

## CHEC offers news you can use

**Jim Kinghorn, Executive Vice President & General Manager**

Beginning in the July issue, Currents has been highlighting volunteer organizations on Hatteras Island. This month it is necessary to take this space to cover several important issues. Volunteer Highlights will resume in November.

### Welcome continuing subscribers

This October issue is the first copy of Carolina Country being mailed to CHEC members who requested to have their subscription continued. Members who did not return a card have not received this issue. A subscription process was put in place to save resources by not sending the

magazine to members who do not read or want it. At any time you wish to discontinue your subscription, or resume it, call the CHEC office.

Current and past issues of the CHEC newsletter can also be accessed at the cooperative Web site, [www.chec.coop](http://www.chec.coop). At the Web site click on "CHEC News" then "Newsletter" and select the issue desired. When the new Web site is active, a direct link on the home page will be available to the current issue. See [New Web site](#) in the next column.

### Energy legislation

During the August recess of the U.S. Congress, much attention has been paid to proposed health care insurance reform legislation. During September the debate is expected to continue on health care. While it may seem that energy legislation has gone away, it definitely HAS NOT. As soon as the health care legislation moves aside, or even while it is still going on, expect the "Cap & Trade" or "carbon" energy legislation to surface

again. This will probably occur in late September or early October.

It is important that electric consumers keep informed about energy legislation and its potential impacts and cost. Be ready to act and make your concerns known to Congress.

### New CHEC Web site

Final design and testing is being done on a new [www.chec.coop](http://www.chec.coop) Web site. When available, the Web site will have more active features available for visitors to the site.

### Correction: Marathon Water Heaters

The Marathon water heater has been erroneously referred to as an Energy Star appliance in two recent CHEC publications.

Energy Star appliances do not include any fossil fuel or electric resistance tank type water heaters. To be listed as an Energy Star Rating appliance, any water heater must have an efficiency that is at least 10% greater than the least efficient model currently being marketed.

We regret the error and any inconvenience it may have caused.

Marathon has a Life-Time Warranty on the tank and six-year warranty on parts. Call (800) 454-5616 or (252) 995-5616 today to upgrade to a Marathon Energy Efficient water heater.

Some of the Marathon water heaters CHEC has sold since 2003 are approaching or have passed the warranty on parts other than the tank. For water heaters that are out of the "other parts" warranty, CHEC stocks replacement parts that are sold at cost to members and local repair contractors. We recommend using

factory replacement parts, when required, for continued good service.

### Credit card scams

Members of other electric cooperatives around the country have reported several credit card payment scams. Variations include a fraudulent caller telling the member that their power is about to be disconnected if they don't give credit card or bank account numbers and personal information.

Cape Hatteras Electric has very few delinquent members. CHEC Customer Service Representatives do attempt to contact members who are at risk of being disconnected. Should you receive such a call and are not absolutely sure the call is legitimate, we suggest you inform the caller you will contact your electric cooperative provider to verify the request is legitimate. Do not use the callback number the caller may give you, but rather look up the Cooperative number yourself. Never give bank account, credit card or other personal information to callers or persons you do not know.

### Residential/Commercial Generator Program

As hurricane season winds down, now is a good time to consider whether a standby power system is a worthwhile investment for your home or business. Making a hasty investment in a portable generator as a storm approaches may not meet your needs. An improperly sized, installed or maintained generator could be dangerous.

Good planning can give the most cost effective standby power system that is ready to operate properly when the need arises.

While Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative works hard to keep the



## News you can use (continued from page 22)...

power flowing to our consumers, extended outages can occur.

CHEC has contracted with Dominion Products and Services to make standby power systems available to cooperative consumers. DPS is a subsidiary of Dominion NC Power and has been providing high-quality generator installations to Dominion customers for a number of years. DPS offers generator

packages that are designed for coastal corrosion resistance.

Generators will be sized to meet consumers' needs and installed by licensed local electrical contractors.

This special toll-free number for CHEC consumers will place you in contact with the generator contractor: (888) 396-5560.

**NOTE:** CHEC recommends evacua-

tion when Dare County Emergency Management advises it. Attempting to ride out a major storm could prove to be a very bad decision. The fact that you may have standby power available should not influence a decision to leave. Other vital services such as communications, medical care, fire and rescue may not be available during designated evacuations.

## N.C. TAX EXEMPTION on ENERGY STAR appliances



the dates November 6, 7 and 8, 2009. Purchase of these qualified ENERGY STAR products the first weekend in November will save you money and reduce annual energy costs:

- Clothes washers
- Dehumidifiers
- Refrigerators
- Geothermal heat pumps
- Central air conditioners
- Room air conditioners
- Air-source heat pumps
- Programmable thermostats
- Ceiling fans
- Freezers

Thinking about replacing your refrigerator or clothes washer with a distinctive ENERGY STAR labeled appliance?

Last year, the N.C. General Assembly passed legislation exempting state taxes and local sales and use taxes on ENERGY STAR labeled appliances for

Tax-free does not apply to rentals of qualified products listed or sales of these products for use in a trade or business. Contractors are exempt from this tax-free event when buying these qualified products for installation in structures or buildings.

### Member information

Does your member info need updating? E-mail [info@chec.coop](mailto:info@chec.coop) or call: (800) 454-5616 or (252) 995-5616 to update your account info.

### CHEC provides free Halloween bags

CHEC gives FREE Halloween Trick or Treat bags to Hatteras Island ghosts and goblins each fall. Visit our front office at 47109 Light Plant Road, Buxton and receive yours today. Remember to Trick or Treat with an adult and be safe!



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Published by:  
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