



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



Mark your calendar for these spring events

Magnolia Beef and Poultry Expo

Thursday, April 8

Smith County Ag Complex, Raleigh

Beef and poultry producers will benefit from the variety of information to be presented at this year's expo. The event will offer educational seminars on the latest topics of interest to producers, and host a trade show featuring tractors, farm equipment, pharmaceutical distributors, feed distributors, livestock trailers, ATVs, trucks and poultry equipment.

Door prizes will be given away during each seminar, and a grand door prize drawing will be held for participants attending two of the three educational seminars.

The expo is sponsored by the Mississippi State University Extension

Service and Community Bank. Hours are 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information, contact your county Extension office or Community Bank.

Jazz in the Grove

Saturday, April 24

Downtown Bay Springs

Pack a quilt and lawn chairs and head for the cool sounds of jazz filling the air at Jazz in the Grove.

A hot-air balloon lift-off opens the festival at 10:30 a.m. The Southern Miss Jazz Lab 1 with Ernest Turner on piano performs at 11 a.m., followed by the Steve Hobbs Quartet at 12:15 p.m., The Four Freshmen at 2:15 p.m. and the Tatiana Mayfield Quintet with Erskine Hawkins at 4 p.m.

Other attractions include arts and crafts, food and street musicians. Admission is free.

For more information, call (800) 898-2782 or visit jazzinthegrove.net.

Ninth Annual Morton Day in the Park

Saturday, May 1

Farris Municipal Park, Morton

This full day of fun starts in the park at 8 a.m. Scheduled events include a 5K run/walk, arts and crafts vendors, local entertainment, food vendors and activities for children.

Also on tap are an antique tractor display, domino tournament, political speaking and door prize drawings.

Admission is \$2.

The Bellamy Brothers perform in concert at 8 p.m.

For more information, call Morton City Hall at (601) 732-6252.

21st Annual Okatoma Festival

Saturday, May 1

Historic Courthouse, Downtown Collins

This festival's theme, "Reconnect," highlights the rich heritage and diversity of the towns of Collins, Mt. Olive and Seminary, all located in Covington County.

Events begin at 8 a.m. with a 5K run/walk and 1-mile children's fun run, followed by a parade at 10:30 a.m. Activities include arts and crafts vendors, food booths, art show and sale, quilt exhibit, antique car show, children's park, fair rides, health fair, canoe race, live entertainment and more.

The festival concludes with a street dance from 6 until 10 p.m. with music by the Cowboy Blues Band. Admission is free.

For details, call the Covington County Chamber of Commerce at (601) 765-6012.



Mabry Ely and Tiffany Maddox pose with their state legislators and Southern Pine General Manager Don Jordan during a breakfast at the Youth Leadership Workshop. From left are Rep. Andy Gipson, Tiffany Maddox, Don Jordan, Mabry Ely, Rep. Blaine H. Eaton and Sen. Haskins Montgomery.

Two rising high school juniors represented Southern Pine Electric Power Association at the 2010 Electric Power Associations of Mississippi Youth Leadership Workshop.

Mabry Ely, of Raleigh, and Tiffany Maddox, of Magee, joined 58 other juniors from across the state at the annual three-day workshop, held March 3-5 in Jackson.

The students took part in activities designed to help motivate and prepare them for leadership roles in their school, church and community. The workshop also provided opportunities to hear motivational speakers, meet their legislators and watch the House and Senate in session at the state Capitol.

Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant was the keynote speaker at the workshop.

Mabry, the daughter of Lee and Tonja Ely, attends Raleigh High School. Her activities include membership in the varsity cheerleading squad, the Lady Lions fastpitch softball team, the Lion Pride Marching Band, Beta Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Leadership Team. She was part of a Beta Club team that placed second in the nation in the Special Talent Division.

She plans to study secondary education, English and music at the University of Southern Mississippi.

"The teachers of Raleigh High School have provided me with an excellent education, and I hope I can one day provide my students with an education much like I have been given," Mabry said.

Tiffany, the daughter of Steve and Pam Maddox, attends Magee High School, where she is a member of the junior class student council and served as a drum major for the Magee High School Band during marching season.

An honor student, Tiffany plays bass clarinet in her school's concert band and recently participated in three band clinics.

"After high school, I plan on going to Jones Junior College and then on to medical school to study to become a neonatal doctor in the ICU with newborns," she said.

Tiffany enjoys traveling, singing and



Essay excerpts

Mabry Ely and Tiffany Maddox earned their participation in the Youth Leadership Workshop by writing the winning entries in Southern Pine Electric Power Association's essay contest. Here are a few excerpts:

Once the need to save money due to the current economical situations began to take a toll on our household, my parents researched ways to save electricity and came across the idea of decreasing "phantom power." Lowering our usage of phantom power sources—such as leaving the computer on, keeping phone chargers plugged in and letting radios play all day—became a priority in our efforts to save just the smallest amount of money. Because of our attempts...we have ultimately saved money handy for paying bills and such.

— Mabry Ely, Raleigh

By conserving electricity, consumers can help themselves as well as the economy. Turning off lights and unplugging unused household items can conserve a tremendous amount of electricity.... Just because we are not using the items does not mean that they are not using up electricity.... It is up to each of us to conserve energy and become more energy efficient.

— Tiffany Maddox, Magee

spending time with her family. She works summers with her father on the family's farm, helping gather and sell watermelons, tomatoes, cataloupes and other produce.

Other participants in Southern Pine's Youth Leadership essay contest are Devin Stewart, McLaurin Attendance Center; Claressa Youngblood, Morton High School; Ashlea Sledge, Puckett Attendance Center; Clayton Christian, East Rankin Academy; Amanda Regan Byrd, Florence High School; Ellen

Husbands, Pearl High School; Michelle Howard, Wesson Attendance Center; Courtney Durr, Prentiss High School; Wendy Sumrall, Mt. Olive High School; Katie Everett, Presbyterian Christian School; Olivia Brown, Collins High School; Julie Underwood, Mize Attendance Center; Kelly McCain, Simpson County Academy; Rachaud Keyes, Taylorsville High School; and Zachary Brown, String Attendance Center.

Clip and SOUND OFF!

Do you have a comment or suggestion concerning your electric service from Southern Pine Electric Power Association? Have a question about electric utility restructuring? We want to know! Tell us on this form, then mail it to Don Jordan, General Manager, Southern Pine Electric Power Association, P.O. Box 60, Taylorsville, MS 39168.

Please write your Southern Pine account number below. We appreciate your helping us serve you better. Southern Pine is a consumer-owned electric cooperative, dedicated to serving you reliably and safely.

We need your phone number

It is important for Southern Pine to have a current contact number for your account. We will use the number when we need to contact you during emergency situations and to respond to your account inquires.

Please check your next Southern Pine bill to verify we have your current phone number. If not, please write it on your bill or report it to the district office that serves you.