

Tri-County news

Tri-County EMC Membership Corporation Dudley, N.C.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

News and Information For Cooperative Members

February 2017

At the Heart of the Community

Tri-County EMC's business is providing electricity, but our heart is in empowering our members and building the communities we serve. If you're looking for love this Valentine's Day, consider the love we have to give to you and to the community.

Loving you—our members

You might wonder why we, a business that sells the service of electricity, provides you with tips and tools to use less of what we sell. It's because of our business model. Cooperative businesses are not-for-profit and exist to provide exceptional service to members, rather than to make a profit.

We think that means giving you the tools you need to make informed energy decisions that can lead to more manageable family budgets. We are not a Wall Street corporation; we are locally owned and operated, so we know how important it is to stick to a budget.

Loving our community

Tri-County EMC and its employees have big hearts for service and giving back to others. Our employees annually raise money to fund our Scholarship Program, which has provided college scholarships to more than 600 students since its inception in 2001. High school seniors are encouraged to apply for scholarships that are currently available.

You, our members, have big hearts, too. Through the Operation Round Up program, members have joined



together to contribute over \$1.7 million to support your neighbors and communities in need; improving the quality of life for all.

Through our Bright Ideas education grant program, local teachers win funding for innovative projects to help students achieve success. And right now, we're accepting applications for Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarships that will send two local students to basketball camps on college campuses. With these programs and others, not only are we spreading the love to our members and organizations, but to children, which are the future of our community.

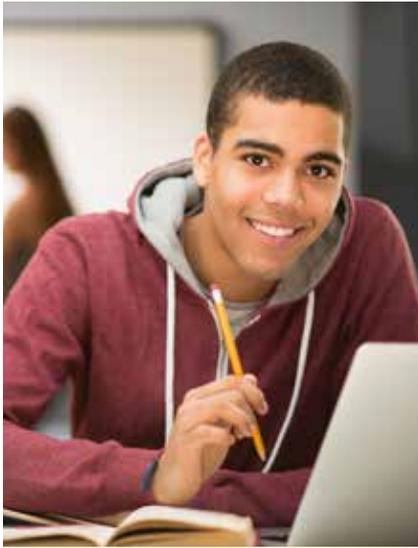
Loving local businesses and economies

At the same time, Tri-County EMC is investing to help our communities. Through the years, we have worked

with local organizations to secure USDA Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants as well as pledged monies to our local economic development agencies. We believe by having a vested interest, we are ensuring our communities are thriving and growing to improve the quality of life for our members.

Tri-County EMC was founded in 1940 when neighbors worked together to raise poles, string lines, and bring electricity to the people and farms of our area. Our members were the core of our cooperative then, and they remain at the heart of our existence today. Much has changed in the last 76 years, but our cooperative mission stands unchanged: To power, and empower, the people and communities we serve.

We  our members!



Tri-County EMC College Scholarships Now Available!

As part of our employees' commitment to the communities we serve, Tri-County EMC is proud to offer scholarships to deserving high school seniors in our service area. Scholarships of \$500 will be awarded to graduating seniors who pursue a four-year degree and scholarships of \$250 will be awarded to graduating seniors pursuing a two-year degree. Since 2001, Tri-County EMC employees have raised money through various fundraisers and have funded scholarships for 663 students totaling \$305,250.

To qualify, you must be a high school senior whose parents or guardians are members of Tri-County EMC or attend high school in our service area (Southern Wayne, Charles B. Aycock, Rosewood, Spring Creek, Eastern Wayne, North Duplin, East Duplin, James Kenan, North Lenoir or South Lenoir High Schools).

Applications may be obtained at the guidance counselor's offices of the schools listed above or by visiting our website at tcemc.com. Applications must be received on or before Friday, March 31, 2017.



PrePay: An Easier Way to Pay

Would it be easier for you to make smaller daily or weekly payments rather than a single monthly payment?

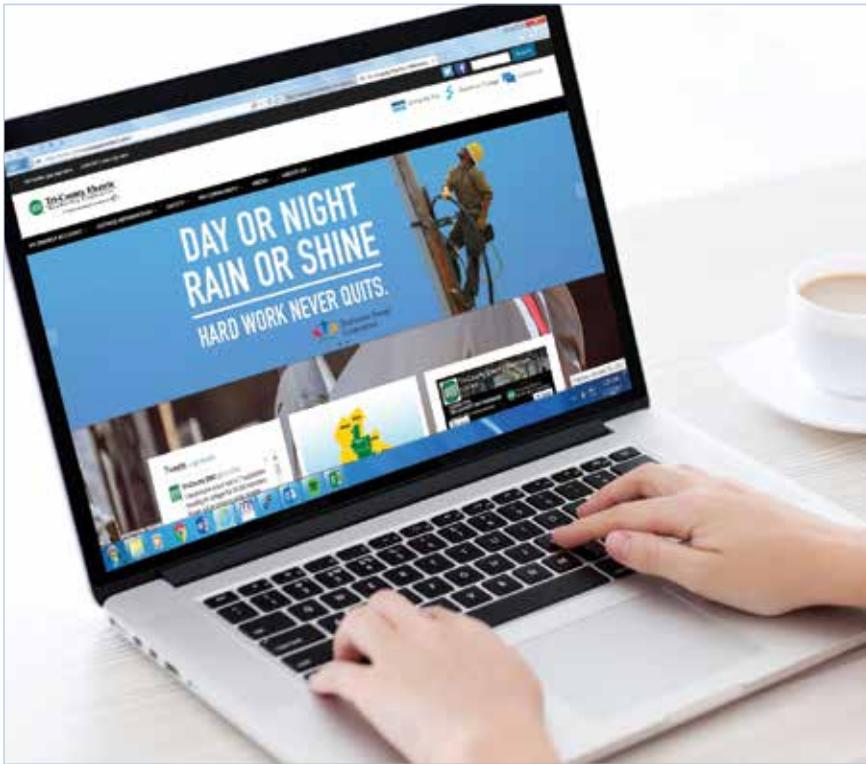
If so, our PrePay program may be right for you! Growing in popularity, PrePay was developed for members who needed an easier way to manage their bill. Others simply want the convenience to "pay as you go" (with a minimum of \$20), on whatever schedule you like. PrePay members can save money because no deposit is required and there's never a late fee. Simply keep a balance of any amount in your account to keep power flowing. Tracking your balance is also easy: choose to receive a cellular phone text or email text. For more information on this payment method, contact Tri-County EMC at 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869.

Tri-County EMC Welcomes New Employee

Tri-County EMC welcomes Josh Mattox as the cooperative's new Manager of Information Technology. A native of the Washington, D.C. area, Mattox is an IT professional with 17 years of combined experience as a Systems Engineer and Manager. He studied Design and Development at Full Sail University and now combines his systems and development skills to promote cost-effective, innovative solutions for TCEMC. Prior to relocating from Haymarket, Virginia, Josh served as a Planning Commissioner for the Town of Haymarket and became a Certified Planning Commissioner through Virginia Tech's Land Use Education Program. Josh resides in Angier with his wife, Julia and daughters, Sadie and Stella.



Josh Mattox



Tri-County EMC website launched

Tri-County EMC is excited to launch its revamped website, designed to allow members to easily access TCEMC information and pay utility bills online. The new tcemc.com, which debuted in January, features a simplified modern look allowing members to quickly navigate the site.

“We strive to effectively communicate with our members and redesigned the website to better serve our members efficiently,” said J. Michael Davis, General Manager of TCEMC.

The new website allows members to log into their e-bill accounts right from the homepage, access available applications and provides a variety of safety and energy efficiency tips.



Left to right: Jerry Mozingo, Director Brandy Rouse, Angela Anderson, Aaron Barwick, Taylor Coates, Lucinda Newell, Bob Kornegay and Mike Buegeler.

TCEMC Service Awards

Employees and board members of Tri-County EMC were recently recognized for their years of service during the Annual Christmas Party held at the Wayne County Shrine Club on December 17, 2016.

General Manager Mike Davis recognized and congratulated each employee on their outstanding service and dedication to the cooperative and its members. Services awards were presented to Angela Anderson, Aaron

Barwick, Taylor Coates, Lucinda Newell, Yvonne Martin, Kimberly Jackson and Director Brandy Rouse for five years, Jerry Mozingo for 10 years, Bob Kornegay for 15 years and Mike Buegeler for 20 years.

The Cooperative Exchange

A Service For Members of Tri-County EMC

Members of Tri-County EMC may submit ads to The Cooperative Exchange on a first-come, first-serve basis. We ask that no commercial business ads be submitted and we reserve the right to refuse ads of questionable content. We also reserve the right to edit ads of unreasonable length. You may mail your ad to Cooperative Exchange, Tri-County EMC, PO Box 130, Dudley, NC 28333. Please include your area code with your phone number. Or, you may call 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869, ext. 621. Deadline for ads is the 1st of each month.

FOR SALE

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS Files, Papers, Books compiled over 40 years by a First Aid/Safety Instructor (\$25). Ten Pair of Work Pants, 36 or 38x32 (\$5). Baby Stroller, Good Condition (\$30). 919-581-0046 (10).

CORNICE BOARD 11ft. x 10 ft. wide, hunter green, covers three windows with matching pleated drapery 4ft wide, floor length. (Best Offer). 252-559-3235 (10).

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS Sentria Kirby vacuum cleaner, rug shampooer, and extra disposal bags. 252-559-3235 (10).

PORCELAIN TILE 5 Boxes (7 pieces per box) of 18x18" Mesa Rust Colored Porcelain Tile. \$30. Call 919-731-3033 (12).

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT 2Bdr/2Bth. Single-Wide on Private Lot (Grantham Area). Call 919-222-2920. (12).

TUFFLINE DISC 10.5ft. \$2200. Call 919-738-4710 (12).

Tri-County EMC will gladly publish announcements of fundraisers for non-profit organizations or special benefits for individuals if space is available. The deadline is the 1st of each month for the announcement to come out in the next newsletter. Call Deidra Locklear at 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869, Ext. 621.

Please show courtesy to those selling, renting and wanting items listed in the Cooperative Exchange by not calling before 7AM nor after 10 PM.

Tri-County news

Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation in Dudley, N.C., was chartered May 8, 1940.

J. Michael Davis
General Manager

Management Staff
Kenneth E. Davis, Jr.
Manager of Finance & Accounting

Tony Grantham, P. E.
Manager of Engineering

Robert B. Kornegay
Manager of Marketing & Member Services

Deidra Locklear, Editor
Manager of Communications & Public Relations

Josh Mattox
Manager of Information Technology

Michael Wood
Manager of Operations

Board of Directors

Carl W. Kornegay, Jr.—President
Leland Heath, Jr.—Vice President
William H. Farmer, Jr.—Secretary
Worth Overman, Jr.—Treasurer

Keith Beavers
Dallace Grady
Jeff Henderson
Randy McCullen
Jennings Outlaw
Brandy Rouse
David Vinson

Mission Statement

Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation is a member-driven cooperative committed to providing reliable electric power at a reasonable cost, to offering superior service, and to taking an active role in supporting the communities it serves.

**We are here to serve you
24 hours a day, 7 days a week
and 365 days a year.**

**For Outages or Emergencies Call
919-735-2611 or 1-800-548-4869
www.tcemc.com**



UNC and Wolfpack Basketball Camp Scholarships: Apply Today!

Tri-County EMC is accepting applications from middle-school students for all-expense-paid scholarships to summer basketball camps at the University of North Carolina and NC State University. Young men can apply to attend the Roy Williams Carolina Basketball Camp in Chapel Hill, and young women can compete for a spot at the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp in Raleigh.

Students can download an application at www.ncelectriccooperatives.com/community beginning Jan. 2, 2017. Tri-County EMC will select one student for each camp in a competitive process based on academics, extra-curricular activities and a short essay. Rising sixth through eighth graders are eligible to apply, and the final application deadline is March 31.

The Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship program, sponsored by Tri-County EMC and the state's other 25 electric cooperatives, sends more than 50 students statewide to learn from renowned collegiate coaches and athletes each year. Both camps will work closely with students to develop fundamental skills like sportsmanship and leadership that will help the young athletes excel both on and off the court.

The Touchstone Energy Sports Camps program provides a unique educational and athletic opportunity for outstanding students across our state and is yet another way the cooperatives are demonstrating their commitment to North Carolina communities.



Employees— Ready To Serve

Donna Hill is one of 50 employees ready to

serve you. She has worked with Tri-County EMC since June 22, 2015, and is a Member Services Representative for the cooperative. Donna, her husband Neal, son and daughter, live in Mount Olive.