

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Bedford REC

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Bedford, PA 15522

814-623-5101

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Website: www.bedfordrec.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Attorney

James R. Cascio

Office Hours

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

From the General Manager



Season's greetings

By Brooks Shoemaker

Season's Greetings from all of us at Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

Board of Directors: Bob Koontz, Don Hoenstine, Ronald Wilkins, Reuben Lafferty, Earl Garland, Paul Rummel Jr., Brian Hoover, John Oldham, Dale Sprigg II

Employees: Dave Allison, Corinna Browell, Landon Clark, Lacy Decker, Nathaniel Dell, Sara Detweiler, Gary Diehl, Emile Feuillet, Kathy Gates, Brad Glessner, Ed Hankinson, Al Hileman, Brent Kauffman, Gary Lafferty, Tim Mellott, Wade Mellott, Greg Miller, Curtis Mitchell, Troy Mock, Dawn Mowery, Jenna Reffner, Jim Seymour, Brooks Shoemaker, Scott Shook, Mike Sleighter, Becky Truax, Christie Weaverling, Cindy Wise, Ryan Young



Bedford REC will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 25, for Christmas and Tuesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day

Pink Ribbon Fund aids breast cancer victims

By Linda Williams

IN THE spring of 2017, a group of Bedford breast cancer survivors and supporters decided to start their own grassroots charity known as the Pink Ribbon Fund. The American Cancer Society had asked Bedford County to consolidate with Blair County for the annual walk to raise funds for breast cancer research, but the decision was made to stay local.



VOLUNTEER AT WORK: Sue Ellen Shoup is one of the organizers of the event that was chaired by Mick Gordon.

This Christmas season, it is a good time to remember those we have lost to this dreaded disease by contributing in memory or honor of a loved one.

Under the leadership of Katherine Erlichman, Sue Ellen Shoup, Brandi Hershey and dozens of volunteers, the group raised \$55,000 in its first year. One hundred percent of the money raised remains local.

The project took off with individuals and businesses supporting the project in a myriad of ways.

“People would walk into the office and hand me a check,” says Erlichman, a local doctor who specializes in ophthalmology.

A local beautician, Bev Williamson, volunteered to cut and style wigs at no charge for those who went through hair loss during cancer treatment. Julie’s Wearable Arts has pink ribbon specials; Twisted Trout sold pink martinis with profits going to the Pink Ribbon Fund. Thomas Chevrolet gave away shirts and held a fall wreath-making workshop. Bedford Candies had pink popcorn and candy specials. The Bedford cheerleaders collected funds from a football crowd and declared it Pink Ribbon Night.

Mick Gordon headed up a Pink Jail Event, where local, well-known folks were good naturedly thrown into a public jail until they could raise enough funds for bail.

“People have always been generous with the cancer benefits, but it was felt that not enough was coming back to the area,” Erlichman says. “We knew people had needs and nowhere to turn.”

Sometimes, cancer patients have large deductibles that must be met before their health insurance kicks in. There are also patients who have to at least temporarily quit working, which causes bills to mount. Transportation for treatment or to see specialists can be costly, and some patients want to purchase wigs or have other special needs.

One lady came to Erlichman’s office in tears, saying she needed \$2,000 for her insurance deductible before she could receive treatment. Sick, tired, and without funds, she heard of the Pink Ribbon Fund and decided to ask.

“I was so happy to be able to get her a check,” Erlichman says.

All funds must be paid directly to the payee. For instance, if you need a check for an insurance deductible, it will be paid to directly to the hospital or doctor. If people need financial help with bills for groceries, the electric company



GET OUT OF JAIL: Marian Riedling of Pittsburgh helps out her friend, Sue Ellen Shoup, by volunteering to go to jail. The event was held at the Chamber of Commerce.

or fuel oil supplier, the check will go directly to the company.

Cancer patients who are in need of funds or other help should contact Hershey, chairman of the Allocation Committee. Hershey, a local attorney, can be reached at BHershey@Hershey-lawoffice.com. There is a one-page



WALKING TO BEAT CANCER: Cheerleaders from Everett lead the walk to the Bedford Springs on Oct. 20.



MAMMOGRAMS FOR ALL: Katherine Erlichman and Brandi Hershey man the tables at the mammography walk-in at the UPMC Bedford Memorial Hospital on Oct. 23.

application for those requesting assistance and it can be returned by mail, fax, or email. Erlichman says that as the group's funds increase, they hope to be able to help people with all types of cancer.

Kenneth Shoup, husband of Sue Ellen, volunteers to drive women to treatments as needed. UPMC has a van that also transports patients to treatment, but it makes stops all over the county



ON THE WAY TO JAIL: Sheriff Brandon Snyder handcuffs Leah Pepple.

and for some it is not possible to spend that much time on the road.

During October, local residents were hard at work putting more funding into this 100 percent local charity. The Pink Jail Event was held Oct. 17, which was a bright and sunny fall day that offered lots of laughs as local, well-known residents and total strangers were hauled into jail by a sheriff wearing an oversized pink hat. Committee Chairman Mick Gordon reports the event raised more than \$14,000 in that single day.

Marian Riedling, a part-time resident of Friendship Village from Pittsburgh, volunteered to help out when hearing about the venture from her friend, Sue Ellen Shoup.

On Oct. 20, there was a 5K walk and run led by Sue Ellen Shoup, who, like Erlichman, is a two-time breast cancer survivor. Participants of all ages walked from Bedford Middle School to Omni Bedford Springs.

On Oct. 23, yet another important event sponsored by the Pink Ribbon Fund was held at Bedford UPMC. Women were urged to come for mammograms. Those without insurance were given free mammograms, while

DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD BANKS

Bedford Rural Electric directors and employees are asking the members to join in and make donations to the area food banks. Those wishing to donate items should bring them to the Bedford Rural Electric office on Lincoln Highway before Dec. 18, 2018.

Items needed include: canned goods, paper products, soap and other hygiene-related items, food products such as noodles, cake mixes, spaghetti, or boxed foods of any kind. The items will be donated to

local food banks throughout the county.

Your help and kindness will be appreciated during this holiday season.

Anyone making a donation will have their name entered for a \$25 gift certificate toward their electric bill.



those with insurance could forgo any copays.

In addition to mammograms, women were provided with information and personal items.

Donations for 2018 for the Pink Ribbon Fund will be accepted through December. For information, check out Bedfordcountypinkribbon.com online.

Sponsors for Pink Ribbon events are: Pennwood Ophthalmic Associates, Checkered Flag, Bedford Elks, Somerset Trust, Bedford Rotary, Omni Bedford Springs, Thomas Chevrolet, CPSE, Martini Bar and Restaurant, Bitner Family Gateway, Howard Hannah Bardell Realty, Beene Creative Designs, Weis, DJS Shane Imler, and Dan Wakefield, Snyder Bus Lines. ☀

OUTAGE REPORTING

In case of an outage...

- 1** Check your fuses or circuit breakers.
- 2** Check with your neighbors, if convenient, to see if they have been affected by the power failure.
- 3** Call the 24-hour number, 623-7568, OR call 800-808-2732* during office hours.

**(Please help us save money – only use this number if toll charges apply.)*

Please give the person receiving the call your name as it appears on your bill, your telephone number and your map number if known. Any specific information about the outage will also be helpful in pinpointing the problem.

**To report an outage call:
(814) 623-7568**

During widespread power outages, many members are calling to report power failures. You may receive a busy signal, or in certain cases your call may go unanswered. This occurs in after-hours outages when the office is not fully staffed. Please be patient, and try again in a few minutes.



**Bedford Rural Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

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P.O. Box 335 • 8846 Lincoln Highway • Bedford, PA 15522
Phone 814.623.5101 • FAX 814.623.7983 • www.bedfordrec.com

APPLIANCE REBATE APPLICATION:

Submit completed rebate form and copy of sales receipt to:
Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Attn: Appliance Rebate (Member Services)
P.O. Box 335 ~ 8846 Lincoln Hwy
Bedford, PA 15522

Member Information

Member Name: _____ Date Installed: _____
Address (where installed): _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Acct #: _____

Equipment Information

Appliance Type (check): Heat Pump Water Heater Air Source Heat Pump Freezer
 Refrigerator Clothes Washer Clothes Dryer
 Dehumidifier Window Air Conditioner Dishwasher

Manufacturer: _____ Model #: _____ Serial #: _____

Member Certification / Confirmation

Under penalty of perjury, I certify that the appliance for which I am claiming a rebate is a qualifying Energy Star rated appliance, and that it has been, or will be, installed at the address listed above and this address represents a valid cooperative account. Rebates are available only for the purchase of new Energy Star rated appliances purchased on or after April 1st through December 31st. The appliance must be installed where electricity is supplied by Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative (BREC). Rebate submittal must follow the guidelines spelled out in the terms and conditions of this rebate program. BREC is not responsible for inaccurate information supplied by the appliance dealers. Rebates will be issued only for appliances listed as Energy Star rated during the current year. Energy Star occasionally removes appliances from qualifying lists, and BREC will not rebate appliances that have been removed from said list as of the purchase date, nor will BREC rebate for appliances mislabeled as Energy Star. To verify Energy Star status, visit www.energystar.gov. Rebate program is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Call BREC @ 814-623-5101 or visit www.bedfordrec.com to verify rebate program status.

I also understand that the submission of this application does not guarantee a rebate. The program will end when funds are depleted. Call (814-623-5101) or visit www.bedfordrec.com to verify rebate program status. I agree to a one-time electric bill credit as my rebate payment. Member agrees to the Electric Appliance Rebate Program 2018~2019 Terms and Conditions.

Member's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Bedford REC Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

"People You Can Count On!"™