

Cape Hatteras EC salutes Hatteras Island volunteer organizations

Jim Kinghorn, Executive Vice President & General Manager

Since the July issue, Currents has been highlighting volunteer organizations that keep the Hatteras Island community functioning, explaining how they serve the villages and how you can give back to the Hatteras Island community with your time and resources through one of these organizations.

FEPHI

The Family Enrichment Partnership of Hatteras Island (FEPHI) began in November 1999. The Rev. James R. Huskins of the Hatteras United Methodist Charge realized a need for coordination among the many agencies and volunteer organizations on Hatteras Island that provide services for families, especially, families with children.

FEPHI is a charitable corporation specifically organized to protect the welfare of children and improve the quality of life of Hatteras Island families. The organization works to coordinate the efforts of the schools, day care centers, churches, businesses, community organizations, and various specialized professionals. Representatives from organizations attend from Hatteras Village on the south to villages of Salvo, Waves, and Rodanthe on the north.

Funding for FEPHI comes from profits from the Buxton Thrift Store, which is a branch of the Manteo Hotline, Inc. Hotline and FEPHI share the net profits equally.

The organization has promoted and provided support to many programs over the years on Hatteras Island including Smart Parenting, Career Day at Cape Hatteras School, Buxton and Hatteras Preschool schol-

arships, LOCOMOTION, the United Methodist Men Emergency Assistance Program, Hatteras Island Meals, Inc. and many others providing for the welfare of children.

FEPHI hosts the annual Senior Celebration in May with a meal and presentation of the scholarships given by FEPHI and other organizations to CHSS graduating seniors.

Currently, more than 40 participants are involved in FEPHI meetings.

Rev. Cory Oliver, current FEPHI director, describes the purpose of the organization as: "FEPHI — is to be empowered by communication. With communication, we know the activities and needs of our community and can help support these activities and meet these needs. We are informed of civic meetings throughout the island, fund raisers for many special events; such as the Hatteras Island Cancer Foundation, Heroes Day on August 26 in the Tri-villages, and Day at the Docks on September 19 in Hatteras Village".

FEPHI also accepts direct donations. Community organizations that are not currently involved with FEPHI are encouraged to consider requesting membership. For information contact:

FEPHI
PO Box 804
Hatteras NC 27943
252-986-2149

Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men's Emergency and Assistance Program and Food Pantry

The Assistance Program began in 1978 with a total expenditure of \$250. Five families received \$50 each to help with

fuel bills. In 1982 the EAP was expanded to families emergency assistance with not only fuel, but also food, clothing, housing, medical and other needs. In that year the assistance totaled \$4,091. In 1984 the organization was recognized with the Governor's Award.

When the Bonner Bridge was made impassable by a runaway barge during a storm in 1990, the villages of Hatteras Island suffered greatly. The EAP responded by beginning the island's only food pantry. The EAP and Food Pantry continue to be partners in providing assistance to those needing temporary assistance on Hatteras Island. One hundred percent of donated food and funds are made available to those in need, with none being used for administrative expense.

Since its inception, the EAP has made available over \$925,000 to island families and individuals in need. Since 1990, the food pantry has made food for meals available valued at over \$550,000 to serve more than 8,000 people.

The EAP and Food Pantry are the only two organizations of their kind on Hatteras Island recognized by the Dare County Department of Social Services.

The EAP/FP organizations work in concert with Dare County Social Services and the Cape Hatteras Electric Foundation to provide the best and most efficient services possible to Hatteras Island families.

Next year in 2010, the Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men's Emergency and Assistance Program

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and Food Pantry will observe 25 years of service to the Island.

To make donations or otherwise assist the EAP/Food Pantry, contact: Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men Emergency Assistance & Food Pantry
PO Box 1591
Buxton NC 27920
252-995-5772

Contributions to the organization are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Do your part

All non-profit organizations on Hatteras Island can use your support. As this series of articles continues, choose one or more of the community service organizations to join or support. Even our off-island property owners can increase the safety and enjoyment of the Island for themselves and their guests by giving their support, as many already do. In many cases, financial support of these

organizations is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Future articles

Other organizations will be highlighted in future Currents columns. Representatives of civic and other community service organizations are invited to contact Jim Kinghorn at CHEC jimk@chec.coop to provide information for possible inclusion in future articles.

Reality Check:

Climate change legislation must be fair, affordable and achievable

Your co-op needs your help. Congress plans to debate climate change this fall and our voices must drown out special interests and businesses interested in only turning a profit for themselves. We need to send Congress a message.

Since early this year, Congress has considered a cap-and-trade system to address climate change concerns. This system focuses on reducing carbon dioxide emissions from power plants, vehicles, and factories—essentially, impacting all sectors of the economy. Congressional action on climate change will likely increase electric bills.

Electric co-ops like Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative feel it's important for Congress to keep three things in mind regarding climate change.

First, any bill should be **fair**, taking into account regional differences in how electricity is produced. Actions taken by Congress will probably cause higher electric rates. Some states have more low-carbon resources (such as wind or hydro) which could produce lower electric rates in those states, but one part of the country should not benefit at another's expense.

Next, electric rates must be kept **affordable** for all Americans. There are electric customers in North Carolina who have to make choices

monthly on which bills to pay and often struggle to pay their electric bills. Even a small increase will be a hardship for these folks.

Finally, the goals Congress sets must be **achievable**. Climate change

ests in mind. Co-op voices had a major impact this summer, as the U.S. House passed a climate change bill that included more than \$3 billion in rate relief for co-op consumers from initial proposals. Still, that bill fell far

Find A Balanced Solution



policy must be realistic and in sync with technology to ensure long-term success. In many cases, the technology is simply not yet available to solve the perceived problems.

Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative and other electric cooperatives across the nation have been working hard to make sure these concerns are raised—and you have helped, but your help is still needed.

Of the 18 million co-op members nationwide, more than 377,000 have joined the Our Energy, Our Future™ grassroots campaign, demanding that elected officials keep consumer inter-

short of being fair to consumers. The climate change debate now moves to the U.S. Senate, where co-ops have another opportunity to make more improvements—and you can help impact the outcome.

Your senators as well as members of the U.S. House need to be contacted by all cooperative members, their constituents. Visit www.ourenergy.coop or call 1-877-402-2526 (“Find a Balanced Solution”) today to send a message about the need for **fair**, **affordable**, and **achievable** climate change legislation.

2009-2010 Bright Ideas grants to educators

The Bright Ideas application process for the 2009-2010 school year is available for all certified teachers at Cape Hatteras Elementary School and Cape Hatteras Secondary School.



The final date for all certified teachers' applications to be submitted is **September 18, 2009**.

For more information or to assist you in completing and submitting your Bright Ideas application, please call Anne Swain at (252) 995-7083 or e-mail annes@chec.coop, or visit www.ncbrightideas.com or access www.chec.coop, click on Links, then choose Bright Ideas.

CHEC has offered Marathon Energy Star water heaters since 2003

A Marathon water heater installed in your home is an Energy Star appliance designed to save energy. The following is a checklist about the Marathon water heater sold through the CHEC dealership:

- ✓ Marathon offers a limited lifetime warranty against tank leaks for the original owner. If the home is sold, the buyer receives a 15-year tank leak warranty from the date of manufacture.
- ✓ Marathon parts have a six-year replacement warranty from the date of manufacture.
- ✓ Marathon water heaters are constructed with a fiberglass reinforced polybutylene inner tank with environmentally safe insulation, durable polyethylene outer cover, thermally fused top element and Teflon-coated stainless steel lower element and water-resistant gaskets on all outside tank penetrations. Marathon units are lightweight for easy handling during installation.
- ✓ Each Marathon unit is made of molded plastic and will never rust or corrode.
- ✓ Marathon water heaters contain no ozone depleting chemicals.
- ✓ CHEC offers FREE DELIVERY on Hatteras Island.
- ✓ CHEC stocks 40-, 50-, 50-short-, 75-, 85- and 105-gallon models.
- ✓ CHEC offers FINANCING options to purchasing members who qualify.
- ✓ Marathon water heaters can be ordered through CHEC and drop shipped anywhere in the United States with a minimal shipping fee.

Water heaters account for approximately 15-20% of home energy use. High efficiency Energy Star Marathon water heaters use 10% to 40% less energy than standard models. Savings vary due to the number of people in the household, water heater location, and the size and placement of water pipes. Replacement of water heaters 7-10 years old with Energy Star Marathon models saves energy. Here are additional ways to save energy:



- ✓ Reset the water heater thermostat to 120 degrees.
 - ✓ Install maximum water efficiency low-flow showerheads rated at 2.5 gpm (gallons per minute) and faucet aerators rated at 1.0 gpm.
 - ✓ When new appliances are required, purchase Energy Star-labeled dishwashers and clothes washers, which use less water and electricity to operate.
- Call CHEC at 800-454-5616 or 252-995-5616 to speak with a Customer Service Representative or visit www.chec.coop to order the energy efficient, Energy Star rated Marathon water heater today.

Carolina Country subscription basis: It's your choice

CHEC initiated the Carolina Country subscription basis with the August 2009 issue requesting members to mail the front cover postage paid reply card to continue their monthly subscription. If you wish to continue your Carolina



Country subscription and did not mail the August issue card, please mail the attached postage paid reply card before September 15, 2009. This issue is the **FINAL OPTION NOTICE**.

Office closed

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