



The news  
you need to  
know in  
5 minutes!

CAMILLA, GEORGIA  
[www.mitchellemc.com](http://www.mitchellemc.com)

## May is Military Appreciation Month

By *Tony Tucker*, President & CEO

Service. Mission. Country. You likely identified immediately (and correctly) that these three words describe our nation's veterans. They also succinctly describe a core co-op ethos.

While veterans are innately motivated to serve, in a similar vein, electric co-ops are guided by foundational principles that put their community first. After all, electric co-ops were founded to bring electricity to rural areas where there was none. In doing so, they powered local economies and helped them to thrive. I believe this close connection to an essential mission is why there are so many veterans in the utility industry and why they are such a great fit for electric co-ops.

Today's veterans are highly skilled because everyone who joins the military is either trained in a tech career field or exposed to advanced technology during their years of service. Many veterans have skills in advanced disciplines such as engineering, electronics or mechanics, which are all beneficial for the utility industry. Mitchell EMC is proud to employ 10 veterans, and we're especially grateful for their contributions to the co-op and to our community.

### **Leadership and Teambuilding Skills**

Our veteran colleagues joined the co-op equipped with training in leadership and teamwork. That's because while on active duty within their units, servicemen work closely together because they know their lives depend on each other's actions. This fosters a high level of self-discipline, sense of personal responsibility and passion for excellence.

The utility industry is increasingly complex and undergoing profound transformation. While there is the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspect of the utility industry, it now also encompasses technology, cybersecurity and

the electrification of the transportation sector and other areas of the economy. Veterans are adept at responding to changing conditions and learning and adapting to new technologies, which is essential in our evolving industry.

### **Mission-oriented Outlook**

Working for an electric co-op is more than a job. There is a clear mission in the work-- to help our consumer-members and the community. When you work so closely with the community, you can't help but feel a sense of commitment and responsibility to our members. It's similar to the sense of duty and responsibility that veterans experience in the military. They feel deep, personal responsibility and commitment to their co-op team members and to the members we serve. Veterans are trustworthy, goal oriented, wanting to do right for their co-op and their community.

May is Military Appreciation Month and at Mitchell EMC, we are grateful to have veterans within our ranks and we are proud to serve them and their families within our community. But beyond our gratitude, we demonstrate our deep appreciation through our actions and ongoing commitment to veterans and their families.

At the national level, electric co-ops support the "Vets Power Us" program, which is aimed at employing and honoring veterans and their families. This effort involves partnering with other electric co-ops across the country along with the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense, the Veterans Administration and others to hire veterans in the energy industry.

May is Military Appreciation Month, and I hope you'll join me in recognizing the sacrifices veterans have made to our great country--and the many contributions they continue to make to our wonderful community. Veterans, we salute you!

## A Community Partner Since 1937

# Local High School Students Will Spend a Week Experiencing Nation's Capitol

*"It means so much that my EMC went to so much effort to give us the best possible experience," said a 2021 Washington Youth Tour Delegate.*

Kiersten Johnson (Dougherty Comprehensive High School) and Isabelle Rubendall (Westwood Schools) have been chosen to participate in the 2023 Washington Youth Tour, an all-expense-paid leadership experience sponsored by Georgia's electric membership cooperatives, including Mitchell EMC.

For more than 50 years, the tour has helped promising student leaders to become exceptional young adults.

According to Heather Greene with Mitchell EMC, the Youth Tour was established to inspire the next generation of leaders. This year's tour, which takes place June 15-22, offers opportunities for students to meet policymakers, tour historic monuments and participate in leadership experiences, all while making new friends from across the state and the nation.

Teens on the tour are challenged to consider the part they play in government and to understand the cooperative business model to become engaged citizens and to learn about careers in public service.

"Preparing the next generation of leaders is crucial to ensuring our community, state and nation will be in good hands," says Heather Greene with Mitchell EMC. "We see the tour as a way to kindle the spark of leadership in high schoolers by showing them they belong among those willing to step up in service to others."

Johnson and Rubendall were carefully selected through a rigorous application process. Mitchell EMC receives recommendations from school counselors and conduct in-person interviews with the candidates in front of a panel of judges from local communities.

EMC leaders and former student delegates agree the Youth Tour has grown into an invaluable program that gives young Americans an experience that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

As a recent delegate explained, "I learned so much about myself and our country and made so many friendships that I know will last a lifetime." While another remembered, "The Washington Youth Tour was not just full of educational experiences but fun ones too!"

The 108 teen-delegates will gather in Atlanta to kick off the tour, spending time getting to know each other before departing for Washington D.C.

When the group arrives in D.C., participants tour historic locations like Mount Vernon, explore museums and monuments and meet with their elected officials to discuss the issues that are important back home. Georgia's tour delegates will convene with more than 1,800 youth representing electric cooperatives across the nation and exchange views concerning local and national issues.

"All the delegates were unique with so many different backgrounds," said another delegate. "It was interesting to see how other teens see society and politics and to be able to openly talk about issues with others. It was an amazing once-in-a-lifetime trip."

Since 1965, the Washington Youth Tour has given 3,000 students in Georgia and more than 50,000 students nationwide the opportunity to take part in this memorable experience. The program was initially implemented at the request of President Lyndon Johnson to "send youngsters to the nation's capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

Mitchell EMC is a consumer-owned cooperative providing electricity and related services to approximately 15,251 members in 14 counties.



# Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Thermostat placement can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature. Thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



## Margin Assignment for 2022

Margins accrued by Mitchell EMC (revenue after all expenses have been paid) have been assigned to Member's patronage credit records. This assignment is made by applying the percentage of the Cooperative's margins to each Members' annual bill, before taxes. The percentage from Mitchell's margins

for 2022 is 4.58%.

The table below shows examples of how you may figure your assignment. Simply multiply the percentage figures shown below times your total billing, less sales taxes, for the year.

Remember to keep us informed of your correct mailing address, especially if you should move out of Mitchell EMC's service area. If you have any questions about your assignments, please call us at 229-336-5221 or 800-479-6034.

Percentage	If annual bills (less taxes) were:	\$500	\$750	\$1,000
.04583452%	Credits assigned from Mitchell's operating margins	\$22.92	\$34.38	\$45.83



When you work with electricity every day, safety is top of mind every minute! We care about your safety at home, too. We recognize **National Electrical Safety Month** every May, but we encourage all Mitchell EMC members to take simple, practical steps to ensure home safety year-round.





# ELECTRICAL SAFETY QUIZ

May is National Electrical Safety Month! Take this quiz to test your safety skills. Check your answers in the key below.

1. It's safe to plug in several devices to one electrical outlet as long as you use a power strip.

A. True B. False

2. Smoke alarms should be tested \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Every month B. Every other month C. Every six months

3. Extension cords are safe to use year-round if the cord is not frayed or damaged.

A. True B. False

4. When unplugging a device from an electrical outlet, always hold the \_\_\_\_\_ while unplugging.

A. Cord B. Plug C. Device

5. It's never safe to play near power lines, but it's OK to play near pad-mounted transformers (those big green boxes you see in neighborhoods).

A. True B. False

6. Where is the most dangerous place to use electricity?

A. Near other electrical equipment B. Outdoors C. Near water

Answer Key: 1. B 2. A 3. B 4. B 5. B 6. C

**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 applications 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



### **Best No-Bake Cheesecake**

#### **Ingredients**

- 1 (8-oz) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 (8-oz) container nondairy whipped topping  
(Cool Whip)
- Pie filling, for topping (optional)

#### **Directions**

Beat together the cream cheese, sour cream, sugar, and vanilla until you form a smooth mixture. Gently fold in the Cool Whip. Pour the cheesecake filling into a store-bought Graham cracker crust and smooth the top with a spoon or spatula. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 4 hours to allow it to set. Preferably overnight. Just before serving, top with your favorite cheesecake topping and enjoy!

ONLINE AT:

[www.insanelygoodrecipes.com](http://www.insanelygoodrecipes.com)

## *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](mailto:heather.greene@mitchellemc.com).