

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

horryelectric.com

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**TO REPORT
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Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Horry Electric Cooperative Inc. is a not-for-profit, member-owned organization providing information and energy-related services on a fair and equitable basis.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



A step forward, a reason for hope

AT HORRY ELECTRIC

Cooperative, our promise to you has always been clear—to provide energy that is safe,

affordable and reliable, not just for today, but for future generations, too. This promise is especially important now as South Carolina continues to grow. With new homes, schools and businesses continuing to pop up, the demand for electricity is rising faster than any of us have ever seen before. To keep up with this growing demand, we need energy policies that promote smart planning and smart investment.

Earlier this year, the South Carolina General Assembly took a meaningful step forward by passing the South Carolina Energy Security Act (H. 3309). This important legislation begins to address the growing strain on our state's electric grid. It opens the door for additional power generation, streamlines regulatory processes and places long-term grid reliability at the forefront of South Carolina's energy planning.

We at Horry Electric have been advocating for these kinds of changes for a long time. We know that maintaining balance between affordability, reliability and planning for growth in our communities is a tough challenge. However, this new bill is a sign that state leaders are really listening and it provides hope that together, we can make things better.

While the new legislation puts us on a better path, there is still important work ahead. Building new infrastructure takes time. It requires careful planning,

teamwork and the support of people across the state. It's going to take collaboration between cooperatives, lawmakers, regulators and each of you—our members—to ensure our grid can handle future demands without sacrificing the service you rely on today.

Horry Electric is focused on the tasks at hand. We're investing in the system and workforce to keep the power flowing. We're making sure to engage in state and national discussions so that your voice isn't only heard, but valued. We are committed to keep you informed throughout this process because we know trust and transparency are what being part of a cooperative is all about.

As we look ahead, challenges are bound to arise, but so are new opportunities to grow, adapt and lead. With each opportunity comes a renewed sense of purpose. That purpose fuels our commitment to building strong partnerships, reinforces our focus on long-term reliability and guides us as we work together. This will help us shape a future that reflects the values, resilience and vision of the communities we serve.

Thank you for your continued support. We're committed to the long haul. We'll keep showing up, planning thoughtfully and putting in hard work to fulfill our shared mission—to make life better.

J. REED COOPER, P.E.

Executive Vice President and CEO

Aynor graduate awarded \$1,500 scholarship

PHOEBE JOHNSON is Teal Nation bound this fall. She's starting her college career at Coastal Carolina University with scholarships in hand. In addition to her Palmetto Fellows scholarship, Johnson was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from Horry Electric through The Daniel B. Shelley, III Future Accountants Scholarship.

Horry Electric launched the scholarship initiative this year in honor of Daniel "Danny" B. Shelley, who served as Horry Electric's Executive Vice President and CEO from 2019 to 2025.

The one-time scholarship is for a freshman entering a two- or four-year accounting, finance or business program at a South Carolina college.

Johnson graduated from Aynor High School in May 2025, and she's looking to major in one of these specialties. "My goal is to take marketing, accounting and finance classes and see which one I want

to specialize in," Johnson says. She says accounting continues to stand out to her after watching her family run their small business.

Johnson is also growing her photography business. Her experience has taught her the importance of discipline, time management and perseverance. When asked what she sees for her future, she says she'd like to take over the family business alongside her brother, who also attends CCU. "I'm very loyal to Coastal. It's where my brother is and where my parents went. Personally, I love the teal."

Johnson says the Future Accountants Scholarship will help her in a variety of ways. "It will allow me a lot of peace going into college not having to worry about money," she says. "I will be able to avoid taking on student debt, meaning I can put my time and focus towards my education."



JENNIFER CUMMINGS

Phoebe Johnson is Horry Electric's first recipient of The Daniel B. Shelley, III Future Accountants Scholarship.

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Christmas Card Contest

Contest Requirements

- Please include the "Horry Electric Cooperative" logo or "HEC" on the cards.
- Cut-outs or computer designs cannot be used on the card.
- The card format is an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper folded in half. Other sizes will not be accepted.
- Children in K5-5th grade may enter.
- Children will design the **front** and **inside right** of the card only.
- ALL entries must include the following information on the back of the card: student's first and last name, school name and grade level.

Design HEC's Christmas card

FOUR MONTHS until Christmastime, which means Horry Electric is searching for an awesome Christmas card to send out this year!

We're looking for the help of students in kindergarten through fifth grade. We want students to be as creative and colorful as possible, while incorporating the electric cooperative into their Christmas card theme. This could include:

- ▶ Willie Wiredhand (co-op mascot)
- ▶ Bucket/line trucks
- ▶ Linemen/employees
- ▶ Power lines
- ▶ Light bulbs
- ▶ Co-op territory scenery

Horry Electric will present a \$100 cash award to the student whose card is chosen for the co-op to send out this Christmas.

Visit horryec.info/Christmas-card for the official contest rules and submission instructions. For questions, contact Jennifer Cummings at jennifer.cummings@horryelectric.com or call (843) 369-6331.

HEC awards \$14,100 to teachers

CELEBRATING TEACHERS and their innovative ideas is the reason for the Horry Electric Bright Ideas Education Grants program. In honor of Back to School Month, we're proud to feature the 16 teachers who were awarded Bright Ideas grants in 2025.

Danielle McColl, St. James Intermediate

Entry: Lit Lab Live!
Award: \$250

Kathryn Zielenski, Pee Dee Elementary

Entry: Vertical Thinking with Wipebooks
Award: \$450

Lisa Hall, Academy for Technology & Academics

Entry: Connecting Literature with Real Life
Award: \$800

Joey Hernandez, Academy for Arts, Science & Technology

Entry: The Game of Life—Realizing Possibilities
Award: \$800

Evan Sellers, Academy for Arts, Science & Technology

Entry: Mapping the Future - GIS with GPS
Award: \$850

Cindy Lilly, Ocean Bay Middle

Entry: Lightbulb Moments
Award: \$950

Rebecca Crute, Aynor Elementary

Entry: Bringing the Library to Life
Award: \$1,000

Molly Heemer, Discovery Academy

Entry: Beyond the Bowl
Award: \$1,000

Molly Cord, Whittemore Park Middle

Entry: Thinking in Math
Award: \$1,000

Ann Marie Goings, Conway High

Entry: Wings of Innovation
Award: \$1,000

Gregory Johnson, Conway High

Entry: STEM to Street
Award: \$1,000

Cheryl Zupan, Loris Middle

Entry: Drama-Free Zone
Award: \$1,000

Jennifer Boyd, Loris High

Entry: Exceptional Express Café
Award: \$1,000

Drake Ellis, St. James High

Entry: Making Code Move
Award: \$1,000

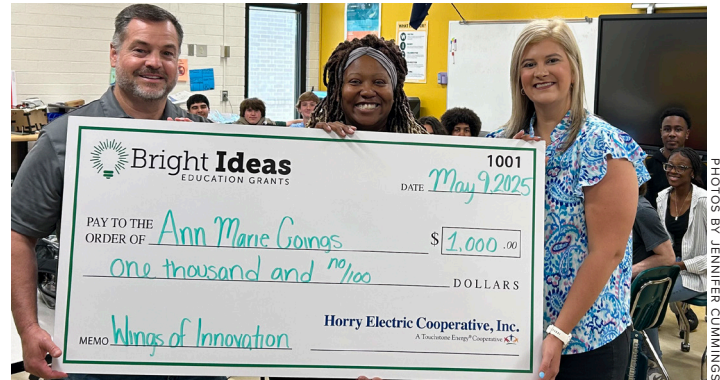
Dede Bryson, St. James High

Entry: Health Science CTE
Award: \$1,000

Lina Leonard, Socastee High

Entry: Student Anthologies
Award: \$1,000

You can read more about each of these grants on Horry Electric's social media channels during the month of August.



Ann Marie Goings was surprised with \$1,000 for her Bright Idea to use drones in her engineering class.



Molly Heemer plans to use her \$1,000 grant to teach students about aquatic ecosystems through research and hands-on learning.



Kathryn Zielenski's class celebrates the \$450 grant to take a standing approach to learning by using Wipebooks throughout the classroom.



Whittemore Park Middle's Molly Cord was awarded \$1,000 to transform her classroom into a Thinking Classroom, an approach by Peter Liljedahl.



Horry Electric sponsored (from left) Tyler Johnson, McCallie Brown, Kimmy Hurst and Jonathan Bowers on the Washington Youth Tour in June.



Ryland Allen was selected by the ECSC Trustee Association to experience Washington Youth Tour.

Museums, memorials and more

Local students have ‘life-changing’ experience in Washington

BY JOSH P. CROTZER

JONATHAN BOWERS paced slowly and solemnly, absorbing, as much as he could, the brutal story of hate, human suffering and survival that is depicted at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Of all the panels he read, displays he saw and videos he watched there, one simple exhibit hit Bowers the hardest—the thousands of shoes worn by victims of the Holocaust, piled together in a disordered heap.

“Just having something to look at and see makes it so much more real, more than you can ever describe in words,” says Bowers, a rising senior at Conway Christian School. “It really helps you to understand the severity of it, what truly happened and how big of an impact it had on everyone in the world.”

Bowers’s experience at the museum was part of Washington Youth Tour, a five-day, all-expenses-paid trip to the nation’s capital and surrounding landmarks in June. He, along with McCallie Brown of Aynor, Kimmy Hurst of Conway and Tyler Johnson of Conway, were sponsored by Horry Electric Cooperative. Ryland Allen of Conway was sponsored by the Trustee Association of the Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina.

They joined 66 other high school students representing the state’s electric cooperatives on visits to historic and educational sites such as George Washington’s Mount Vernon, Fort McHenry in Baltimore and the Smithsonian museums in Washington. The students also viewed the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, visited the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon and found names of fallen soldiers from their hometowns on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

“I’d never been to Washington, D.C., before, so seeing everything, in its own way, is a life-changing experience,” says Brown.

In addition to the museums and memorials, the students spent the day on Capitol Hill. Horry Electric’s delegates visited U.S. Rep. Russell Fry’s office and toured the U.S. Capitol, guided by one of Fry’s interns.

The trip was also an opportunity for the students to interact with peers from other parts of South Carolina and the 43 other state delegations that converged on Washington that week. The Youth



Kimmy Hurst walks through the Ejszyski Shtetl exhibit at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, a collection of family photos depicting the rich life and culture of Jews in a small Lithuanian town prior to the Holocaust.

PHOTOS BY JOSH P. CROTZER

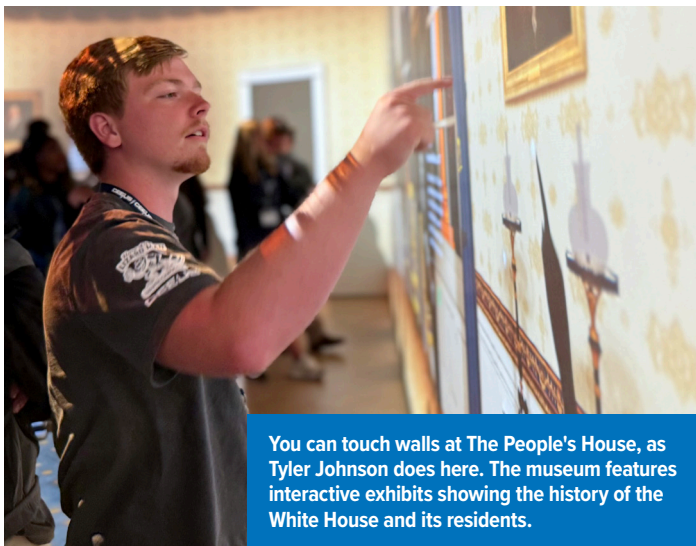
Tour representatives traded state pins with one another—South Carolina’s pins depicting the notorious Lizard Man were popular—and came together for Youth Day, where they heard from national cooperative leaders and inspirational speakers.

“It was really fun and educational to learn about the history of what made this nation,” says Allen. “I would recommend to anyone to definitely do this, if they can.”



PHOTOS BY JOSH P. CROTZER

Among the many landmarks in Washington, South Carolina students visited the World War II Memorial.



You can touch walls at The People's House, as Tyler Johnson does here. The museum features interactive exhibits showing the history of the White House and its residents.



Horry Electric's Kelli McDowell (left) was one of five South Carolina cooperative employees who served as chaperones for the trip. She, York Electric's Emma Sutton and Santee Electric's Joanna Arnsmeier show some Palmetto State pride at George Washington's Mount Vernon.



Horry Electric's student delegation joins students from Lynch River Electric on a visit to U.S. Rep. Russell Fry's office before a tour of the Capitol.



McCallie Brown, who has ambitions for political office, gets comfortable at the Resolute Desk, a part of the full-scale replica of the Oval Office at The People's House Museum.

CHASE TOLER

Crews conduct inspections

What to know if you see crews in your area

ROUTINELY INSPECTING the cooperative's electrical equipment is essential to delivering safe and reliable service to members. Horry Electric crews work year-round to inspect equipment across our service territory. If a piece of equipment needs to be repaired or replaced, crews respond quickly to make the necessary repairs or upgrades.

Horry Electric also has contractors who work throughout the year on various jobs, including building power lines, boring and vegetation management.

What you will see

When Horry Electric crews are in your area, you will see:

- ▶ Employees in Horry Electric uniform (each employee has an ID badge for identification).
- ▶ Employees on your property.
- ▶ Horry Electric vehicles/side-by-sides/golf carts.
- ▶ Machines working.

Contractors who work with Horry Electric also have ID badges for identification.



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER CUMMINGS

Advanced Line Technician Jacob Riddei checks the condition of a power pole by performing the hammer test. Riddei has to listen for a distinct sound to ensure the pole is not rotting or decaying.

Important reminders

Horry Electric does not allow any sort of attachments on any piece of electric co-op equipment. Horry Electric's Bylaws and Service Rules and Regulations state members have to grant the cooperative access to electric equipment. These rules and regulations are in place to keep everyone safe. System inspections allow us to continue providing safe, reliable electricity to members.

It's important to remember the vegetation maintenance requirements for overhead and underground service, in addition to the meter base(s) at your service location.

Meter bases cannot be in an enclosed space. These must be on an exterior wall or in an approved meter room. Plants and shrubs must be planted at least 3 feet from the meter.

Contact us for questions

Horry Electric wants to remind members that personnel/crews can be in your area at any time. If you ever have questions regarding system inspections or daily jobs, call (843) 369-2211.



Advanced Line Technician Chad Tyler (left) and Crew Foreman Heath Hardwick drive on a side-by-side to inspect underground co-op equipment in a Myrtle Beach neighborhood.