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Press Release

RMLD Announces Winners of 2021 Virtual Public Power Week Celebration

Reading, MA – The Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) and other community-owned, not-for-profit electric utilities celebrate Public Power Week annually during the first full week of October. There are approximately 2,000 public power utilities throughout the US, serving 49 million people and providing reliable, lower cost electricity. In Massachusetts, there are 41 public power municipal light plants (MLPs) that provide approximately 15% of the electricity in the state. RMLD is the largest Massachusetts MLP in terms of electric load, locally serving over 30,000 residences, business, and schools in Reading, North Reading, Wilmington, and Lynnfield Center.

This year, the RMLD invited its customers to celebrate virtually with an electricity-themed Pumpkin Decorating Contest and Photo Scavenger Hunt. The intent of the celebration was to educate families about electrification, non-carbon energy, energy efficiency, electrical safety, and the RMLD in a fun and interactive way.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest (for children ages 5-13) – Kids were invited to decorate a sugar pumpkin with an electricity-themed design and submit a photo of their pumpkin to be considered for one of three grand prizes. One grand-prize winner was selected for each age group (ages 5-7, ages 8-10, and ages 11-13) to receive a \$75 Amazon gift card for school or art supplies. The winners are as follows:

Age 5-7 Group: Logan Lyons, age 5, of Reading

Age 8-10 Group: Logan Chau, age 8, of North Reading

Age 11-13 Group: Clara Healy, age 13, of Reading

Over forty submissions were received – all participants will receive an RMLD goody bag. To see the submissions, visit <https://www.rml.com/virtual-public-power-week-2021/slideshows/pumpkin-decorating-contest-submissions>.

Photo Scavenger Hunt (family activity) – Families were invited to submit photos of eight electricity-related items from a scavenger hunt list compiled by the RMLD. Items included a solar array, an electric vehicle charging station, an Energy

Star® label, an electric meter, and more. All families who completed the scavenger hunt were entered into a grand-prize drawing for a family-fun gift basket containing games, movie night items, and more. The grand-prize drawing was held October 11, 2021, and Andrew Kenneally of Lynnfield was the lucky winner. He and his daughter, Alexis (5), did the scavenger hunt together. A total of seventeen families completed the scavenger hunt – each will receive an RMLD goody bag.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who participated! We look forward to resuming our in-person Public Power Week Open House next year.

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Photo Captions



Grand prize-winning pumpkin design from the 5-7 age group submitted by Logan Lyons, age 5, of Reading.



Grand prize-winning pumpkin design from the 8-10 age group submitted by Logan Chau, age 8, of North Reading.



Grand prize-winning pumpkin design from the 11-13 age group submitted by Clara Healy, age 13, of Reading.



Reading Municipal Light Department
RELIABLE POWER



Photo Scavenger Hunt grand prize winner Andrew Kenneally of Lynnfield with his daughter Alexis.

About Reading Municipal Light Department: Established in 1894, Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) is a municipal electric utility serving over 70,000 residents in the towns of Reading, North Reading, Wilmington, and Lynnfield Center. RMLD has over 30,000 meter connections within its service territory.