

JACKSON
ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION™

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS



MEET YOUR
**2018 WASHINGTON YOUTH
TOUR DELEGATES**

JUNE 2018

MONITOR YOUR ENERGY USE

EMC SECURITY CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

JACKSON EMC TAKES TOP PRIZE AT GEORGIA LINEMAN'S RODEO



POWERING THE FUTURE

Let me ask: Do you remember where you were on Y2K?

I may be showing my age here, but I bet that you were watching what would happen at midnight that night. As for me, I was in a control room monitoring what, if anything, could happen to our system's operations that particular evening. Why? Because, at the time, there were widespread concerns that computers and other electronics would suddenly crash during the transition from the year 1999 to the year 2000. There were fears that equipment would fail, communication networks would crash, and there could even be civil unrest.

Fortunately, none of that happened. Y2K really was, well, a non-event.

Think about the revolutionary changes since January 1, 2000 that have occurred in our lives. Thanks to smartphones, we now have mini computers in our pockets that keep us connected to the world. Devices with GPS allow us to get anywhere without reading a map. And 3D printing is starting to produce some really cool things – everything from medical devices to entire houses.

I wonder if even a hint of these things were on the minds of those folks who first began to bring electricity to their community. Back when Jackson EMC was chartered on June 27, 1938, local leaders, farmers and neighbors had rallied to establish the electric cooperative using loans from an agency created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Eighty years ago, electricity allowed people to experience their world in new ways, like listening to the radio and studying by light at night.

In the eight decades since Jackson EMC was established, we have remained focused on the needs of our member owners, like you. The recent advancements in self-healing power grids and battery storage of renewable energy sources signal a new age in providing you with affordable, reliable electricity. We also recognize the rise of electric vehicles and automated homes means you depend even more on reliable energy.

If I had a crystal ball, I'd say within the next 20 years, driving an electric vehicle in the United States will become more of the norm than the exception. Just think: Y2K was 18 years ago. Did you think back then you'd have a computer (a smartphone) in your pocket? Probably not.

The future of electricity creates some incredible possibilities to collaborate and better serve you. As technology advances, we look forward to partnering with our members in new ways.

Have some thoughts on the future of electricity and how we can better serve you? Send me an email at chip@jacksonemc.com.

Chip Jakins, President/CEO

WAYS TO SAVE: MY ENERGY USE


AS TEMPERATURES RISE DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS, IT'S NOT UNUSUAL TO SEE YOUR ENERGY USE INCREASE, TOO.

That's because cooling your home generally means your air conditioner is working harder to keep you comfortable.

But, with Jackson EMC's My Energy Use portal, you can see your daily energy consumption – and monitor how weather may affect your energy use.

Residential members can log in to My Energy Use from their Jackson EMC online account. From there, My Energy User's dashboard can display your energy use for the past 30 days and provide an overlay of how weather has affected your energy use.



 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO USE JACKSON EMC'S MY ENERGY USE, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/MYENERGYUSE.



CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

It was 20 years ago that **Jackson EMC** and its neighboring co-op, **Walton EMC**, started a home security business, called **EMC Security**. In October 2006, **GreyStone Power Corporation**, based in Douglasville, joined as a partner in the cooperative-owned business.

Today, EMC Security provides more than just security systems. Its services also include home technology and medical alert devices.

In the past 20 years, EMC Security has been asked a lot of questions. Here are some of the most frequent:

Q: How much does a security system cost?

A: If you already have a system in your home, activation could be as low as \$35. If not, EMC Security can set up a system starting at \$99.

Q: What does a home security system include?

A: The first priority is protecting the entry doors to your home, especially the front and back, with sensors that detect opening and closing. Depending on the home structure and your lifestyle needs, additional devices can be added such as glass-break detectors, monitored smoke and CO2 detectors, video cameras, and home automation devices.

Q: How much is monitoring?

A: Home monitoring starts at \$16.95 a month for a phone line and Wi-Fi connection with no hidden costs or fees. This includes 24/7 intrusion, fire, CO and flood detection, plus medical emergency service. Worried about a phone line being cut accidentally or by an intruder? A cellular connection is only \$7 extra a month. Our monitoring price hasn't changed since 1999.

Q: Can you monitor my existing system from another company?

A: We can monitor most existing home security systems. If you like your security system, but not the monitoring service, or if you've moved to a new home with an existing system, give us a call.

Q: What's the difference between hardwired and wireless security systems?

A: The traditional hardwired system is probably what most people think of when it comes to security systems. It uses a network of wires concealed in walls, attics and crawlspaces or basements to connect individual sensors and controls to the main panel of the system. Wireless system sensors communicate to the system's panel using radio technology. You can take wireless systems with you, if you move. There are several monitoring options for both, including phone line, Wi-Fi or cellular networks.

Q: What are the trends in home security?

A: Without a doubt, security cameras are the most requested add-on item. Customers love cameras because they can stay in touch with their home (and everything inside) from wherever they are located. Cameras are affordable and a terrific enhancement to the security system. Also, homeowners want to access and control their system from their smartphones. Our interactive services allow this through a simple app. Home automation is another hot trend. It allows the integration of devices, including lights, thermostats and locks, to the home security hub.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EMC SECURITY, VISIT: EMCSECURITY.COM OR CALL 770-963-0305

MEET YOUR 2018 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR DELEGATES



Each year, Jackson EMC selects four high school students to participate in a weeklong leadership and learning opportunity in Washington, D.C. This year's Washington Youth Tour delegates have diverse backgrounds and interests, yet they share our values of teamwork, integrity and community service.

This June, **Ebun Ajayi, Luke Bell, Andie Ellett and Briani Netzahvatl** will join more than 1,700 Washington Youth Tour participants from electric co-ops across the country in the nation's Capitol.

Briani Netzahvatl MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Briani, a rising senior, is passionate about the Student Leadership Team, where she serves as communications chair, and its impact on students and the community. "It's a great opportunity to collaborate as a team in creating monthly projects that benefit our community and help students get involved," Briani said. Each month the team selects a big project. They have organized a donation drive for personal hygiene items for the local women's shelter, a blood drive, and an international night for the entire community to celebrate different cultures. Briani said she values quality over quantity in all her endeavors and strives for an inclusive community-wide service-oriented atmosphere where students can grow and meet others while volunteering.

"My favorite project this year was the Prom Promise," she said. Briani led the communication effort in bringing a nationally-known speaker and creating a week of programming before prom. "Many people in our community have been affected by drunk driving and recklessness or know someone who has," she continued. "Students sign a pledge not to drink at prom, and I think we are making a difference in saving lives."

Additionally, she serves as a volunteer at the North Gwinnett Co-Op, where she organizes, sorts and stacks food and clothes for the pantries and at the Planned Pethood Animal Shelter. "I love community service work where I can see the people we are helping and serving," she said. Briani plans a career in journalism.



"I love community service work where I can see the people we are helping and serving."

Andie Ellett JACKSON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL



"I find the most joy in life when I am helping others, especially in my community."

Andie, a rising senior, became immersed in 4-H Club after a "Bring a Friend Day" event when she was nine years old. She joined the Llama Club and has risen to the national top 10 in showmanship.

"Llamas have a charming personality," Andie said. "Animals are complex and have taught me to find the root of a problem. When a llama displays a behavior issue, I look for the 'why' behind it; something is a direct cause of the behavior. I've learned to apply this lesson to real world situations."

In addition to her work with Llama Club in 4-H, Andie mentors elementary-age girls and participates in a variety of 4-H volunteer projects and teaches at state 4-H events. "She is intentional," said Ali Merk, University of Georgia 4-H Agent, Jackson County Extension. "She has led numerous classes and programs under her own leadership."

While her love for animals continues in her volunteer work for the Humane Society of Jackson County and a wildlife rehabilitation center, she also has a heart for senior citizens. She has led efforts to make more than 170 scarves and hats as Christmas gifts and has created variety shows for holiday parties, both for a local senior center. Plus, she takes her llamas to visitation days at nursing homes. "I find the most joy in life when I am helping others, especially in my community," she said.

Andie plans to major in drama and business marketing for a career in the film industry.

Ebun Ajayi PEACHTREE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



“Community is a support system that motivates and inspires me.”

After transferring from a private school to a large, diverse public school in ninth grade, **Ebun** realized how daunting the experience can be for new students. At the time, she had trouble navigating the school campus, sat alone at lunch and felt isolated since she didn't know anyone at the school. As Ebun began talking to other students she discovered many had the same experience when they transferred from out of district. So, she approached the administration with her idea for a “Welcome Team” program. Principals, counselors and teachers embraced her idea. Her creation was so successful that it has been expanded to other schools in Gwinnett County.

“I'm grateful that my experiences have been able to help others,” said Ebun, now a rising junior. When she receives a list of new students from counselors, her team moves into action—writing notes, giving tours, sending invitations to sporting events and fine arts programs. “She is always willing to volunteer her time to serve fellow students,” said Peachtree Ridge Assistant Principal Lynne Best.

Ebun has a passion for connecting students on a deep, personal level. “Community is a support system that motivates and inspires me,” she said. “Friends are so important—they change you—either helping you or breaking you. It's critical to be surrounded by people who share your values.”

In addition to the Welcome Team, Ebun runs on the track and field team, serves as chair of the Student Council Relay for Life team, is vice president of the Pan African Student Association, and tutors elementary students in math. Plus, she led a team of students who raised enough money to purchase two pumps that would bring clean water to remote villages in Africa. Ebun plans a career path in medicine.

“Efforts and courage are not enough without **PURPOSE AND DIRECTION.**”
- John F. Kennedy

Luke Bell JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Luke, a rising senior at Jefferson High School, has been playing piano since he was five years old. But when he heard a piano piece that melded Claude Debussy's “Clair de Lune” with the children's classic hymn, “Jesus Loves Me” in middle school, he knew immediately that he wanted to add music to his career path.

Training as a classical pianist has taught him dedication in every endeavor.

“If you want to excel, you must be willing to work or practice,” Luke said. “I set goals each week, which culminate in learning a piece in a robust and satisfying way. I have translated that pattern to every area of my life.”

Although Luke played basketball, he quickly realized the difference in solo practice on the piano and team practice for sports.

“In sports, you have others going through the same thing—everybody on the team is practicing the same drill together,” he explained. “In piano, it's just me and two hours every afternoon, which has given me a focus and discipline for other areas of my life.”

Luke's love of musical challenges also enabled him to pick up the drums for his church worship band.

Luke and his two brothers own Triple L Farms in Maysville, where they are raising 15 dairy cows. He serves as a reading tutor and mentor for an elementary student, and volunteers for disaster relief programs through his church. Luke plans to incorporate piano studies into his career as a university professor in mathematics.



“I set goals each week, which culminate in learning a piece in a robust and satisfying way.”

JACKSON EMC TAKES TOP PRIZE AT GEORGIA LINEMAN'S RODEO



Jackson EMC linemen bested many others from across the state at the annual Georgia Lineman's Rodeo, held May 5 in Fort Valley, Ga. The competition attracts the best linemen in the state to compete in events based on traditional linemen tasks and skills. This year's event drew 24 teams of journeymen linemen and 96 apprentice linemen from across Georgia to compete. Both apprentice linemen and veteran linemen, called journeymen, compete in the Georgia Lineman's Rodeo. Jackson EMC sent 21 apprentices and five journeymen teams to the competition. Jackson EMC competitors finished among the top three in each category, and two journeyman teams and four apprentice linemen finished among the top 10 overall.

Congratulations to the Following Winners:

JOURNEYMAN DIVISION:

Kevin Grant, Matt Tolar and Scotty Tompkins, first place, overall; first place, EMC division; second place, hurtman rescue; first place, 4kV vice top insulator change-out (mystery event #1); and second place, 4 kV crossarm change-out (mystery event #2). **Justin Cash, Austin Gragg and Clay Phillips**, third place, hot tie. **Jeremy Adams, Kaleb Chapman and Jeff Sutton**, first place, hot tie; **Brett Hurst**, first place, senior division (with teammates **Victor Hurst** and **Don Ritchey** of Snapping Shoals EMC).

APPRENTICE DIVISION:

Kasey Odom, second place, overall; second place, EMC division. **Tyler Thurmond**, third place, overall; third place, EMC division; and third place, written test. **Collin Ward**, fourth place, overall and first place, written test. **Jose Rodriguez**, first place, arm relocate (mystery event #1); first place, dead-end shoe change-out (mystery event #2); and second place, hurtman rescue. **Colby Chapman**, first place, secondary connector change out. **Dillion Welborn**, sixth place, overall.

MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS

Breakfast Cookies



“This is one of my family's favorite cookie recipes. I hope you like them, too.”

- KAREN MATHIS, AUBURN

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup margarine, softened
- 1 cup extra fine sugar
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups plain flour
- 2 1/2 cups oatmeal, ground into flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 12 oz. white chocolate chips
- 8 oz. dried cranberries
- 1 1/2 cups nuts of choice, chopped

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Cream margarine with sugars. Add eggs and vanilla. Sift dry ingredients and add to mixture. Oatmeal can be ground into flour by pulsing oats in a food processor. Stir in chocolate chips, cranberries and nuts. Roll into balls. Bake on lined pans, two inches apart. Bake in oven for 10 minutes.

Makes about 5 dozen cookies.



SEND YOUR BEST RECIPES: RECIPES@JACKSONEMC.COM OR MAIL TO:
COOPERATIVE COOKING | JACKSON EMC | PO BOX 38 | JEFFERSON, GA 30549

OPERATION ROUNDUP: YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

\$115,800 IN GRANTS

during its April meeting, including \$112,550 to organizations and \$3,250 to an individual.

ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$15,000 | Camp Koinonia, in Homer to provide 58 Banks County underprivileged third through sixth grade students referred by Family Connection and the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) with a five-day camping experience that provides positive learning experiences to establish strong character, leadership and team building skills and build personal relationships.

\$15,000 | Camp Twin Lakes, a not-for-profit organization that offers year-round recreational, therapeutic and educational programs for children facing serious illnesses and other challenges, to help children in Jackson EMC's 10-county service area attend its state-of-the-art, fully accessible campsites.

\$15,000 | Extra Special People, in Watkinsville to provide an opportunity for 43 special needs or seriously ill children from low income or financially distressed families in Barrow, Clarke, Gwinnett, Jackson and Madison counties to attend an eight-week camp experience where they can explore nature, discover their own abilities, master new skills and make new friends.

\$15,000 | Spectrum Autism Support Group, a parent-run non-profit group in Suwanee that provides support, education and resources for the entire spectrum of autism disorders to families in Barrow, Gwinnett and Hall counties, to enable disadvantaged autistic individuals ages four to 22 to attend the organization's weeklong summer camp program where daily activities are used to teach social skills lessons.

\$15,000 | Summer Scholars Institute, a three-year academic enrichment program held at the University of North Georgia's Gainesville campus to help at-risk middle and high school students in Hall County prepare for college and careers by concentrating on the basic areas of reading, writing and mathematics, along with science for third-year students.

\$12,500 | Young Women's Christian Organization, in Athens to help girls from low income families attend the Girls Club, a structured recreational and educational summer program targeting young girls ages 5-14 from low-to-moderate income families, and to help defray bus transportation expenses.

\$10,000 | Muscular Dystrophy Association, to help children and young adults with neuromuscular diseases from all counties served by Jackson EMC attend Camp Walk N' Roll, a week long summer program with no boundaries for physical disabilities where campers can build confidence and independence while their caregivers have a break from the demands of constant care.

\$6,000 | FOCUS (Families of Children Under Stress), a nonprofit agency serving children, teens and adults with developmental disabilities and their families in all counties served by Jackson EMC, to help provide Camp Hollywood in Lawrenceville, a unique summer day camp where children with developmental disabilities can build social skills, self-respect, character and community living skills.

\$4,900 | Path Project, a community and youth development organization dedicated to empowering at-risk children in Gwinnett and Hall counties, to help fund a summer soccer camp for at-risk elementary school-aged children.

\$2,500 | Camp To Belong (Foster Siblings Reunited), to purchase food from the Atlanta Community Food Bank and the Georgia Mountain Food Bank for distribution to those in need in Hall County.

\$2,500 | Camp Twitch and Shout, to help three children, who are living with Tourette's Syndrome, in Jackson EMC's service area participate in a weeklong overnight summer camp at Camp Will-a-Way at Fort Yargo State Park in Winder.

INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$3,250 to provide roof repairs for a disabled resident in Clarke County.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY FOR A GRANT, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY IMPACT: *Hall County Library System*

Within the walls of a library, there are more than just books. For library patrons, there are DVDs, special programs, ongoing classes for people of all ages, public access to computers and more. And with a library card, patrons can also access online resources, like eBooks and audio books.

A few years ago, the Hall County Library System recognized the need not only to increase public awareness of their resources, but also to serve under served populations.

"We've always had a vibrant outreach program with schools and assisted living facilities," said Lisa MacKinney, library director of the Hall County Library System. "But that's for organizations. (Our new program) will let us go to places to serve an individual."

Starting this summer, the library system plans to roll out its mobile reading room at area festivals, community events, health fairs and more.

The concept is based on a custom-made product that uses a system of cubes to create mobile, stackable displays and benches for a mini reading room in public areas. Library staffers or volunteers can transport the cubes to outreach events, where they can encourage visitors to read or register for a library card.

"Once they have a library card, the world opens up to them," MacKinney said.

Some people are reluctant to register for a library card or have transportation limitations, she added. By bringing library card registrations

to communities via the mobile reading room, new patrons are more likely to visit a physical library or access its online resources.

The Jackson EMC Foundation recently awarded a \$10,000 grant for the mobile reading room. Since 2006, the Hall County Library System has received a total of \$16,897 from the Jackson EMC Foundation.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HALL COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM, VISIT: HALLCOUNTYLIBRARY.ORG.

**YOUR POWER.
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

A PUBLICATION FOR
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STAY STORM READY

SEVERE WEATHER CAN HAPPEN ANY TIME OF THE YEAR.
YOU CAN STAY PREPARED BY FOLLOWING THESE TIPS:



1

EMERGENCY KIT

PREPARE A 72-HOUR
EMERGENCY KIT
WITH FOOD, WATER &
SUPPLIES.



3

MEDICAL NEEDS

PREPARE FOR MEDICAL
NEEDS IN ADVANCE.



2

MAKE A PLAN

MAKE A HOUSEHOLD
PLAN, INCLUDING WHERE
TO TAKE SHELTER DURING
MAJOR STORMS.



4

LOAD VEHICLE

PUT SUPPLIES IN
YOUR VEHICLE FOR AN
EMERGENCY.



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