

CURRENT COMMENTS

May 2011

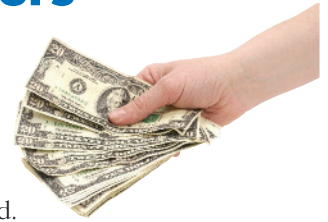
The Official Newsletter of *Southern Rivers Energy*[®]
A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative 

Take Advantage of Southern Rivers Energy Rebates On Heat Pumps, Water Heaters

To help make our members' homes more energy efficient, Southern Rivers Energy offers rebates for members who replace their gas furnace with a new electric heat pump. To qualify for the \$500 rebate, the new system must be rated 14 SEER or higher. SEER stands for Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio, which defines the efficiency of air conditioners and heat pumps.

To qualify for a \$250 rebate on a water heater,

members must change out their gas system to a total electric one, and Southern Rivers Energy must verify the operational ability of equipment before it is changed. Call Josh Hendricks at 770-358-1383 ext. 349 before making any changes to your equipment.



Dates to Remember

May 8.....Mother's Day

May 11SRE Trust Board Meeting

May 21For the Love of Mud... Make plans to have some fun at the 2011 Georgia Jugfest and the Old Knoxville Days Festival!

Sponsored by the Roberta-Crawford County Chamber of Commerce and the Crawford County Historical Society, this year's event has something for everyone. Highlights include a pottery exhibit and sale, live music, classic car show,

children's fest and the Peaches and Pork Cookoff, featuring the best Brunswick stew, vegetable

soup and peach cobbler around.

Crawford County is rich in history and charm. This festival celebrates the pottery industry that thrived in Crawford County during the 1800s and early 1900s because of the types of clay found in the area due to its location on the fall line. Collectors value Crawford County pottery for its variety of forms and glazes.

Visit www.gajugfest.com for a complete schedule of events, or contact the Chamber at 478-836-3825.

May 24Blood Drive at SRE from 1-6 p.m., in memory of local hero and fallen firefighter Britton Cauthen.

Britton was 33 years old when he lost his battle of more than three years with pancreatic cancer on May 4, 2010. He was well-known in Barnesville as the "Buggy Days Clown" for dressing up and driving a mini firetruck in the popular Buggy Days Festival parade. He taught fire safety through Clown Camp in the

school systems, and donated a week of his vacation each year to serve as a camp counselor at Camp Oo-u-la, which is sponsored by his favorite charity, the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation.

Britton loved his job as a firefighter and was an inspirational father to his two daughters, Rebecca and Madison. He was a firefighter and paramedic with the Lamar and Henry County departments. Lamar County's Firefighter of the Year award is named in his honor.

Blood donations are vital to patients fighting cancer and many other illnesses. Please consider donating on May 24 in memory and in honor of Britton. Call Erin Cook to schedule an appointment: 770-358-1383, ext. 332.

May 30Memorial Day—SRE office closed. Call 877-358-1383 to report an outage.



Britton Cauthen



Six Locals Will Represent SRE on 2011 Youth Tour



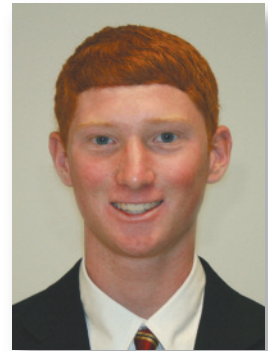
Caylie Mahaffey
WYT Delegate—SRE



Carson Wynn
WYT Delegate—SRE



Bryce Winkles, WYT delegate
Statewide contest



Chad Bankston
WYT Alternate—SRE

Southern Rivers Energy hit the Washington Youth Tour jackpot this year! In addition to the two students the co-op normally sends on the weeklong, once-in-a-lifetime tour of D.C., a Pike County couple, Upson-Lee student and SRE employee are also representing SRE this year.

Caylie Mahaffey and Carson Wynn, of Pike County, were selected to represent Southern Rivers Energy on the Youth Tour. Chad Bankston, of Barnesville, was chosen as the alternate; he will take a delegate's place if either is unable to attend for any reason. Caylie and Carson are juniors at Pike County High School in Zebulon, and Chad is a junior at Griffin Christian Academy.

The contest is open to public, private and home-schooled students in the nine counties served by SRE and consists of a written test and interview.

Each EMC can nominate a teacher to serve as a



Galen and Penny Harbers, WYT chaperones

chaperone on the tour, and this year Penny Harbers and her husband Galen were selected. Penny, a teacher at Pike County High School, has been a huge supporter of the Youth Tour for many years. Galen works for Delta Air Lines.

EMCs may also nominate employees to chaperone the tour, and SRE's own Jonathan Hardy and his wife, Chanda, were also selected. Jonathan has worked at SRE for 19 years and serves as Purchasing Agent/Facilities and Maintenance Coordinator. Chanda will represent Upson EMC on the tour. She has worked for the Thomaston-based co-op for 17 years and is the Accounting and Finance Assistant.

To make things even sweeter, children of EMC employees who are eligible for the tour cannot participate at the local level but may apply for the tour through a statewide essay contest. This year, Bryce Winkles, the daughter of Randy and Christy Winkles, of Thomaston, was selected as one of the statewide delegates. Randy is a Staking Technician at SRE.

Caylie, Carson and Bryce will join around 100 high school students from across the state at the weeklong leadership event, set for June 9-16. The tour kicks off with a banquet at the Renaissance Concourse Hotel in Atlanta, followed by a visit to the Little White House in Warm Springs, where delegates learn about the birthplace of rural electrification.

Some of the tour's highlights include visits to the Smithsonian museums, Holocaust Memorial Museum, Mount Vernon, Supreme Court and Capitol, World War II

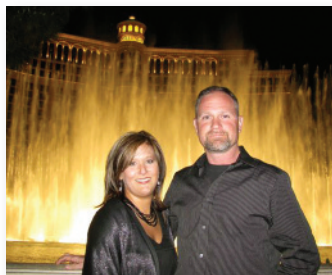


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2011 Youth Tour,

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and Vietnam Veterans monuments and memorials. Four Georgia delegates are selected to participate in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery. In addition, delegates will see the U.S. Marine Corps Sunset Parade at the Iwo Jima memorial, attend a congressional meeting with U.S. representatives and meet both U.S. senators from Georgia.



Chanda and Jonathan Hardy,
WYT chaperones

“We are absolutely thrilled to have such amazing representation from our territory on the tour this year!” says Erin Cook, Youth Tour Coordinator and Communications Specialist for SRE.

Caylie is the daughter of Jimmy and Tina Mahaffey, of Zebulon. She is a member of Student Council, Beta Club, Science Club, Environmental Club and National Honor Society. She serves as school projects manager for the Y-Club and plays on the varsity soccer team. She

volunteers in the community through Habitat for Humanity, Pike County Christian Outreach Center, Samaritan’s Purse, Relay For Life and various church activities.

Carson is the daughter of Marvin and Donna Wynn, of Meansville. She is a member of Student Council, FFA, National Honor Society and serves as vice president of the Beta Club. She is also a peer mentor and plays recreation soccer. Carson is involved in her community through various service projects with her church and even participated in Clark Howard’s Habitat for Humanity work this year.

Bryce is the daughter of Randy and Christy Winkles of Culloden. She is a varsity cheerleader for Upson-Lee High School in Thomaston, a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, LEO Club, FBLA and Skills USA. She plays recreation softball and sings at church and community performances at the Ritz Theater in Thomaston.

Chad is the son of Chuck and Kim Bankston, of Barnesville. He will have the opportunity to represent Southern Rivers Energy at the Georgia Cooperative Council Youth Leadership Conference at the Georgia FFA/FCLA Center in Covington this July. Chad will join other students from across the state and learn the cooperative way of doing business while developing important leadership skills.

Save the Date!

Southern Rivers Energy will hold its annual members’ meeting on **Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011**, on the grounds behind the office on Hwy 341 South. Please save the date for this important event!

As a member, you are part owner of the co-op and have a vote in how the business operates. Annual meetings are an opportunity for you to elect the board members who represent your interests, and receive an update on how your cooperative has been working for you over the past year.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by a brief business meeting at 10 a.m. Before the business meeting, attendees will have an



opportunity to visit with various vendors, including an extensive health fair provided by Upson Regional Medical Center.

Highlights include:

- **Breakfast:** Come enjoy a hot biscuit or some fresh fruit while visiting with our vendors.
- **Registration gifts:** Every registered member will receive a special gift for attending.
- **Co-op report:** You’ll want to stick around to get a brief update on important issues facing SRE and the energy industry, as well as cast your vote in the director election.
- **Door prizes:** In addition to the special gifts that will be given away as door prizes, 10 \$50 bill credits will be given away.
- **Grand prize:** The winning ticket for the grand prize—\$500 cash—will be drawn first, so that every registered member has a chance to win.

Don’t miss this very important meeting! We look forward to seeing you there!



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Touchstone Energy®

Calling All Teachers! SRE is Accepting Applications for Bright Ideas Grants

Purpose: To fund innovative, teacher-developed projects that would normally fall through the cracks due to lack of funding. Not to be used for classroom supplies, unless part of a well-planned, creative project that teaches part of the curriculum.

Eligibility: State-certified public or private school teachers in grades pre-K through 12 in Bibb, Coweta, Crawford, Lamar, Meriwether, Monroe, Pike, Spalding and Upson counties.

Projects must benefit students in grades pre-K through 12..

Teachers may only be an applicant or team member of one project per school year.

Subjects: Grants are open to all subjects.

Grant limit: Projects may be funded up to \$1,000, or may be partially funded. The maximum grant is \$1,000.

Deadline: Applications must be submitted online and received before midnight **Friday, Sept. 9, 2011.** Those submitted by the Early Bird deadline of Aug. 26 will be entered in a \$250 OfficeMax gift card drawing. Applications received after the Sept. 9 deadline will not be considered. Visit southernriversenergy.com for details, or email Erin Cook at erin@srivers.net.



**BRIGHT
IDEAS**



Being a Southern Rivers Energy member has its perks, like getting money back for my investment in the cooperative each fall.

A new perk is coming soon.

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