

# C & L employees partner with Make-A-Wish to grant wishes



In 2019, C & L Electric employees partnered with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to help create life-changing experiences for children with critical illnesses in Southeast Arkansas. Nearly three years later, the wishes were granted. In April, employees received the thrilling news that two wishes were to be granted from their generous donations.

One of C & L Electric's seven guiding principles is Concern for Community, which states, "The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas work hard for their communities because they are a part of the communities they serve." Hats off to the men and women of C & L Electric Cooperative, who donated a portion of their payroll checks to the Make-A-Wish organization.

## A horse named Remedy

The first wish was granted to Lynsey, who, in May of 2014, was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. Over a year, Lynsey had radiation treatments with a 50% chance that her tumor would shrink or stabilize. In May 2015, after a routine Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Lynsey was told the tumor was dead. However, in October 2015, she began having seizures and was initially diagnosed with epilepsy. Lynsey had no control of her arm and leg on one side and lost her speaking ability. She regained these functions over time, but another MRI showed she had a stroke and several Transient Ischemic Attacks (TIA). Additional testing diagnosed her with a radiation-induced vascular disease known as Moyamoya. The slightest bit of physical activity would cause her to get

dizzy and unable to catch her breath.

In October 2017, Lynsey had cerebral revascularization surgery. A piece of her skull was removed, and the surgeon took an artery from her scalp and secured it to her brain. Her brain began to grow this artery, and the blood supply was replenished. She has been followed closely by her neurologist and neurosurgeon. She had another another stroke in 2021, but again, she suffered no long-term damage.

During the initial part of her journey, she was granted a wish by Make-A-Wish to have her very own horse; however, due to her medical condition and then COVID, it could not be granted. She told them she didn't want to take a wish from another child and wanted her wish to go to someone else. She stated she just wanted to help other kids and maybe meet someone going through a similar journey. Because so much time had passed since Lynsey had made her wish, and because she was aging out of the Make-A-Wish program, she assumed she would never have her wish. But surprise! Make-A-Wish made it happen, and with the funds C & L employees donated, she was presented with the perfect horse. She was utterly shocked when her wish was granted on April 27. Lynsey named her horse Remedy and said it had been "the best possible therapy she could have."

Journeyman Lineman Tommy Judkin with C & L Electric said, "Donating is something I never really thought about, until I was able to witness Lynsey getting her horse. Seeing the tears of joy and all the happiness this wish brought to the whole family makes you feel good to be part of it."

## A pink treehouse

The second wish was granted to McKenzie, who was born with congenital heart defects. On her second day of her life, she underwent the first of many procedures to combat those defects. At 3 months



C & L Electric employees surprise Lynsey on April 27 with a horse she named Remedy.

old, she received a heart transplant with the hope of a longer life. McKenzie is now 7 years old and in the first grade. Most of her day at home is filled with singing, reading and playing with her little sister, Zoey, and her beagle, Charlie. McKenzie is known as her family's heart warrior because her mom said, "She and Jesus conquer heart disease one battle at a time." Her mother said McKenzie expressed much creativity concerning her wish, and the family received so much joy listening to her bounce wishes around out loud, trying to decide what wish she would like to be granted. She decided she would like a pink treehouse that she could share and enjoy with Zoey. Thanks to Make-A-Wish and the C & L employees who donated through payroll deduction, McKenzie was granted a beautiful pink treehouse on April 28.

Because of the generosity of C & L Electric employees, their donations made the impossible possible for these two deserving children. Make-A-Wish says wishes matter because "Fear is replaced with confidence, sadness with joy, and anxiety with hope."

C & L Electric's Manager of Human Resources Sandra Robinson said, "So many times we donate to stuff, and we don't get to see the fruits of our donations. Watching McKenzie share her new treehouse with her sister and friends was so heartwarming. The joy on her face made me realize the importance of giving back."



A pink treehouse made McKenzie's wish come true, thanks to donations from C & L Electric employees.



## Teryn Dantzler selected for Youth Tour

One high school student from C & L's service area has been selected to travel to Washington, D.C., in June to attend the 2022 Youth Tour. The seven-day trip, sponsored by the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas, will include tours of major sites in and around Washington, D.C., including the U.S. Capitol; the museums of the Smithsonian Institution; the Holocaust Museum; and the Jefferson, Lincoln, Martin Luther King Jr., Vietnam, Korean and World War II memorials.

Teryn Dantzler is the daughter of Terry and Carrie Dantzler. Teryn is an Academic Honor Roll student at White Hall High School, where she is a member of the Beta Club, varsity soccer team, Jefferson County Teen Court and Girls in STEM. Teryn attended AgDiscovery at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and volunteered at the Museum of Discovery during the Tinkerfest. Outside of school, Teryn enjoys traveling, knitting, crocheting, cooking, painting and operating her online business. After graduation, she plans on attending the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, majoring in biology

and ultimately becoming an obstetrician-gynecologist. In her essay concerning "What Leadership Means to Me," Teryn stated, "When people see that you are in it for the right reasons and not for personal gain, you earn their trust, and they allow you to lead them."

Teryn was selected through an essay contest open to all high school juniors who live in C & L's service area. Teryn, along with approximately 40 students from electric cooperatives across Arkansas will travel to Washington, D.C., where they will join about 1,500 students from across the nation who are attending the tour. Through Youth Tour, these students will have an opportunity to learn more about their nation's government and the electric cooperatives, as well as develop leadership skills.



my co-op

## Flo Rambert retires after serving the cooperative for 30 years

Flo Rambert, Consumer Account Representative for C & L Electric, retired on May 2, after 30 years of service. Flo, the daughter of Ruby Suell and Johnnie Ross (both deceased) and Gilbert Suell was born and raised in Star City and spent her summers in Chicago. She is a graduate of Southeast Arkansas Vocational/Technical College (now SEARK) and Breath of Life School of Ministry. Before her employment at C & L, Flo worked at the Arkansas Human Development Cooperative.

Flo and her husband, Marty have a blended family of seven children, 22 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Flo and Marty are both licensed and ordained ministers of the New Era Ministries in Star City. In retirement, Flo plans on traveling, working in ministry and enjoying her grandchildren. She also plans on learning to crochet, so she can make and donate caps to cancer patients and babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

*C & L employees and directors wish Flo the very best in her retirement.*



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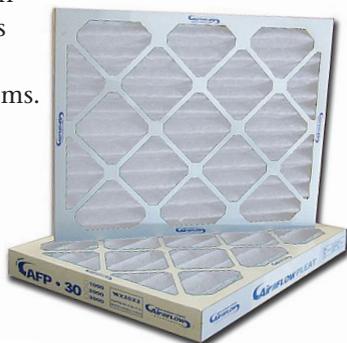
## Money-saving tips for summer energy bills

*Stay cool while saving energy and lowering your electric bill this summer with these energy-savings tips:*



- Keep your window coverings closed during the day to prevent heat gain in your home.
- Use a smart, programmable thermostat to control your home's temperature and use less energy while you're away.

- Use a dehumidifier to remove humidity from your home to make it feel cooler and more comfortable.
- Turn off ceiling fans when you leave the room. Fans create a wind-chill effect and cool people, not rooms.
- Schedule regular maintenance of your air conditioner unit. Check and replace air filters regularly.



- Operate your thermostat efficiently. The smaller the difference between the outdoor and indoor temperature, the less energy you will use.
- Use your bathroom fan to remove heat and humidity after a shower or bath.
- Wash full loads of clothes and dishes, and do not run appliances at the same time.
- When possible, wash your clothing in cold water to avoid using the water heater.
- Avoid using the oven and stove by grilling outdoors and opting for small appliances like the microwave or air fryer.
- Turn off lights when not in use.



Lowering your energy consumption will lower your electric bill. Learn to beat the heat this summer by saving energy. For more ways to save, visit [energy.gov](http://energy.gov).