CHEC promotes Bright Ideas Awards

Each school year, the Bright Ideas Awards go to those deserving educators who are dedicated and loyal to their chosen profession. Being a successful teacher demands innovation, imagination, and structured interactivity. Teachers today must possess the ability to inspire students to achieve and excel academically and fundamentally. The 2009-2010 Bright Ideas recipients of Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative exemplify these traits. Each of the projects chosen will be utilized for years to come.

Tracy Shisler, science teacher for grades 6, 7, and 8 at Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies, and with the assistance of Amber Bradshaw, continues to build and enhance the school based local hatchery program with this year's *"Stewards of the Pamlico Sound"* project. This project is ongoing as students work on developing artificial oyster reefs while researching the productivity of the established reefs.

As the art teacher at Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies, Marta Martinez has structured her art project, "*Mural Makers*", to combine students and local communities in the process of creating and appreciating large scale murals that will depict Hatteras Island flora, fauna, architecture and historical images. The art will be displayed in the school and designated community locations.

Anne Kennedy, a first grade teacher at Cape Hatteras Elementary School, with her team Karla Willis, Trish Dempsey, Jenny Munden, Kristin Gray and Licia Kee, produced the project, "*Literacy Work Stations*". This project allows students in kindergarten through second grade to participate in hands-on, interactive literacy development by utilizing the literacy work stations. The literacy skills include: phonics, reading fluency, reading comprehension, computer literacy and writing. Literacy work stations will integrate science and social studies as well as teach the students problem solving, working with partners, and working independently. Each classroom will facilitate up to twelve different stations per class.