

## Inside: Learn How To ...

Receive a \$2,000  
Scholarship for  
Schooling

Apply for a Rebate for  
Switching to Energy  
Star Appliances

Qualify for a Free Trip  
to Washington, D.C.

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# PowerLines

2014 Photo Contest Entry

Photographer: Jim Parkes of Emlenton

## Welcome to 2017

*by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager*

Happy new year! As the new year gets underway there is a sense of excitement at the possibilities before us and apprehension at the uncertainty of what is to come. It is at the beginning of the year I am always reminded of how great it is to be part of an organization that offers consistency and certainty. This is especially true this year as Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) reaches its 80th year of providing safe, reliable and cost-effective service to our members.

Just before Thanksgiving, a group of your CEC staff finished a weight loss contest. The end of the contest was just before the holiday season because, while we wanted to lose weight and be healthy, we aren't heathens. Now that we are done with the eating season, it's time for more weight loss and those New Year's resolutions to begin. I

exercise quite a bit during these contests and don't think of it as a social activity, probably because my family nicknamed me "sweaty gym guy" about 15 years ago, so the arrival of the "resolution people" in the gym is always a little disconcerting to me. Plus, as someone who works for an organization that is constantly planning, this sudden and temporary influx of short-term "resolution people" is frustrating because I can't use the exercise equipment I want to.

The beginning of the new year also marks the start of a new annual budget and the next iteration of our strategic plan, even though these reflect ongoing processes. Our goal of continuous, incremental improvement doesn't happen by accident or by making resolutions we give up on, like someone joining a gym in January and buying bigger

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## *It's a Movement /From Page 1*

pants in March. Too often today the word “resolution” has taken on the connotation of a short-lived, never-realized goal. I prefer the interpretation that a resolution is a firm decision to do something — that we are determined to reach our goals, and our efforts and dedication will not be deterred.

“Our goal of continuous, incremental improvement doesn’t happen by accident or by making resolutions we give up on, like someone joining a gym in January and buying bigger pants in March.”

Matt Boshaw, CEO & general manager

At CEC we are resolved to operate in accordance with the following seven cooperative principles:

### **1. Voluntary and Open**

**Membership:** Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

### **2. Democratic Member**

**Control:** Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In cooperatives, members have equal voting rights — one member, one vote.

### **3. Members’ Economic**

**Participation:** Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the

cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefitting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

### **4. Autonomy and**

**Independence:** Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

### **5. Education, Training, and**

**Information:** Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to developing their cooperatives. They inform the general public — particularly young people and opinion leaders — about

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## Welcome to 2017 /From Page 2

the nature and benefits of cooperation.

### **6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives:**

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

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

At the end of every year we take time to reflect on the progress we have made and identify the steps we plan to take to keep moving forward. Each year

we update our strategic plan to ensure all we are doing supports the cooperative principles and our mission. In 2017 we will implement changes from our organizational review to make us more efficient and use our strategic plan to reach financial, employee development and operational targets intended to make your service better and your cooperative stronger.

So as we begin 2017 together, I hope you are reassured in the fact that your cooperative will continue working for you as we always have — safely, reliably and affordably. Thank you for your continued membership in, and support of, your cooperative.

## Good Neighbor Scholarship Program 2017

It's once again time for CEC's Good Neighbor Scholarship program. Eligible candidates include adult members wishing to further their education, currently enrolled college students and high school seniors. Home-school students and seasonal account members, or their children, are also welcome. We will award ten, \$2,000 scholarships in May 2017.

Applicants must:

- Be (or their parents must be) CEC members.
- Supply a Letter of Acceptance from a post-secondary educational institution or verification of current enrollment.
- Complete the application available at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) (under the Community tab).
- Compose a one-page essay describing how they have contributed to their community.

- Provide a letter of reference from a teacher, employer or community member.
- Meet requirements by March 15.

Essay and the application must illustrate the candidate's commitment to community, school or church in nonpaid service activities.

For more information or application forms, please visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) or call us at 800-521-0570.

Mail the required documents to:

Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Attn: Ken Maleski  
P. O. Box 329  
Parker, PA 16049

**Deadline is March 15, 2017.**

## Family Fund helps families in need!



**You can help by rounding up your electric bill to the nearest dollar or by making a one-time contribution.**

Call 800-521-0570 or visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) for more information.


## Energy Efficiency Tip



According to the Consumer Electronics Association, the average household owns 24 consumer electronics products, which are responsible for 12 percent of household electricity use. Energy Star certified audio/video equipment is up to 50 percent more efficient than conventional models.


Source: [EnergyStar.gov](http://EnergyStar.gov)

**K**en's **ilowatt** **corner**



www.central.coop  
Check it out!

By **Ken Maleski**  
Energy Analyst &  
Member Advocate



## Appliance Rebates

CEC begins its third year for the Appliance Rebate Program this month! Members will be rewarded for installing Energy Star certified appliances that promote efficiency while improving our environment. Rebates are limited to one per appliance type per year and are only available for the following qualifying appliances:

- Refrigerators \$100
- Freezers \$50
- Clothes washer \$50
- Dishwashers \$25
- Window air conditioners \$25
- Dehumidifiers \$25

How to apply for your rebate:

- Visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) and click on Energy Efficient Products. Choose Product Finder and search by model number to verify an

appliance as qualified.

- Complete the CEC Appliance Rebate form available at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).
- Mail the rebate form and a copy of the appliance sales receipt to the address provided on the form.
- Allow up to six weeks for rebate check processing.

Rebate funds are available from renewable energy credits earned by our power supplier's renewable generation assets. Program funding is limited and subject to change or cancellation without notice. Contact CEC at 800-521-0570 x2133 or visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) to learn more.



**Sign up for weekly energy-saving tips  
by emailing Ken at [kmaleski@central.coop](mailto:kmaleski@central.coop).**



## High School Juniors: Want a Free, Week-Long Trip to Washington, D.C.?

CEC proudly announces an invitation to high school juniors to experience the trip of a lifetime! Youth Tour 2017 offers students the opportunity to visit Washington, D.C. from June 11 to 16 and experience all the beauty and history of our nation's capital. Approximately 1,500 Youth Tour participants from across the country will see the U.S. Capitol, meet with congressmen, tour national monuments and memorials, visit the National Zoo and Smithsonian, see a Kennedy Center production and MUCH MORE! They will also learn about electric cooperatives, American history, the U.S. government and attend educational seminars. While on the tour, students will attend an All States Dinner Dance where they will have the chance to meet students from around the country. Best of all, Youth Tour is **FREE OF COST** to students!

All high school juniors who reside in a home receiving electric service from CEC are eligible. To apply, visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop), call us or see your guidance counselor.

All application requirements need completed and received by CEC before **Feb. 3**. For more information about Youth Tour visit [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop), contact CEC at 800-521-0570 or visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

Finalists are not only entitled to the trip to D.C., but are also eligible for special scholarships and national recognition.



2016 Youth Tour attendees: (from left) Brayden Fedorek, Alison Boltz, Erica Kerr & Seth Zacherl.

# SAFETY MATTERS

## Winter Safety Tips: Slips, Trips & Falls

A slip, trip or fall can lead to injury or even death. To help protect yourself this winter:

- Plan ahead and give yourself enough time so you're not rushing.
- When walking on steps, always use the hand rails and make sure to plant your feet firmly on each step.
- When walking on an icy or snow-covered walkway, take short steps and walk at a slower pace so you can react quickly to a change in traction.
- Streets and sidewalks that have been cleared

of snow and ice should still be approached with caution. Look out for black ice.

- Carrying heavy items can challenge your sense of balance. Try not to carry too much. You need to leave your hands and arms free to better balance yourself.
- When entering a building, remove as much snow and water from your shoes as possible.



## Recipe of the Month

### Hearty Vegetable Bean Soup

#### Ingredients:

- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1/2 cup diced onions
- 1/2 cup diced red peppers
- 1/2 cup diced carrots
- 1/8 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon parsley
- 1-1/2 cup broth (beef, chicken or vegetable)
- 1/2 cup tomato sauce
- One 19-ounce can pinto beans, drained & rinsed
- 1/2 teaspoon brown sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 pound hamburger
- 1/2 cup rice (brown or white)

**Directions:** Heat oil in large soup pot over medium heat. Add onions, peppers, carrots, garlic powder, oregano, parsley and rice. Cook hamburger and add to pot. Cook until vegetables are soft. Add rest of ingredients. Bring to boil. Reduce to simmer and cook covered 15 to 20 minutes until all cooked.

*Thank you to Linda Fair for submitting this recipe!*

### Send in your recipes to be shared today!

#### Send Recipes to:

Renee Tritten at rtritten@central.coop or mail to CEC,  
716 Route 368, PO Box 329, Parker, PA 16049

## CEC Management Team

Matthew P. Boshaw  
*CEO & General Manager*

Dennis W. Beggs  
*Director of Finance and  
Accounting/CFO*

Christopher W. Kossman  
*Director of Information Technology*

Stephanie Deal  
*Director of Human Resources*

Christina J. O'Donnell  
*Director of Communication and  
Public Relations*

Lisa A. Hoover  
*Director of Member Services*

Fred E. Terwilliger  
*Assistant General Manager/COO*

## Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

**Duane Delp of New Bethlehem**

Last Issue's E-Winner:

**Joe Uhler of Polk**

Read Power Lines and win! It's simple — you can win a \$25 credit on your monthly electric bill by completing and returning the quiz below. And you have a second chance at another \$25 bill credit by submitting a quiz online at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

If you do not have access to the Internet, indicate that on the quiz and we will also enter you in the online drawing. Just complete, clip and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment. For quiz rules visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

**1. True or False:** If a street or sidewalk has been cleared of snow and ice it's safe to walk on without caution.

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. True or False:** Members can be rewarded for installing Energy Star certified appliances.

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. True or False:** CEC operates in accordance with seven cooperative principles.

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How are we doing?** (no wrong answer)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Acct. #:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Central Electric Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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