

December
AROUND TOWN CALENDAR

5

Mt. Zion
4th Annual
Christmas
Celebration

4 to 8 p.m. Mt. Zion
Church Road (by
the Apple Basket),
Mechanicsville.

301-884-9539
mtzionmech.org

Sponsor: Mt. Zion
United Methodist
Church

December 25:
Christmas Day
January 1: New
Year's Day
SMECO offices closed.
Customer Care Center
is available 24/7.
1-888-440-3311
smeco.coop

Find more events
at [smeco.coop/
aroundtown](http://smeco.coop/aroundtown). Due to the
COVID-19 outbreak,
some events may be
cancelled or postponed.

Select a beneficiary for your capital credits

SMECO is instituting a new feature for its residential members that will make it easier for your heirs to claim your capital credits. You may now name a beneficiary to receive your capital credits upon your death.

Complete the SMECO Capital Credits Beneficiary Designation form and we will keep the information on file. Upon your death, the beneficiary you have named on the form may claim the capital credits in your account. By naming your beneficiary, capital credit funds will not be tied to your estate; they will be paid directly to your beneficiary.

Complete the form online at [smeco.coop/
beneficiary](http://smeco.coop/beneficiary). You will need to include your SMECO account number. Remember to keep a copy for your records and include it with your important papers.

For more information, visit [smeco.coop/
Capital-Credits](http://smeco.coop/Capital-Credits).

One dollar a month will help a neighbor

We know that part of being a good neighbor is to lend a hand when needed, and we know our members share this charitable spirit, especially during the holidays.

For people who have fallen on hard times, having enough money to pay past due electric bills can make a big difference in their lives. Because of the pandemic, many local families have been hit especially hard.

By contributing to Members Helping Members, you can help your neighbors keep their lights on.

How do I help?

It's easy! Simply sign up to add \$1, \$5, or \$10 to your SMECO electric bill every month.

Each month, donations are sent to the Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, which will administer the funds to those members who seek aid and meet the qualifications.

Get a gift.

As a thank you to neighbors who lend a hand, members who sign up between **November 1, 2020**, and **February 15, 2021**, will receive a free long-sleeved t-shirt as a reward for giving.

How do I participate?

If you would like to donate money to help your neighbors keep their lights on, you can enroll in Members Helping Members in several convenient ways:

- Call **1-888-440-3311**.
- Go to smeco.coop/mhm.

Nominate an outstanding teacher for 2021

Each year, SMECO works with the school systems of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties to select and honor educators with Outstanding Teacher awards for their leadership in the fields of mathematics, science, technology, and engineering.

If you know any outstanding science, mathematics or STEM teachers, invite them to submit an application to SMECO for consideration.

Nominated teachers should submit their packets by Friday, January 29, 2021.


Each winning teacher will receive a cash award of \$500 for his or her personal use.

Learn more about the submission criteria and download an application at smeco.coop/teachers.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heating requires more energy than any other system in your home, typically making up about 42 percent of your energy bill. With proper equipment maintenance and upgrades like additional insulation and air sealing, you can save about 30 percent on your energy bill.

Source: energy.gov





- 1 Keep the holidays safe.
- 2 Prepare for higher electric bills as the weather gets colder.
- 3 Select a beneficiary for your capital credits.
- 4 One dollar a month will help a neighbor.
- 5 Nominate an outstanding teacher for 2021.
- 6 Energy efficiency tip: proper equipment maintenance, adequate insulation, and air sealing can help you save.

