

# The NEWS LINE

RUTHERFORD ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION  
www.rem.com

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Owned By Those We Serve

August 2020

## Rutherford EMC to host its first ever "Online Annual Meeting" for 2020.

We have made this decision in order to protect the safety of our members, employees and communities during these uncertain times. Although we may not be able to meet in-person, technology allows us to carry out the business portion of this year's Annual Meeting virtually, meaning it can be viewed live online. For members who are not able to view it at that time, it will be recorded and posted on our website.

To conduct the 2020 Board of Director's election, Rutherford EMC members will vote by either a mail-in ballot or an online ballot prior to the Annual Meeting. More details to come in the September issue of the Carolina Country magazine and at [remc.com](http://remc.com).



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**October 31, 2020**  
**@ 11 a.m.**

## Does the Pandemic Have You Planning a Staycation Rather Than A Vacation this Summer?

*(Tips to Save Energy and Money Either Way)*

**Planning to stay home instead of heading out of town? Here are some easy ways to save energy and money when it's hot outside:**

- **Resist cranking the AC.** Set the thermostat as high as comfortably possible. The less difference between indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower the amount of energy used for cooling. Keep exterior doors, windows and blinds closed, and interior doors and vents open, to reduce strain on your HVAC system.
- **Put your pool in time-out.** If you are lucky enough to have a pool to cool off in, be sure to add a timer to your pump or better yet upgrade to an Energy Star Certified variable speed pump. Studies show that most people can reduce their pump use to approximately 3 hours per day and still be satisfied with the water quality.
- **Watch the clock.** Wait to use major appliances, especially those that generate heat like the clothes dryer and dishwasher, until the late evening, overnight or early morning hours to help your home stay cooler.
- **Stay in the know about your energy use.** Sign up for free high usage alerts that automatically notify you if your energy use exceeds a certain threshold, helping you avoid surprises on your bill. You can monitor your energy use 24/7 on REMC's Member Portal. Check it out at [remc.com](http://remc.com).

**So...you're heading out of town this summer? Use this time away to help cut your home's energy use. Here are some adjustments that can save energy and keep more money in your pocket.**

- **Give your AC and water heater a vacation, too.** Set your thermostat to 85 degrees when you leave, this will prevent your air conditioning system from working overtime to cool your home while you're not there to enjoy it. Also, turn your water heater down to the lowest setting to prevent it from working hard while you're out playing.
- **Turn off lights and unplug devices.** Consider using a timer if you want to leave a light on for security at night, and a power strip that will turn off multiple items with a single switch. Some electronic devices like computers, TV's and microwaves use energy even when they are turned off. Every little bit adds up!
- **Monitor energy use while you're away.** Don't forget you can still monitor your home's energy use on our website at [remc.com](http://remc.com) by using the Member Portal while you're out of town. If you notice a sudden spike it may signal a bigger issue, like a malfunctioning cooling system or water heater. The sooner the issue is recognized the more money you can save in energy costs.

Go to [remc.com](http://remc.com) to learn more about the energy services mentioned above and to get additional tips to help you save energy this summer and year-round.

## SWAP SHOP

Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation provides Swap Shop ads as a free service to its members. Guidelines are as follows: Ads are published first-come, first-served. When the space allotted for ads each month is full, remaining ads will be held over for the next issue. Ads will not be run more than once unless re-submitted. Commercial ads will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit, condense or deny publication of any advertisement. Rutherford Electric Membership Corp. assumes no responsibility for the content of any advertisement and does not endorse or warrant any of the goods so advertised. Please include your account number with your ad.

### Mail your ads to:

Newsletter Editor, Rutherford EMC, PO Box 1569,  
Forest City, NC, 28043-1569 or e-mail at [cballey@remc.com](mailto:cballey@remc.com).

No phone calls, please.

## FOR SALE

**2006** Chevrolet Colorado - 4 door, 2wd, white in color, looks & runs good, 170,000+ miles, \$8,000. 828-248-8523.

**1986** Chevrolet Silverado - shaved door handles, lowered, custom paint, meter gauges, 5 spd. manual transmission w/OD, 275/40/17 tires on American Racing wheels. 828-334-3182.

**PetSafe** small plastic pet door for animals up to 15 lb., like new & in original box, \$35; Michelin Latitude Tour tires (5), size 225/65R17, quiet riding & evenly worn, 5/32 of tread left, came off a 2013 Honda CRV, \$50. 828-894-2562.

**1974** Ford F-700 w/flatbed dump, very low mileage, good cond. 828-334-3182.

**Two** cemetery plots - side by side, Lot 74 on Hillside 1 at McDowell Memorial Park, Marion, NC. \$1,000 for both. 828-803-7930.

**2012** Hyundai Santa Fe GLS - 2wd, 5 spd. automatic, class 3 hitch w/brake control, full roof rack, 21,200 miles, very good cond., \$4,000. 860-207-5223.

**NKC** registered Doberman Pinschers, Mini-Pinschers & Sheltie pups. 828-334-4257.

**Round** kitchen drop leaf table w/3 chairs, blonde colored \$60; chest of drawers, blonde colored, \$25; blonde full/queen headboard, \$35; bedframe bought for the headboard, \$10; two-drawer blonde nightstands, \$35; antique end table, \$15; dark colored cu-

rio shelf, handmade using spools, \$8; heavy wooden headboard/footboard bed w/rails, dark in color, \$35; large window coffee table, needs some staining, asking \$75 OBO, sales for \$125; white glass/wood hexagon end table, \$20; push lawnmower, \$25. 704-460-4835.

**Floor** balance beam - padded top w/tan covering, wood stabilizer feet, KGS risers can be added, made by Gymnast Hut, \$75; (4) gymnast mats - 8' x 4' four panel foam folding mats w/handles, blue in color, can Velcro together to make longer mat, ex. cond., by Best Choice Products, \$40 ea. 980-263-7435.

**Electronic** portable keyboard, model MK922, it has 61 keys, comes w/music stand, box & manual, like new, \$150. 980-263-7435.

**Antique** walnut square single drawer table w/turned legs, \$200; antique 2 leg mantel, circa 1892, \$795; vintage mahogany library table w/leather inset top, \$95; antique chest of 3 dove tail drawers w/mirrored top, circa mid 1800's, \$225; antique pair of straight back chairs w/tapestry seats, \$60; vintage Princess House fine crystal platter, circa 1979, \$30; Jewell Tea teapot w/diffuser, \$60; variety of fabrics, \$4 per yard. 704-922-8991.

**Large** collection of old medicine bottles, 2 liter glass cola bottles, other bottles & jars, would like to sell as a unit. 704-462-1211.

**Large** Fischer wood burning stove, needs a few bricks, \$275. 828-403-3027.

**1993** Buick Roadmaster, 5.7 liter fuel injected V8, 146,000 actual miles, nice leather interior, 2 new tires, new headliner, new load leveler shocks, ¼ vinyl top, no rust, never wrecked, N.C. car. 828-433-0645.

**2012** Suzuki Burgman 650 trike cycle, white in color w/light gold metallic, 4,044 miles, ex. cond., \$4,699 negotiable. 828-433-0645.

**Large** Harley Davidson helmet, \$60. 828-433-0645.

**Modern** Maid wood cook stove, old but date unknown, needs restoring, will sell as is, \$150. 704-739-5685.

**John** Deere 1780 8/15 no-till planters w/3 bushel boxes, 8 corn meters w/insecticide boxes, new coulter this year, has row markers & wired for AG Leader monitor system, includes a John Deere radar and

monitor, asking \$18,500 OBO. GPS, monitor can be included for an additional \$6,000 OBO. 980-429-0583.

**1998** Honda Aero ACE 1100, windshield, hand shields, hard bags, windshield bag, fork bag, Mustang seats, highway bar w/pegs, passing lamps, 3 helmets, 2 textile coats (one with rain liner), textile chaps, cold weather gloves, rain gear, cover & shop manual. Bike has never spent a night outside, always garage kept, & adult driven, 43k miles, \$2,600 cash only or trade for a nice tall 40 ft. shipping container. Serious inquiries by text only 704-747-6845.

**Bedroom** furniture - 5 pc. maple Queen Anne bedroom suite in perfect cond., \$400; vintage 1950 bedroom suite in ex. cond., \$400; Queen Anne dining room suite w/table & chairs, \$150, OBO. 828-584-6839.

**2002** Chevy Astro van, 125,110 original miles, new tires, new AC compressor & belt, new fuel pump, AM/FM/CD player, gray in color w/gray interior, \$4,500. Call or text 828-442-7001.

**275** gal. water totes, \$75 ea.; metal burning barrels or plastic top barrels, \$10 ea.; 15 gal. jugs, \$20 ea. 828-327-4782.

**Local** honey crop - \$15 per quart Mason jar, some comb slices available. 704-748-3258.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**For Rent:** Horse pasture & barn located on Dysartville Rd. in Nebo, you and a friend can ride 450 acres and miles of nicely wooded trails, 2 mile ride along South Muddy Creek, room for 3 horses, \$150/month per horse. 828-413-1969.

## WANTED

**12 ft.** aluminum boat, Jon boat for example, in very good cond., do not need or want a trailer, prefer in Burke Co. area. 828-391-1176.

**Retired** couple seeking a mini or small lap dog that does not shed, can be mixed breed, must be healthy & gentle. 828-221-6672.

**Used** hot tub in good condition. 954-934-7757.

## Join Rutherford EMC in Recognizing 8/11 as a Reminder to Call 811 Before You Dig

On Aug. 11 (8/11), Rutherford EMC is reminding members to dial 8-1-1 at least three working days before beginning a digging project. This free and simple step can save lives and reduce risk of injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages.

"Every time you break ground, even for something simple like planting a shrub or installing a mailbox, you should call 811 first," said Colon Saunders, vice president of operations at Rutherford EMC. "No matter your level of expertise, it's important to know what's below the ground to prevent the potentially serious consequences of hitting a utility line."

The national 811 "Call Before You Dig" phone number links residents to a local call center, which then dispatches local utility companies to mark line locations with paint or flags. These marked lines show you where it is - and isn't - safe to break ground. Once your lines have been marked, make sure to dig carefully around the marks, not on top of them. Because utility line locations can shift, it's important to call each time you are planning to dig.

For more information about safe digging and the "Call Before You Dig" process, visit [nc811.org](http://nc811.org).



# 2020

## YOUTH TOUR CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19



Aubrey Spicola



Erin Clark



Owen Lawrence



Ethany Payne

Each year, Rutherford EMC is excited to connect with local youth in our service area through the NC Electric Cooperatives Youth Tour. This trip is a weeklong opportunity for them to enjoy the sights, sounds, and culture of Washington, D.C. This learning experience is often described by many participants as “the trip of a lifetime!” However, the cancellation of this year’s Youth Tour was announced on April 2, due to the ongoing uncertainties surrounding COVID-19.

This decision was unavoidable considering the unpredictability of the pandemic situation and the uncertainty of when it will be safe to resume large group activities once again.

Before the COVID-19 outbreak and the official cancellation announcement in April, our 2020 candidates were interviewed and the final selections were made. In light of these unforeseen circumstances, Rutherford EMC has decided to recognize those that were selected as this year’s Youth Tour delegates by awarding them with a one-time college scholarship upon graduating high school next year.

These students were selected as Youth Tour delegates based on their academic achievement, community involvement, and their demonstrated interest in the cooperative business model. “We are certain that each of these young folks would have represented the co-op extremely well,” said Dirk Burleson,

general manager. “Although they are unable to experience this wonderful learning adventure the Youth Tour provides, we are certain that a college scholarship will be beneficial to them and their futures. We wish them all the best of luck in pursuing their dreams”.

It is our pleasure to announce this year’s Youth Tour finalists and special scholarship recipients: Aubrey Spicola from North Lincoln High School, Erin Clark from Burke Middle College High School, Owen Lawrence from Cleveland Early College High School and Ethany Payne from Robert L. Patton High School.

*Congratulations to each  
of you on your  
amazing accomplishments!*



NC Electric Cooperatives  
**Youth Tour**



## TOUCHSTONE ENERGY SPORTS CAMPS CANCELED

Due to the concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, officials at both the Wolfpack Women’s Basketball Camp at North Carolina State University and the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have announced the cancellation of their summer basketball camp programs this year.

This is certainly disappointing for the kids who worked so hard to apply, but we do understand the importance of their decision to cancel for the health and safety of everyone involved with the camps.

*We appreciate your understanding as we navigate these changes.  
Thank you to all who applied and we invite you to apply again next year!*

# Can I Get Your Number?



At Rutherford EMC we are constantly striving to improve our operational efficiency so we can provide the most reliable electric service possible for our consumer-members (that's you!).

We rely on data for nearly every aspect of our operations, which is why we need your help. By making sure we have your most accurate and complete contact information, we can continue to provide the high level of service that you expect and deserve. Accurate information enables us to improve customer service and enhance communications for reporting and repairing outages. It also allows co-op members to receive information about other important programs, events and activities.

Up-to-date contact information can potentially speed up the power restoration process during an outage. For example, the phone number you provide is linked to your service address in our outage management system. This means when you call to report an outage, our system recognizes your phone number and matches it with your account location. Accurate information helps our outage management system predict the location and possible causes of an outage, making it easier for our crews to correctly identify and plan for the potential problem before they even arrive on scene.

While we always do our best to maintain service, we occasionally plan outages to update, repair or replace equipment. In these instances, we can

provide advance notification to affected members through automated phone messages, text messages or email, if we have your updated contact information and communication preferences.

Keeping the co-op updated with your information helps us when there's a question about energy use or billing. Emails and text messages are also used to alert registered members of any unexpected changes in their daily usage. In addition, discrepancies on your account can be taken care of promptly if Rutherford EMC has accurate account information.

Many of you have been members of the co-op for years, and it's likely that your account information hasn't been updated for some time. We recognize that many members now use a cell phone as their primary phone service, and we might not have that number in our system.

I want to emphasize that in providing your contact information to the co-op, we will never share this information with any third parties. It is only used by Rutherford EMC to communicate with you. Please take a moment to confirm and update the contact information shown on your monthly electric bill. By doing so, you will be helping us improve service and efficiency so we can better serve you and all members of the co-op.

*Source: Anne Prince of NRECA*

## We Are Here For You!

**WALK-IN OR DRIVE-THRU**

**WEBSITE**

**MAIL**

**AUTO DRAFT**

**MOBILE APP**

**DROP BOX**

**PHONE**

**REMC OFFICES & PHONE NUMBERS**

- FOREST CITY**  
(828) 245-1621 or  
1-800-521-0920 (Toll Free)
- MORGANTON**  
(828) 584-1410 or  
1-800-228-9756  
(Toll Free)
- MARION**  
(828) 652-2136
- CHERRYVILLE**  
(704) 435-5401 or  
1-800-228-5331  
(Toll Free)
- GASTONIA**  
(704) 629-6226
- LINCOLNTON**  
(704) 735-5381

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