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CAMILLA, GEORGIA
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Mitchell EMC Recognizes U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson

Decades of public service and support of EMCs and EMC members garners national recognition

Together with the nation's more than 900 electric cooperatives, the 41 electric membership cooperatives (EMCs) in Georgia, including Mitchell EMC, recently presented the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Distinguished Service Award to U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.) in recognition of his outstanding record of service on issues affecting EMCs not only in Georgia but across the nation.

"This award recognizes public officials who have gone above and beyond in furthering the principles and progress of electric cooperatives and helping us achieve our mission," says Tony Tucker with Mitchell EMC. "Senator Isakson exemplifies this in every way."

EMC executives pointed to the senator's efforts in Georgia and Washington which have saved hundreds of millions of dollars for electric cooperative members in Georgia and across America.

According to Tucker, Isakson's steadfast leadership, both in state office and in the U.S. Congress, has helped electric cooperatives in the Peach State maintain the highest levels of reliability and affordability in providing electricity to 4.4 million Georgians today. Tucker also noted Sen. Isakson's steadfast support of the construction of Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4, which Georgia's electric cooperatives co-own through their generation cooperative, Oglethorpe Power Corp.

"His efforts and ardent support of legislation impacting EMCs have provided added protection for EMC members in the form of lower energy rates and enhanced reliability of the electric infrastructure,"

says Tucker.

Senator Isakson's support of co-ops extends beyond the policy arena. As a longtime member of Cobb EMC, he agreed to be one of the first load management

customers for the Marietta-based co-op, helping encourage fellow EMC members to participate in electric cooperative efforts to reduce peak demand for energy in an innovative energy conservation program that remains a great success today.

He also is a passionate supporter of the multitude of youth programs sponsored by EMCs throughout the state such as the annual Washington Youth Tour, the oldest leadership program for teens in Georgia. Mitchell EMC sends 4 local high school students to Atlanta and the nation's capital to participate in the week-long leadership trip. Without fail, Sen. Isakson has taken time from his schedule to personally meet with the student delegates while they are visiting D.C. to discuss important issues in their respective communities. His tireless example has inspired countless young Georgians to make public service part of their adult life.

EMCs also took the opportunity to recognize Sen. Isakson for his decades of exemplary public service, pointing out he is the first Georgian ever to have been elected to the state House of Representatives, state Senate, U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. In 2016, he became the first Republican in Georgia to be elected to a third term in the U.S. Senate.

See *SEN. ISAKSON*, page 2.



Sen. Isakson Continued From Front

“It’s my honor to fight for the customers and employees in Georgia and across the United States who benefit from not only stable sources of power but also the numerous community services, training programs and other initiatives led by our EMCs,” Sen. Isakson said.

Upon acceptance of the 2019 Distinguished Service Award, the senator joins the ranks of other notable Georgians who previously received the Award including U.S. Sen. Richard Russell (D-Ga.) and Walter Harrison, one of the pioneers in the electric cooperative program in Georgia and nationwide.

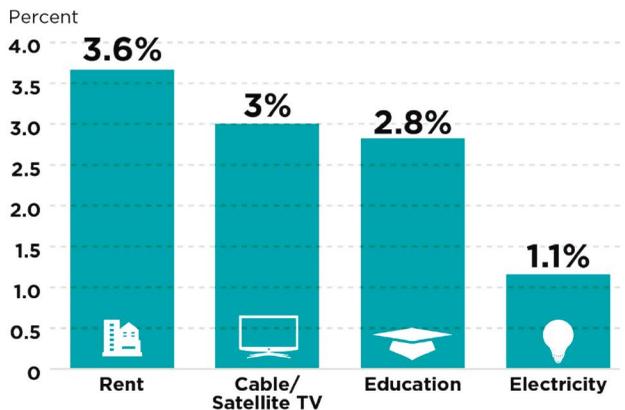
Mitchell EMC is a consumer-owned cooperative providing electricity and related services to 15,830 members in 14 counties.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) is the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation’s landscape. As local businesses built by the consumers they serve, electric cooperatives have meaningful ties to rural America and invest \$12 billion annually in their communities.

ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

The cost of powering your home rises slowly when compared to other common expenses. Looking at price increases over the last five years, it’s easy to see electricity remains a good value!

Average Annual Price Increase 2013-2018



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When it’s warm out, avoid using the oven. Try cooking on the stove, using the microwave or grilling outside instead.

Source: energy.gov



Defining Degree Days

By Abby Berry

Weather can have a major impact on energy bills, and when the outdoor temperatures become extreme, your heating and cooling equipment works harder to keep your home comfortable.

Did you know the energy experts at Mitchell EMC use degree days to anticipate heating and cooling needs for you, our consumer-members?

Never heard of a degree day? Don't worry, you're not alone. Let's take a look at what degree days are and why they're important for electric utilities.

Degree days measure how cold or warm a location is by comparing the average of the high and low (mean) of the outdoor temperatures recorded in that location to the standard U.S. temperature, which is 65 F. The assumption is that we don't need heating or cooling to be comfortable when this is the outdoor temperature.

So, the more extreme the outdoor temperatures, the higher the number of degree days. And the higher the number of degree days, the higher the amount of energy used for space heating and cooling. Summer is in full swing, so let's look at cooling degree days.

Cooling degree days are a measurement of how hot the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. With summer temperatures rising, you'll likely require more cooling for your home or business, which results in more cooling degree days. Variations in electric bills often follow closely with degree days, which is why electric utilities use this data to anticipate future energy demand.

Degree days are tracked for a variety of reasons. Farmers can better plan the planting of crops and timing for pest control, and weather experts can better assess climate patterns.

To view degree days for our area, visit www.energystar.gov and search "degree days calculator."

If charts and data aren't your forte, no problem. Here are a few tips to help you save on energy bills this summer:

- Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible. The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your cooling costs will be. The Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 F when you're

U.S. COOLING DEGREE DAYS

Cooling degree days measure how hot the outdoor temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. The map below shows measurements of U.S. cooling degree days in 2018 by census region. Extreme outdoor temperatures bring a higher number of degree days, which results in higher energy use.



home and a higher setting for when you're away.

- Turn off ceiling fans when you leave a room.
- Close window coverings, like curtains and blinds, during the day to block sunlight.
- Use caulk and weather stripping to seal air leaks around doors and windows.

If you have questions about your energy use or to learn more ways to save, give us a call or stop by our office. Mitchell EMC is here to help.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.

Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...

Mitchell EMC Receives Spotlight on Excellence Award

Mitchell EMC recently received recognition in the 2019 Spotlight on Excellence Awards program nationally, sponsored by the Council of Rural Electric Communicators and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Mitchell EMC received a Silver Award in the Best Individual Ad category for “Mitchell EMC Supports Georgia Grown.” WALB and Mitchell EMC, coordinated and produced the award-winning commercial.

“Electric cooperatives are being challenged to communicate to the people they serve more than ever before,” said Scott Peterson, Senior Vice President Communications for NRECA. “Printed news publications, social media and videos are all more important than ever to keep members updated on issues affecting the electric cooperatives and their members.”

A special reception honoring the award recipients during the CONNECT '19 Conference held in Houston, Texas, on May 7. Winning entries are displayed during the event.

The annual Spotlight on Excellence Awards program recognizes the best communication and marketing efforts by electric cooperatives and related organizations. Entrants competed with electric cooperatives of similar size in 16 categories. Electric cooperative communicators and marketing professionals submitted nearly 640 entries in the Spotlight on Excellence program. Faculty members from the University of Missouri – Columbia and University of South Carolina, as well as noted professionals



in the fields of marketing, web design and digital communications, and newspapers judged the event, which uses a finite scoring system to determine the winners.

The Council of Rural Electric Communicators was organized in 1982, and seeks to advance the recognition, education, and professionalism of electric cooperative communicators and their affiliated organizations. It is a volunteer association working on behalf of more than 4,000 electric cooperative communicators across the United States.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the service organization representing the national interests of cooperative electric utilities, coordinates the Council's activities.

Note: *If you move or no longer have electric service with Mitchell EMC, it is important that members keep their address current, so that future disbursements can be properly mailed. Capital credits are reserved for members even if they move out of the Mitchell EMC service area. Mitchell EMC will make a diligent effort to send a check by mail.*

Statement of Equal Employment Opportunity

All applicants for employment shall be considered and hired on the basis of merit, without regard to race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), age, national origin, disability, genetic information, or past or present military status. The employment practices shall ensure equal treatment of all employees, without discrimination as to promotion, discharge, rates of pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or past or present military status. M/F/V/DV/D



WATT'S COOKING



Easy Banana Pudding

Ingredients:

- 1 Box vanilla wafers
- 6 Bananas
- 1-1/2 gallons vanilla ice cream or diet vanilla ice cream (let soften, so it will spread easily)
- 1 8-ounce cool whip topping

Directions:

Use 9x9 glass dish. Layer the wafers, then the bananas and spread ice cream over the top. Repeat the layers again. Then, spread cool whip topping on the top and refrigerate.

Thanks!

to

Rocky Posey,
Worth County, GA,
for sharing this recipe.

Share & Win!

Send us your favorite quick and easy dinner recipes. If your recipe is chosen for print, you can win a

\$25 credit

on your next Mitchell EMC bill.

Send recipes to: Heather Greene, P.O. Box 409,
Camilla, GA 31730 or email to
heather.greene@mitchellemc.com.