

# Watts Working

## Youth Tour Returns: Applications due Friday, Jan. 13

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation encourages students to apply for the 2023 Rural Electric Youth Tour before the deadline of Friday, January 13, 2023. One rising junior or senior student in high school will be awarded an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 17–23, 2023.

For more than 50 years, Randolph EMC and North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives have sponsored the weeklong tour for students across the country. The Youth Tour gives high school students the opportunity to be recognized as outstanding scholars, representing their local cooperative and their school.

The chosen delegate will travel to Washington, D.C., with nearly 50 other high school students from all over North Carolina. About 1,600 students from across the nation will be there for the same purpose, too—to visit the Smithsonian, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery, and several memorials. The Youth Tourists learn about American history and the electric cooperative business model.

"Youth Tourists are interested

in the larger picture. Our delegate will meet with members of North Carolina's congressional delegation, connect with a network of talented peers, and grow his or her leadership skills and abilities," said Nicole Arnold, communications and public affairs manager for REMC. "The tour is an opportunity for outstanding students to have an eye-opening backstage pass to our nation's capital."

If you are or if you know of a high school junior or senior in Fall 2023, please use the QR code to go to our application online. You can also find this information on our website at [randolphemc.com/youthtour](http://randolphemc.com/youthtour). You can learn about the trip from a national perspective at [youthtour.coop](http://youthtour.coop).

You can mail or email the application and additional essay to Nicole Arnold at REMC, PO Box 40, Asheboro, NC 27204 or [nicole.arnold@randolphemc.com](mailto:nicole.arnold@randolphemc.com). You can also find out more about the experience by calling Nicole Arnold at 336-625-8116.

Best wishes on your application!



Scan this QR code to go to the online application, or go to [RandolphEMC.com/youthtour](http://RandolphEMC.com/youthtour)



**B** Randolph EMC Invests in Education

**E** Help Find Members with Unclaimed Credits

**E** Director Jeff Sugg Achieves Credential

**F** A Word About Randolph Electric

**G** Keeping Track of the Energy You Use



Communications Manager Nicole Arnold poses with Physical Education teacher Lance Barber and his students at West End Elementary.

# Randolph EMC Invests in Innovative Education



## Awards \$14,000 to Local Schools for 'Bright Ideas'

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation recently honored educators by awarding \$14,000 in Bright Ideas grants to twelve local teachers. More than 2,100 students at schools in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery and Chatham counties will benefit from these grants. The grant funds will support classroom projects in the subjects of science, art, physical education and more.

"Randolph EMC is committed to our core value of caring for our communities. One way we accomplish that is by investing in education," said

Communications and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold. "We commend these educators for striving to make learning fun and engaging for students."

"Thank you for this amazing opportunity to equip our students with life long skills," said Lance Barber, physical education instructor and grant recipient from West End Elementary in Moore County. "Randolph Electric is definitely making a difference in schools by providing opportunities that typically would not be present."

Randolph EMC is one of 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina offering Bright Ideas grants to local teachers. Grants are awarded for projects in all subject areas, such as music, art, history, reading, science, math and more. Bright Ideas grants support local teachers with creative ideas to increase innovation, expand learning opportunities and enhance student success in K-12 classrooms.

Since 1994, North Carolina's electric cooperatives collectively have awarded more than \$14 million in Bright Ideas funding for



over 13,500 projects supporting teachers and benefitting more than 2.5 million students. Over the past 28 years, Randolph Electric has invested just under \$300,000 in grants within its five-county service area.

The Bright Ideas grant program is part of REMC's ongoing commitment to building a brighter future through support of education. REMC accepts Bright Ideas grant applications each year from April through mid-September. The application process will reopen for interested teachers in April 2023.

Winners included the following:

**Randolph County William Villano of Uwharrie Ridge 6-12** in Trinity won \$1,000 for his project, Escape Room Kits. Students in middle and high school English classes will review concepts before exams by playing an immersive, narrative game in which they must solve puzzles to escape from a room.

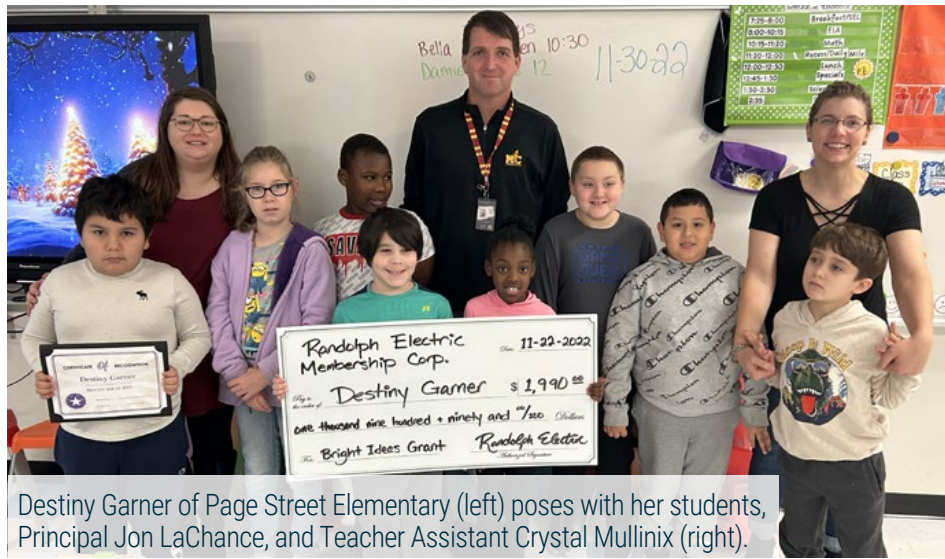
**Laura Leonard of Wheatmore High School** in Trinity won \$1,345 for her project, Flexible Seating for Special Education Students. The goal of the seating is to provide a learning environment in which students can concentrate on their lessons without hindrances.

**Julia Cox of Charles McCrary Elementary** in Asheboro won \$685 for the project, Tchoukball. Students in third, fourth and fifth grade will benefit from learning this sport, which reinforces hand-eye coordination and teamwork in a safe setting.

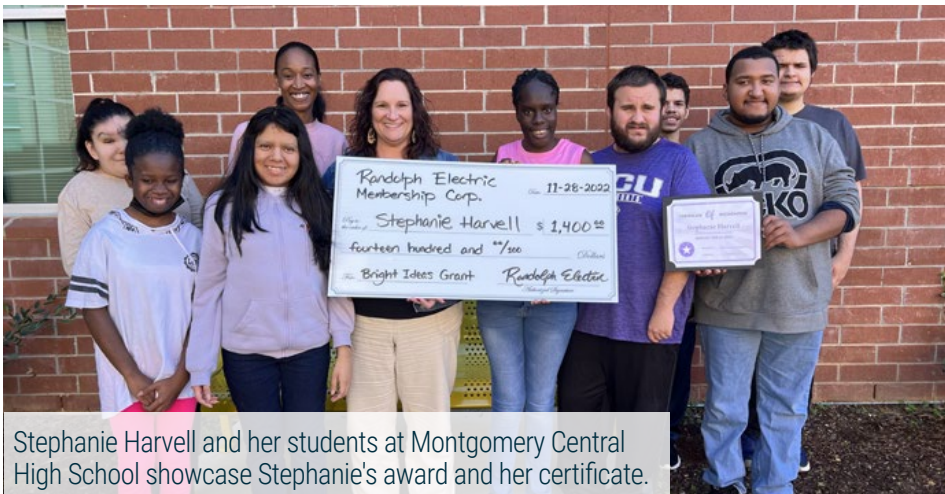
[Continued on page D](#)



Principal Brian Hill (left) poses with English students and William Villano at Uwharrie Ridge 6-12.

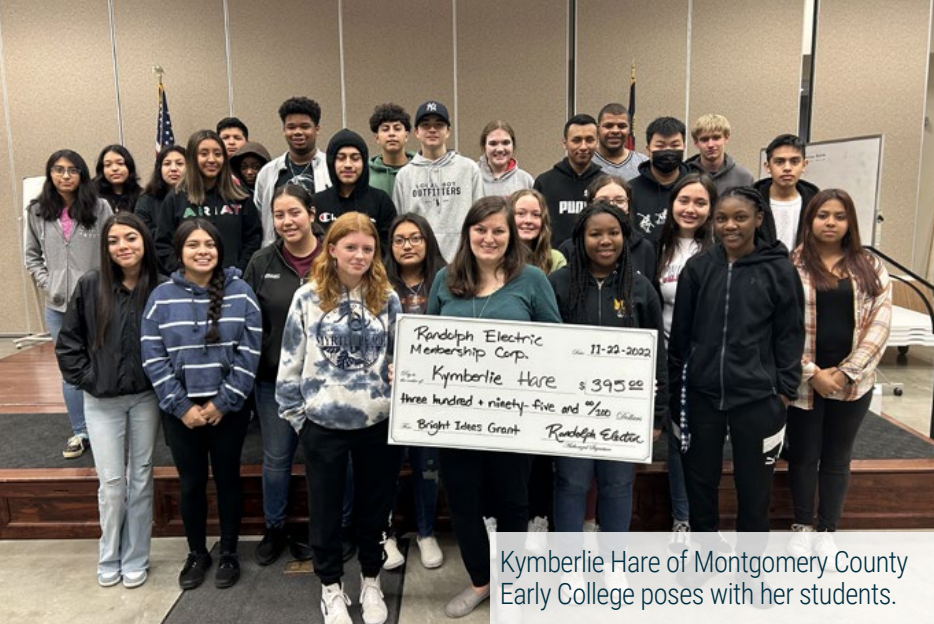


Destiny Garner of Page Street Elementary (left) poses with her students, Principal Jon LaChance, and Teacher Assistant Crystal Mullinix (right).



Stephanie Harvell and her students at Montgomery Central High School showcase Stephanie's award and her certificate.





Kimberlie Hare of Montgomery County Early College poses with her students.

## Apply Today!

If you know an exceptional educator who may benefit from this program, please encourage him or her to apply for the 2023 grant cycle. The application process will reopen for interested teachers in April 2023. Bright Ideas grant applications are collected each year through mid-September.

### Randolph EMC Invests in Innovative Education

continued from page C

**Tyler Bidwell of Guy B. Teachey Elementary** in Asheboro won \$1,480 for his project, Spectrum Sensory Room. Children with autism spectrum disorder or behavioral disorders will have a safe place to self soothe or engage in occupational therapy.

**Lori Hoover of Uwharrie Charter Academy** in Asheboro won \$1,000 for her project, Virtual Health Science. The technology purchased with the grant will allow high school students to further their understanding of human anatomy in preparation for college science courses.

#### Moore County

**Lance Barber of West End Elementary** in West End won \$600 for his project, Stop, Drop and Roll: Fire Safety Training. Physical education students from kindergarten through fifth grade will learn the proper technique to reduce injuries and avoid tragedy in the case of a fire emergency.

**Wayne Manning of Westmoore Elementary** in Seagrove won \$1,510 for his project, STEAM Animation and Ceramics. Manning's students will learn engineering processes as well as ratios and fractions while firing clay and making their own pottery.

**Christina Speiser of Moore County Connect! Virtual Academy** won \$645 for her project, Virtually Awesome. High school students will use new apps to create their own books, magazines and newspapers and share these among each other.

#### Montgomery County

**Destiny Garner of Page Street Elementary** in Troy won \$1,990 to equip an Autism Sensory Room. The goal of the safe space is to help these students experience more successful school days.

**Kymerlie Hare of Montgomery County Early College** in Troy won \$395 for her project, Popcorn Box.

High school math students will discuss how companies maximize revenue through product packaging, which relies on underlying math concepts.

**Stephanie Harvell of Montgomery Central High School** in Troy won \$1,400 for her project, Timberwolf Green House. Students in the exceptional child program will learn how to budget, shop, plan and care for a garden they create in their greenhouse.

#### Chatham County

**Eric Patin of Chatham Central High School** in Bear Creek won \$1,950 to purchase subscriptions to an online, interactive learning simulation platform. High school students in all science classes will benefit from the platform which allows experimentation not possible to reproduce in a traditional laboratory setting.

More information about the Bright Ideas grant program can be found on [RandolphEMC.com](https://RandolphEMC.com) or by contacting Nicole Arnold at [Nicole.Arnold@RandolphEMC.com](mailto:Nicole.Arnold@RandolphEMC.com).

# RE-Connect Podcast

## REMC Episode 7



### Interview with

**Mark Hensley**

Executive Director,  
Randolph Senior Adults Association

**Diane Smith**

Executive Director, West Chatham Food Pantry

## Help Us Find Members with Unclaimed Capital Credits

Receiving capital credits is just one of the benefits of being a member-owner of Randolph Electric. But sometimes, we are unable to locate members from previous years who are entitled to a check because they may have moved to another area. These capital credits can go unclaimed, and we want to make sure they are received by their rightful owners.

Randolph Electric cannot hold on to unclaimed capital credits indefinitely. If the credits are not claimed within three years of disbursement, then REMC must escheat the credits to the state. That's why we keep an updated list of members with unclaimed credits on our website. Please scan the QR code on your phone, or go to [randolphemc.com/unclaimed-capital-credits](https://randolphemc.com/unclaimed-capital-credits) to search the names there.



If you know someone on the list or have questions, please contact us by calling REMC at 336-625-5177 and ask for Leigh Ann Kirkman, or email [LeighAnn.Kirkman@randolphemc.com](mailto:LeighAnn.Kirkman@randolphemc.com).

## Randolph Electric Co-op Director Jeff Sugg Achieves Credential in Today's Electric Utility Competencies

At Randolph Electric's November 2022 Board of Directors meeting, President Jerry Bowman presented Director Jeff Sugg his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

This credential program requires demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses covering director duties and liabilities, the

Right: President Jerry Bowman presents Director Jeff Sugg his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

electric business, board operations and processes, strategic planning and financial decision making.

Mr. Sugg represents District 6, is a native of Randolph County and is the City Attorney of Asheboro.



# A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



## RESOLUTIONS YOU CAN COUNT ON

Dear Members,

Where did 2022 go? I've been warned all my life that "as you get older, time flies by quicker." I never took that statement seriously, until, as I got older, time in fact seemed to pick up speed every year.

I recently read a quote from American businessman and *New York Times* best-selling author Harvey Mackay, who I think accurately captured the value of time. "Time is free, but it's priceless. You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once you've lost it, you can never get it back."

But here we are at the beginning of another new year. Now we have another opportunity to launch a fresh start with a new calendar, and the clock is ticking.

Setting New Year's resolutions is a common practice for many of us. Losing weight shows up on a lot of lists—and seems to be a continuous struggle for some reason. I've concluded it's going to take a little more than the fork-to-mouth exercise for me to shed a few pounds. But, we have a new year and renewed optimism for success this time around.

A new year is also a time to reflect back on the previous year to prioritize our focus for the clean sheet we have before us. This month, I would like to encourage you, if you are not already, to partner with us in strengthening the communities we serve by making an investment in the lives of fellow members during a time of need.

Randolph EMC's goal is to strengthen

and improve the quality of life in the communities we serve, and we do that in many ways throughout the year. Providing safe, reliable and affordable power with exceptional service is what we strive to deliver to you every day. But those are just pieces of a larger puzzle that makes up how your electric cooperative improves our local communities.

We regularly update you on some of the investments Randolph Electric makes in the communities we serve. We are proud to support innovative teachers who implement creative teaching programs to enhance the educational experience of our youth. This past year, Randolph Electric donated \$14,000 for Bright Idea's grants. The winners are included in this issue of *Watts Working*. Our life-to-date investment for Bright Ideas Grants is just under \$300,000.

We are also assisting local fire departments with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) zero-interest loans to enable them to purchase the proper equipment they need to respond during emergencies in order to keep our communities safe. We want to commend the Ulah Volunteer Fire Department for their investment to purchase a new, much-needed engine/pumper truck. Randolph Electric provided a zero-interest loan through the USDA's Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) Program in the amount of \$360,000 to assist with the purchase of the vehicle.

In 2022, Randolph employees and members demonstrated the spirit of

giving, making our communities a better place to call home. Throughout the year, your employees held several fundraising events to support local programs and organizations. Gift basket auctions, raffles, and other fun and creative activities provide opportunities for employees to give of their personal funds to raise money for these agencies that are so important to our communities.

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is an organization we have supported for several years. This organization collects new, unwrapped toys and distributes them as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in our communities. In December, employees' monetary donations were used to purchase sports equipment for children in Randolph, Moore and Montgomery counties. It warms my heart to know that we've played a part in making a child's Christmas a little brighter by providing him or her with the basketball or football that was on the list.

We are long time supporters of Relay for Life, as well. In 2022, at the employee-managed Relay for Life Golf Tournament, an outstanding \$12,261 for cancer research was raised. This brought the total funds raised by the Randolph Electric team throughout the years for cancer research to over \$196,000. In addition, employees collectively donated almost \$20,000 this year to the United Way to support programs in our local communities.

Just as important, you, our member-

owners, make a difference by supporting our People Helping People (PHP) program. Each month, members participating in PHP have their bills rounded up to the nearest dollar. Randolph EMC collects that “spare change” and deposits it into the PHP account. The primary purpose of PHP is to address charitable needs and provide financial assistance to members in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

PHP has a separate board of directors that oversees and manages the disbursement of the funds. This volunteer board does an outstanding job, and I would like to thank them for their commitment and concern for fellow members. Currently, 1,986 members donate to our PHP program—only about 6% of our 33,200 accounts. We are so grateful to you who have been a part of this program and are very proud of the work we’ve been able to do with that “spare change” over the years. But I’ll ask you to think for a moment about what PHP could do if more members participated.

The average donation is just 50 cents per month, so if each and every account signed up for PHP, we could raise over \$199,000 in just one year! Even if we had just 25% member participation, we could raise almost \$50,000 in one year. That money would go back into our local communities by assisting members who need a hand up. Since the PHP program began in 2001, it has helped families in our communities with more than \$177,000 in assistance.

In addition, PHP receives funds from cooperative lender CoBank’s Sharing Success program. This program requires Randolph Electric to match the dollars awarded. With this extra money, PHP has been able to extend its reach with a Community Grants program, which awards up to \$2,000 grants to local nonprofits. Historically, PHP has distributed \$106,000 to non-profit agencies



Scan the QR code to round up for People Helping People.

located within our service area.

Money for the Community Grants program does not come from the “spare change” collected from member accounts, so we hope to continue this effort as long as PHP continues to receive grant money from outside sources.

As you make your new year’s resolutions, please consider “rounding up” your monthly power bills for your People Helping People program. Working together, we can make a difference. It’s one of the simplest ways you can help make a difference in our local communities. Please scan the QR code in this Watts Working newsletter above, enroll online by signing into your account or call us at 1.800.672.8212.

From your Randolph EMC Board of Directors, your People Helping People Board of Directors and the employee team, we wish you a safe, happy and prosperous new year. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our communities each and every day.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert  
Chief Executive Officer

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 33,000 member accounts in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### Electric Service

Asheboro ..... (336) 625-5177  
..... (800) 672-8212  
Robbins: ..... (910) 948-3401  
..... (800) 868-7014  
Report Outage ..... (877) REMC-OFF  
..... (877) 736-2633

Account Info  
& Bill Payments: ..... (877) 534-2319  
Business Hours: ..... 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

### Board of Directors

Jerry Bowman ..... President  
Tammie Phillips ..... Vice President  
Billy Maness ..... Secretary-Treasurer  
Lee Isley ..... Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
Scott Cole ..... Larry Routh  
Delbert Cranford ..... Jeff Sugg  
Steve Harris

### Senior Staff

Dale F. Lambert .... Chief Executive Officer  
Jay Albright ..... District Vice President  
Adam Hargett .... Vice President of Finance  
Dennis Mabe ..... Vice President of Engineering & Operations  
Fred Smith ..... Vice President of Economic Development & Compliance  
Nicole Arnold ..... Editor

Visit Randolph EMC Online  
[RandolphEMC.com](http://RandolphEMC.com)

# Keep Track of the Energy You Use

Monitor your monthly usage & cost of electric service. Be sure to read your meter on the same day each month.

Month	Date Read	Reading	kWh Used	Bill Amount	Date Paid
January					
February					
March					
April					
May					
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
<b>Totals</b>					

## 2023 Cycle Billing Schedule

	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
<b>READ DATE</b>	DEC 24	JAN 24	FEB 24	MAR 24	APR 24	MAY 24	JUNE 24	JULY 24	AUG 24	SEPT 24	OCT 24	NOV 24				
	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1	JUNE 1	JULY 1	AUG 1	SEPT 1	OCT 1	NOV 1	DEC 1				
	JAN 8	FEB 8	MAR 8	APR 8	MAY 8	JUNE 8	JULY 8	AUG 8	SEPT 8	OCT 8	NOV 8	DEC 8				
	JAN 15	FEB 15	MAR 15	APR 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15	JULY 15	AUG 15	SEPT 15	OCT 15	NOV 15	DEC 15				
<b>BILL DATE</b>	JAN 3	FEB 6	MAR 6	APR 3	MAY 1	JUNE 5	JULY 3	AUG 1	SEPT 5	OCT 2	NOV 6	DEC 4				
	JAN 9	FEB 13	MAR 13	APR 10	MAY 8	JUNE 12	JULY 10	AUG 7	SEPT 11	OCT 9	NOV 13	DEC 11				
	JAN 16	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 17	MAY 15	JUNE 19	JULY 17	AUG 14	SEPT 18	OCT 16	NOV 20	DEC 18				
	JAN 23	FEB 27	MAR 27	APR 24	MAY 22	JUNE 26	JULY 24	AUG 21	SEPT 25	OCT 23	NOV 27	DEC 27				
<b>PAST DUE DATE</b>	JAN 28	FEB 28	MAR 28	APR 28	MAY 28	JUNE 28	JULY 28	AUG 28	SEPT 28	OCT 28	NOV 28	DEC 28				
	FEB 5	MAR 5	APR 5	MAY 5	JUNE 5	JULY 5	AUG 5	SEPT 5	OCT 5	NOV 5	DEC 5	JAN 5				
	FEB 12	MAR 12	APR 12	MAY 12	JUNE 12	JULY 12	AUG 12	SEPT 12	OCT 12	NOV 12	DEC 12	JAN 12				
	FEB 19	MAR 19	APR 19	MAY 19	JUNE 19	JULY 19	AUG 19	SEPT 19	OCT 19	NOV 19	DEC 19	JAN 19				
<b>SUBJECT TO DISCONNECTION</b>	FEB 13	MAR 13	APR 10	MAY 8	JUNE 12	JULY 10	AUG 7	SEPT 11	OCT 9	NOV 13	DEC 11	JAN 8				
	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 17	MAY 15	JUNE 19	JULY 17	AUG 14	SEPT 18	OCT 16	NOV 20	DEC 18	JAN 15				
	FEB 27	MAR 27	APR 24	MAY 22	JUNE 26	JULY 24	AUG 21	SEPT 25	OCT 23	NOV 27	DEC 27	JAN 22				
	MAR 6	APR 3	MAY 1	MAY 30	JULY 3	JUL 31	AUG 28	OCT 2	OCT 30	DEC 4	JAN 2	JAN 29				

### Automatic Draft Dates

CYCLE 1  
28th of month

CYCLE 2  
5th of month

CYCLE 3  
12th of month

CYCLE 4  
19th of month