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Westminster, SC 29693

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Anderson, SC 29622

Greenville
3751 Highway 11
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

Mission Statement
Blue Ridge will be a competitive, quality provider of energy and other services, maintaining its history of integrity and adapting to the challenges of a changing world. While exercising leadership in the community, the organization's focus will be on exceeding customer expectations.

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

President's report

The Co-op Connections Card is a winner

IN LATE MAY of last year, Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative introduced a program that has received quite an enthusiastic response from



many of our members. The Co-op Connections Card offers attractive user discounts from numerous retail establishments here in our service area and all across America.

National chains, as well as locally owned businesses, participate in the Co-op Connections program. Blue Ridge members can benefit from discounts at restaurants, hotels and motels, home and garden stores, movie theatres, and a host of other retailers.

Pharmacy savings of \$430,000

Our members have shown particular interest in taking advantage of savings on prescription medicines that are available through the program. In just the first 14 months, Blue Ridge members have realized total pharmacy discounts of more than \$430,000. I've had members tell me their prescription savings—which have averaged better than 38 percent—are equivalent to receiving a nice reduction in the price they pay the co-op for electricity.

The Co-op Connections Card is accepted at more than 56,000 retail pharmacies nationwide. Participating pharmacies include CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Target, and many others.

One detail should be kept in mind: members cannot use their card in conjunction with insurance

to purchase prescription drugs. The pharmacy discounts are not insurance and aren't intended as a substitute for an insurance plan.

Blue Ridge provides the Co-op Connections Card to all our members at no cost. In other words, there's no introductory or annual fee for possessing the card.

Lost your Co-op Connections Card?

The cooperative has made an effort to put the Co-op Connections Card into the hands of everyone we serve. However, if you don't have one or have lost yours, please call our customer service center at 1-800-240-3400.

You also have the option of E-mailing us at info@blueridge.coop. In addition, you can log on to www.blueridge.coop to see a complete list of participating businesses and discount offerings.

Blue Ridge and its employees strive to put value on the line for all our members. The Co-op Connections Card is one of those value-added services I hope even more members will come to appreciate.



Charles E. Dalton
President and CEO



Blue Ridge Fest surpasses \$1,000,000 in charitable giving



Blue Ridge Electric employees Terry Ballenger and Rex Ramsay presented a check in the amount of \$11,000 to Vicki Thompson, executive director, and Ken Nix, board chairman, of Rosa Clark Medical Clinic. Blue Ridge Fest sponsors Larry Davis of Davis Electrical and Plumbing, Inc., Joe Sellers of Allied Tree Service, Inc. and Andy Campbell of Chick-fil-A of Seneca also joined in the presentation.

FOLLOWING A RECORD-BREAKING year for Blue Ridge Fest, 13 charities received \$151,000 to assist them with their work in local communities throughout the Upstate. In 13 years, \$1.2 million has been given to local agencies serving children, the elderly, individuals and families.

Blue Ridge employee Liza Holder was present for the check presentations and heard the many expressions of thanks and continued need. "It's so rewarding to think that with the support of our sponsors, employees and attendees, we're able to continue to give in excess of \$10,000 to each of the agencies we support. The needs are so great in our communities and many of these organizations have very limited funds. The checks we delivered enabled several of them to continue their work instead of closing

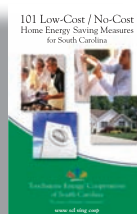
their doors."

This year's recipients included Foothills Alliance, Golden Corner Food Bank, Haven of Rest Ministries, Helping Hands of Clemson, Mary's House, Miracle Hill Children's Home, Prevent Child Abuse of Pickens County, Residential Service Parent & Family Club, Rosa Clark Medical Association, Sabrina House Children's Charity, Samaritan Health Clinic of Pickens County, Shriners Hospital for Children, and Tamassee DAR School.

Summer highs push cooling costs higher

Temperatures were high last month but Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative doesn't want members to get caught off-guard by higher-than-normal bills.

"Air conditioners have to



run longer and work harder to maintain indoor comfort in that kind of heat," notes Mike Carson, co-op energy advisor. "High humidity makes them work even harder.

"That's why we recommend thermostat settings of 78 F or higher

in summer. For every degree higher you set the thermostat, you can gain as much as a three-percent savings in energy costs."

The co-op offers more tips in its free booklet, *101 Low-Cost/No-Cost Home Energy-Saving Measures for South Carolina*, available at Blue Ridge Electric's offices and online at blueridge.coop.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative Equipment Facility
734 West Main Street • Pickens, SC
Saturday, September 25, 10 A.M.
Preview: Friday, September 24, 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

VEHICLES

- ▶ **2004 FORD F-250 XL 4X4 REGULAR CAB LONG BED TRUCK WITH A/T, A/C, 351 V-8**
- ▶ **2 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 4X4 REGULAR CAB FLEETSIDE 6' BED TRUCKS WITH A/T, A/C AND V-8. 1-2001, 1- 2004**
- ▶ **1996 FORD F-150 XL, 4X4 REGULAR CAB FLEETSIDE 6' BED TRUCK WITH V-8 MOTOR, A/T AND A/C**
- ▶ **2001 DODGE RAM 1500 4X4 V-8 MOTOR REGULAR CAB & FLEETSIDE 6-FOOT BED PICKUP TRUCK WITH A/T & A/C (NEEDS MECHANICAL REPAIRS)**
- ▶ **1997 CHEVROLET CHEYENNE 1500 4X4 EXTENDED-CAB FLEETSIDE 6.5' BED PICKUP TRUCK WITH A/T, A/C AND V-8**
- ▶ **1999 GMC-SL SILVERADO 1500 2X2 EXTENDED CAB FLEETSIDE 6.5' BED PICKUP TRUCK WITH A/T, A/C & V-8**

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