



www.fairfield.coop

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 2500
 Blythewood, SC 29016

BLYTHEWOOD OFFICE

701 Blythewood Road
 Blythewood, SC 29016

WINNSBORO OFFICE

3129 U.S. Hwy. 321 North Winnsboro,
 SC 29180

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m.–5 p.m.
 Monday through Friday

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Toll Free: (800) 628-0336
 Blythewood: (803) 754-0153
 Winnsboro: (803) 635-4621
 Camden and Lugoff: (803) 425-1059

POWER OUTAGE REPORTING ONLY

(800) 499-7862
 Outages are handled by an automated outage reporting system. Please follow instructions. The system will automatically report the outage and a crew will be dispatched.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



TREEMendUs back by popular demand

YOU DEPEND ON Fairfield Electric to deliver you with reliable power, and we take that responsibility seriously. One major component of providing reliable service and reducing outages is right-of-way maintenance. We have a comprehensive right-of-way maintenance program, which includes side trimming limbs next to power lines and controlling the growth underneath power lines by mowing.

In an effort to replace some of the trees we must cut in right-of-way construction and maintenance, we are bringing back our TREEMendUs program. We launched the TREEMendUs initiative in the fall of 2020, giving away Crape Myrtle seedlings to members. In the spring of 2022, we followed up with Dogwood seedlings.

This year we will be giving away free Crape Myrtle seedlings to our members. Pick up will be on Sept. 28. The seedlings will be available on a first come, first served basis. There will be a limit of two seedlings per member. Please see the information below on how to reserve your seedlings.

The seedlings will be small, so you may want to transfer them to a larger container for a year or two before planting. Crape Myrtles grow approximately 20 feet in height with a spread of 12 to 15 feet.

When planting trees, always plant them at least 20 feet away from power lines. Before planting a tree, take into consideration how tall the tree will be and the spread of the tree. If you plant it too close to a power line, it will eventually have to be trimmed.

Trees are important to our environment, and I encourage you to plant a tree.

BRUCE G. BACON

Chief Executive Officer

Free Crape Myrtle seedlings

Thursday, Sept. 28
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Pick up at Fairfield Electric's
 Blythewood office**

To reserve your seedlings, please visit fairfield.coop/treemendus and fill out the online request form or call (803) 754-0153 to speak with a customer service representative. We will ask for your contact information so we can send you a reminder a few days before the event.

A limit of two seedlings per member. Available on a first come, first served basis.



Local students have capital experiences

BY JOSH P. CROTZER

THROUGHOUT MUCH OF her trip to Washington, D.C., Dayahna Myers was on her phone, sharing every detail with her family back home in Ridgeway.

“My mom and my aunt have never been able to come here,” says Myers, a senior at Fairfield Central High School. “They love politics and history, so I called them and told them about what we were doing and what I was seeing.”

Myers and three other local students sponsored by Fairfield Electric Cooperative—Karla Pickett and Anjie Pratt of Fairfield Central High and Lily Baggott of Richard Winn Academy—were seeing and sharing a lot from the Washington Youth Tour, an all-expenses-paid trip to the nation’s capital. They joined 55 other delegates from across South Carolina on visits to historical and educational sites such as George Washington’s Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, the National Mall and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

At Mt. Vernon, Baggott participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Slave Memorial. Baggott read the story of one of the slaves buried there.

“There were so many different individual stories, and I was able to pick

one,” says Baggott. “It was special to be able to give a voice to people that didn’t have one at that time.”

In addition to the museums, memorials and monuments, the students spent a day at the U.S. Capitol Building where they toured the complex, visited Congressional offices and met with staff members. U.S. Rep. Ralph Norman and members of U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham’s staff spent time answering the students’ questions on the Capitol steps.

Fairfield Electric sponsored another four students on the Cooperative Youth Summit. Grant Taylor and Charlie Bonds of Richard Winn Academy, Madeline Rambo of Jackson Creek Academy and D’Asia Kennedy of Fairfield Central High School were among 45 delegates from across the state that toured the State House grounds, met Gov. Henry McMaster, created their own podcasts and visited Newberry Electric Cooperative.

Throughout both trips, the students participated in the Soda Pop Co-op, which sold snacks and beverages. Some students served as one of the cooperative’s board members. Others were a part of the management team. All students received cash back as their



PHOTOS BY JOSH P. CROTZER

Fairfield Electric student delegates Dayahna Myers, Anjie Pratt, Karla Pickett and Lily Baggott visited Rep. Ralph Norman’s office while at the Capital.



Grant Taylor, D’Asia Kennedy, Madeline Rambo and Charlie Bonds visited the South Carolina State House where they met Gov. Henry McMaster and sat at his desk.

share of the end of the trip margins. The exercise allowed the students to learn first-hand how the not-for-profit co-op business model works.

Do you know a young, creative mind?

DO YOU KNOW ANY creative writers or artists in the fourth or fifth grade?

If so, encourage them to enter Fairfield Electric’s Children’s Book Challenge. They could become published authors by next summer!

Sponsored by South Carolina’s electric cooperatives, the EnlightenSC Children’s Book Challenge gives fourth and fifth grade students the opportunity to write and illustrate a book while learning about energy, their environment and community. It’s also a great opportunity for classrooms to meet multiple state education standards in art, science, language arts and social studies.

In addition, students and their teachers can win cash prizes, have their books distributed to schools across the state and be recognized at the South Carolina Statehouse. Winners are selected and awarded prize money at the local level. All local winners are automatically entered for a chance to win the statewide prize of \$500. Statewide winning books are printed and shared with elementary school libraries in South Carolina.

Go to enlightensc.org/book to learn more about the program and to register. The deadline for teachers to register their students is Nov. 10.



JOSH P. CROTZER

Local student Aydin Soner (middle) won last year’s Children’s Book Challenge. He was recognized at the State House by (from left) Sen. Mike Fanning, Sen. Thomas McElveen and Sen. Mia McCloud. His book *Captain Co-op, the New Assistant & the Tornado*, was published and distributed to elementary schools across the state.