



Life-Sustaining Devices

Do you have medical equipment that utilizes electricity in your home? If so, we'd like to know. CEC will attempt to give advance notice of any planned outages and priority in the restoration of electric service whenever reasonably possible. Please note that this does not guarantee that your electric service will not be interrupted.

To be included, provide the completed "Serious Medical Condition Certification Form" (found on our web site or by contacting our office) to the Cooperative. A new Certification Form will be required annually or upon the expiration of the anticipated length of time that the serious medical condition will persist if such time is less than 12 months. Your account must also be kept up to date so that service is not disconnected for non-payment.

The possibility does exist that you may be without electric service for an extended period when there is major damage to the electrical system. In preparation for this type of situation, you may want to obtain an alternate power source such as a generator or be prepared to relocate until electricity can be restored.



From left, CEC President and CEO Steve Harmon, Board Chair Jeannette Everett and attorney William Holt address the membership during the 2021 annual meeting.

Community Electric Reelects Directors at Annual Meeting

Community Electric Cooperative members reelected three directors during a brief annual meeting held Aug. 10 at the co-op's headquarters in Windsor.

The cooperative's 83rd annual meeting was held virtually and streamed via Facebook Live because of ongoing concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This year's annual meeting, much like last year's, has been modified," Board Chair Jeannette S. Everett said as she welcomed viewers, staffers and a handful of members to the meeting at 7 p.m. "Rather than hosting a large gathering of members, hearing oral reports and providing entertainment, the board has decided to adjust the meeting agenda, only conducting necessary business of the cooperative."

That included approving the minutes of the 2020 meeting and conducting board elections, she noted, adding that other non-essential business will be deferred.

More than 9,000 members were represented at the annual meeting via proxy or attendance.

Secretary/Treasurer Diana F. Beale reported the cooperative now serves 11,432 accounts with 9,460 total members. More than 9,000 members were represented at the annual meeting via proxy or attendance, she added.

William Holt, attorney for the cooperative, oversaw the election portion of the meeting. Reelected to three-year terms were Michael A. Faulk, representing the city of Suffolk; Kara D. Hearn, representing Isle of Wight County; and Douglas A. Chesson, representing Southampton County.

Community Electric's board of directors and staff hope to be able to return to a traditional annual meeting in 2022.

CONTACT US

52 W. Windsor Boulevard, P.O. Box 267
Windsor, VA 23487-0267

Phone

757-242-6181

Website

comelec.coop

After-hours Outages

1-855-700-2667



Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

President/CEO

Steven A. Harmon

Local Pages Editor

Jessica Parr

Community Electric Cooperative is an Equal
Opportunity Provider and Employer.

The 2021 Youth Tour Experience

Building life-long friendships while exploring history and government

by Jessica Parr, Communications Manager



2021 Youth Tour delegates and co-op chaperones at Jamestown Settlement.

Gavin Fowler and Reagan Taylor, the students selected to represent Community Electric during the 2020 Youth Tour, felt like fate had dealt them a bad hand. In addition to missing out on valuable social experiences, COVID-19 deprived them of the opportunity to experience Youth Tour, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Throughout 2021, Community Electric was concerned about whether it would be possible to provide any programs to this exceptional pair of teens. After COVID-19 vaccines became widely available in May, and the state of emergency subsided in many parts of the country, the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives asked its members, which includes Community Electric Cooperative, if there was interest in a “Mini” Youth Tour experience. The answer was a resounding “Yes.”

Community Electric Cooperative was thrilled to take part in a more localized, Youth Tour this year, and extended the opportunity to its 2020 Youth Tour representatives.

Unfortunately, due to extenuating circumstances, Reagan was not able to attend, leaving Gavin as the sole student to represent Community Electric Cooperative on the 2021 Youth Tour in Williamsburg, Va., from July 28-30. Students from other local cooperatives also attended, including Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative, Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative, Choptank Electric Cooperative, and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative.

Williamsburg was packing the heat, but with a full roster of educational and recreational activities, the students didn't mind. The schedule included a walking tour of the re-created settlement of Jamestown, a sunset sailing adventure on the York River, a private tour of Colonial Williamsburg, a visit to Busch Gardens, and an excursion to the Military Transportation Museum.

In addition to visiting these sites, the students also met with Del. Jay Jones and Del. Emily Brewer from Virginia in person, while Maryland Dels. Johnny Mautz, Sheree Sample-Hughes and Harford County Executive Barry Glassman



PHOTOS COURTESY VMDAEC

2021 Community Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Delegate Gavin Fowler.

met via Zoom call. The students were able to ask questions about their service, their experiences, and how they might poise themselves to be better advocates.

“It's not a full substitute for Youth Tour, but we wanted to do something special for these students who were nominated by their co-ops,” says Andrew Vehorn, VMDAEC vice president of member and public affairs, who also serves as the Association's Youth Tour director. He and many others across the U.S. remain hopeful for a return to a full tour in 2022.

The original Youth Tour program was

created in 1958 by then-Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association typically oversees the tour in the belief that co-op youths should experience the nation's capital up close and learn about the political process. To keep NRECA involved in this smaller program, Beth Knudson, NRECA's Youth Programs and Training Manager, spoke to the students before the delegates arrived. Educating them about Youth Tour, cooperatives, and the impact that they have on the world today.

"Youth Tour is an amazing program and opportunity. It is full of rich history with direct ties to the utility industry based in Washington, D.C., surrounded by decision makers" says Steve Harmon, President and CEO of Community Electric Cooperative. "However, there are vital decision makers right here in our backyard. Allowing our students to experience North America's historical origins in Williamsburg was an incredible way for us to expose our youth to the heart of this great nation and learn about the political process at a localized level where real change is started and possible."

While there were a few tears shed as students said their goodbyes at the Military Transportation Museum, they knew that these friendships would last a lifetime.



Youth Tour delegates with Virginia Dels. Jay Jones and Emily Brewer following a conversation about their service and experience.

"I didn't know what to expect, but I was glad it was a smaller group of people. We were able to take everything in without a ton of distraction that the larger environment may have provided," says Gavin Fowler. "Everything happens for a reason, and this was ultimately a great experience and I was able to make great friends. I am so thankful that Community Electric Cooperative didn't give up on us and helped make this small Youth Tour experience a reality!"

"I have had the honor to chaperone students for a few Youth Tours now, and while the trip location was different, the essence of Youth Tour was not," says Jessica Parr, manager of communications for Community Electric Cooperative. "All of the students were able to intensely

participate, explore unique historic sites, make amazing new friends, and truly learn from each other on various levels. It amazes me to see how students take advantage of this unique opportunity to grow as individuals and as students."

Reagan Taylor has been offered a slot to the 2022 Youth Tour. It is not evident at this time if it will be held by NRECA in Washington, D.C., or by VMDAEC in a central location for participating cooperatives. Community Electric will be accepting applications Sept. 1, 2021, through Jan. 31, 2022, for the two remaining spots.

Are you looking for a resume builder? A leadership opportunity? How about the trip of a lifetime? Apply for the 2022 Youth Tour at comelec.coop/youth-tour.

Second-Party Notification

Community Electric Cooperative offers second-party notification. This service allows for a second party to be notified of the potential discontinuance of electrical service. This service can be utilized by the elderly or disabled to ensure that a friend, neighbor, or relative is notified if service is nearing disconnection. The contact person is under no obligation to pay the member's bill.

If you are not taking advantage of this service but wish to do so, please complete the form and return it to the Cooperative.

Second-Party Notice

Member Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Account No. _____

Telephone No. _____ Alternate Telephone No. _____

Email Address _____

SECOND PARTY TO BE NOTIFIED:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email Address _____

Telephone No. _____ Alternate Telephone No. _____

Member's Signature for Authorization: _____