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For Immediate Release

Contact: Greg Kelly, 434-263-7627 (gkelly@mycvec.com)

Three Area High School Seniors Earn Electric Cooperative Scholarships

(Arrington, Va.) Devon Burrell and Nicole Cabell from Appomattox and Lydia Fitzgerald from Tyro will each receive scholarships awarded by the Educational Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC).

Devon, the daughter of Christy Harris, and Nicole, the daughter of Emily Cabell, are both seniors at Appomattox County High School. Lydia, the daughter of Thomas and Emily Fitzgerald, will be graduating from Nelson County High School.

Students were awarded these scholarships based on a competitive screening process and were eligible for consideration because their parents are consumer-members of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. Applicants must be entering their first semester of college, technical or trade school in the autumn of 2014.

This year, the VMDAEC Educational Scholarship Foundation received 364 applications from students in areas served by electric cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. The Foundation is awarding 55 Worth M. Hudson Scholarships and six additional endowed scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. Recipients were chosen based on financial need (40 percent), academic achievement (40 percent) and a personal statement (20 percent).

The Foundation is funded through tax-deductible donations from individuals and VMDAEC cooperatives, as well as proceeds from benefit fundraiser events. Worth M. Hudson Scholarships are named in honor of the first chair of the VMDAEC Educational Scholarship Foundation and former chair of the board of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in Chase City, Va.

“We were able to award a record number of 61 scholarships this year thanks to donations from several VMDAEC member cooperatives that were matched by CoBank through their ‘Sharing Success’ Program,” said Roberta Harlowe, chair of VMDAEC’s Educational Services Committee who serves on the board of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. CoBank is a national cooperative bank that provides loans and other financial services to rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states.

Since its inception in 2001, the Foundation has awarded 470 electric cooperative scholarships totaling \$369,500. The number of scholarships awarded each year is based upon funds available and these grants can be used to pay for tuition, fees and books.

(More)

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Headquartered in Lovingston, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative is a member-owned electric-distribution utility serving nearly 35,000 meters in 14 counties across central Virginia. For more information, visit www.mycvec.com.

About VMDAEC: Founded in 1944, VMDAEC is the trade association for Central Virginia Electric Cooperative and 14 other electric co-ops in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. It is based in Glen Allen, Va. and provides safety and employee training, governmental relations and other services. For more information, visit the Community Resources section of www.vmdaec.com.

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