

Pee Dee Electric and North Carolina's electric cooperatives have pledged nearly \$600,000 to the state's teachers in Bright Ideas education grant funding for the 2015-16 school year. Grants of up to \$2,500 will be awarded directly to local educators for creative, hands-on classroom projects that would not otherwise be funded by traditional school budgets. The grant application window opened April 1st and can be found online at www.ncbrightideas.com along with more information about the program.



ncbrightideas.com

BRIGHT IDEAS

Now accepting applications

"For more than 20 years, Bright Ideas grants have helped teachers bring innovative ideas to life and get students excited about learning," said Anne Edwards, marketing representative with Pee Dee Electric. "North Carolina's electric cooperatives believe there is no better investment than in the education of our youth, which is why we continue to support educators with our Bright Ideas grant program each year."

Pee Dee Electric expects to award \$13,500 in Bright Ideas grants this year to teachers throughout their seven county service territory. Grants are available to K-12 teachers for innovative projects in any subject. Teachers can apply individually or as a team and must submit applications online.

Applications will be accepted April 1 through September 30, but teachers are encouraged to apply early. Teachers who submit their applications by the early bird deadline of Friday, Aug. 14 will be entered in a drawing to win a Visa gift card.

To apply, teachers must include a budget, explain the implementation, goals, creative elements and evaluation of the project, and have approval from the school principal. Applications will be judged in a competitive evaluation process, and judges will be on the lookout for projects that feature innovation and creativity. The application and grant-writing tips can be found at www.ncbrightideas.com.

Since 1994, the Bright Ideas grant program has worked with co-ops to enhance education by engaging students in meaningful learning projects that encourage creative approaches. In the past two decades, North Carolina's electric cooperatives have contributed more than \$9.6 million to teachers for 9,200 projects benefiting more than 1.8 million students.

"Teachers have amazing, creative ideas for educating students but often do not have the resources to make those ideas come to life," Edwards said. "The enthusiasm and dedication of educators never ceases to amaze us, and we are proud to support their efforts."

Pee Dee Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative whose goal is to provide reliable, dependable electric service for its members while focusing on value, quality customer service, and enhancing life in the communities we serve. Pee Dee's service area consists of Anson, Richmond, Union, Stanly, Montgomery, Moore, and Scotland counties. For more information about Pee Dee Electric, please visit www.pdemc.com.

Letter to the Editor

Thomas Edwards Travels to Dominican Republic

Dear Editor,

Anson County Native Thomas Scott Edwards Jr, Son of Tommy & Amy Edwards of Polkton. Travels to the Dominican Republic for Medical Mission Trip. Thomas is a student at Methodist University of Fayetteville NC. Currently he is studying LPN to BSN-RN he said he made the decision to go to the Dominican Republic after long periods of thinking how he can make a change. He was approached by one of his nursing professors and asked Thomas to take a trip of a lifetime. Thomas traveled to the Dominican Republic from March 7-15th. After long layovers and many bus rides later he arrived in the poverty stricken city of Barahona. He was swept away by the lack of supplies in which were needed in these small villages. Although poverty stricken the villages were so happy with what little things they had! Soon Thomas met with the establishment that he would be working with for the next week. It was called "Case De Luz" (house of light) this was a hospital on the outskirts of the Dominican Republic, it was known for its patients being very young and mentally ill. They only accepted children at young ages and raised them for as long as they could manage. Many of them orphans all they wanted was a little attention and love. Which is exactly what Thomas showed them!

Thomas wants to give great thanks to Praying Pelican Missions, Wadesboro Rotary Club, Anson County Partnership For Children, Methodist University and any other unspoken Requests. These groups have put fourth great effort making me who I am today. Thomas couldn't have asked for more!

Thomas Edwards



Lifeguard Certification at Little Park

American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification will take place at Little Park Pool in Wadesboro on April 24, 25, 26 and May 1, 2, 3. New students must attend both weekends, and renewals will come the weekend of May 1, 2, 3.

A swim test is required in order to participate in the class, and new students must be at least 15 years of age. For more information contact Wendell Small at 704-695-2782.

Obituaries ... continued from page 3

visiting the Dawsey Class. She was a member of the Julia Grady Circle (Circle 3) and the Lilac Garden Club.

Mrs. Burnette is survived by her daughters, Malissa Burnette (Michael G. LeFever) and Mary Margaret Burnette, all of Columbia, Melanie Burnette (Harry Glah) of Millersville, Pennsylvania and Michele Burnette of Columbia;

grandchildren, Grant Burnette LeFever, Walter Elder (Estefi), Katherine Elder, Lucas Elder (Lydia), Grae-

son Burnette-Peake, Abigail Burnette-Peake, Savannah LeFever and Ian Redmon Burnette; brothers, Charles Edward Ratliff, Jr. (Ruth), John P. "Jack" Ratliff (Betty); and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Mary Marsha Burnette.

The family wishes to thank the caring staff from Tri-County Hospice who helped Mom through her final days as well as Beverly Neeley and the many

friends who visited and sent words of encouragement.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to Harvest Hope Food Bank, 2220 Shop Road, Columbia, SC 29201; Morven United Methodist Church, c/o Jack Ratliff, P.O. Box 336, Morven, NC 28119; or to a charity of one's choice.

Please leave online condolences for the family at dignitymemorial.com.

SPRING

PLANT SALE

Sale Runs April 13 - 17 8:30am to 3:30pm
D-Building Greenhouse

Mix and Match Flats \$12 • Cell Pack: \$2
4" Pot \$3 (annuals) • Perennials \$5

Gerber Daisy \$4
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Varieties available: begonias, coleus, butterfly bush, calibrachoa, colocasia, bacopa, fuchsia, gerbera daisy, columbine, sweet potato vine, lantana, Shasta daisy, ligularia, bee balm, new guinea impatiens, impatiens, petunias, portulaca, salvia, sedum, verbena, gazinia, marigold, snapdragon, vinca, zinnia and more.

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9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday, April 17

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 18

8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Old Charlotte Highway Campus
Building B - Room 188
4209 Old Charlotte Highway, Monroe

L.L. Polk Campus
Garibaldi Building - Room 264
680 Hwy. 74, Polkton

www.spcc.edu
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