

## IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE

**Have you ever come home to find your digital clocks flashing "12:00"?**

**It's caused by a power blink - a brief interruption that's designed to prevent a longer power outage.**

Power blinks have always been a part of electric service – they just weren't as noticeable until sensitive electronics began filling our homes.

Blinks occur when an obstruction, like a tree limb, comes into contact with a power line or transformer. To prevent damage to the utility system or your home, a circuit breaker interrupts the electricity for a fraction of a second.

If the limb remains on the line, the breaker opens and tries

to reclose again. If the obstruction is still on the line after the third try, the breaker opens and does not reclose automatically.

At this point, a utility worker must be dispatched to remove the obstruction and manually reset the breaker.

Power blinks rarely cause damage to equipment. Older digital clocks and other devices are the most vulnerable to blinks; newer models are designed to ride out these small voltage fluctuations.



## Operation RoundUp grant winners announced

\$8,000 in grants for 4th Quarter were awarded **October 10, 2007 to:**

1. The Salvation Army, Henderson, for its Food Pantry
2. The Assistance League of the Triangle Area, Raleigh, for children's clothing
3. The N.C. Special Olympics, Morrisville, for 2008 Summer Games
4. Camp Kanata YMCA, Wake Forest, to sponsor 5 campers for one week
5. Franklin County Social Services, Louisburg, for its Food Pantry

Non-profit organizations in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Wake and Vance counties are invited to submit grant applications to Wake Electric Membership Corporation's Operation RoundUp program. WEMC's

Wake Electric Foundation board is considering grant requests for non-profits that:

- serve a broad range of individuals
- use funds for educational, charitable, or economic development purposes.

Grant requests can be made for up to \$5,000 and are given out in January, April, July, and October. The next grant application deadline is Friday, December 14, 2007 at 5 p.m.

The funds for the Operation RoundUp grants come from WEMC members who agree to round up their light bill to the nearest whole dollar. For example, if the bill is \$84.91 – the bill will be rounded up 9 cents to \$85.00.

In order to receive an application, sign-up to contribute to RoundUp, or learn if your organization qualifies to apply, visit our website at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com).

## Classroom Technology Award winners announced

As part of our commitment to the communities we serve, each year Wake Electric awards grants to teachers to purchase new technology for their classrooms. Under the Classroom Technology Awards program, teachers apply for funds to purchase technology such as computers, digital cameras, scanners and software. The technology must benefit the students in the classroom. Public school teachers in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake counties are eligible to apply.



\$20,000 in grants were awarded to the following teachers this year:

- Arthur Barham, East Cary Year Round Middle School, Wake County, for the project “Science Court.”
- William Brooks, East Millbrook Magnet Middle School, Wake County, for the project “Integrating Technology Through Use of Multimedia Activities.”
- Sherry Cataldo, Oak Grove Elementary School, Wake County, for the project “Embossing Technology.”
- Elizabeth Cooper, Oak Grove Elementary School, Wake County, for the project “Hidden Letters of the Alphabet.”
- Stephen Elrod, Wake Forest Elementary, Wake County, for the project “SMART Kids.”
- Susan Evans, Panther Creek High School, Wake County, for the project “DECA.”
- Roxanne Gallup, Royal Elementary School, Franklin County, for the project “Young Authors at Work.”
- Deborah Gaul, South Granville School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Granville County, for the project “Picture This.”
- Roland Hill Green, Sanderson High School, Wake County, for the project “Public Service Announcements.”
- Charlotte Harris, Terrell Lane Middle School, Franklin County, for the project “Let’s Connect to Technology.”
- Christa Hayden, Wakefield High, Wake County, for the project “All About Foods and Nutrition.”
- Rustyn Hyams, Lacy Elementary, Wake County, for the project “Digitize Our Kindergarten.”
- Tommy Kemp, Franklinton High School, Franklin County, for the project “Completing the Senior Project Puzzle!”
- Michelle McGhee, Franklinton Elementary, Franklin County, for the project “FES-Ed-Caching.”
- Rhesia Mitchell, Forestville Road Elementary, Wake County, for the project “Super Size.”
- Carol Nata, Leesville Road High School, Wake County, for the project “Day-to-Day Mathematics.”
- Libby Newton, Sanford Creek, Wake County, for the project “Look How We Are Learning.”
- Barbara Nicholl, South Johnston High School, Johnston County, for the project “Functions for Your Future.”
- William Norton, East Wake Academy, Wake County, for the project “Academic Technology.”
- Deborah Nowell, Northern High School, Durham County, for the project “Workin’ It! Exchange with Holmes High School.”
- Jessica Oertling, Oak Grove Elementary School, Wake County, for the project “Project Projector.”
- Heather Shipley, Youngsville Elementary School, Franklin County, for the project “Online Student Newspaper.”
- Suzanne Tilton, Oak Grove Elementary School, Wake County, for the project “Talking Books and Lifecycles.”
- Karen Waller, Timber Drive Elementary, Wake County, for the project “Photo Shoot, Here We Come!”
- Martha Worsley, Athens Drive High School, Wake County, for the project “Sew Unique.”

Funding for community projects are made possible by Wake Electric member-consumers and Wake Electric employees through the Operation Roundup Program. Members elect to have their light bill rounded up to the next whole dollar. For example, if the bill is \$85.91 - the bill will be rounded up 9 cents to \$86.00.

**Stay tuned for scholarship applications for students whose parents/guardians are members of Wake Electric. Applications will be on-line in January 2008.**

**Students who make at least one  
“A” on their report card  
can enter by December 21  
to win a  
\$50 U.S. Savings Bond!**

That’s right. Any student making at least one “A” (or the equivalent) in grades K-12 whose parents or legal guardians live in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Wake, or Vance counties, can enter a drawing to win a \$50 U.S. savings bond. All you need to do is mail in your most recent report card highlighting the “A” by no later than Dec. 21. Mail to:



Give Us an “A”  
Wake Electric  
P.O. Box 1229  
Wake Forest, NC 27588

Funds are made possible through member contributions to Operation RoundUp. Through the Operation RoundUp program, members have their light bill rounded up to the next whole dollar. For example, if your light bill is \$91.85, then your bill is rounded up 15 cents to \$92.00.

For information on rolling deadlines and requirements or about Operation RoundUp, go to [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com) or call 919.863.6376 or 1.800.474.6300.

**With the holidays coming, Wake  
Electric wants you to give you  
one less thing to worry about.**

Wake Electric knows how busy the holidays can be for you and your family. And we want to make sure that paying your bills is as simple and quick as possible.

That’s why we are encouraging you to sign up for use of your bank’s on-line bill payment service to consolidate all of your bill paying on one site.

Just go to your bank’s website and follow the links to set up on-line bill pay. You can set up your account to pay most of your monthly bills on a date specified by you and for an amount specified by you.

This season, you won’t have to take a trip to the busy post office or worry about a late payment when it comes to bill paying.

For other options to make bill paying easier, be sure to check out the details on the front and back of your most recent electric bill. You’ll find ways to sign up for automatic bank draft service or to sign up for budget billing.

For more information, visit our website at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com).

So go ahead. Worry about the turkey and dressing. Put up those holiday decorations. Buy those presents. Hang those twinkling lights.

And let your bank worry about those bills.



**To learn about all of our available grants, scholarships, community giving programs, bill payment options, FREE on-line home energy audit, and much, much more, be sure to visit our website today at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com).**

## Apple butter pumpkin pie



This interesting twist on a traditional Thanksgiving dessert is sure to be a crowd pleaser. Courtesy of Paula Deen.

1 cup apple butter  
 1 cup fresh or canned pumpkin  
 1/2 cup packed brown sugar  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
 3/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
 1/8 teaspoon ground ginger  
 3 eggs, slightly beaten  
 3/4 cup evaporated milk  
 1 unbaked 9-inch pie shell  
 Sweetened whipped cream, for garnish

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.

Combine apple butter, pumpkin, sugar, salt and spices in a bowl. Stir in eggs. Gradually add milk and mix well. Pour into pie shell. Bake for about 40 minutes or until set.

### Cook's Notes:

- If the crust begins to burn, place tin foil around the crust and lower the temperature of the oven.
- A tasty topping for this pie is praline pecans.

## How will climate change affect your electric bill?

In the next several issues of your member newsletter, Wake Electric will address how the climate change debate is affecting the energy industry and how it will ultimately affect you, the member.



Whatever your thoughts are on climate change, we think the political and media debates are essentially over. Our elected representatives have decided that these issues are important and consequently, so must we.

Communicating through your newsletter, Wake Electric will explain what the specific issues are affecting the cooperative and offer suggestions and alternatives for how you can live more energy efficiently. These suggestions and alternatives will mean that not only will you help conservation efforts, but you will save money on your electric bill. For more information on how you can save now on your electric bill, be sure to visit our website at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com) and perform a FREE on-line home energy audit.

## Holiday closing

All Wake Electric offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on November 22—23.

Regular office hours will resume on Monday, Nov. 26



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