



FEATURE ARTICLE

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC AWARDS \$750,000 LOAN TO THE TOWN OF YANCEYVILLE

The Town of Yanceyville is expanding its municipal fire station with the help of Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation. Piedmont Electric has awarded the town a \$750,000 zero-interest loan to aid in the expansion of the Yanceyville Municipal Fire Department.

The loan funds are available in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program, which provides zero-interest funding to local electric cooperatives, such as Piedmont Electric. The cooperatives, in turn, lend this money to local businesses and governments for projects that support rural areas.

The loan is for the addition of 4,916 square feet to the Yanceyville Fire Department building, which was constructed in the late 1960s. The new addition is of masonry construction, containing two truck bays with 13'x14' glass bay doors, training room for approximately 40 persons, sleeping quarters for four firefighters, accessible restrooms with showers, storage areas, two offices and a reception and work area.

The project also includes reroofing, masonry facade, and egress improvements to the existing building

that include replacement and upgrade of the existing bay doors to match the two new glass bay doors, site work, and additional paved off-street parking for 15 vehicles.

According to the Town Manager, Brian Collie, "Partnering with Piedmont Electric through their community loan program made this project possible. We have been able to enhance the functionality of our fire station, including the addition of training facilities, as well as enhance the look of our downtown area."

"Piedmont Electric is proud to support this project," says President and CEO Randy Brecheisen. "The cooperative's structure was created to support the community. This zero-interest loan allows us to support our communities far beyond our electric service."

A portion of the funds, once repaid, will be added to the electric cooperative's community revolving loan fund, which will be re-loaned to assist with future projects in the Piedmont Electric area.

You can learn more about Piedmont Electric by visiting our website, pemc.coop, liking us on Facebook at [facebook.com/PiedmontEMC](https://www.facebook.com/PiedmontEMC), or following us on Twitter, [@PiedmontEMC](https://twitter.com/PiedmontEMC).

IMPORTANT DATES

**NOV
26-27**

Piedmont EMC will be closed for Thanksgiving.

Employees will be on call. Enjoy your holiday!

**JAN
1**

Youth Tour applications due.

More information at pemc.coop/community/scholarships/youth-tour

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SIGN UP FOR THE CONNECTION'S DIGITAL VERSION!



Carolina Country and our newsletter is now available on iPads and Android tablets. Visit the App or Play store on your tablet to download the Carolina Country app today.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Preparing for the Winter Chill

As winter quickly approaches, it's natural to start thinking about balancing how you will stay warm while becoming more energy efficient. Piedmont Electric is here to help you plan for the winter chill. Being proactive and trying to solve potential problems before the cold weather is in full force is the best way to prepare for winter.

Free Home Energy Audits

At Piedmont Electric, we offer home energy audits for all of our members. During the free analysis, an energy specialist will make suggestions for comfort improvements around your home. This includes a check of your home's insulation to determine heat loss around windows and exterior doors. By having a home energy audit done now, you can discover issues that may not be currently causing problems before they cause trouble when the chilly weather hits.

Consider Replacing Your Heat System

There's nothing worse than settling in for a cozy winter night at home, only to realize that your heating system is



R.G. Brecheisen
President & CEO of Piedmont EMC

Will your heating system keep you warm this winter?

broken. Don't wait until it's too late to start thinking about replacing your heat system. If it's over 12 years old, it may be time to consider replacing it with a new, more energy efficient heat pump. Piedmont Electric offers heat pump advice, loans and rebates to help control the cost of replacement. In addition, you may be eligible for tax incentives.

We're Here to Help

We value you, our members, and we are here to help you through the

upcoming cold months. Throughout the season, we will be exploring winter energy efficiency tips to help you keep your energy bill low.

If you are considering replacing your heating system or are interested in a free home energy audit, we are more than happy to offer you assistance. Start by contacting one of our experienced energy specialists at Piedmont Electric at 800.222.3107.

CO-OP CONNECTIONS® CARD DISCOUNTS



20% OFF
BREAKFAST
& LUNCH

KELSEY'S RESTAURANT AND CAFÉ
Hillsborough, NC

Located in historic downtown Hillsborough, this small family-run restaurant is a favorite among locals. Kelsey's is now offering co-op members 20% off breakfast and lunch in addition to 10% off catering services.

SAVE \$20

CASH FAMILY MEDICAL PRACTICE
Roxboro, NC
NEW PATIENT CHARGE OF \$20 WAIVED

SAVE 10%

UNIQUITQUES
Hillsborough, NC
10% OFF ANY PURCHASE, EXCLUDING BOOTS

FREE

ZANSHIN KARATE AND FITNESS CENTER
Mebane, NC
ONE WEEK OF FREE CLASSES

SAVE \$25

JACKSON HEWETT TAX SERVICE
Carboro, NC
\$25 DISCOUNT ON ANY FEDERAL TAX PREPARATION

SAVE 10%

KELSEY'S CATERING
Hillsborough, NC
10% OFF CATERING BILL

Visit Piedmont EMC's website, pemc.coop, and click on the Co-op Connections® Card for discount details and a complete list of participating local businesses, national businesses, dentists, chiropractors, vision care centers and pharmacies.

Energy-Saving Tips for **RENTERS AND HOMEOWNERS**

Renters and homeowners alike have the ability to cut energy costs by implementing these 5 simple, low-cost ideas:

- 1 **Turn down thermostat**
(See below.)
- 2 **Change your air filter**
once a month.
- 3 **Keep curtains open in the**
daytime to naturally warm the house with direct sunlight. Keep them closed at night to keep out the chill.
- 4 **Purchase a window sealing**
kit at a home improvement store to combat drafty windows. These kits include plastic sheets that fit your window to seal out cool drafts. They can be easily removed without damage once winter is over.



- 5 **Turn off your computer**
when it's not in use. Keeping your computer on all the time can add up to as much as \$20/month on your electricity bill.
- 6 **Check the temperature**
on your water heater. It should be set no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit for best efficiency.

CONTROL YOUR THERMOSTAT

During winter, you should set your thermostat as low as is comfortable.

Energy.gov recommends setting the temperature at 68 degrees Fahrenheit to maximize energy efficiency.



EMERGENCY HEAT

If your thermostat has an emergency heat option, DO NOT use it unless it is truly an emergency, such as if the heat pump is broken. Electric heat pumps typically have two sources of heating, the primary heat pump and a supplemental

source. When you choose to use the emergency heat setting, your system will only use the supplemental source, bypassing the primary heat pump. Because it is set up as an emergency only system, it is much more expensive to run.

SAVE
the
DATE

Annual Meeting

Friday, April 22 • Orange High School

 Piedmont Electric
Membership Corporation
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

BYLAW REQUIREMENTS LISTED FOR NOMINATIONS OF DIRECTORS

The following is an excerpt from the bylaws pertaining to nominations.

SECTION 4.06. Nominations.

(A) NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint a Nominations Committee consisting of ten (10) persons who are members but are not directors or close relatives of directors, and who are so selected that each of the Cooperative's Directorate Districts and the at large directorate shall have one representative thereon. The Committee shall meet and nominate candidates for each of the Cooperative's Directorate Districts to be elected at the next annual meeting and the at large director if that directorate is to be elected at the next annual meeting. The Committee shall nominate at least one (1) nominee for each such District and may nominate more than one (1) nominee for each such District. The Committee shall show clearly each nominee(s) and the Directorate District for which they are nominated. In addition, the Committee shall nominate each three (3) years at least one (1) candidate and may nominate more than one (1) candidate for the "at large" position. The Committee shall ensure that all members nominated meet the qualifications to serve as a director set forth in section 4.02. The Committee shall meet as necessary in order to complete its nominations no later than thirty days preceding the deadline for nomination by petition as is set forth in the following subsection to provide the opportunity for any qualified member who desires to be placed on the ballot at the upcoming annual meeting but not nominated by the Committee, to seek nomination by petition as set forth in the following subsection.

(B) NOMINATIONS BY PETITION

Any fifty (50) or more members of the Cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over their signatures, in like manner listing the nominees separately with respect to the Directorate Districts from which they are nominated, on or before February 14 preceding the annual meeting at which such directors are to be elected. Any member nominated by petition as a candidate for any Directorate must meet the qualifications to serve as a director set forth in section 4.02 before the nominee's name may be placed on the ballot for election at the annual meeting.

(C) MAILING OF NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

The Secretary shall mail to the members with the notice of the meeting, or separately, or through any publication routinely used by the Cooperative for communication with the membership on a monthly basis at least seven (7) days and not more than forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting, the names of all nominees for each such district, showing separately those nominated by the Committee and those nominated by petition, if any.

(D) POSTING OF NOMINATIONS

Once the signatures of the members on any petition and the qualifications to serve of the nominees are verified, the names of all nominees for each directorate district and the names of each nominee for the at large directorate, if it is to be elected at the upcoming annual meeting, shall be posted at the principal office of the Cooperative. The Posted Notice of all nominees shall show the directorate for which each nominee seeks election as director and may indicate those nominated by the nominations committee and those nominated by petition.

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC CONNECTION

Published monthly for the members of Piedmont Electric Membership Corp.

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R.G. Brecheisen
President and CEO

DIRECTORS

Bill R. Barber, Chairman
Paul L. Bailey, Vice Chairman
Sam T. Woods, Secretary
Richal Vanhook, Treasurer
J. Randy Kinley, Stephen C. Long,
David Poythress, Cyrus Vernon &
Talmadge W. Yancey

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
Hillsborough 919.732.2123
Caswell County 336.421.1296
Roxboro 336.599.0151
Elsewhere in North Carolina
800.222.3107

IF YOUR POWER GOES OUT, CALL US...

800.449.2667

Our automated outage reporting system uses your phone number to determine your service location.

That's why it's important to update the number connected to your account. If your number has changed, or if you no longer have a landline, let us know by completing the form that comes in your monthly billing statement or calling 800.222.3107.

To report an outage 24 hours a day
800.449.2667*

To pay account and access account
information by phone 24 hours a day
877.999.3394*

*Voice instructions will direct you through the system.

Call 811 BEFORE you dig
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative