

# KEEPING CURRENT



## 2007 Legislative Session Planning Underway

By Inia Burginger

Among the hundreds of issues that the Virginia Legislature will address during the 2007 legislative session, which begins January 9 in Richmond, are several proposed bills that could impact NOVEC customers.

Representatives from NOVEC plan to join with colleagues from neighboring cooperatives as well as the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC) and work with senators and delegates to achieve legislative results most favorable to Cooperative customers.

In addition to tackling the overcrowding on Northern Virginia's streets and highways – a problem that personally impacts nearly every NOVEC customer – the Senate and House of Representatives are expected to consider, and potentially enact, legislation relating to utility deregulation, eminent domain, and renewable sources of energy.

"The issues and proposed bills as we know them today will change right up to the start of session," said Susan Rubin, assistant vice president of governmental affairs for VMDAEC. "Because changes will continue throughout the session and beyond, we will diligently stay on top of the issues that may impact the utility industry in our state."

Working with policy makers is not limited to Virginia's winter session, however. Throughout the year, NOVEC staff meets with dozens of state and federal legislators to encourage support on Cooperative issues. And each year NOVEC's legislative team joins thousands of colleagues from cooperatives throughout the United States as they meet with U.S. senators and representatives on Capitol Hill.

Over the past year NOVEC employees have emphasized



Photo by Bill Sherrod

*Reviewing some of the bills proposed for the 2007 Virginia Legislative Session are (left to right) Richard Johnstone, executive vice president; Susan Rubin, assistant vice president of governmental affairs; and Salud Layton, governmental affairs coordinator, for VMDAEC; plus Inia Burginger, communications manager, and Donna Snellings, public relations liaison, for NOVEC.*

developing new – and in some cases, renewed – relationships with supervisors and planners in the counties NOVEC serves.

"We hope this new emphasis will ease our long-term planning efforts and facilitate our navigation of the requirements processes when we need to add or change our infrastructure, such as obtaining permits for new or expanded substations," said Mike Curtis, vice president of public relations.

"If there is a legislative issue about which you feel strongly, we encourage you to let us know your thoughts," Curtis said. Comments can be made through [www.novec.com](http://www.novec.com) and click on "Contact Us" or by sending an e-mail to [CustomerService@novec.com](mailto:CustomerService@novec.com).

# National Museum of the Marine Corps Opens

By Donna Snellings

As president of the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce, I had the opportunity to participate in the opening ceremonies of the new National Museum of the Marine Corps on November 9 and 10. The museum is located in Prince William County on a 135-acre site just across from the Quantico Marine Corps Base and adjacent to Locust Shade Park. Attending this event was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me and I will always cherish the experience.

I had the pleasure of hearing stories from some of the veterans who had traveled from all around the country to be at this event. They told me how they had the opportunity to meet up with some buddies from their past active service and were able to catch up on current family life.

The design of this museum reflects the crest of Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima in the Pacific, where, in the closing months of World War II the now-famous photograph was taken of five Marines and one sailor raising the American flag. As I exited the bus, Marines were waiting in their dress blues to escort the ladies to the grand entrance.

Upon entering the main hall, one's eyes are immediately drawn up toward the large portraits of men and women who have served our country. Models of planes, tanks and Marines greet you, depicting the 231-year history of the Marine Corps.

The state-of-the-art exhibits truly brought history to life. Standing at the wall of the Medal of Honor recipients and watching an elderly veteran read the names and examine certain pictures of Marines on the wall touched my heart. He must have known Marines like these who fought in battle and gave their lives. Each exhibit of the museum has a unique story to tell and each gives you the opportunity to use your senses to experience first-hand various aspects of Marine life.

As I entered the Vietnam War exhibit through a CH-46 helicopter fuselage, listening to the dialogue between the pilot and crew chief, I was immediately hit by the heat and humidity that is realistically reminiscent of that country. The models and displays are extremely lifelike. Some of the vets were quite touched and some even sought comfort from family members. The atmosphere was solemn and reverent as Marine veterans of all ages took their time going through the exhibits in the 118,000-square-foot museum. This truly was a very special event and one



“The emotion I felt continued the next day for the Dedication Ceremony.”



that I was proud to be a part of.

The emotion I felt continued the next day for the Dedication Ceremony, which also coincided with the 231st anniversary of the founding of the Marine Corps. I witnessed the retirees eagerly greet and wish the active-duty Marines a “Happy Birthday.” I was told a number of times, “Once a Marine, always a Marine.”

The atmosphere was part reunion and part celebration for the 10,000 Marines and guests present to dedicate the museum. Because President George W. Bush was expected to attend, security was tight. But the Marines were prepared.

We arrived in time to tour some of the outside exhibits and speak to active-duty Marines and hear their impressions of the museum. I walked through the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park adjacent to the museum building and read the commemorative bricks that outline the walkway and the official program began shortly thereafter.

President Bush was greeted with a 21-gun salute from cannons and a fly-over of four F/A-18 Hornets. Navy Rear Admiral Alan T. Baker, chaplain of the Marine Corps, called the crowd to order and began with a dedication to the memories of the Marines.

News anchor and author Jim Lehrer, himself a former Marine, spoke about “courage, dedication and sacrifice, of service to our country and to our Corps, of honor and loyalty to each other in war and in peace.” He continued, “This museum is about all of them.”

The president spoke of one Marine in particular during his remarks to the audience: “Corporal Jason Dunham who died in Iraq, throwing himself on a grenade to save his fellow Marines.” As the president told the story I began to cry along with most in the audience. I thought of my boys who are around the same age.

“Jason’s mom and dad are with us today on what would have been this brave young man’s 25th birthday,” Bush stated.

He then recognized and awarded the fallen soldier’s actions with the nation’s highest decoration of valor: the Medal of Honor.

The National Museum of the Marine Corps will be a place for past and present Marines to reflect on their heritage. It is also a place for visitors to learn the story of the Marine Corps and commemorate and honor the memory of all who have fallen in service to their country. As an American, I count myself lucky to be able to visit such a unique and powerful homage to some of our country’s finest soldiers.

# 2007 NOVEC Scholarship Applications Available

By Donna Snellings



Applications are now being accepted for the NOVEC Dollars for Scholars program, and will be accepted through Monday, April 9, 2007.

NOVEC's Dollars for Scholars program awards a \$1,000 college scholarship to a high school student in each of the counties where NOVEC provides electric service – Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William and Stafford – and the City of Manassas Park. In addition, a single \$1,000 scholarship will be

awarded to a student living in NOVEC service territory who is home-schooled or attends private school. Because the majority of NOVEC customers live in Prince William and Fairfax counties, two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in these counties. In addition, children of NOVEC employees are eligible to apply for a single \$1,000 scholarship. In 2006, a total of \$10,500 was awarded.

In 2005 the scholarship program was enhanced with the addition of a \$1,500 Garber scholarship for the top outstanding student. After the scholarship selection is done, another review will be conducted of the winners, and scholarship honors totaling \$2,500 will be awarded to the top student.

## Scholarship Requirements:

1. Must be a college-bound high school senior whose home is currently served by NOVEC.
2. Must have at least a 3.5 grade-point average (G.P.A.) on a 4.0 scale. Submit a transcript copy that includes first-semester grades.
3. Submit SAT scores.
4. Demonstrate a wide range of participation and leadership in extracurricular activities, community service and/or work experience.
5. Submit two letters of recommendation – one from a high school official (teacher, counselor, etc.) and one from a member of the community.
6. Submit a 400-word typed essay – directions are included with the application form.
7. All required materials must be postmarked no later than April 9, 2007, and submitted to: Donna Snellings, NOVEC, P.O. Box 2710, Manassas, VA 20108. They may also be hand-delivered to a NOVEC office by that date.
8. Failure to submit a complete package by the deadline will disqualify students from consideration for this scholarship.
9. Completed scholarship applications will be forwarded to each county's education foundation or scholarship committee for evaluation and selection.
10. Scholarships will be presented at pre-graduation ceremonies at the schools of selected students. A complete list of winners will be published on NOVEC's Web site and printed in the August edition of *Cooperative Living*.

## Scholarship Application Form

Awards are based on scholastic achievement, community service, work experience and demonstrated leadership qualities. Children of NOVEC employees are eligible to apply as long as they meet service-area and other eligibility requirements. Applicants will not be subject to discrimination on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, national origin or handicapping condition.

Applications can be obtained by sending e-mail to [dsnellings@novec.com](mailto:dsnellings@novec.com), by calling 703-392-1511 or 1-888-335-0500, ext. 1511, by visiting [www.novec.com](http://www.novec.com) and printing an application from the Web site, or by returning this form to the address listed above in #7.

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ NOVEC Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

# VMDAEC College Scholarships Available for High School Seniors

Students Whose Parents or Guardians Are NOVEC Members May Apply

By Donna Snellings

High school seniors whose parents or legal guardians are customer-members of NOVEC are eligible to apply for college scholarships awarded by the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC) Education Foundation.

Scholarships of \$500 and \$1,000 each will be awarded in 2007 to deserving young men and women based on a competitive screening process. Applicants must provide evidence of acceptance in a post-high-school educational institution or program. The scholarship funds awarded are sent directly to the educational institution the student will attend, placed in the student's account and can be used to pay for tuition, fees and books.

The deadline to apply for a VMDAEC Education Foundation Scholarship is April 2, 2007. Applications are available online at [www.co-opliving.com/community](http://www.co-opliving.com/community) or by mail by writing to: VMDAEC Scholarships, P.O. Box 2340, Glen Allen, VA 23058-2340.

In 2006, the VMDAEC Education Foundation awarded 38 scholarships to students living in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. Since its inception in 2000, 134 students have received VMDAEC scholarships. The total number of scholarships awarded each year depends on the amount of funds available.

The Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives was founded in 1944 and provides training, communications, governmental relations and other services to NOVEC and the 15 other electric cooperatives that serve the three-state Mid-Atlantic region. For more information, visit [www.vmdaec.com](http://www.vmdaec.com).



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# Team Amy Raises a Record \$40,000 for Easter Seals



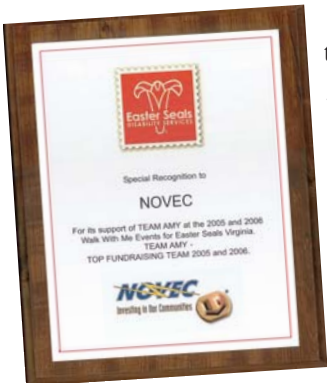
Photo by Mike Curtis

Team Leader and Walk Ambassador Amy Feuerberg, along with her mother Robyn and Easter Seals Virginia Ambassador, Eric Latcheran, ride in the Rosner Toyota convertible and lead the way for the 300-plus walk participants. The 3-mile walk route started at Old Mill Park and went through downtown historic Fredericksburg.

Team Amy, lead by Amy Feuerberg and supported by NOVEC, raised a record donation of \$40,000 that was presented to Easter Seals Virginia at this year's walk. Amy and her mother, Robyn Feuerberg, graciously received the award for Top Fundraising Team for 2004, 2005, and 2006. Robyn addressed the audience of 300-plus walkers and gave words of thanks that moved all in attendance. Amy expressed her happiness for the Easter Seals Virginia camp and her great smile warmed everyone's heart.

Amy's father, NOVEC President and CEO Stan Feuerberg, and Amy's sister, Danielle, a sophomore at Tulane University, were on hand at the walk to support Team Amy. Mr. Feuerberg also accepted an award on behalf of NOVEC for outstanding fundraising efforts.

"NOVEC is proud of its history of affiliating with worthy charitable and community causes, such as Easter Seals Virginia. We thank our many corporate and individual donors who gave so generously this year to Team Amy," Feuerberg said.



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# NOVEC Employees Contribute to Operation Turkey



Photo by John Roy

By Donna Snellings

Operation Turkey provides more than 1,200 low-income families with a nutritious Thanksgiving dinner and NOVEC employees stepped up to the plate in a big way this year.

The food drive began on November 1 with boxes placed around the Manassas, Minnieville and Gainesville offices for the collection of much-needed non-perishable food items. There was such a generous outpouring of donations that the collection boxes had to be emptied on numerous occasions to make room for more donations.

The food was delivered to the drop-off points for SERVE, Inc. in Manassas and ACTS in Dumfries by employees on November 17.

“This is just another way NOVEC employees contribute to the well-being of our community where we live and work,” said Inia Burginger, communications manager.

*Members of NOVEC's Facilities Management team helped to load food at the Manassas office that was donated to SERVE, Inc. of Manassas for their Thanksgiving food pantry.*

**Loose Change Brightens Lives**

The Value of Community. Every year NOVEC customers agree to round up each month's electric bill to the next dollar amount to help pay the fuel bills of customers who cannot do so. We call this Operation Roundup (ORU). Support this worthy cause by enrolling or making a one-time donation today. To sign up or for more information, call 1-888-335-0500 or email [customerservice@novec.com](mailto:customerservice@novec.com). Your loose change will brighten many lives.

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## NOVEC Helps to "Light The Night"

### Prince William County

Walkers – 800  
 Teams – 50  
 Raised to date – **\$168,000**

### Loudoun County

Walkers – 600  
 Teams – 45  
 Raised to date – **\$130,000**

*NOVEC sponsored a booth at the 2006 **Light The Night Walk**, which is The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's nationwide evening walk to build awareness of blood cancers and raise funds for cures. More than \$168,000 in Prince William County and \$130,000 in Loudoun County was raised this year.*

## 200 Toys Collected at Annual Cuisine de Commerce

NOVEC served as a sponsor at this year's Cuisine de Commerce luncheon hosted by the Prince William County – Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce. This event showcases the cuisine of member restaurants, hotels, caterers and gourmet and specialty shops and kicks off the holiday season with a holiday toy drive for SERVE, Inc. and the Voluntary Action Center. A portion of the proceeds funds the annual Shelley Krasnow Community Service Award.



Photo by John Roy

*Attendees of the Cuisine de Commerce donated a hefty amount of unwrapped Christmas presents at this year's event.*

NOVEC was pleased to be a sponsor of the 13th Annual **Vision of Sugarplums** Silent Auction held on November 4 benefiting ACTS in Prince William County. The event raised approximately \$19,000.

**Action in the Community Through Service (ACTS)** is a non-profit human service agency in Prince William County that funds a broad spectrum of services ranging from affordable day care for low-income families, emergency assistance in the form of food and financial assistance, a 15-bed homeless shelter, 24-hour crisis hotline, Teleten and Phone-a-Friend for latchkey children, and Turning Points, a domestic violence intervention program with a 15-bed safe house on the eastern end of Prince William County and a new 20-bed safe house on the western end of Prince William County.

# WMZQ 98.7 FM and NOVEC Collect Coats for Kids

Photos courtesy of WMZQ



More than 600 coats were collected at locations around Northern Virginia, including this event sponsored by NOVEC at the Manassas Mall on November 4.

# Softball Hall of Fame Inducts NOVEC Employee



Photo by John Roy

On Saturday, October 14, Public Relations Vice President Mike Curtis (left) was inducted into the Prince William County Softball Hall of Fame for his contributions to the league as a player and service on the Prince William Sports Association and Adult Softball Council boards. Field Service Technician Bobby Daniels, who was inducted last year, adds his name to Mike's softball containing the names of friends and other inductees.



**Chairman:**  
**J. Manley Garber**  
*District 7*

Woodbridge/Dale City/Montclair



**Vice-Chairman:**  
**Wade C. House**  
*District 5*

Nokesville/Haymarket/Bull Run



**Secretary:**  
**Michael Ragan**  
*District 6*

Lake Jackson/Buckhall/  
Manassas Park/Bristow



**Treasurer:**  
**Walter Grove**  
*District 8*

Fauquier/Stafford



**Malcolm Ames**  
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**James Chesley**  
*District 3*

Fairfax County, East of Rt. 66



**Cynthia Gilbride**  
*District 9*

Fairfax County, West of Rt. 66  
Loudoun County, South Riding



**Don M. Middleton**  
*District 2*

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**Ann Wheeler**  
*District 4*

Manassas/Gainesville



**Stan C. Feuerberg**  
*President and CEO*

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