REC's facility.

"We've kept our members and community leaders engaged throughout the process, so there is an overwhelming sense of pride that they feel about their investment," said Wynn.

The state-of-the-art building, located a mile west of intersection NC 11 and NC 561 highways, sits on 20 acres of land, which allows ample parking, a spacious member reception area, open-space offices and conference rooms for staff and board members. A 14,000 square-foot warehouse in the back of the new building accommodates more efficient workflow and houses equipment inventory.

Hertford County Commissioner, DuPont Davis, was in attendance and is excited about the move and



Hundreds of co-op members and affiliated organization leaders turned out to celebrate the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony. Inset: President and CEO Curtis Wynn talks about the history and progress of the project.

what it means for the local economy. "They've always given exceptional service to the community and having the new building here gives us a stronger tax base," said Davis.

The Roanoke Center, REC's non-profit affiliate located at the Rich Square site, will serve as an REC payment collection point and provide community development activities and programs. "We believe our presence in both counties will improve overall service to our members," said Wynn.

Coins for a cause:

Roanoke EC awards Operation RoundUp grants

Through the Operation RoundUp program, Roanoke Electric Cooperative awarded grants totaling \$16,072 to 12 area non-profit organizations for the first quarter of 2010. Those organizations were:

- ❑ Blue Jay Volunteer Fire Department, Windsor, \$2,250
- ❑ Concerned Citizens of Tillery, Tillery, \$1,200
- ❑ Conway-Severn Rescue Squad, Inc., Conway, \$1,250
- ❑ Gaston Volunteer Fire/Rescue, Gaston, \$1,000
- ❑ Hannah's Place, Inc., Roanoke Rapids, \$1,500
- ❑ Lasker Volunteer Fire Department, Lasker, \$1,600
- ❑ Relay for Life of Bertie County, Aulander, \$500
- ❑ Rich Square Volunteer Fire Department, Rich Square, \$2,272

- ❑ Roanoke Chowan Domestic Violence Task Force, Windsor, \$500
- ❑ Tillery Volunteer Fire Department, Tillery, \$2,500
- ❑ Hertford-Gates Relay for Life, Rich Square, \$500
- ❑ Mostmen Mostmen, Inc., Cofield, \$1,000

The RoundUp program, which is administered by the Roanoke Electric Care Trust, grants funds each quarter to non-profits that serve Roanoke Electric's local communities. The grant money comes from members who consent to rounding up their electric bills to the next whole dollar.

If your organization is a non-profit organization located in Bertie, Hertford, Gates, Halifax, Northampton, Chowan or Perquimans counties, then you are



invited to submit grant applications to Roanoke Electric Cooperative's Operation RoundUp program. The board offers grants to organizations providing educational, charitable, or economic development initiatives. Grant requests can be made for up to \$5,000 and are given out in January, April, July, and October. For more information or to receive an application, visit our website at www.roanokeelectric.com.

The next grant application deadline is at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 9.

Co-op offers incentives for heat pump, water heater purchases

The cooperative's Heat Pump Rebate Program is a \$200 incentive paid toward the purchase of a new energy efficient heat pump. The unit needs to be installed at a dwelling served by Roanoke Electric and should meet the Department of Energy's Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) standard that has been set at 12.

Once the member has installed the heat pump, we will require a receipt for the purchase of the unit. The cooperative will also need the following information to complete the paperwork involved in this program (Some information may be on the receipt):

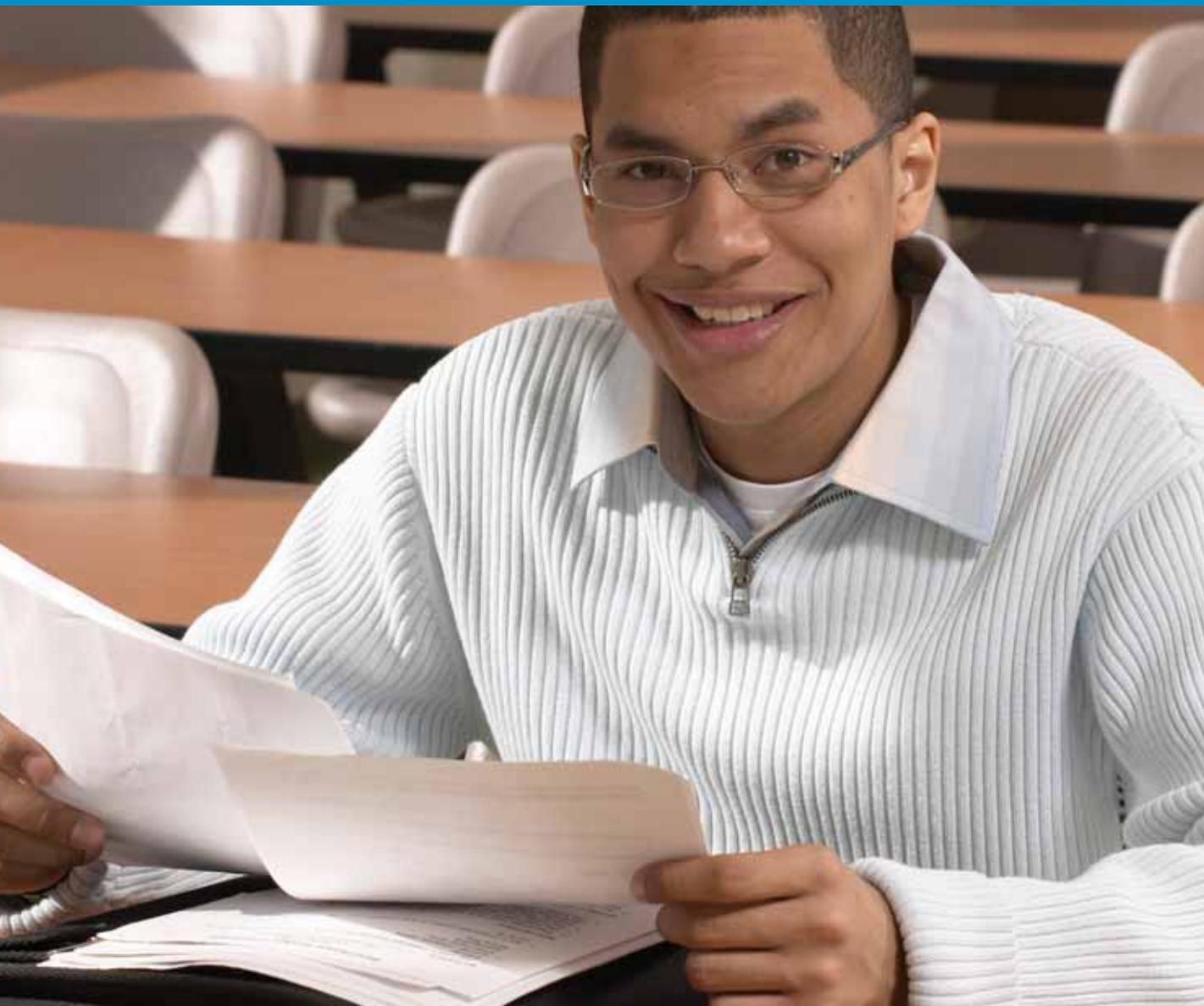
- ❑ the manufacturer and model number of the heat pump

- ❑ the square footage of the home
- ❑ the R-values of insulation in the floor, walls, and ceiling
- ❑ the wall and floor construction type, and the system type.

The cooperative's Water Heater Rebate Program is a \$75 or \$150 incentive paid toward the purchase of a new electric water heater. The water heater has to be installed in a dwelling served by the cooperative and the tank size should be at least 30 gallons.

The prospective rebate recipient has the option of receiving a rebate check or credit applied toward their current utility bill. For more information, please call Robin Phillips at (252) 209-2259 or toll-free at (800) 433-2236, ext. 259.





APPLY FOR ELECTEL'S COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP TODAY!

THE SCHOLARSHIP IS DESIGNED TO REWARD DESERVING CREDIT UNION MEMBERS FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

- ONE \$1,000 AWARD WINNER IN NORTH CAROLINA
- ONE \$1,000 AWARD WINNER IN VIRGINIA



COOPERATIVE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
YOUR CO-OP, YOUR CREDIT UNION

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ELECTELCCU.ORG OR CALL US AT **1-800-849-5600** TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. **DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS IS MAY 1, 2010.**



Federally Insured by NCUA



Calling on businesses to join the Co-op Connections Card program

Roanoke Electric has an exciting new opportunity for local businesses. The Co-op Connections Card program delivers added value to businesses and cooperative members—at the same time. Businesses have an opportunity to increase sales by offering discounts on products and services offered to Roanoke Electric's members as well as other electric cooperative members nationwide visiting our area.

Discounts are available to members who have the Co-op Connections Card, which was mailed in 2009. All that's required of the member is to present the card at a participating business and receive its predetermined discount. Businesses determine their own discount to offer. Co-op members can learn about participating businesses and their offers through Roanoke Electric and Co-op Connections' websites. Members will also know if a business is participating by seeing the Co-op Connections stickers on display that will be made available to the businesses. Roanoke Electric will also list the businesses periodically in the Flashes to increase visibility of participating businesses.

The Co-op Connections Card is a member loyalty program offered by Roanoke Electric Cooperative free of charge to its members and the increased exposure for area businesses is a free service as well.

"When people shop locally it's a win-win situation for area businesses and residents," said Diana Mitchell, director of The Roanoke Center.

We recognize and appreciate the following businesses for joining the Co-op Connections Program:



Vaughan's Heating and Air Conditioning
Janet's Bookkeeping Service
Roanoke Rapids Theatre
Gatling Charter Services
Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park

These local businesses have signed up to offer a value added service to our members. Please visit www.roanokeelectric.com and click on the Co-op Connections Card to view the specific discounts offered. We encourage all to take advantage of the discounts offered by the Co-op Connections businesses.

If you have any questions about the Co-op Connections Card program or how your business can participate, call Diana Mitchell at (252) 539-4601, or Robin Phillips at (252) 209-2259.

Roanoke Electric FLASHES

Published monthly
for the member-consumers of
Roanoke Electric Cooperative

P.O. Drawer 1326,
Aulander, 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

Holiday closing

Roanoke EC will be closed on Friday, April 2, in observance of Easter. To report outages, please call (800) 358-9437. Have a safe and happy holiday.

