

# NEWS Central

FEB 2020

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

## POINT OF VIEW

Electric vehicles

## ENERGY-EFFICIENCY

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## Central brings EV charging station online

Central Electric recently partnered with N.C.'s Electric Cooperatives, ChargePoint and the Jordan Dam Mini Mart & Country Kitchen to install a Level 3 DC Fast electric vehicle charging station at the Mini Mart's location right off U.S. 1 in Moncure.

The station is part of a \$1 million investment N.C.'s electric cooperatives are making in rural electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the state.

The funding is being used to install 21 charging stations in cooperative-served communities, including 10 Level 3 DC Fast chargers and 11 Level 2 chargers.

DC Fast Charge stations provide a very quick charge and are capable of charging a depleted electric vehicle's battery to 80 percent capacity in under 30 minutes, depending on the electric vehicle's battery size and charging capabilities. DC Fast Charge stations are usually located in high-traffic public areas or along major highway corridors.



Representatives from Central Electric, N.C.'s Electric Cooperatives, ChargePoint and the Jordan Dam Mini-Mart, as well as a few local EV owners, were on hand at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to unveil the co-op's new EV charging station in Moncure. For more information about the impact of driving electric and EV benefits, visit the co-op's "Electric Vehicle" page under the "Energy Efficiency" tab at [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com).

"The Jordan Dam Mini Mart, located right off U.S. 1 on a heavily traveled route in our area and in close proximity to many popular tourist spots around Jordan Lake, is a perfect location for an EV charging station," said Eddie Oldham, Central Electric CEO and General Manager. "The charging station will help draw visitors and economic activity to this area, while also supporting the environmental and cost-saving benefits of electric vehicles."



### Energy efficiency tip:

When you are away from home, turn your thermostat back 10° to 15° for eight hours and save around 10% a year on your heating and cooling bills. A smart or programmable thermostat is the best way to control the temperature of your home while you're away. *Source: energy.gov.*

# POINT OF VIEW

## Electric Vehicles

*From the desk of CEO & General Manager Eddie Oldham*

Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming a popular topic, and for good reason. While EVs have been around for many decades [the very first EV was actually produced in the 1890's] they are finally beginning to pick up more traction as battery technology has started to improve. In the past, EVs seemed like “pipe dream” technology. However, we could very well be reaching a turning point in the future of electric driving.

As we all know, Tesla has been at the forefront of the new EV wave and they continue to splash headlines as they roll out new models, including with their latest Cybertruck. Other major manufacturers seem to be following suit as they are also adding more EV models of their own. The selection of electric vehicles and their availability to

consumers has most definitely reached an all-time high.

Some of the major hurdles to EV adoption are also beginning to ease up, most notably range anxiety. Newer models are now coming standard with higher charging ranges than before and the growing deployment of charging stations is helping make the switch to an EV more feasible. While a majority of charging will occur overnight at home, the availability of public charging stations is giving drivers more confidence in going electric.

As battery technology is improving and the availability of EVs is growing, so is the interest from our members. As your trusted energy advisor, one of our missions is to continue providing relevant and up-to-date information to help you make the



best energy related decisions for you and your family. To help answer any questions you may have about EVs, we've created an “Electric Vehicle” page on our website. You can find it under the “Energy Efficiency” tab at [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com).

We've also added an EV to our fleet here at the co-op, a Tesla Model 3. It was time to replace one of our fleet vehicles, and the best way to learn about the technology is to actually own one. We have been encouraging our employees to drive the vehicle, that way we will all be prepared to answer your questions about driving electric, and in the future we hope to have a program available to give our members the opportunity to test it out.

While the exact future of this recent wave of EVs is still uncertain, one thing is for certain; if you haven't taken a ride in an electric vehicle, you need to test one out before you develop an opinion towards them. You might very well change your mind about EVs, because I certainly did.

Until next time,

*Eddie Oldham*



The best way to learn about a new technology, is to use it. That's why we've added an electric vehicle to our fleet, so we can learn more about driving electric and answer any questions you may have about EVs.

# Operation Round Up® boosting local groups

Thanks to the Operation Round Up program, powered by voluntary donations from Central Electric members, almost \$30,000 is being put back into the local communities to provide assistance for worthy projects. Grants were awarded to the following nonprofit organizations:

**BonLee School (Chatham)** – \$3,000 to help offset the costs of a trip to Washington, D.C. for 8th grade students who are financially unable to cover expenses.

**Broadway Lions Club (Lee)** – \$3,000 to provide eye glasses for the vision clinic.

**Chatham, Harnett, Lee and Moore County Social Services** – \$6,000 total to be distributed to less fortunate individuals to assist with power bills.

**Gary Taylor Dance (Moore)** – \$3,000 to provide financial support for Title I schools to attend a performance of the Nutcracker.

**Harnett County Partnership for Children** – \$3,000 for the Baby



Jacob Toth, Associate Artistic Director and Director of Education for Temple Theatre accepts a grant check to be used for a school touring production.

Step Program to help provide families with basic baby needs.

**Lee Christian School** – \$3,000 to purchase three changing tables with steps for the nurseries.

**Southern Lee High School Career Center** – \$3,000 to host Career Café, Elective Fair, Job Fair, Mock Interviews, and the Career Mentoring program.

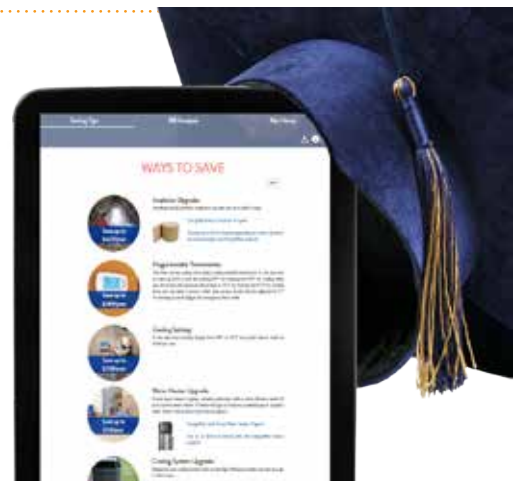
**Temple Theatre (Lee)** – \$3,000 to help present a school touring production designed for young audiences in Lee, Moore and Chatham counties.

**Western Harnett-Overhills Area PTO Thrift Store, Inc.** – \$2,908.42 to upgrade to efficient and advanced cash registers to help keep track of the daily business transactions.

## Online Energy Advisor

Looking to learn more about where your energy use is coming from? Maybe you want some more tips on how to become more energy-efficient? We have just the tool for you.

Our “Energy Advisor” tool analyzes energy use and offers areas for improvement to help you save on your energy costs. A quick survey about your home, combined with local weather history, and the Energy Advisor tool produces an accurate, detailed breakdown of your energy use. To take advantage of this tool, visit the “Energy Advisor” page under the “Energy Efficiency” section at [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com).



**Get Energy Smart!**

# Students rewarded for classroom efforts

Five outstanding students earned a Visa® gift card for receiving at least one “A” on their recent report cards. The reward is in connection with Central Electric’s “Give us an A” program.

Local students from kindergarten to college with a grade of at least one “A” are invited to submit a copy of their most recent report card. Four times each school year, Central Electric will draw from the entries and award a \$25 Visa gift card to four winners with at least one “A” and a \$50 Visa gift card to one winner with all “A’s.”

If you have at least one “A” on your next report card, visit the Education Programs section at [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com) by Feb. 14 to enter the next random drawing.



Cristhian Padilla  
Jordan Matthews



Allison Podlogar  
Southern Lee



Thomas Wells  
Benhaven Elem.



Jasmine Mann  
Highland Elem.



Tyler Measamer  
J.S. Waters



Central Electric  
Membership Corporation  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Eddie Oldham  
CEO & General Manager

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James Taylor, *Editor*

This institution is an equal  
opportunity provider and employer.

## Apply now for basketball camp

Central Electric annually awards two Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships to local students in Chatham, Harnett, Lee, Moore, or Randolph counties. A young man will be selected to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a young woman will be selected to attend the Wolfpack Women’s Basketball Camp at NC State University in Raleigh.



To be eligible to apply, the student must be in the sixth, seventh or eighth grade during the upcoming school year, have permission from a parent or guardian to attend the overnight camp and must be able to provide their own transportation if selected to attend.

The deadline for all applications is March 31. Visit the “Sports Camp Scholarships” section at [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com) to apply!