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# Tideland Topics

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

## FISH FUNDS: Tideland Hooks USDA Grant to Help Ocracoke

### FIRST REDLG PROJECT IN TIDELAND'S HISTORY

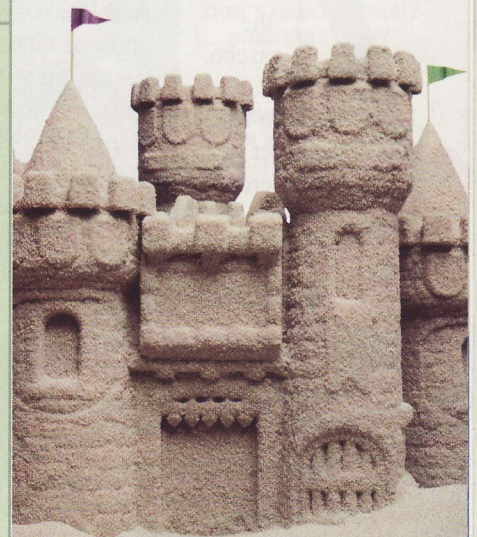
On Thursday, June 28, Tideland EMC received word that it had been selected to receive a grant in the amount of \$100,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Electric cooperatives like Tideland EMC can apply to USDA's Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program for funds to assist community development projects and business start-ups and expansions.

In April the co-op submitted a grant application to USDA detailing the economic importance of Ocracoke's last remaining fish house, which currently sustains 32 island jobs. The grant will be used to make a zero-interest loan to the Ocracoke Foundation which owns Ocracoke Seafood, Inc. The funds will be used to upgrade and expand the fish house.

Tideland will provide a 20% match and the loan will be repaid to the cooperative over a 10-year period. As loan payments are received they will be held in a revolving loan fund account which the cooperative will use for future economic development financing.

### REAL PLACES:

*Just what the  
doctor ordered*



You may find Ocracoke a bit more crowded this summer. In June, Ocracoke was named the #1 Beach in the U.S. by Dr. Beach, Stephen Leatherman. It has been on his top 10 list for years and Dr. Leatherman calls Ocracoke his favorite "get-away beach."

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Susie Wright photo