

Baby Safety Program Helps Homes Avoid Electrical Hazards

(NAPS)—Electricity and children don't mix. That is the message of a baby safety program created by the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA). The program, called Born For Safety, is designed to increase awareness of the importance of electrical safety in the home. Working with their local hospitals, participating NECA chapters are donating packages of electrical outlet safety caps to be given to families of newborn babies during the month of May, which is National Electrical Safety Month. Overall, nearly four million safety outlet caps will be donated to American families. A part of its 100th anniversary celebration, the BORN FOR SAFETY program is NECA's way of giving something back to the country.

The program encourages families to check their homes every six months to make sure their homes are free of electrical hazards. Here's an NECA checklist to keep in mind:

- Cover all unused electrical outlets with safety caps.
- Replace any frayed or damaged electrical cords.
- Never place electrical cords under rugs or carpets.
- Make sure light bulbs are of the proper wattage.
- Don't overload electrical outlets or extension cords.
- Make sure all plugs fit securely in the outlets.
- Never place small appliances near a source of water.
- Use proper surge protectors with computer and electronic equipment.



BORN FOR SAFETY—A baby safety program is helping new parents keep home safe for newborns.

More information about the Born For Safety program is available by visiting the Web site at www.necanet.org.

Check Out These Web Sites:

- Here are a few Web sites you may want to watch:
- Buick's LeSabre at www.LeSabre.com.
 - City of Hope cancer treatment program at www.cityofhope.org.
 - National Marrow Donor Program at www.marrow.org.
 - Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. at www.schwab.com/women.
 - C-LOC panels at www.c-loc.com.
 - American Eagle Outfitters at ae.com.
 - FreeStyle Blood Glucose Monitoring system at www.therasense.com.
 - A Pea in the Pod at www.apeainthepod.com.
 - Waverly fabric and wallpaper at www.waverly.com.
 - The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) at www.cec.sped.org.
 - General Motors' "SenseAble Driving" program at www.senseabledriving.com.
 - 5 A Day for Better Health at www.5aday.com.
 - Financial expert Deborah Knuckey at www.MsSpent.com.
 - For more information on Ronald Reagan, visit www.reaganfoundation.org.
 - The Bic SureStart Candle Lighter at www.bicworldusa.com.
 - For Kelly Assisted Living Services, visit www.kellyservices.com.
 - For more information about home heating oil prices and supply issues, visit www.oil360.org.

Sophomores recognized as students of Excellence by Public Schools

Six sophomores, one from each of the high schools in the Public Schools of Robeson County, have been named Students of Excellence and were recognized at the March 12th meeting of the PSRC Board of Education. Sara Fore, a junior from South Robeson High, was also recognized since she was unable to be present for the junior presentations. The Student of Excellence Award is a Chamber of Commerce initiative to recognize students for their contributions to their schools and communities. Each area chamber is responsible for selecting a student based on applications submitted from the high school in their area; students who apply must have a 3.0 minimum grade point average. Each chamber honors their student with a plaque and other rewards for meritorious service and achievement.

Recognized from St. Pauls High School was Jennifer Hood, whose award was presented by David Evans representing the St. Pauls Chamber of Commerce. Her school activities have included cheerleading and band participation and being a member of the Students Against Destructive Decisions. She has also performed in dance showcases and in "West Side Story," the All-County Musical. Hood is a member of the Great Marsh Baptist Church where she is active in Youth Group, Youth Council, and Youth Choir. She has also been active in the Pines of Carolina Girl Scouts. The first child in her family to pursue a college education, Hood's her primary goal is to get a college education.

The sophomore Student of Excellence from Lumberton Senior High is Anna Evans who was recognized the same evening with the Lumberton Senior High girls' basketball team as State Champions. Among her other talents, Evans plays Varsity Tennis and Varsity Softball where she assumes the challenging position of catcher. Evans is listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students and was a representative in the Student Athlete Summer Institute. She is a member of the Quiz Bowl Team, the Spanish Club, the Science Olympiad Team, and the National Junior Honor Society. Evans is a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church Youth Group. In all of her initiatives, she epitomizes success which she defines as "the satisfactory completion of your best efforts toward a task or goal."

Named Student of Excellence from Purnell Swett High School is sophomore Erica Dellinger whose award was presented by Teresa Cummings, representing the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce. Dellinger plans to pursue a medical degree, have a family, and live

life to the fullest. Her school activities include the Varsity Tennis Team, the JV Girls' Basketball Team, and the Varsity Girls' Fastpitch Softball Team. She also is a member of the Native American Student Association, the Art Club, and is treasurer of the School Concession Stand. In her church she is a member of the Youth Choir and is a 3-year state winner in Youth Bible Drill.

From Fairmont High School, the Student of Excellence is sophomore Shameicha Ann Wade. In her school activities, Wade is a member of the Beta Club, the Softball Team, and the Afro-American Club. She is secretary of the Science Club and plays 1st violin in the school orchestra. At church, Wade is a member of the Young Adult Choir and the Junior Usher Board. She plans to attend UNC-Charlotte as a Pre-Med student and then pursue a degree at Duke University in Child Psychology. She hopes to have her own practice in child psychology in the future.

Recognized by Tim Harper of the Rowland Chamber of Commerce was Danielle McLean, a sophomore at South Robeson High School. McLean is a member of the Art Club, the Beta Club, the Reading Club, and is historian for the Future Business Leaders of America. She serves as Sophomore Class President. She is a mem-

ber of the Living Water Baptist Church and serves as a junior volunteer at Southeastern Regional Medical Center. The person McLean most admires is her grandmother who "is the bond that hold the family together." With all of her school and community activities, McLean maintains her class rank of number one.

Frank Crumpler, representing the Red Springs Chamber, presented the Student of Excellence Award to Summer Rogers, a sophomore at Red Springs High School. In her church, Rogers is Sunday School secretary and a member of the Youth Usher Board and the Youth Choir. At school, she is president of the sophomore class and a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, the African American Heritage Organization, and the Quiz Bowl team. She is also involved with the RSHS marching band, the jazz band, and the concert band. Her career goal is to attend NC State University Veterinary School and to one day have her own animal hospital. She most admires her grandmother who is 105 years old and still provides leadership to her family.

All Students of Excellence recipients are recognized at individual schools, at their area Chamber of Commerce meetings, and officially, at the Board of Education presentations.



It is said little cakes of salt, each stamped with a likeness of the emperor, were once used as money in China.

Setting an example is not the main means of influencing another, it is the only means. —Albert Einstein

Did You Know?

(NAPS)—One way to show your mom she is the apple of your eye this Mother's Day is by baking her home-baked Apple-Blueberry muffins, made with Mott's Natural Apple Sauce. Serve with an Apple Citrus Fizz, made by combining four ounces of Mott's Apple Juice, one ounce of grapefruit juice and two ounces of 7-Up.

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Reader enjoyed added feature at Unity Conference General Assembly, Rev. Michael Cummings' speech

Dear Editor,
 Well some people have gotten over their Unity Conference experience but not me. I wanted to share mine with everyone, no it's not negative or disgusting. Sadly to say it didn't happen during the Gospel Sing or the Powwow, my two favorite events. This happened during one of the many general assemblies when a preacher stood before us and spoke. Now this wasn't just any down home preacher, this was none other than Rev. Michael Cummings, that's right that Preacher Michael. The Preacher Michael, who has worked with the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association and the President of the North Carolina State Southern Baptist Association. Yes, I'm United Methodist but to me good preaching is good preaching, and his speech was just that.

Allow me a few minutes to share with you some of the key points he made. I would like to begin by apologizing to Rev. Michael Cummings for paraphrasing his comments into my own understanding or interpretations. But I do feel like I completely understood his concepts and thoughts

in his points which he made clearly. Preacher Michael spoke on "Unity" or more importantly he spoke about what unity is and what it isn't. In his opening remarks he stated that unity isn't these little click groups deciding everything behind closed doors and then trying to run it down people's throats. Unity is inclusion not exclusion. To have unity we must have the people working together to achieve the same purpose. He then stated that achieving unity was much like the work of a musical director, who understands the importance of each individual musician and their piece of music. The better prepared they are, the better informed they are, the more unity the musical director has. Preacher Michael went further to say that unity was like harmony, to achieve harmony people must come together with different ideas to work together for a common cause. He stated that the musical director must not only bring his musicians together but they must be on the same beat for the music to be together, this can only be learned through the experience of working together and learning

together. Rev. Michael stated that if we as Indian people, could learn to achieve unity that we would in a sense start a movement. He then noted that all great movements have a song, that what we are missing is a song. As we all know songs have always been a rich part of our culture. I've seen songs touch everyone in a church or at a powwow. There is a great deal of power in a song and I agree that is what we need.

I feel that it's time we as a people come together not as Lumbee, Coharie, Cherokee or Tuscarora, but as people who have the same needs to work together. It's also true that some of our leaders need to let go of some of the power they have and ask themselves as Preacher Michael did, "If you are a leader then who is following you?" It was a shame that more people were not there to hear this great man speak. It was even a greater shame that he was speaking or preaching to the choir while many of the click groups were in their little meetings.

In the True Way,
 Derek Lowry

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