



Roanoke Electric **FLASHES**

Need access to a computer? The Roanoke Center is here for you!

The Roanoke Center (TRC) knows that computer education is the need of today. Over the decades, technology has changed the face of the universe. Nowadays, it's almost impossible to imagine going an entire day without having to use technology in some way.

You use technology to check the weather, shop for last minute gifts, pay bills and even communicate with relatives around the world. With the evolution of technology, computers have become a daily utility.

Therefore, TRC wants to provide you with computer services in a number of ways that help meet your personal and professional needs.

How? TRC will provide in-house training in computer literacy and software training for you, whether you're thinking about embarking on a new career and want to expand your current skills or if you are new to the computer and need to start from the beginning.

How? TRC houses its very own Public Access Room that

offers 10 computer stations with high-speed Internet, as well as a training lab that can accommodate up to 10 people. The Public Access Room offer individuals, entrepreneurs and small business owners training opportunities geared towards their unique needs.

TRC is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For additional information about specific training that TRC offers, please call 252.209.4600 or visit www.roanokecenter.org.

"I support ACRE"

Roanoke Electric Cooperative's ability to serve you and your community is enhanced when supportive legislators understand their votes matter to



co-op members. Candidates who receive support from you get an important message about your interest in

Roanoke Electric Cooperative and rural electrification.

As a member of Roanoke EC, you have the unique right to make financial contributions to the campaigns of candidates who support electric cooperatives. You can do this by joining the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE).

When Roanoke EC member and ACRE supporter Jessene Howard, was asked why she joined ACRE, Mrs. Howard replied:

"I became an ACRE supporter because I want Roanoke Electric to be able to continue to offer benefits through programs like those with the local credit unions. I also want to have a voice to where I can speak out if something's wrong."

—Jessene Howard, Roanoke Rapids



If you want to join Mrs. Howard in letting your voice be heard, call us at 252.209.2236 to find out how you can become an ACRE supporter today.

Fire and Rescue organizations receive more than \$3,000 through Operation RoundUp

As we respond to the call to serve, your cooperative continuously strives to be more than just your electric service provider. Intertwined with Roanoke EC's mission is the desire to improve the quality of life in the diverse communities we serve. But we know we can't do this without you.

Each quarter, the Roanoke EC Care Trust (RECT) Board meets to award the funds you have contributed to Operation RoundUp to area organizations. On July 16, RECT met at the cooperative's headquarters to award the third quarter of Operation RoundUp funds.

This quarter, five organizations received funding from the program for a total of \$7,540 at the quarterly meeting. These organizations are:

Conway Severn Rescue Squad (Conway): \$1,120 to purchase new patient compartment LED lights for their units.

Rich Square Fire Dept. (Rich Square): \$2,500 for the replacement of personal fire protective equipment for volunteer firefighters.

Upper Room Assembly of God (Gatesville): \$1,500 to be distributed to the Compassion Central Ministries to assist

with providing good quality food to the Gates County Community.

Esquires for Education (Windsor): \$1,140 to with the implementation of a Reading Readiness Program that offers services to young African-American males in the third grade who are having difficulty reading. The program will be open to young men in Bertie, Hertford, Northampton, and Halifax County.

Northampton County Schools (Conway): \$1,280 to purchase 16 cameras.

Your cooperative and the RECT board would like to thank you for stepping up to help us respond to the call to serve our community by rounding up your electric bills to the next whole dollar each month. Your contributions of just pennies a month have proven that putting spare change together can go a long way in improving the lives of those in need within your community.

If you want to join this effort and participate in Operation RoundUp, call 252.209.2236 or visit www.roanokeelectric.com/roundup. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 26.

Responding to the call to serve: The Big Four

You're talking, we've been listening and now we're responding! Your cooperative is committed to being more than just your energy provider. Over the course of this year, Roanoke EC has placed a great amount of importance on ensuring that you receive the "best in class" service that you expect and deserve.

Your cooperative has developed a strategic-focused approach on initiatives regarding the value of service we provide. These initiatives have resulted in several projects that will ensure we are operating cost-effectively and that our employees are empowered to serve you.

Currently, we are launching these projects — known as the "The Big Four" — so that you can start seeing an impact immediately:

Community Solar. Solar energy has gained mainstream acceptance over the past few years. It's known to be one of the cleanest forms of renewable energy. Nowadays, it's not uncommon to see acres of solar panel farms while driving around your community. However, it is often very expensive for residents to install solar panels on their roofs to enjoy the benefits of free energy.

Your cooperative recognizes this, and will offer a special opportunity for its members to enjoy solar energy's benefits without the hassle of investing thousands of dollars. The Community Solar project currently on the horizon for Roanoke EC will allow easier entry for individuals who wish to invest in solar energy as a renewable option to them.

Fiber. From your feedback, we know that each time you flip the switch, you expect the lights to come on. We also know that in the

event of an outage, you expect power to be restored as quickly as possible. In an effort to ensure that we provide you with reliable service, we have a fiber project on tap that will reduce our outage frequency and outage response times. This project will also allow us to be better equipped to help you manage energy and reduce system losses, thus saving you money!

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program (EECLP). Ever wish you could make energy efficient upgrades to your home to improve your electric bill with no upfront cost? Well, your cooperative may have the solution for you. We have been enhancing our energy efficient loan programs and are making monies easily accessible to members who need energy efficiency upgrades.

Outdoor Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting. Your cooperative wants to give you more for less! Our outdoor LED lighting project will deploy more energy efficient outdoor lights. LEDs are more dependable, last longer and are more energy efficient than our current high pressure sodium (HPS) lighting. The benefits of using them will not only reduce corporate expenses but will leave you with more money in your pocket as well.

As we continue our progress on "The Big Four" and other areas of strategic focus, we will be sure to keep you informed. To learn more about how we're responding to the call to serve, visit www.roanokeelectric.com/thecall2018.

Roanoke EC provides educational opportunities for local students

Roanoke is continuing its commitment to enhancing the quality of life in the diverse communities we serve. In this regard, your cooperative has continued providing opportunities for area youth and communities through our various sponsorships and programs. Our accomplishments in coordinating these efforts through the following programs show that we have and will always be committed to supporting our communities.

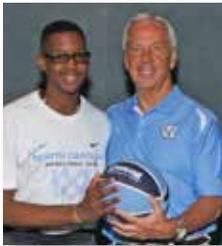
Roy Williams and Wolfpack Sports Scholarships

Two local middle school students shot hoops and ran drills at basketball camps hosted by two of the state's largest universities.



Liz Taylor, a student at Central Middle School, attended the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp June 23-26 at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Liz is the daughter of Jeremy and Amy Taylor of Gates.

Caleb Taylor took to the court June 21-25 at the Roy Williams Carolina Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Caleb is a student at KIPP: Gaston College Preparatory and is the son of Gravino and Theresa Taylor of Weldon.



"Roanoke EC is pleased to give these outstanding students a unique opportunity to experience life on

a college campus and to receive instruction from two of the ACC's finest coaches," said Marshall Cherry, chief operating officer (COO) at Roanoke EC. "These camps develop fundamental skills that will help the young athletes excel both on and off the court. We're delighted to have them represent our co-op."

Liz and Caleb earned the all-expense-paid scholarships by completing an application that included academics, community involvement and enthusiasm for sports. Only 56 students from across the state received Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships this year.

During camp, students stayed in campus dorms and worked directly with coaches and athletes to hone basketball skills and practice working cooperatively with teammates. The staff of the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp included NC State women's basketball coach Wes Moore, and his coaching staff and players. Two-time NCAA champion coach Roy Williams, his staff, and current and past Tar Heel basketball players led the Carolina camp.

This is the 11th year North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives have sponsored young women to

attend an NC State women's basketball camp and the ninth year the cooperatives have sent young men to the Roy Williams camp. The co-ops' partnership with universities and coaches provides a unique educational and athletic opportunity for our state's youth and keeps with Touchstone Energy's core values of accountability, integrity, innovation and commitment to community.

2014 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour

Additionally, Roanoke sent one high school student on this year's Electric Cooperative Youth Tour for a weeklong, all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Seventeen-year-old Chelsea Garris, a student of Northampton County High School, joined more than a thousand students from across the country on an educational tour of our nation's capital June 14-20. Garris is a Rich Square native and the daughter of Angela Ramsey.



During her weeklong stay, Chelsea was able to see our government in action, and visit historic monuments and museums.

"It's important for our youth to understand how our government works because they will one day be the very individuals making the decisions for our nation," said Cherry. "When we invest in our youth, we invest in our nation's future," he continued.

Chelsea earned the trip by completing an application based on academics, extracurricular activity involvement and her understanding of the cooperative way of doing business.

Roanoke EC High School Scholarship

For nearly 30 years, Roanoke has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to assist one deserving high school senior. This year, Roanoke granted the \$1,000 scholarship to Antonio Powell, a former student at Bertie STEM High School. Antonio graduated this past June and is attending the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. This scholarship will aid Antonio's desire to pursue a degree in Accounting.

To receive this scholarship, the student must demonstrate an understanding of the cooperative way of doing business, exhibit outstanding scholastic and leadership abilities in his/her school and community, and show a financial need for the scholarship.

Be sure to get your refund!

Did you know that you're an owner of a unique type of business? An organization like Roanoke EC is owned by the members we serve. Therefore, your cooperative doesn't technically earn profits. Any revenues over and above the cost of doing business are considered "margins".

In a normal business, these margins are normally distributed as dividends to stakeholders rather than those who use their services. However, because we are a cooperative, these margins are an interest-free loan from you to your cooperative. Additionally, these monies allow Roanoke EC to finance operations and – to a certain extent – construction, with the intent that this money will be repaid back to you in the years to come in the form of capital credits.

So how are these capital credit refunds calculated? Well, your cooperative calculates capital credits for every member who purchased electricity during a year

in which Roanoke EC earned margins.

There is no special action you have to perform to start a capital credits account because your membership with Roanoke EC automatically activates your capital credits account.

Annually, the board of directors assesses the cooperative's financial ability to pay out capital credits to our members. When Roanoke EC is in a good financial position, the cooperative typically mails checks during August.

We also encourage you to please check in with the cooperative periodically to verify that you don't have any checks on file that have already been mailed out and have not been cashed.

For more information, contact us at 252.209.2236 or visit www.roanokeelectric.com/capcredits



Everyday savings with your Co-op Connections Card

REC's Co-op Connections wallet cards and key fobs are real money-saving tools. The card puts value in your wallet and connects you with discounts on everything from hotel stays to home maintenance to prescription drugs. Just show your card or fob to participating merchants in

order to receive the discount they've signed up to give co-op members. You can find all the ways to save locally and nationally at www.connections.coop.

Businesses! You are welcome to participate in this rapidly growing program. Participation is free! Visit www.roanokeelectric.com/commercial or call 252.539.4600 for details. We are eager to answer any questions you have about the program and how to take advantage of the discounts it provides.



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We accept VISA, MasterCard
& E-check.

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Visit our web site at:

www.roanokeelectric.com

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129 East Main Street

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252.396.0099



Joan Hunter (right) is among business owners who offer Co-op Connections Card discounts.