

## Inside: Learn How To ...

Support CEC Families  
in Need

Utilize Our Home  
Energy Calculator

Apply for the Good  
Neighbor Scholarship  
and Youth Tour

## “Watts” Inside

Youth Tour 2014 3

Thermal Storage Products 4

Methicillin-Resistant  
Staphylococcus Aureus  
(MRSA) 5

Good Neighbor  
Scholarship 2014 5

Stuffed Green Pepper  
Soup Recipe 6

## Board of Directors

Jody P. Weaver  
*President*

Kenneth Durrett  
*Vice President*

Althea M. Smith  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

William J. Eichner  
Kenneth D. Etzel  
Margery S. Terwilliger  
Bette D. Walters  
Richard L. Weaver

# PowerLines

## Service

*by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager*

The new year is here. There were times when I thought 2013 would never end and other times that I blinked and months seemed to have passed. I normally review the year from the perspective of numbers: What was our outage time? Was the margin sufficient? How did we do allocating patronage capital and retiring capital credits? Did we meet our budget? While the final numbers won't be in for a while, I can tell you that we did better in 2013 than in 2012 in all areas, especially financially and with outages. However, I can't look back at 2013 in the same way as in past years. The tragic loss of our co-worker and friend, Mike Over, leaves a feeling of loss with us here at the cooperative. I won't dwell on this tragedy except to assure you that we will not forget it. This tragedy is not the type of thing that we put behind us, but instead we take it with us and

commit to redouble our efforts to work safely together to provide electric service to our members.

With all of this in mind, I reviewed common themes from my past articles. The cooperative difference, safety and our people I found as recurring themes. One thread that ran through all of my past articles is service. Service can mean many things. For example there is community service, public service and military service, which deserves our deepest respect and gratitude. In the electric utility industry, service has several meanings as well. Service can refer to the physical wires that connect a transformer to your meter base or one of the many available products that we provide members such as our load management program, SmartHub billing portal or our Generlink® transfer switch, just to name a few. I prefer to think of it in terms of the people that serve you,

**Service/Page 2**

## Service/From Page 1

our members. Whether you are talking to one of our member services representatives to establish a new service, discussing your electric bill with our member and community relations group or you see one of our line crews working to get your power back on, we are all doing our part to provide you with the high level of service you expect.

Your member-elected board of directors does a great job each year keeping us focused on maintaining the best value in providing what has become an essential service — electricity. The board also reviews our proposed budgets to make sure we can justify expenses and control costs. Each year the board reviews the cooperative's performance as it compares to other cooperatives of our size in Pennsylvania and across the nation. I am happy to say that we compare very favorably in most categories. This is not an accident. Our favorable comparison comes from our commitment to continuously improve the service we provide. We also are committed to maintaining value by keeping costs low, improving system reliability and maintaining

a financially sound company while planning for the future.

Our service can be direct contact with you, it can be additional products and services we offer, our quick response during outages or our ongoing system improvement and maintenance. No matter what form our service takes, it is driven by our mission: Central Electric Cooperative will enhance the quality of life for its members and its consumers by providing energy, products and services which fulfill needs and create value. We are committed to integrity, accountability, innovation and community.

One of the biggest advantages that we have over other electric utilities is that we provide service to members, not customers. We work with our membership to ensure that the service we provide exceeds expectations. On behalf of the employees, let me express my gratitude for your work with us over the last year and say how much we look forward to a safe, productive and happy New Year!

## The Seven Cooperative Principles

- Voluntary and Open Membership
- Democratic Member Control
- Members' Economic Participation
- Autonomy and Independence
- Education and Training
- Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- Concern for Community



## Attention High School Juniors: Youth Tour is Back!

Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) proudly announces an invitation for high school juniors to experience the trip of a lifetime! Youth Tour 2014 offers students the opportunity to go to Washington, D.C. from June 15 to June 20 and experience all of the beauty and history of our nation's capital. The approximated 1,500 Youth Tour participants from across the country will have the opportunity to see the U.S. Capitol, meet with congressmen from their state, tour national monuments and memorials, and visit the National Zoo as well as the Smithsonian museums. They will also learn about electric cooperatives, American history and 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!

All high school juniors who reside with their parents or guardians on CEC power lines are eligible. To apply either obtain an application from your school guidance counselor or print the Youth Tour application from [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) (under

the community tab) and **return it to CEC by Feb. 14, 2014**. For more information about Youth Tour visit [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop), contact Ken Maleski, CEC's Youth Tour coordinator, at 800-521-0570 x2172 or visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

This is more than a sight-seeing trip of Washington, D.C. There is a strong educational component — one of our seven principles — which teaches the importance of being an active participant in our democracy.



### 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.

### Our Home Energy Calculator can help you ...



analyze your home's energy efficiency and learn where you can make changes to save money on your monthly bill. Visit [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) to get started today!





CEC's load management program for electric heat has been offering members a 40 percent savings over our normal rate for 25 years! Members can heat their homes for one-third to one-half the cost of propane or fuel oil. The program creates savings for both the member and CEC by interrupting electric heating systems (baseboard, heat pumps, and boilers) during times of high electric demand when energy is very expensive. This requires a secondary heating system to maintain comfort levels. Steffes thermal storage products are a great way to stay warm during load control periods.

The Steffes Corporation has been in the business of providing thermal storage products since the 1980s. Thermal storage is simply a resistance electric system that stores heat in dense ceramic bricks within a highly insulated cabinet. A fan distributes the stored heat to a room or whole-house system. During load control, the heating elements are turned off, but power is maintained to the fan to provide warmth and comfort. Members do not even recognize their heating system is being controlled.

## Thermal Storage Products

Three products are available to meet a home's particular needs:

- Room units: Non-ducted heaters are designed to heat the room or area into which they are placed. Room units are ideal for new construction applications, retrofits or a supplement to an existing heating system, such as baseboard electric heat.
- Forced air furnaces: Centrally ducted furnaces are designed to be the main heating system (forced air) for residential or small commercial applications. They can be used as a stand-alone furnace or installed with a heat pump for greater efficiency and energy savings.
- Hydronic furnaces: This whole house furnace is ideal for any combination of zoned delivery where water is used to distribute heat via radiant floor systems, baseboard radiation, radiators or even forced air heating with the addition of a Steffes air handler.

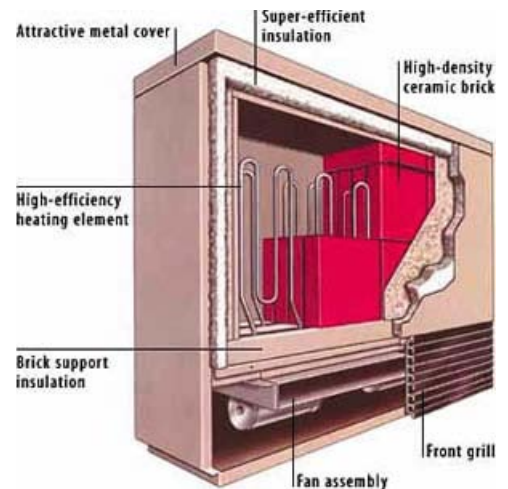
Visit our website at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) and click on Energy Savings, then chose Heating and Cooling Options to learn more about the Steffes products. You may also contact me at 800-521-0570 x2172.



Steffes Forced Air Furnace



Steffes Hydronic Furnace



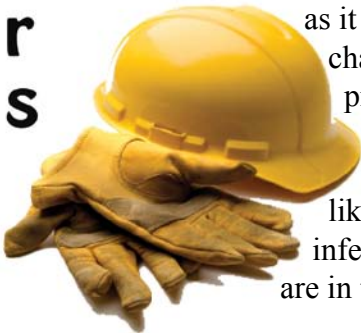
Steffes Room Unit

# SAFETY

## M Methicillin-Resistant A Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) T T e r s

MRSA is a bacterium that about one-third of the population carries without it affecting them. It's tougher to treat than most strains of staphylococcus aureus — or staph — because it's resistant to commonly used antibiotics, although it is usually successfully treated without antibiotics. MRSA becomes dangerous when it gets into an open wound as it can increase a person's chances at getting pneumonia and a blood stream or bone infection.

People who are most likely to get a MRSA infection are individuals who are in the hospital for health



Matt Alderson  
Manager of Safety and  
Operations Support

conditions, are in close contact with other people regularly, often suffer from cuts and abrasions and share personal items. The following tips will help you prevent getting a MRSA infection.

- Stop taking unnecessary antibiotics.
- Wash hands often and scrub vigorously.
- Don't share personal items.
- Wipe down surfaces with a cleanser.
- Cover wounds with bandages.
- Don't touch other people's wounds or bandages.
- If you are in the hospital, make sure staff wash their hands before they touch you.

## Good Neighbor Scholarship Program 2014

It is time once again for CEC's Good Neighbor Scholarship program. Eligible candidates are high school seniors, enrolled college students or adult members who wish to further their education. Seasonal account members or their children are also welcome. CEC will award two scholarships of \$1,000 each in early May of 2014. Applicants or parents must be CEC members. To apply, student must submit:

- A letter of acceptance from a post-secondary educational institution, or a current enrollment verification.
- A completed application which can be found at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop) under the Community tab.
- A one-page essay on how they have contributed to their community.

- A letter of reference from a teacher, employer or community member.

Essays and the application must illustrate the candidate's commitment to community, school, or church in non-paid service activities. Mail the four required documents to: Central Electric Cooperative, c/o Ken Maleski, 716 Route 368, P. O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049.

This program is one way CEC follows its seven cooperative principles by showing concern for its communities, supporting education and investing in members' futures.

**Due date for all materials is March 15, 2014.**

## Recipe of the Month

### Stuffed Green Pepper Soup

#### Ingredients:

- 1/2 pound ground round (or ground chuck)
- 2 cups chopped green bell pepper
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1-14 ounce can beef broth
- 1-14 1/2 ounce can diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1-10 3/4 ounce can tomato soup, undiluted
- 1 1/2 cups cooked white rice

#### Directions:

Heat a small Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add beef and cook for 3 minutes or until browned. Stir to crumble. Add chopped pepper and onion. Cook until tender, approximately 8 minutes. Add black pepper, broth, diced tomatoes and tomato soup. Stir. Bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 45 minutes. Add hot cooked rice. Serve. Makes 6 servings.

*Thank you to Joanne McVay for submitting this recipe!*

#### Send Recipes to:

Renee Spence at [rspence@central.coop](mailto:rspence@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  
CFO, Director of Finance and Accounting

Christopher W. Kossman  
Director of Information Technology

Stephanie Deal  
Director of Human Resources

Christina J. O'Donnell  
Director of Member and Community Relations

Lisa A. Hoover  
Director of Member Services

Fred E. Terwilliger  
Director of Engineering and Operations

## Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

**Joan King of Polk**

Last Issue's E-Winner:

**Regis Lewis of East Brady**

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/quiz](http://www.central.coop/quiz).

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/quiz](http://www.central.coop/quiz).

**1. True or False:** Members can heat their homes for one-third to one-half the cost of propane with our electric heat load management program.

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

**2. True or False:** MRSA is easier to treat than most strains of staph.

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

**3. True or False:** We are committed to integrity, accountability, innovation and community.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

716 Route 368 • PO Box 329 • Parker, PA 16049-0329 • [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop)  
Customer Service 1-800-521-0570 • Emergency Outage Number 1-800-282-8610