

Fun meets learning in Thornwell's Summer Program

Registration is now open for Thornwell's MOMENTUM summer day program. The program offers fun and learning for children ages four to 12. Capacity is limited, so parents are urged to register their children as soon as possible. Older children are welcome to attend if there is enough interest, a middle-school program will be offered.

At the beginning of the summer, children's academic levels are evaluated and Thornwell teachers develop an individualized plan for each child. Whether a child is behind in school, at grade level, or excelling academically, MOMENTUM is tailored to challenge children individually and help them reach their personal goals.

Children have fun while they're gaining academically. Each week of the program features a different theme such as nature, science, and history. Plus, children will participate in field trips and outdoor activities. All children who participate in MOMENTUM are able to enjoy Thornwell's amenities, including the ball fields, farm, gym and newly renovated swimming pool.

"We had record academic gains during last year's program," said Marianne Hollingsworth, MOMENTUM's program director. "In fact, many of our children gained up to two-thirds of a school year in reading comprehension and math. Some even excelled by advancing an entire year ahead of where they began."

10th and runs from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday throughout the weeks of the summer (while school is out). The cost is just \$105 per week for those who register for nine weeks or more. Part-time rates are also available. For those who register before May 31, the required registration fee is only \$25, half the regular registration fee. Every child who enrolls receives a MOMENTUM T-shirt to keep at the end of the summer.

For more information about MOMENTUM, email Marianne Hollingsworth at marianne.hollingsworth@thornwell.org, call 864-938-2795, or visit www.thornwell.org/momentum for more details and to register.



Photo by Judith Brown

FUNDS FOR GOOD — During the recent ribbon cutting of the Walmart Online Grocery Pickup, Walmart Store Manager Russell Sporysz presents a community grant check for the National Honor Society to NHS member McKayla Pitts, left, and faculty advisor Michelle Carroll. Monday's presentation included community grant funds totaling \$8,500, divided between the LDHS club, Laurens County Sheriff Office, City of Laurens Fire Department and the City of Laurens Police Department.

LEC offers golfers shot at \$1 million

Come to the Haas Family Golf Center (formerly Eagle Zone) on Pelham Road in Greenville Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 for a chance to win \$1 million in Laurens Electric Cooperative's 17th Annual Hole In One Shootout.

All proceeds from the event will benefit Laurens Electric's Community Impact Initiative, which provides grants to community members through their local Chambers of Commerce for public charitable purposes that enrich the quality of life of citizens in the communities the cooperative serves.

At the Shootout, 10 players will qualify each day by being closest to the pin to compete in the finals, where participants have a chance of winning one million dollars by shooting a hole-in-one. Qualifying times are Friday, April 26 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. The finals

will follow on Saturday at 6 p.m. Other prizes include \$500 each day to golfers with shots closest to the pin, and during the finals, \$1000 to the golfer closest to the pin, \$500 for the second closest, and \$250 to third.

Laurens Electric is dedicated to improving the quality of life of the citizens in the upstate and in the communities the cooperative serves. The Community Impact Initiative provides grants of up to \$2000 for individual projects chosen by Chambers of Commerce in Laurens, Mauldin, Simpsonville and Fountain Inn.

Suggested interest areas are community development, education, the environment, health or arts and culture.

Last year's Million Dollar Hole In One Shootout earned \$12,000 for charity. Every dollar spent at the hole-in-one event is a dollar that will go to improve the lives of participants' friends and neighbors; it's a fantastic way to support the community and have a great time in the process.

Laurens Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative serves 54,000 member-owners in Laurens, Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson, Newberry, Union, and Abbeville counties. Since 1939, the co-op has been dedicated to being the provider of choice for energy and related services in the Upstate.

Abell selected for state-level youth tour

South Carolina's electric co-ops sponsor a state-level trip, similar to the Washington Youth Tour, called Cooperative Youth Summit.

Laurens Electric will be represented by Leyton Abell, son of Karen Abell of Laurens on a three-day, two-night event in the capital city Columbia July 9-12.

Students will engage in activities designed to teach them about electric cooperatives and the co-op business model, as well as how state government works.

Cooperative Youth Summit attendees will tour an electric generation facility, go on a private tour of the S.C. Statehouse, write, debate and pass a "bill," and engage in team-building exercises and social gatherings.

"We sponsor this tour as part of our commitment to the young people in our service area," said David Wasson, Laurens Electric's President and CEO. "We do this to educate high school juniors about American and South Carolina government and about the history and business principles of electric cooperatives."



Leyton Abell



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