


The NEWS LINE

RUTHERFORD ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

www.remc.com

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

Vol. 13, No. 4

Now Serving 67,052 Members

April 2010

Fight Home Foreclosure in North Carolina

Last year, there were more than 60,000 foreclosure filings in North Carolina. The N.C. Office of the Commissioner of Banks expects this number to increase at least 20 percent this year.

When a foreclosure happens, it affects the whole community. Foreclosures bring down surrounding property values, and because so many homes are left vacant, there is potential for increased crime and loss of business revenue.

State Home Foreclosure Prevention Project (SHFPP) is a state-led program that offers free foreclosure assistance to any N.C. homeowner who is struggling with his or her mortgage. The program encourages homeowners to reach out for help before they face foreclosure.

"We are thrilled our program has given so many homeowners the tools they need to avoid foreclosure," said Mark Pearce, Chief Deputy Commissioner of Banks. "At the same time, the current economy has led many homeowners to struggle for the first time to pay their mortgage and other bills. We urge these homeowners to call our State hotline to get help from experienced counselors."



For free foreclosure assistance, call toll free 1-866-234-4857 (8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Sat.). You will be connected with a HUD-approved counseling agency that can help you over the phone or provide face-to-face counseling. A full list of these counselors and additional information can be found at www.fightncforeclosure.org.

Beware of foreclosure rescue scams. It is illegal to charge upfront fees for foreclosure assistance in N.C. Foreclosure scams can be reported to the Attorney General's office by calling 1-877-5-NOSCAM (1-877-566-7226) or filing a complaint online at www.ncdoj.gov.

Fight N.C. Foreclosure involves a network of state agencies, HUD-approved counseling agencies, legal service providers and non-profit organizations working together to help homeowners avoid foreclosure.

Fight N.C. Foreclosure is a FREE service provided by the State of North Carolina.

Sophia Hardenstine Honored at Wolfpack Women's Basketball Game

Sophia Hardenstine of Heritage Middle School was among the 23 young women recognized for receiving a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarship to attend the 2009 Kellie Harper Basketball Camp at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. The scholarship recipients were honored during a special halftime presentation at the Wolfpack Women's basketball game on February 28 against Georgia Tech.

Sophia was awarded a scholarship to attend the 2009 Kellie Harper Basketball Camp last June from Rutherford EMC. Sophia is the daughter of Hazel Benau of Valdese and the late Brett Hardenstine.

The scholarship winners and their guests were given tickets to attend the game and were treated to a catered lunch. At halftime, the scholarship recipients were recognized on the court, receiving a certificate of achievement from Nelle Hotchkiss, senior vice president of corporate relations for North Carolina's electric cooperatives.

Sophia was selected as a 2009 Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarship winner because of her outstanding application and accompanying essay. Across the state, 27 young women received Touchstone Energy Camp scholarships.

"Rutherford EMC was thrilled to bring all the scholarship winners back to Reynolds Coliseum to watch Coach Harper and the Wolfpack Women take on the Lady Yellow Jackets," said Dirk Burleson, Rutherford EMC's vice president of member and corporate services.

Rutherford EMC is currently accepting applications for the 2010 Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarships. The application deadline is March 31, 2010. Statewide, these scholarships will send 27 deserving young women in 6th-8th grades to the Kellie Harper Basketball Camp at North Carolina State University and 27 deserving young men to the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Applicants will be judged on their application, essay and extracurricular activities. To learn more about the Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarship program, visit www.ncelectriccooperatives.com.

The Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarship program is part of the electric cooperatives' ongoing commitment to North Carolina communities.



Sophia Hardenstine (right) of Valdese, 2009 Kellie Harper Basketball Camp Scholarship winner, and her mother, Hazel Benau (left), pose with Wolfpack mascot Mr. Wuf during the N.C. State versus Georgia Tech women's basketball game on February 28.

SWAP SHOP

Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation provides Swap Shop ads as a free service to its members. Guidelines are as follows: Ads are published first-come, first-served. When the 1 1/2 pages allotted for ads are full, the remaining ads will be held over for the next issue. Ads will not be run more than once. Commercial ads will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit, condense, or deny publication of any advertisement. Rutherford Electric Membership Corp. assumes no responsibility for the content of any advertisement and does not endorse or warrant any of the goods or services so advertised. Please include your account number with your ad.

Mail your ads to: Newsletter Editor, Rutherford EMC, PO Box 1569, Forest City, NC, 28043-1569 or e-mail at gmcdaniel@remc.com. No phone calls please.

FOR SALE

Maytag dryer - white, timed or sensor dry, in good cond., \$100 OBO. 828-442-2111.

18 cu. ft. refriger. - green, works good, \$150 OBO; apartment size GE cookstove, 4 burners & oven, \$50; apt. sz., matching DR walnut table w/4 chairs, like new, \$100 firm; apt. sz. LR suite, love seat, rocker, chair, end table & leg rest, \$150; large 6-pc. LR suite, sofa, rocker chair, chair, 2 end tables & lrg. coffee table, \$150. Loy at 704-922-3065.

'52 Packard - 4-dr., looks & runs good; sage green couch & dark green recliner, like new, \$150. 828-894-3194.

'82 Toyota PU w/22R low mileage eng. - paint, interior, tires, belts & hoses, battery, master cylinder & brakes all new, AM-FM stereo/cass. player, 5-spd. trans., cold A/C, 30 mpg, exc. cond., first \$2,900 OBO. 704-629-4285 or 704-830-4678.

Grave plot w/vault in Old Rugged Cross section of Forest Lawn Cemetery, Lincolnton, N.C. - \$1,200. 704-735-4219, Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.

'05, F-250 Lariat 4x4 PU - 6.0L turbo diesel, extended cab, tow pkg., leather seats, 35,000 mi., \$24,995; '89 Ford Escort 1.9L engine & transmission, 64,000 mi., \$300; lumber, air-dried for 5 yrs., good quality, 2,000 board feet, oak, poplar, 16', 12' & 10', \$1.00/board foot. 828-437-5920.

30-ton Northern Star log splitter - approx. 7 yrs. old, \$1,200 OBO. 704-922-9000.

'04 GTS Lexington, 24' luxurious motor home - only 8,900 mi., slide-out room, dinette, bathroom, range w/cover, 2-dr. refrig., micro-convention oven, duo sink, full extension leather sofa, music center w/outdoor speakers, TV, satellite, outdoor shower, etc. 828-432-2922.

4 chain-link dog kennels - 10'x5'x6'H, also 3 doghouses w/metal roofs, everything in exc. cond., \$500 for all. 704-538-6831.

Beekeeping supplies - complete hive packages or components. 828-305-9446 or 828-748-8511 aft. 3 pm.

'07 Honda Shadow 750cc Aero - exc. cond., 7,000 mi., running boards, Mustang seat, after-market pipes, saddlebags, bar light, new tires, backrest for driver & passenger, tank protector w/pouch, 2-tone silver & white, garage-kept, sharp, \$6,500; brand-new Dunlop motorcycle tires, still in plastic wrap, K555 wide whitewall, 140/80-17 front, 170/80-15M/C rear, \$250. 704-732-0955 or 704-530-8406.

15.267 ac. in upper Cleveland County - 12 ac. in grass, hay shed, small stream, 2 road frontages, \$6,000/ac. 704-538-3756.

Champion juicer - exc. cond., \$75; 2 framed posters, one entitled "Washington Crossing the Delaware," the other "The Surrender of General Cornwallis to Washington," frames were \$75 ea., both for \$150. 404-307-4809.

Bedroom suite - dresser w/mirror, nightstand, chest & complete king bed, wood-engraved designs in the cherry maple color dresser & chest, very nice, \$450. 704-472-4001.

Kites - 52" delta stunt; diamond stunt, 33"x36"; 38" delta stunt; 62" delta ripstop nylon; 6' biplane ripstop nylon; 13' delta ripstop nylon w/helix tail & strato kite spool, all for \$500 OBO. 828-659-3744.

'06 Flagstaff 23LV - 20', looks new, sell for payoff; '05 Honda CRF50 dirt bike, \$700 firm; twin size bed w/trundle, light oak finish, \$300 firm; '84 Stratos bass boat w/extras, \$3,000 firm. 828-328-8258.

100 E dresser track loader w/4-in-1 bucket - new undercarriage, \$12,500; Case 455C track loader w/4-in-1 bucket, almost new undercarriage, \$9,000; CP300, 3-phase, Miller wire feed welder, 50' leads, exc. cond., \$1,850; 5V roofing tin, used but in good cond., 10' lengths, \$7.50/sheet; new table lamps, still in boxes, \$10 ea. 828-863-4320 or 704-813-8555.

'04 Chrysler Sebring Limited - leather int., sunroof, A/C, PW, PDL, AM-FM radio, CD player, cruise control, good tires, exc. cond., \$5,500. 704-922-8852.

Allis-Chalmers B110 - exc. cond., belly deck, model 1243431, type 0123 01, code 6710111, some implements, \$1,000. 828-437-3033, 828-390-6323 or 828-390-6325.

'80 Ford long bed PU - great work truck, \$800 OBO. Larry at 828-461-2093.

16x20 building - 8' walls, pressure-treated floor, shingle roof, wired, heat/air, buyer will be responsible for moving, \$1,900. 828-413-4477.

ROADMASTER tow bar & towing system w/Brake Buddy - \$1,000. 828-287-5475 or 828-447-3074.

Comforter & matching sheets for single bed - 3 different styles, used 1 year in a college dorm, good cond., \$25 ea. 704-869-8443.

'99 Biker's Choice Pro Street Custom Softail motorcycle - less than 5,000 mi., new tires, 113 S&S engine, BDL clutch, built locally, \$12,000 OBO, \$25,000 invested. 864-354-5524 or 704-730-1002.

4 Sugar Gliders - 3 males & 1 female, \$75 ea. without cage or all 4 w/cage for \$300. 828-442-4936.

Lumber, plywood, paneling, windows, bathroom vanities, storm doors & 4x8 treated lattice, great prices. 828-413-5329.

'53 Farmall Cub tractor - 50 hrs. on overhauled engine, new tires, brakes, rear axle, seals & paint, comes w/plow, cultivator, disk harrow, drag harrow & scrape blade, \$3,500. 828-428-3165.

'03 Cadillac CTS - pearl white w/tan leather, exceptionally maintained, \$8,950. 954-818-1686.

Twin hospital bed - electric, new cover. 704-435-6995.

'01 GMC Sonoma crew cab PU - 4x4 - new locker, new tires, transmission cooler, OL springs, runs great, no oil use, silver w/red camper top, \$7,500. 828-748-6688.

Wurlitzer console piano - exc. cond., \$600. 828-442-7748 aft. 4 pm.

'06 dirt bike - 110cc, RC Moto, only 19 miles, needs minor repair, \$500. 828-288-2099.

Coins - silver coin sets, commemorative coins, Susan

B. Anthony dollars, etc., prices vary. 704-865-6836.

Trane Model XL80 furnace - fueled by propane or natural gas, 1-yr. old, 120,000 Btu/hour, 80% efficiency w/constant speed blower, \$475. 704-908-4039.

3-4-BR, 2-BA house on 1-acre corner lot in country subdivision just outside Dallas, N.C. - 1,480 sq. ft., new roof, walk-in attic, 2-story, \$142,500. By appt. only. 704-674-7947.

'84 Nissan 300ZX hardtop - approx. 133,000 mi., maintenance current including timing belt, water pump, etc., 5-spd., A/C, PW, PDL, original seats still look new, great after-market rims, will also include the stock aluminum rims, a rare find in such great condition, \$4,500. 980-241-8544.

New Holland DC 180 bulldozer w/11-1/2' straight blade & pin-on root rake - less than 1,000 hrs., cab heat & air, \$120,000 OBO; 1,000-gal. diesel fuel tank w/20 gpm electric pump, \$1,500 OBO; Leinbach 9000 heavy duty posthole digger w/9" auger, almost new, \$800. 828-863-4320 or 704-813-8555.

2 Ford truck seats - new, '64-'79, 1 blue, 1 red; 3 Dyson vacuum cleaners, new (still in box), DC17, DC14 & DC25, 1/2 price; chrome for Ford truck, '70-'72, wood grain, new & used. 828-397-3416.

Piano - Behning & Son, Serial # 17224, built 1876-1880, refurbished around 1990, \$1,000 OBO, Blue Book of Pianos lists at \$3,500. 704-263-9883.

Craftsman, 42cc, 18" gas chain saw - used about 10 times, \$65, cost \$200, includes extra brand-new Craftsman 18" chain that cost \$25. 704-730-1588.

Silver 2000 Dodge Intrepid - body & int. in good cond., PW, PB, A/C, approx. 150,000 mi., \$2,500. 704-435-0506 or 704-813-8017.

Craftsman 6" lathe w/armature attachment & extra tooling - \$1,200 OBO; antique band saw made by The Anderson Co., \$100; 2 Craftsman 230-amp arc welders, \$50 ea.; Craftsman 10" radial arm saw w/7" molding & dado attachment, \$200; Dayton steel saw, Model# 3Z990, \$75. Bruce at 704-865-3610 or 704-281-2656.

MISCELLANEOUS

For Free: 2 male cats to good home - 1 bobtailed & 1 long-haired, both black & white & very sweet. 828-442-4936.

For Rent: 2-BR single-wide mob. home in Lincolnton - has electric stove, refrig. & central heat & air, \$350/mo. 704-922-7917.

For Rent: Vacation mountain cottage located south of Marion, N.C. - log cabin, 2 BRs, 2 BAs, sleeps 4, May-Oct., \$130/night (2-night min.), Nov.-Apr., \$120/night (2-night min.), discounted rates for longer stays. 828-460-8252 for more info.

For Rent: Mobile home near Belwood, N.C. - water included in rent. 704-538-7615.

For Rent: Condo on the ocean - St. Petersburg Beach, Fla., top floor, sleeps 6, 2 BRs, 2 BAs, wide beach, hot tub, pool, gas grills & activities, Aug. 21-28, 2010, \$650. 727-376-1498.

For Rent: Myrtle Beach rentals - N. Myrtle patio home, 3 BRs, 3 BAs, full kit., DW, W/D, Florida room, family & dining rms., newly decorated, fenced backyard, pools and tennis courts, located in heart of Ocean Drive, drive golf cart to beach; Ocean Lakes,

large 4-BR, 2-BA home, sleeps 10; N. Myrtle, Tilghman Bch. Racket Club condo, Ocean Dr., 3 BRs, 2-1/2 BAs; Compass Cove Resort, oceanfront eff., sleeps 4. 704-435-6995.

For Sale or Lease: '95 double-wide mob. home on 4.78 ac. on Gold Mine Rd., Burke County, N.C. - 3 BRs, 2 BAs, great room, \$84,500 or \$650/mo. lease. Don at 828-584-6274, 9 am-12 noon.

For Sale or Trade: '01 Kawasaki KX 65 - powder-coated frame, custom exhaust & wheels, tricked out, ready to race or ride, \$800 firm or trade for ATV. 704-435-4518.

WANTED

World War II, U.S., German & Japanese military artifacts - will pay cash. 704-616-6567.

'70 Ford XLT Ranger bed, L.H. door, hood or complete truck. 828-437-0924.

Working treadmill - not too expensive, can be manual, not too large. Linda at 704-732-8178 aft. 5 pm.

Swing set for small local Bible group. Cheryl at 704-739-4070.

**All REMC offices will be closed
Friday, April 2, 2010
for the Easter Holiday**

Lawn and Garden Safety



While our backyards and gardens are usually peaceful havens from the world's hustle and bustle, their upkeep can lead to injury when proper safety precautions are not followed. Whether you're a master gardener or a budding amateur, keep these safety tips in mind.

Dress to Protect:

- Wear protective eyewear (glasses, goggles, face shield) while operating all gardening equipment to protect yourself from any flying objects.
- Wear earplugs while operating machinery to prevent hearing damage.
- Wear protective clothing such as close-fitting clothes, gloves, long pants, long-sleeved shirts and sturdy shoes.
- Gloves help protect you from allergic reactions to plants and pests like Poison Oak and Ivy and the occasional bee.
- Apply insect repellent and sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.

The power lawn mower is one of the most dangerous tools around the home. Before mowing, remove all debris from your yard, such as rocks, toys, metal and branches. Always wear sturdy, close-toe shoes, never sandals. Children and pets should not be in the yard while you're mowing, and do not allow anyone near the mower while it is running.

Start and refuel mowers outdoors, not in a garage or shed. Mowers should be refueled with the motor turned off and cool. Always turn off the mower and wait for the blades to stop completely before removing the grass catcher, unclogging the discharge chute or crossing over gravel.

Always follow manufacturers' recommendations for care, use and maintenance of all power tools and equipment. Unplug electric tools and disconnect spark plug wires on gasoline-powered tools before making adjustments or clearing jams near moving parts. Never work with electric power tools in wet or damp conditions. For protection against electrocution, use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). GFCIs are designed to prevent serious injury or death from electrical shock by detecting ground faults at very low levels. Be sure that extension cords are for outdoor use and in good condition.

Know your limits. If you take medication that may make you drowsy or impair your judgment or reaction time, don't operate machinery or climb ladders. Monitor your level of fatigue, heart rate and physical discomfort. Drink plenty of water while taking breaks from yard work.

The grass is often greener, and more appealing, when you take safety precautions before working in the yard or garden.

We're just a little better. That makes a BIG difference!

• Propane • Fuel Oil • Heating & Air Conditioning Service •



Carolina Energies, Inc.

A Rutherford EMC Company

1-800-273-9561
www.carolinaenergies.com

Earth Day Weekend Means Energy Star Appliance Replacement Rebate

The North Carolina Energy Office has issued the following guide to how you can earn a rebate on certain major appliances exchanged for energy-efficient appliances April 22–25.

When will the rebates be offered?

Rebate offers will be over a four-day period during Earth Day weekend—Thursday, April 22 through Sunday, April 25.

How much will the rebates be?

Rebates will be 15 percent on Energy Star-rated appliances. The rebates will be in addition to any store, manufacturer or other discounts being offered.

What appliances qualify?

Qualified Energy Star clothes washers, dishwashers, refrigerators and freezers.

Who is eligible to purchase items?

North Carolina residents who are replacing older clothes washers, dishwashers, refrigerators and freezers are eligible for the rebates on designated Energy Star appliances. The program is only available to those replacing appliances. Those purchasing multiple appliances or appliances for commercial properties are not eligible.

Where can I buy the appliances?

The N.C. Energy Office is working with the N.C. Retail Merchants Association and expects major retail chains as well as most independent appliance dealers to participate in the rebate program.

Can I receive more than one appliance rebate?

You may receive rebates on more than one appliance, but it must be for different appliances. For example, you may

receive rebates on a refrigerator and clothes washing machine, but not on two refrigerators.

Will rebates be issued on appliances purchased before April 22, 2010?

No, the program is not retroactive.

How much energy will be saved?

By replacing older, conventional appliances with the 49,960 Energy Star items it is estimated will be purchased in the program, enough electricity will be saved to power 536 homes for a year. Natural gas savings would serve 390 homes for a year. The energy savings can be significant. For example, a new Energy Star-rated refrigerator uses half the electricity that the same size refrigerator built before 1995 uses.

Will there be rebates on any other Energy Star appliances?

Depending on the funds available, a second phase in June will offer rebates on Energy Star residential gas storage water heaters, tankless gas water heaters, central air conditioners, heat pumps and gas furnaces that replace older items. These rebates will be mail-ins and can be used with purchase through retailers, contractors or programs offered through utilities.

Where is the money coming from to pay for the rebates?

North Carolina is receiving \$8.8 million in federal funds to help homeowners purchase energy-efficient appliances. The funds are part of nearly \$300 million from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act being distributed nationwide by the U.S. Department of Energy.



Call 811 Before You Dig

Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call—even small projects like planting trees and shrubs.

The 811 one-call number connects you with the North Carolina One-Call Center (1-800-632-4949 or 336-855-5760). Rutherford EMC is a member of North Carolina One Call. Your one call to them at 811 will notify REMC, as well as many other utilities who may also have underground lines in the area, of your intention to dig. Please give REMC a two-day notice in advance of when you plan to dig. We'll send a serviceman out to your home to locate the lines.

If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs.

For more information, visit these Web sites, www.call811.com or the NC One-Call Center at www.ncocc.org.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Rutherford EMC Offices & Phone Numbers

Forest City:
828-245-1621 or 1-800-521-0920

Gastonia:
704-629-6226

Cherryville:
704-435-5401 or 1-800-228-5331

Lincolnton:
704-735-5381

Morganton:
828-584-1410 or 1-800-228-9756

Marion:
828-652-2136



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

A significant amount of the average home energy bill pays for heating water. Take five-minute showers instead of baths and make sure your water heater is set no higher than 120° F.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy