

Watts Working

LOCAL LENDING

Randolph EMC Provides Zero-Interest Loan to Bennett Volunteer Fire Department



Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The program provides zero-interest loans and grants to local electric cooperatives, which in turn lend the money to local entities for projects that support rural areas.

“The USDA’s REDLG program is part of Randolph EMC’s mission to support the communities we serve,” said Fred Smith, Vice

The town of Bennett is sporting a new, shiny, red tanker truck, loaded with the newest upgrades in fire safety and technology. It’s equipped to respond as soon as duty calls. This purchase was made possible by a \$360,000 zero-interest loan from Randolph Electric Membership Corporation.

Randolph EMC was able to extend the loan through its Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund. The fund was established by way of the

President of Member and Public Relations. “As a member-owned cooperative, we are proud to be able to provide this zero-interest funding for equipment that will enhance the safety and well-being of not only those we serve, but the entire community served by Bennett Volunteer Fire Department.”

Securing the new tanker truck has helped improved the fire department’s quick and reliable water response in times of need to the people of Bennett

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and surrounding communities, and will positively impact costs for taxpayers in the area, as well.

“Being in a rural fire district, one of the biggest challenges we face is actually having access to water. Much of our area has no fire hydrants, which requires us to use local ponds to fill our tankers and shuttle back and forth to refill the tanker when more water is needed,” said Keenan Jones, Chief of the Bennett Volunteer Fire Department. “With the additional amount of water distribution this new tanker gives us, we now have the ability to better sustain the water flow needed to effectively fight structure fires, which can ultimately help save Bennett residents, farms and businesses on insurance costs,” he added.

The Bennett Volunteer Fire Department provides its surrounding community with fire and rescue services with a primary station located at 55 E.



Members of the Bennett Volunteer Fire Department proudly pose with their new tanker truck.

Raleigh Street, Bennett, in Chatham County. It serves many homes and businesses in rural Chatham and Randolph counties, and in the event of fire, the mobility of large amounts of water is crucial. The department also operates a substation located at Harpers Crossroads.

“We are proud to enhance the community we serve by providing better equipment and technology in the form of this tanker truck to the Bennett Volunteer Fire Department.

Our hope is that through quicker fire response, community members will be able to enjoy the same level of service as those within more urbanized areas of the state,” said Tammie Phillips, District Seven Director and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer for Randolph Electric’s Board of Directors. Once repaid, the funds loaned by Randolph Electric will be re-loaned to assist with future projects in the cooperative’s service area.

Swap Shop

For Sale

Natural wood baby crib, \$50. New wheelbarrow, \$50. New Sears propane grill, never used, \$100. 336-409-5450.

Large Whirlpool Washer, \$100. 336-267-9258.

Round dining room table with four chairs of different colors, \$160 OBO. 336-683-5229.

Aqua-Tech Hot Tub, EC, \$750. 336-629-3477 or 336-318-2245.

Two lift recliners, \$250 each. National Geographics, years 1961 – 2000. Some leather bound without ads, some in six months holders, \$25. 910-571-0144.

Whirlpool dryer, works great, \$200 OBO. Kenmore glass top stove, two years old, \$200 OBO. 336-312-4453.

2016 hay, second cut of the year. Hay has been in barn, no rain, 4x4 round rolls. \$30 per roll. 336-629-6138.

1990 Ford F-700 Dump Truck with 14ft dump bed. \$3,000 firm. 910-464-3459.

1996 Dodge Dakota V-6, runs but needs transmission work \$1,000. 1975 F-600 Dump truck with 330 engine, runs but needs work \$1,500. 336-873-7805.

Currier Piano, purchased new for \$3,500. Great Condition. \$900 OBO. 336-241-2652 after 2pm.

Two Velux fixed deck mount skylights with flash kits. Brand new, still in shipping boxes. \$550. 910-528-4283.

1974 F640 Dump truck ps, 2 speed, Miller Dump, Grain Sides & Low Sides. Very good tires. \$5,800. 336-581-3506.

Pictures, B&W & color, 8x10 \$10 or 10x13 \$25. All bridges & mills of the Uwharrie River including the Pisgah Covered Bridge. 336-629-2533.

Double-door fireplace insert. Requires opening at least 37.5" wide by 24.25" high. \$150. 336-362-7907.

3,000 Red Sex Sal Link pullets, chickens at laying age 16 weeks plus, vaccinated & debeaked, \$6.90 &

up. Liberty area. 336-708-2998 or 336-317-4105.

Heirloom Quilts made in the early 1940's. \$125 each OBO. 336-629-2560.

Cleaned deer corn, 50 lb. bags, \$6.00 each. Cleaned Feed Wheat, 50 lb. bags, \$8.00 each. Cleaned cracked corn, 50 lb. bags, \$6.50 each. 336-622-2480 or 336-736-0390.

New handmade quilts, F,Q&K. Power Booster for RV hookup. Shoes & Western boots. 15 knives for \$100. 336-625-4548.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom, 1 bath house in the country with central heat & air. Robbins/Carthage area, no pets. \$500 per month plus \$100 deposit. 910-947-5910.

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom mobile home located at 129 Nathan Rd in Carthage, \$475 per month. Mobile home lot on Nathan Rd, \$125 per month. 910-464-3459.

Members, email Swap Shop items to General@RandolphEMC.com

PHP Receives \$10,000 to Fund Community Grants Program

Randolph EMC's People Helping People program was recently awarded \$5,000 as part of cooperative lender CoBank's Sharing Success Matching Grant Program. Sharing Success was started in 2012 as a way to give back to co-ops and the nonprofits they support. Under the program, CoBank allocates \$3 million annually to match charitable contributions by cooperatives to nonprofit organizations in their local communities, up to \$5,000 per co-op.

With Randolph EMC's \$5,000 contribution combined with CoBank's \$5,000 match, People Helping People is able to extend its charitable reach into the community with \$10,000 for nonprofit agencies for the third year in a row.

People Helping People (PHP) is a nonprofit program that gives Randolph EMC members a unique

opportunity to help others by "rounding up" their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar. The extra change that these members contribute goes into the PHP account, which is used to fund requests for assistance from other members in need of financial help because of circumstances outside of their control. The money that members contribute from their bills is not used in the community grants program.



Nonprofits, Apply for Grant Funds Now!

Registered 501(c)(3) organizations in Alamance, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Randolph counties are eligible to apply for funding up to \$2,000. The funds should be used to implement programs or purchase needed equipment to facilitate a program that will help make a positive impact in the communities where Randolph EMC member-owners reside. Priority will be placed on projects that:

- Positively impact and address an unmet need for a significant number of community members
- Have the potential to serve a broad and diverse range of community members
- Contain measurable short-term outcomes within 12 months

To learn more about how to receive a grant application, please visit RandolphEMC.com or contact Kathleen Duckworth, Communication and Outreach Specialist at (336) 625-5177.

Grant applications will be accepted through May 31, 2017, and will be carefully reviewed by the People Helping People Board of Directors in July.



ANNOUNCING...

REconnect

A Community Engagement Meeting for
Randolph **E**lectric Member-Owners

When: Monday, March 13, 2017
6:30 p.m. (Light Dinner Included)

Where: Montgomery Community
College Multi-Purpose Room—
1011 Page Street, Troy

What to Do When the Power Goes Out

It doesn't happen often, but when it does, know what to check first to get your power restored sooner.

First check your breakers or fuses on your own system to see if they have tripped.

If so, the problem is most likely with your own wiring and an electrician is needed.

If not, call Randolph EMC's hotline at 1-877-736-2633 (1-877-REMC-OFF) to report the outage. This puts you directly into our outage management system that matches your phone number to your account and automatically reports your outage. If no match is found, your call is forwarded to the next available dispatcher.

For the quickest service, please make sure we always have your current phone numbers—especially cell phone numbers—on file so that you'll be immediately recognized by our system. One of our Member Service Specialists will be happy to update your account for you or you can log on to the Online Member Service Portal at any time to make changes to the contact information for your account.

Remember, a major outage can affect thousands of other members. We appreciate your patience as crews work as safely as possible to restore your power.

REVIVE Your Co-op Membership

Get connected with Randolph Electric!

We're introducing a new series of casual member meetings where we can share tips and answer questions to help you make the most of your membership. Each meeting will be held at a different location each quarter, making it convenient for members to travel to a meeting near their home.

RETHINK Your Energy Strategies

- **Talk with our energy experts** to see how REMC's usage monitoring tools can help you be a master at managing how your energy's used.
- **Curious about electric vehicles?** Find out how these can be a savings tool for both EV owners and the cooperative, and how we plan to support this growing trend across the system.
- **What's new?** Learn about new services and programs your co-op has to offer.

RESPOND Today!

Let us know if you'll be joining us!

**Please RSVP to Ravonda Hanes at (800) 672-8212 or
Ravonda.Hanes@RandolphEMC.com by March 3.**



Macy Daniel to Serve as Randolph EMC's 2017 Youth Tour Delegate



Macy Daniel, a sophomore at Randolph Early College High School, was selected to represent Randolph Electric Membership Corporation as the 2017 Youth Tour Delegate this summer in Washington D.C. the week of June 12-16.

Macy was selected to be Randolph Electric's delegate for the NRECA Youth Tour based on her community involvement, academic success and her knowledge about REMC's cooperative business model. Macy is the daughter of Adena and Tommy Daniel of Asheboro. The family are proud member-owners of Randolph Electric and Tommy has even had the pleasure of educating a few REMC linemen when they were younger, as he is a local high school teacher.

Macy will join more than 1,500 high school students from across the country to learn about cooperatives, the rural electric program, U.S. history, government and democracy. She will meet with congressional leaders on Capitol Hill and tour various national monuments and museums throughout the week-long program. While in Washington D.C., Macy hopes to discuss important issues of energy consumption within the school and transportation systems with her legislators.

"As a rural electric cooperative, Randolph Electric is pleased to support youth leadership opportunities, because they are our future leaders," said Kathleen Duckworth, Communication and Outreach Specialist at Randolph EMC. "We are proud that Macy will represent us in Washington and look forward to watching her grow and learn through this wonderful experience."

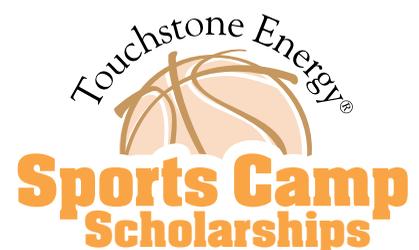
Pictured above: (L-R) REMC Communications & Outreach Specialist Kathleen Duckworth, Macy Daniel, and her parents, Adena and Tommy Daniel.

NC State & UNC Basketball Scholarship Applications Due March 31st



The final deadline is fast approaching for rising sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders to apply for a scholarship to attend the Roy Williams or Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camps this summer!

Visit RandolphEMC.com for more information and to download an application.



A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



Preparation Makes All the Difference

Dear Members,

It's the first of February as this month's column is written. Reflecting back on January, we experienced some unusually wild weather swings. Temps early in the month hovered in the upper twenties for daily highs for a couple of days with lows dipping into the single digits. That's pretty nippy for our neck of the woods.

Hopefully, a few of those dreaded summer insects were taken out because of it. At least that's what mom and dad always told us. "We need some really cold nights to kill the mosquitoes," they said. Apparently, it never gets cold enough around here to make much of a difference. But if this summer you find that mosquitoes are as rare as unicorns and Bigfoot, I'll take that statement back.

What a difference a week made. I loved wearing short-sleeved shirts on those warm, spring-like days later in the month, when highs were recorded in the seventies. It sure made me look forward to spring. I even thought about warming up the turkey calls.

But I'm not counting bad weather out yet. We've had some doozies of storms hit the system in the month of March. Everything from ice storms to tornadoes are in the mix.

No matter what comes our way, the National Weather Service wants us to be prepared for any weather event by declaring March 5-11 "Severe Weather Preparedness Week." Severe weather can happen anytime, in any part of the country. It can include hazardous conditions produced by thunderstorms, including damaging winds, tornadoes, large hail, flooding and flash flooding, and winter storms associated with freezing rain, sleet, snow and strong winds.

This is a great week to sit down and take a few moments to make a plan for your family at home, work, school, and when outdoors. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has an abundance of tips on their site at Ready.gov, and they even have an app you can put on your smartphone that includes safety tips, weather alerts and a section to input details about your family's emergency kit and meeting places.



Outage Reporting Hotline

Whenever you experience a power outage, you should report it to 1-877-736-2633. This automated system will recognize your location and immediately alert dispatchers of the outage. It will also tell you the status of the outage if it has already been reported. Keep this number handy if a storm is in the forecast!



Outage Map

Outages.RandolphEMC.com

See the number of current outages across REMC's system, along with an estimated number of how many members are affected. The site updates every two minutes to give you the latest information. The outage map is also integrated directly in REMC's mobile app.

So how does Randolph EMC prepare? Your cooperative employees work every day to prevent outages and take steps to lessen the impact on you and your families when storms hit. From performing routine maintenance on equipment, utilizing an aggressive right-of-way trimming program and progressive planning for system load growth, being prepared makes for a much more efficient and effective response.

Not only does all this planning result in faster outage restoration, it helps us keep costs down for you, our member-owners. A well-maintained system is more resilient and can better withstand damaging storms.

Randolph EMC has developed a storm plan that is activated in the likely event that our system will be impacted. The storm plan covers activating the storm center, scheduling employees' work rotation shifts, answering outage calls, fueling up trucks, and securing line materials, equipment, and additional crews (and preparing for their housing and food). With a plan in place, we're not spending precious time and resources trying to figure out what to do. We're hitting the ground running as soon as the first outage call comes in.

A key component of our (and hopefully your) storm plan is communication. We do our best to share safety and preparedness information on our website and social media before the storm and provide updates on our progress when we have widespread outages. We also work closely with the news media and emergency management agencies to keep you up-to-date on our efforts. And even though we have employees here to answer phones around the clock, we have several convenient tools that you can use to stay connected to us throughout a storm, which are listed below.

Preparedness can make all the difference for the safety and comfort for our families when storms hit. We'll be ready to weather any spring storms that come our way, and I hope you will, too.

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 31,500 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: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, M-F

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Web & Social Media

Stay connected with REMC online at RandolphEMC.com and on Facebook & Twitter. We'll post frequent updates and share photos and other emergency information.

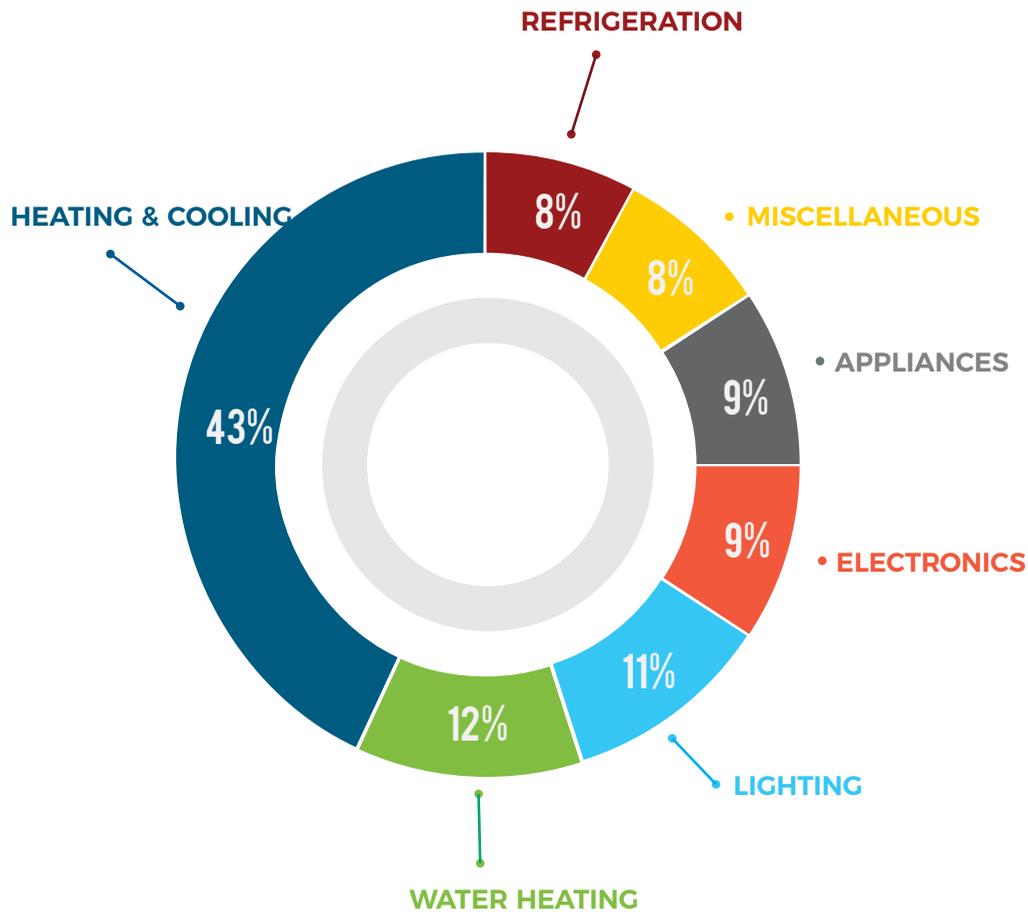
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WHERE DOES YOUR ENERGY GO?

10 WAYS TO START SAVING MONEY NOW



Home energy use is different for everyone and hinges on several factors, including size of home, members in your household, your location and preferences. Knowing how your energy expense is divided will help you prioritize your energy saving habits.

Here are the top 10 tips that any good energy saver should do first.

1. Replace any light bulb, especially ones that are on more than one hour per day, with a light-emitting diode (LED) bulb.
2. Close shades and drapes during the day to help keep heat out in summer.
3. Plug electronic devices such as cable boxes, printers and TVs into power strips to turn off during vacations or long periods without use.
4. Outside your home, caulk around all penetrations including telephone, electrical, cable, gas, water spigots, dryer vents, etc.
5. Change HVAC air filters monthly.
6. Use dishwasher's air-dry cycle instead of the heat-dry cycle to dry dishes.
7. Keep your garage door down. A warmer garage in the winter and cooler garage in the summer will save energy.
8. Set water heater temperature no higher than 120°F.
9. Make sure dryer vent hose is not kinked or clogged.
10. Ensure refrigerator door seals are tight.

Source: Touchstone Energy