



A Touchstone Energy® Partner 

# SPOT LIGHT

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JOEMC Member Newsletter July 2017

## Scholarships Awarded to Local Students

Jones-Onslow funded scholarships for twenty-eight admirable students in our communities. Twenty-four were graduating high school seniors and four were community college students.

Students that attended high school in Onslow County were selected in conjunction with the school system and its Sponsors For Academic Talent (S.A.T.) Program and received their scholarships at the May S.A.T. Banquet. Other recipients were chosen by the individual school's staff.

The \$1,000 scholarships will assist the youth as they continue with their academic endeavors.

The cooperative is proud of these and all the fine students in our area schools and communities. Congratulations to all of you! ▼

### HIGH SCHOOL RECIPIENTS

Dixon: Hannah Marie Davis  
Ethan Drake Jenkins

East Duplin: Elisabeth Scott  
Evan Thigpen

Jacksonville: Miya Renee' Duncan  
Mark Alan Fischer

Jones Senior: Zachary Brooks  
Brianna Dawson

Lejeune: Michael-Logan Jordan  
Elijah Moore

Northside: Jenay Cherron Brown  
Rico Dolojan Castillo

Richlands: Sarah Jo Blake  
Joseph Peter Marks

South Lenoir: Oliva Rae Hill  
Alexis Saint-Amand

Southwest: Maddox Elizabeth Bulris  
Brandon Keith Foy, Jr.

Swansboro: Kristina Kay Shepard  
Stephen David Ellsworth, Jr.

Topsail: Heather Cunningham  
Olivia Nelson

White Oak: Hannah Frances McKellar  
Joseph Chandler Uzzell

### COMMUNITY COLLEGE RECIPIENTS

CCCC: Benjamin Jarmin  
Cierra Casnave

LCC: Angela Marie Rollyson  
Mariah Nicole Amos



## The 7th Cooperative Principle

7

CONCERN FOR  
COMMUNITY

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

### A Recap of all 7 Cooperative Principles

Electric cooperatives are private, independent electric utilities, owned by the members they serve. As democratically governed businesses, electric cooperatives are organized under seven guiding principles, anchoring them firmly in the communities they serve and ensuring they are closely regulated by their consumers.

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|---|--|
| <p> 1. VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP</p> <p> 2. DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL</p> <p> 3. MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p> 4. AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE</p> | <p> 5. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION</p> <p> 6. COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES</p> <p> 7. CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY</p> |
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As a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative, Jones-Onslow operates on the Seven Cooperative Principles. Go to the News tab at [joemc.com](http://joemc.com) and click on the Newsroom page to read more about all Seven Cooperative Principles. ►

## Critters, Vegetation and Power “Blinks”

If your power goes out or “blinks” on a calm, storm-free day, you probably wonder why.

In spring and early summer, critters, especially squirrels and snakes, are busy nesting and feeding and they often find their way to power poles and other equipment that is a part of Jones-Onslow’s electrical distribution system. Additionally, despite an aggressive tree trimming program, new tree growth and vines can find their way onto power lines and other equipment.

Blinks occur when an obstruction comes into contact with a power line or transformer. To minimize the possibility of damage to the electrical distribution system or your home, a circuit breaker interrupts the flow of electricity for a fraction of a second. If the obstruction remains on the line, the breaker opens and then tries to re-close and restore power. If the obstruction is still on the line after the third try, the breaker opens and does not re-close automatically. At this point, a Jones-Onslow employee must be dispatched to remove the obstruc-

tion and manually reset the breaker.

“Power blinks have always been a part of electric service – they just weren’t as noticeable until sensitive electronics began filling our homes,” says Chief Utility Engineer Tommy Pritchard. “While they might be annoying, without this feature designed into the system, every brief interruption would result in an outage lasting possibly an hour or longer.”

Pritchard suggest installing a battery backup (Uninterruptible Power Supply or UPS) for cable boxes, computers and any other electronics that take a long time to reboot after a sudden shutdown.

Many of the cooperative’s poles have “squirrel guard” technology but these cunning creatures often find ways to get around the guards. The guards are designed not only to prevent outages but to spare a squirrel’s



life too. Squirrels are not electrocuted when they run across power lines but when their bodies make contact with more than one wire or a transformer they become a path for electricity. The same holds true for snakes, which sometimes find their way into equipment.

Ultimately, power blinks improve the overall system reliability by reducing measurable power outages, protecting Jones-Onslow’s equipment and actually reducing the total time customers would be without power if the technology were not in place. ▼

## Statement of Nondiscrimination

Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation is an equal opportunity employer and strives to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws, regulations, rules, and orders regarding equal employment opportunities. In particular, the Corporation strives to comply with all applicable provisions of the Equal Pay Act of 1963, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, and all amendments to these Acts. Furthermore, the Corporation is committed to helping ensure that no individual is discriminated against by the Corporation because of the individual’s race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability.

Shirley F. Cox, PHR, the Corporation’s Vice President of Human Resources, is responsible for coordinating the Corporation’s nondiscrimination efforts. Any individual who believes that he or she has been discriminated against by the Corporation may obtain additional information from, or may file a charge of discrimination with, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Any charge of discrimination, however, must be filed with the EEOC within one hundred and eighty (180) days after any alleged discrimination.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT



## Meadows Selected to Fill Vacant Board Seat

Michael Chad Meadows, business owner and resident of Pollocksville, was recently selected to fill the District 3 board position and unexpired term of long-time board member Horace Phillips.

Mr. Meadows, who works in the family business of Mike’s Custom Cabinets, is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington with a degree in Business Management. He’s a member of First Baptist Church of Maysville and serves on its building and audio visual committees.

Mr. Meadows also serves as the captain of the Pollocksville Volunteer Fire Department. He and his wife, Lauren, have one child, Hardy, age 5. ►



## 7 Simple, No-Cost Ways to STAY COOL THIS SUMMER

Summer is here and it's getting hot. Not just hot, but that thick sweltering, "we're going to have to deal with this for a couple more months" kind of hot. Autumn's crispness is just around the corner, but until then, hang in there...and save energy with these seven simple tips for tackling summer's remaining heat.

### 1. SHIFT YOUR USE.

Use major appliances like dishwashers, as well as clothes washers and dryers, during early morning or late evening and overnight hours. These big appliances not only generate heat but also introduce moisture to your home, and that's an introduction you don't want to make during the hottest part of the day.

### 2. KEEP KITCHENS COOL.

An indoor stove or oven can raise the temperature in your kitchen by as much as 5 to 10 degrees, which is just way too much at this point in the summer. Take advantage of an outdoor grill or indoor microwave or crockpot instead. Another option? Fix salads all the time.

### 3. TURN IT OFF.

Lights, particularly incandescent lights, as well as common household appliances generate heat when they are on and in use. Like mama said, turn off the lights! Better yet – consider switching to more efficient bulbs like LEDs (light emitting diodes), which generate much less heat. You can also go the extra mile by unplugging appliances when they're not in use. Think: computers, game consoles and televisions.

### 4. FEEL THE BREEZE.

Use portable fans and/or ceiling fans to chill out. Make sure ceiling fans are running counter clockwise to push cool air down. Although fans don't technically change the tempera-

ture of the room, they can make you feel 3 to 4 degrees cooler – a definite win!

### 5. KEEP THE SUNSHINE OUT.

Close blinds, shades and curtains, especially on windows that get direct sun to block light and heat.

### 6. INTRODUCE AN OPEN DOOR POLICY.

Keep the doors to rooms inside your home open so air can flow through naturally. The teenagers in your home will love this one.

### 7. REPLACE AND REMOVE.

Replace dirty air filters to increase the efficiency of your HVAC system and the air flow within your home. Removing furniture, rugs or other obstructions from your return registers also helps. ▼



### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Setting your thermostat to a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

*Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy*

## DID YOU KNOW

### Signing Up for Automatic Draft Gives You... ONE LESS THING TO REMEMBER!

Want one less worry, one less stamp, and one less errand?

Take advantage of our FREE Automatic Draft service and your monthly electric bill will be securely drafted from your checking account or your credit or debit card.

You'll still receive a statement by mail or email each month and the amount will be drafted on the payment due date that you choose.

Get the enrollment form at [joemc.com](http://joemc.com) or call the office at (910) 353-1940 or (800) 682-1515 for more details. ►



## The Co-op of Today and Tomorrow



Years ago, hardworking men and woman worked to bring the life-changing power of electricity to their friends and neighbors of our communities.

Places where large, for-profit electric companies were unwilling or unable to provide service were suddenly illuminated

with electric light and electric cooperatives were born.

While that story is a core part of our history, the energy challenges you currently face are very different. We understand that as life in our community has evolved to meet present-day challenges, so too have your expectations for your energy services provider. JOEMC works hard to adapt to your changing needs and to provide you with the highest possible level of satisfaction.

When cooperatives ran the first power lines into our service area, electricity was a luxury. Today, electricity is a necessity that powers businesses, homes and life-saving medical devices. Our members expect near 100% reliability to power the technology that has improved their lives. Our team works hard every day to provide that reliability.

Energy providers today are tasked with more than just maintaining reliable service; we are also here to ensure that you have the most up-to-date information available to better manage your energy use. Our goal is to provide practical energy advice on a range of topics such as home heating and air conditioning, energy-efficient appliances and renewable energy, whenever you need it.

The key to staying connected to our members is communication. Co-ops of the past communicated through neighborhood gatherings, newsletters like this, and the postal service. While we still use many of these methods today, technology allows us to connect to the community with new online tools. Information provided on our website provides interactive ways for our members to explore energy-efficient technologies. When online research isn't enough, our knowledgeable customer service representatives can be reached on the phone. And, with our voice response system for phone calls, completing common transactions has never been easier. We are committed to providing you with access to as much information as possible because we know how large a role energy plays in your daily life.

Looking toward the future, we understand that emerging trends will impact the way our community consumes energy. We're excited to watch these new technologies take hold and we are committed to providing the high-quality service you have come to expect from JOEMC.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO



## Summer Corn & Golden Potato Chowder

### Ingredients:

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 5 cups fresh corn kernels (reserve 2 cobs)
- 3 fresh thyme sprigs
- 1 large sweet onion, diced (about 2 cups)
- 1½ teaspoons kosher salt
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 large Yukon gold potato, diced
- ¾ cup half and half

### Directions

Melt butter in a small pot over medium heat. Add corn kernels, thyme sprigs, diced onion, and salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, 15 to 20 minutes or until corn is tender but not browned. Stir in broth and diced potato. Increase heat to high; add reserved corn cobs, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium, and simmer, stirring occasionally, 8 to 10 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Discard cobs and thyme. Process ½ cup of corn mixture in a blender until smooth. Return mixture to soup pot, and stir in half-and-half. Serve immediately. Makes 4-6 servings.

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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