

## Co-op Employees Form Nonprofit to Benefit Community

**A**&N Electric Cooperative employees have always been committed to our community and are passionate about supporting local causes.

This year, we organized and created an employee nonprofit organization, Lighting the Way.

Lighting the Way has empowered co-op employees to highlight community needs and organize support for those needs.

Since its inception, Lighting the Way has raised money through internal fundraising, regularly partnered with the Foodbank of the Eastern Shore to assist with its backpack program and adopted two roadways for litter pickup, one in each county, through the Virginia Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program.

In the winter, our group like many others, chipped in to send water to Tangier Island when they suffered a water main break due to freezing temperatures.

This past summer, the group lent volunteers to the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce's Le Tour De Shore Bike Tour and donated funding to the Central Accomack Little League senior league all-star team during their run in the Little League World Series.

In the fall, Lighting the Way partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Accomack County and the Eastern Shore Family YMCA to take part in a bubble ball soccer benefit game, held during the YMCA's Family Fun Day event. The game and other activities raised money for the Kiwanis Club's Bring Up Grades program in the local elementary schools and also children's programs at the local YMCA.

We're just getting started, and our group is always on the lookout for new opportunities to help our community.

For more information, log onto [anec.com/content/lighting-way](http://anec.com/content/lighting-way) or contact us at [LightingTheWay@anec.com](mailto:LightingTheWay@anec.com).



**LIGHTING THE WAY**  
An A&N Electric Cooperative Employee Non-Profit



**STATISTICS**

- Hours Volunteered Over 100
- Miles of Roadway Cleaned 4.5 miles
- Dollars Awarded to Local Causes Over \$500
- Water Donated to Tangier Over 140 gallons

### A&N ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

21275 Cooperative Way  
P.O. Box 290  
Tasley, VA 23441-0290  
757-787-9750 • 800-431-2632

Office Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
[anec.com](http://anec.com)

Payments: 1-855-386-9921

President & CEO  
Butch Williamson

Local Pages Editor  
Jay Diem

*A&N Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

### UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURES

The A&N Electric Cooperative Tasley office will be closed for the following holidays:

**Thursday, Nov. 28**, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday;

**Wednesday, Dec. 25**, in observance of Christmas Day; and

**Wednesday, Jan. 1**, in observance of the New Year's holiday.

A&N Electric Cooperative directors and employees hope you have a safe and happy holiday season.

**Please have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**



## Helping the Co-op “Beat the Peak” Can Help Lower Energy Costs

**B**eat the Peak is a voluntary program that encourages A&N Electric Cooperative members to conserve or limit energy usage during peak times. Your cooperative pays a monthly demand charge based on the peak hourly usage during the month. This accounts for a large percentage of the cost of electricity for our members.

By lowering the amount of power being consumed across the system when energy prices are high, you are helping to lower the co-op's cost for power. Because A&N Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit utility, those savings are passed on to you in the form of affordable rates. *Please note: You will not see a credit on your bill for conserving energy nor will you be charged more for power if you do not conserve. This is a voluntary program, which benefits all co-op members.*

Peak periods occur when the demand for electricity is the highest. Usually, these are periods when it is very cold or hot outside. During this time, members are asked to use energy wisely and follow these guidelines:

- **In winter, lower the thermostat by 3-4 degrees.**
- **Postpone the use of major appliances, such as clothes washers, dryers and dishwashers.**
- **Delay using hot water during peak periods.**
- **Turn off all unnecessary lights.**

We can alert co-op members directly of the Beat the Peak period by email and/or text message. Included in the message will be the anticipated day and time of the peak period. It is important that you reduce energy consumption during this critical period. Notices will also be posted to the A&N Electric Cooperative website, Facebook page and Twitter feed. The alerts will also be announced on local radio stations WESR 103.3, CTG 96.5 and HOT COUNTRY 99.3.

Join the Beat the Peak program today and help control your cooperative's cost of wholesale power and help save energy resources. When you sign up, you will receive an email and/or text message notifying you of an approaching peak period or time when we are purchasing wholesale power at the highest prices. Helping conserve energy during these peak times reduces the cooperative's energy costs and ultimately your energy costs.

## Essay Contest Deadline Is Dec. 6

**T**he annual essay contest to determine A&N Electric Cooperative's **Washington Youth Tour** and **VICE Conference representatives** began last month. The essay contest is open to all high school and home-school juniors living in the cooperative's service area.

The top two essays will be chosen from each school. One student from each school will be selected to attend the Washington Youth Tour in June and one student from each school will be selected to represent the cooperative at the VICE Conference in April.

Essay guidelines were sent to the guidance offices at each high school in October. Essay guidelines also can be found online at [anec.com/content/youth-tour](http://anec.com/content/youth-tour).

**The deadline for essay entrants is Dec. 6, 2019.**

Both conferences are at no cost to students who are selected through the essay contest. Travel to each conference is also provided by the cooperative.

For more information about the Youth Tour program and VICE Conference, visit [anec.com](http://anec.com) and look under the “Community” tab. To learn more about how you can participate in these programs, contact Youth Tour Coordinator Patsy Gourd at 757-787-9750, ext. 322.

## Updated Phone Records

A&N Electric Cooperative needs updated phone numbers from its members.

If a co-op member has changed phone numbers but has not informed the cooperative, their ability to report an outage may be affected.

The system the cooperative uses to predict outages utilizes member phone records to help locate issues with the cooperative's electrical distribution system. Out-of-date phone numbers listed on member accounts can impact that member's ability to report an outage.

If your phone number is different than the one originally associated with your A&N Electric Cooperative account, please call our office at 757-787-9750, option 2, to update that information.

The cooperative's Tasley office is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Advanced Metering Infrastructure Update

A&N Electric Cooperative's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system-upgrade deployment continues to move up the Eastern Shore.

The system's installation has been completed in Northampton County, and continues in Accomack County.

Meter deployment is expected to continue its south-to-north direction. Co-op members can expect to be contacted by telephone the week of their scheduled meter exchange.

The upgraded meter system will enable the cooperative to perform several functions, such as reading meters, assisting with outage restoration and will support additional value-added services for our members.

For more information, log onto [anec.com](http://anec.com).

## Christmas Card Contest Is Open

We are looking for young, talented artists to design the cooperative's next Christmas card. The A&N Electric Cooperative Christmas Card Contest is open now and will run until Tuesday, Dec. 31. Any school-age children (age 5-17) who live in the cooperative's service area are eligible to participate.

Submitted artwork should incorporate aspects of the cooperative and the holiday season. Art should be original and submitted on a standard piece of white 8.5-by-11-inch paper or 8.5-by-11-inch white construction paper. Art using crayons, colored pencils, ink or paint is acceptable. Please include the child's name and age on a separate piece of paper when submitting the artwork.

Last year's winner was Braleigh Green, who drew a picture of Santa Claus placing a star on a Christmas tree using an A&N Electric Cooperative bucket truck.



Entries can be mailed, unfolded, to the cooperative's headquarters at P.O. Box 290, Tasley, VA 23441. Artwork can also be delivered to the cooperative lobby in person.

The winner of the contest will be awarded a \$50 gift card, and their artwork will be used on the cover of the cooperative's Christmas cards next year.



## Putting The Power In Your Hands



**SmartHub makes it easy to manage and track your A&N Electric Cooperative account from your smartphone or mobile device.**



- Pay your bill
- Set bill reminders
- Schedule payments
- Report outages
- Check your daily and monthly energy use
- View your payment history



iOS Users



Android Users

Learn more at [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) or scan the QR code above to get started!



# Artisans Guild Holiday Tour Celebrates 17 Years

Just like turkey and sweet potato pie are Thanksgiving traditions, the Artisans Guild Holiday Tour is a tradition on Virginia's Eastern Shore. This year's tour will be celebrating 17 years and will feature nearly 50 artists in 17 locations from Cape Charles to Onancock.

This is a free, self-driving tour, leading attendees down country roads, into home studios and historic venues. The tour is held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 29, and Saturday, Nov. 30.

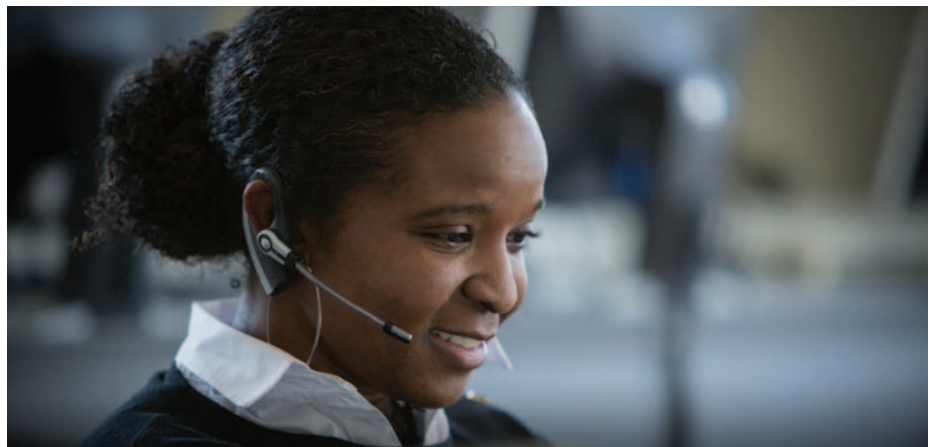
Juried artisans will be featured, such as Buck Doughty who cuts and welds metal into flowers, ospreys and depictions of skylines. Doughty along with Ray and Julita Wood from Gecko Pottery will be showing their work at Windsor House Gallery, just north of Cape Charles. Windsor House is the home gallery and studio of Kurt and Sally Lewin, crafters of 18th-century Windsor chairs and furniture.

Attendees also will visit with award-winning painters, glass blowers, sculptors, fiber artists and potters. Tour stops also include an alpaca farm and local winery.

A complete copy of the Artisans Guild Holiday Tour brochure is available online at [ESVAArtisansGuild.org](http://ESVAArtisansGuild.org) or by request at [info@ESVAArtisansGuild.org](mailto:info@ESVAArtisansGuild.org).



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## MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY

A&N Electric Cooperative will be conducting member satisfaction surveys in December with the help of TSE Services. Surveys will be conducted by phone and by email. Survey calls will originate from a call center in the "919" area code. Those who receive a survey by email will have an online survey link embedded in the email message.

# Solar Made Easy



**COOPERATIVE  
SUNSHARE™**

Cooperative Sunshare gives ANEC members the power to embrace even more clean, renewable energy.



Looking to take advantage of solar energy, but can't install panels on your property? Are the upfront and ongoing maintenance costs of a personal solar array holding you back? Cooperative Sunshare is designed for you.



Through Cooperative Sunshare, residential members may purchase 50-kilowatt-hour (kWh) blocks of solar energy.



A 50-kWh block is \$5.42, plus delivery costs. While higher than standard electricity, solar blocks will remain the same price for 3 years and are not subject to Power Cost Adjustments.



Log onto [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) or call us at 787-9750 to learn more.

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