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Proudly serving the members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

Albemarle Sounds

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**Albemarle Electric Membership
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Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

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*Albemarle EMC is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*

Closed for Easter

Albemarle EMC will be
closed Friday, April 7 for
Easter. Happy Easter!



AEMC Anniversary Celebrated



*AEMC member Yvonne Lane enjoys a
cupcake and a bottle of water at the
anniversary celebration.*

Albemarle EMC celebrated its 78th anniversary in February by holding three separate drawings each for a \$78 credit to a power bill.

Members were asked to answer trivia questions or take specific actions on Facebook for the first two drawings. All members who stopped by the AEMC office on Feb. 24, the co-op's anniversary day, were entered into the third drawing.

The winners of the three drawings were Angie Adams, Sandy Hollowell and Michael Wallery. Congratulations! Thanks to all who participated!

How to Protect Your Home from Surges

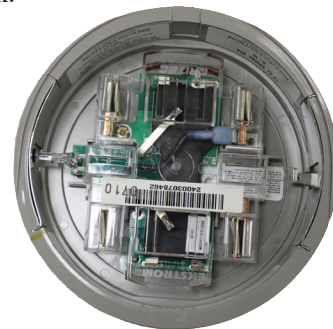
April showers bring May flowers, and thunder and lighting.

A whole-house surge protector is an excellent way to protect your house from power surges caused by lighting striking power grid equipment.

Albemarle EMC members who would like to have a whole-house surge protector installed are advised to purchase the device from the company Kenick (www.kenick.com). The particular model that will connect to Albemarle EMC's equipment is SS320-LB25-DB. Members should notify Kenick that their residence is in Albemarle EMC's service territory. The company will then ship the surge protector to Albemarle EMC, and a service technician will arrange a time with the member to install the device at no charge. The surge protector is installed between the meter base and the meter and serves as a first line of defense against

incoming surges. The surge protector currently sells for \$200, plus shipping and comes with a 15-year warranty.

"A whole-house surge protector is a relatively affordable way to protect the electronics in your home," said AEMC Engineering Technician III Travis Riddick.



*Kenick surge protector model
SS320-LB25-DB*

Albemarle EMC Offers Grants for Local Teachers with 'Bright Ideas'



Starting April 1, teachers can apply for Bright Ideas education grants from Albemarle EMC. Grants of up to \$1,000 will bring creative learning projects to life and enhance educational experiences for local students. Teachers can apply online at www.ncbrightideas.com. The final deadline to apply

is Sept. 15.

"Bright Ideas grants are a wonderful way for teachers to fund projects that enhance learning opportunities in the classroom," said Albemarle EMC General Manager Gary Ray. "We encourage every educator in approved schools to apply."

Albemarle EMC expects to award more than \$16,000 in Bright Ideas grants to local teachers in the 2023-2024 school year. Funding is available for K-12 classroom projects in all curriculum areas including art, history, math, reading, science and technology. Educators can apply as individuals or as a team and must include a budget, project goals, implementation plan and description of how the project will engage students and enhance their success.

The Bright Ideas education grant program is a shared initiative among all 26 electric co-ops in North Carolina. Collectively, Albemarle EMC and North Carolina's electric cooperatives have issued more than \$15 million supporting 14,200 projects benefiting well over 3.5 million students statewide.

Youth Tour Delegates Selected



Blair Russell (left) and Joliegh Connor are congratulated by Perquimans High School Principal Mickey Drew.

Congratulations to Perquimans County High School students Blair Russell and Joliegh Connor. Both were selected to represent Albemarle EMC at this year's Washington Youth Tour.

Blair, a junior, is an honor roll student, takes AP classes and is dual-enrolled through the College of the Albemarle. She is also a varsity cheerleader and is a member of the Beta Club, Health

Occupational Students of America, Interact Club, Student Government Association, Future Farmers of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Students Against Violence Everywhere.

Joliegh, a senior, is an honor roll student with a 4.59 GPA. She is dual-enrolled through the College of the Albemarle, where she is on the Dean's List. She is currently a member of the Beta Club, Students Against Violence Everywhere, Fellowship

of Christian Athletes, Future Farmers of America and the Interact Club, of which she is president. She volunteers to read to students with disabilities and helps the school's librarian during her free time. She is also on the school's swim team and was conference Swimmer of the Year. Joliegh plays varsity volleyball and was selected all-conference.

Lineman Promoted to First Class



Austin Cooke (left) was recently promoted to Lineman First Class. He is congratulated by Operations Manager Roy O'Neal.

Certification Earned



Congratulations to Lineman Apprentice Spencer Middleton! He successfully completed 32 hours of instruction at Nash Community College to earn his Introduction to Electric Lineman Certificate of Completion.

We Appreciate Our Linemen!

The importance of electricity to modern society can't be overstated. In a world where electricity powers everything from financial transactions to hospital breathing devices, the reliable flow of electricity is paramount.

We believe linemen are first responders. When disaster strikes, they are some of the first to begin the recovery process. Often, power lines must be removed from roads before any other vehicles can safely pass. Sometimes fallen trees must be extricated from lines, or utility poles must be replaced. Linemen often work in challenging situations, responding to outages in the rain, sleet and snow. Through the hottest of summer days and the coldest of winter nights, we all rely on linemen to answer the call when outages occur. Monday, April 10, is recognized by Albemarle EMC and electric cooperatives nationwide as Lineman Appreciation Day. Though always appreciated, these hard-working individuals certainly deserve a day in their honor. Please join us by using the hash tag [#ThankALineworker](#) on April 10 and throughout the year to show your appreciation for our linemen.



Crew Leader Matt Byrum



Crew Leader Bobby Upton



Lineman First Class Chris White



Lineman First Class Kevin Bailey



Lineman First Class Aaron Pippen



Lineman First Class Austin Cooke



Lineman Apprentice Drake Trueblood



Lineman Apprentice Cody Stokely.



Lineman Apprentice Chase Perry.



Lineman Apprentice Brian Webb



Lineman Apprentice Braden Jordan



Lineman Apprentice Spencer Middleton