

# Tideland Topics



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

## BRIGHT IDEAS: Co-op awards funds for classroom innovation

**Tami Wagaman**  
Northside High School  
“Finding Alternative Energy”

Students will work in groups to build and access a powerhouse, greenhouse, solar cell array, a hydrometer and wind power generator.

**Morgan Kennedy**  
Pamlico County Primary  
“Sensory Room”

A sensory room will be created to provide a therapeutic and calming environment for special needs students.

**Kelly Forbis & Roxanne Ark**  
West Craven Middle  
“Amazeballs”

Provide alternative classroom seating, which has been shown to improve posture and attentiveness.

**Crystal Swindell**  
Pungo Christian Academy  
“Putting the Micro in Microbiology”

The school’s science lab will be expanded to include 5 additional microscopes and 2 student aneuroid blood pressure sets.

**Tammy Scot and Ginny Voght**  
Arapahoe Charter  
“Full STEAM Ahead”

All 7th graders will use a LittleBits

workshop set to study electronics and engineering.

**Charles Daniels**  
Pungo Christian Academy  
“Building a Love for Learning”

Create a wood working and carpentry lab for the school.

**Daryn Martin**  
Arapahoe Charter School  
“Heritage: Past Meets Present”

Eastern NC has a rich heritage of folks arts and crafts. Students will learn how to carve duck decoys, make a quilt, make traditional pottery and then explore the use of 3-D printing with traditional art.

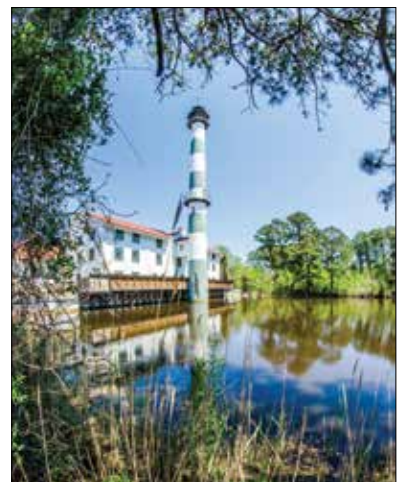
**Blake Johnson**  
Washington Montessori  
“3 Dimensional Learning”

Utilizing a 3-D printer, students will create their own tactile models.

**Susan Knox and Joyce Allen**  
Pungo Christian Academy  
“Rolling Through the Basics”

Mobile learning stations will be created, allowing teachers to utilize online resources for interactive classroom teaching.

*Mattamuskeet Lodge open for tours during Swan Days*



Swan Days return to the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, December 4-5. The event includes tram tours, guided birding walks, a Wildlife Olympics event for kids and tours inside Mattamuskeet Lodge. The event will run from 8 am to 4 pm on Saturday and from 8 am to noon on Sunday.

To obtain a detailed schedule of events visit: [http://www.fws.gov/refuge/mattamuskeet/about/swan\\_days.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/mattamuskeet/about/swan_days.html)

To reserve a spot on the tram tours call 252.926.4021.



## Message to our Member-Owners: “There is always work to be done”

### Rights-of-Way Maintenance Update

Tideland has hired Lucas Tree Experts to trim trees in our rights-of-way. During the month of November they will start at the Sidney substation and trim Pamlico Beach, Woodstock Point, Norfleet Shores, Schrams Beach and Wrights Creek areas in Beaufort County. This includes all side roads in the area.

Our rights-of-way mowing crews will be working on areas served by the Edward substation including Tun-stall Swamp Rd., Sandhill Rd., West Rd. and Broom Rd. They will also work along Hwy. 306 north of Aurora to the end of Hickory Point and the areas of Idalia and Royal.

**By Paul Spruill**  
General Manager & CEO

The oldest of the four power companies that eventually became Tideland EMC was Pamlico Power and Light, founded in 1935. Headquartered in Engelhard, the owner-operator, P.D. Midgett, once remarked, “There is no getting caught up in the power business. There is always work to be done.”

Eighty years later that sentiment still rings true. With the co-op’s net electric plant assets nearing the \$100 million mark, routine maintenance is imperative to not only protect member assets but to ensure reliable electric service.

While we do occasionally conduct planned outages for some maintenance and upgrades, the vast majority of that work is done while power lines are energized. Linemen use rubber sleeves that slide over power lines to reduce their risk of contact while working hot

lines. Another precautionary measure is placing the breaker in one-shot mode.

Typically our breakers are set for three-shot operation. If a tree limb brushes the power line the breaker will open, momentarily interrupt the flow of electricity and then close back in. If the limb doesn’t clear the line, the breaker will open again and repeat

That’s why we follow the one-shot protocol.

One-shot work schedules don’t necessarily lend themselves to publishing deadlines for our newsletter, but we want to make sure members have a way to access this information. Therefore, we are now posting weekly one-shot announcements on Facebook and Twitter.

**This Week’s One Shot Notice:**  
Merritt circuit  
Dowry Creek circuit



Crews place the circuit’s breaker on one shot so they can safely work on energized power lines. In the event of ungrounded contact or other interference with service, power will shut off after one breaker operation & not the typical three.

Interestingly, a co-op in Montana routinely puts large sections of its system in one-shot mode due to the threat of wildfires. Each July, Ravalli Electric Cooperative crews go out and replace breakers with fuses. The fuse eliminates the operation of re-energizing the power line.

While that does increase the potential for power outages it also reduces the likelihood that a tree limb will catch on fire if it comes in contact with the line. With millions of acres of national forest land in its service area, Ravalli knows it pays to be proactive.

### State’s solar tax credits set to expire

Despite being ranked second in the U.S. in 2014 for new solar construction, North Carolina’s renewable energy tax credits will expire on December 31, 2015. Since 2007, developers have invested than \$2 billion in 150 utility-scale solar farms in the Tarheel state. It has been a boon for many rural areas including Catawba, Robeson, Columbus and Beaufort counties. In September the state reached a milestone when it reached 1 gigawatt of solar capacity. To allow for projects already underway, state legislators agreed to extend the tax credit into 2016 for construction that is 80% complete by year end.



SYSTEM VISION:

# Insulation Dos and Don'ts



## TIPS TO REDUCE HEATING COSTS

# 4

### 1 Completely Fill Cavity / Llene el espacio en su totalidad



### 2 Cut Insulation To Fit Around Obstructions / Corte el aislante de manera que se acomode alrededor de las obstrucciones



### 3 Attic Insulation Must Touch Sheetrock / El aislante para el ático tiene que hacer contacto con la tabla yeso



### 4 Split Insulation Around Wiring / Corte el aislante y acomódelo alrededor de los cables eléctricos



1.

Remove window air conditioning units so you can close windows and reduce significant air leaks.

2.

Follow the recommended thermostat setting of 68°F or lower. If you own a heat pump, it is best to “set it and forget it” while electric furnace users should practice thermostat setback at night or when away.

3.

Change system filters monthly. Inexpensive filters are preferred over pleated filters.

4.

Close dampers when the fireplace is not in use. Otherwise your heated indoor air will go up and out the chimney.

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[www.tidelandemc.com](http://www.tidelandemc.com)

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Tideland EMC is an equal  
opportunity provider & employer



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Insulate Behind Blocking And Cut Insulation To Fit / Corte y acomode el aislante para que quepa detrás de los apoyos horizontales



6

Ensure Floor Insulation Touches The Floor With Minimal Compression / Asegúrese que el aislante toque el piso con compresión mínima



7

Properly Install Blown Attic Insulation / Instale apropiadamente el aislante en aerosol para el ático



8

Insulation Must Touch The Sheetrock / El aislante debe tocar la tabla yeso



ALWAYS  
CALL  
BEFORE YOU  
DIG

