

Mitchell EMC



The news
you need to
know in
5 minutes!

CAMILLA, GEORGIA
www.mitchellemc.com

Co-ops Power Communities with Purpose

By Tony Tucker, President/CEO

Communities come in all shapes and sizes. Some are based on geographical proximity, some are based on shared interests or hobbies, and some communities can even be found in virtual spaces like social media groups. Regardless of where or how they are formed, communities can bring people together and create a sense of belonging.

Mitchell EMC is deeply committed to our consumer-members, and we're glad you are part of the electric cooperative community.

This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the U.S. are celebrating National Co-op Month. It's a time to reflect on all the aspects that set cooperatives apart from other types of businesses, but more importantly, it's a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit utilities that are built by the communities they serve. For Mitchell EMC, our mission has always been to provide you with reliable power. We care about your quality of life, and because we are locally operated, we're uniquely suited to meet our members' evolving energy needs.

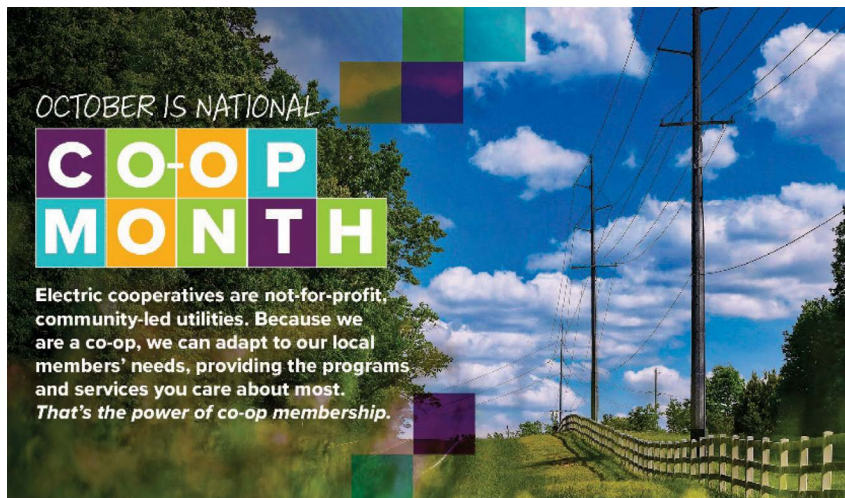
Beyond the business of electricity, our employees and directors are equally invested in our local community. Why? Because we live here, too. That's why we work hard to support local economic development projects, youth programs and scholarships, charitable giving initiatives and additional programs that make our community a better place to call home.

All co-ops, including Mitchell EMC, are guided by seven cooperative principles that embody the values and spirit of the cooperative movement. These seven principles are a framework to help all co-ops navigate challenges and opportunities while remaining true to our purpose:

1. Open and Voluntary Membership: Co-op membership is open to anyone who can use the co-op's services.

2. Democratic Member Control: Members make decisions that shape the cooperative. Why? Because co-ops are created *by* the members, *for* the members.

3. Members' Economic Participation: Members contribute money to the co-op to make sure it runs smoothly now and in the future. At Mitchell EMC, this happens through paying your energy bills.



4. Autonomy and Independence: Co-ops are independent and can operate on their own, which ultimately benefits the members.

5. Education, Training and Information: Co-ops continuously focus on education to ensure employees have the training and information they need to make the co-op successful.

6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives: Co-ops share with and learn from other cooperatives. We help each other out in times of need because we want other co-ops to thrive.

7. Concern for Community: All cooperatives work for the greater good of the local communities they serve. Co-ops give back to their communities to help them thrive and grow.

This October, as we celebrate National Co-op Month and the power of membership, we hope you will recognize the many aspects that set electric cooperatives apart. Our mission is reliable power. Our purpose is people—the local communities we're proud to serve.

Cybersecurity Tips for a Safer Digital World

By Abby Berry

Did you know the average household with internet access owns about 17 connected devices? That figure covers a wide range of electronics, including smart phones, computers, streaming devices, smart speakers, home assistants and more. Given our increasing reliance on internet-connected

digital communications that lure you to click a bad link or download a malicious attachment. If you receive a suspicious email or message that includes urgent language, offers that seem too good to be true, generic greetings, poor grammar or an unusual sender address, it could be a phishing attempt. If you spot one, report it as soon as possible—and

don't forget to block the sender. (If you receive a suspicious work email, report it to the appropriate IT contact. Suspicious messages that are delivered to your personal email or social media accounts can also be reported.)

- Create strong, unique passwords.

When it comes to passwords, remember that length trumps complexity. Strong passwords contain at least 12 characters and include a mix of letters, numbers and symbols. Create unique passwords for each online account you manage and use phrases you can easily remember.

- Enable multi-factor authentication when available. Multi-factor authentication (also known as 2-factor authentication) adds an extra layer of security to your

online accounts. These extra security steps can include facial recognition, fingerprint access, or one-time codes sent to your email or phone.

- Update software regularly. Software and internet-connected devices, including personal computers, smartphones and tablets, should always be current on updates to reduce the risk of infection from ransomware and malware. When possible, configure devices to automatically update or notify you when an update is available.

Let's all do our part to stay cyber smart and create a safer digital world for all. Visit staysafeonline.org to learn about additional cybersecurity tips.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing nearly 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% of the nation's landscape.

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Let's work together to build a safer digital world. Whether at home, work or school, we can increase our online safety with the following tips.

- 🔒 Recognize and report phishing attempts.
- 🔒 Use strong, unique passwords.
- 🔒 Enable multi-factor authentication.
- 🔒 Update software regularly.

technologies, the likelihood of new cyber threats is ever-present.

Mitchell EMC is deeply committed to ensuring our local system is safe and secure. We routinely monitor and manage cyber risks, and we work together with other co-ops to share the latest advancements in cybersecurity measures that make us stronger. But you can help, too.

When we all work together to stay safe online, we lower the risk of cyber threats to our systems, online accounts and sensitive data.

October is National Cybersecurity Month, and while good cyber hygiene should be practiced year-round, we'd like to share a few cybersecurity tips to help you bolster your online safety.

- Learn how to spot and report phishing attempts. Phishing occurs when criminals use phony emails, direct messages or other types of

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

If you recently made or plan to make energy efficiency upgrades to your home, you may be eligible for federal tax credits. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 empowers homeowners to save up to \$3,000 annually to lower the cost of efficiency upgrades by up to 30%. A few upgrades covered through the IRA include new exterior doors, windows, insulation, heating/cooling equipment and other major appliances. If you have completed or are considering an efficiency upgrade, visit www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits to learn if you qualify for tax credits.

Source: energystar.gov





Pictured L-R: Chad Carden, VP of Consumer Services; Karen Rackley (nominator), President/CEO Sylvester-Worth County Chamber of Commerce, Jean Brooks, Josh Strickland, Operations Manager Georgia 104.5; Ron Hill, Vice President of Sales First Media Services.

Hometown Hero: Ms. Jean Brooks

Mitchell EMC and Georgia 104.5 are proud to recognize Ms. Jean Brooks, as August's HOMETOWN HERO! She has been described as a true servant leader in the Sylvester and Worth County Community. She is heavily involved in her church and her community, where she volunteers and is chair of the DDA, serves on the Board of Directors of the Sylvester/Worth County Chamber of Commerce, is secretary of the Kiwanis Club, sits on the board and services the Georgia Peanut Committee (for over 60 years), and serves on numerous other boards and organizations in the community. She is a member of the choir at First Baptist Church and serves on many committees at her church. She has a special place in her heart, and she is described by her friends and associates as selfless and caring, and willing to take on any task.

Her tireless efforts and commitment to the community has made a significant impact on the community.

Congratulations Ms. Jean Brooks, our HOMETOWN HERO!

Nominate A Hometown Hero!

GEORGIA 104.5
Albany's New Country

Do you know someone who is doing amazing things? We want to hear about it! Military, police, fire, EMS, teachers, pastors, volunteers, friends, entrepreneurs... not all heroes wear capes! And most don't get the credit they deserve! We want to change that! Nominate the person (or persons) that you think needs to be recognized in a big way by filling out the form at: www.georgialistens.com/2024/06/06/hometown-hero/



We were honored to be a sponsor at the Mitchell-Baker Farmers Appreciation Dinner & Trade Show. We enjoyed talking to everyone that stopped by our booth! Our farmers are vitally important, particularly for our local communities. They support local businesses, create jobs for local people and bolster the local economy. **Remember to "Thank a Farmer."**



BACK TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

With the power of community collaboration, we have had a great time supporting our teachers and students at numerous "Back to School" events! We want to wish everyone a memorable and successful start to your school year! Keep trying, keep learning, keep moving forward and have a great year!

Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...



IMPORTANT UPDATE:

It's time to set up your MyBroadbandAccount.

ATTENTION INSTALLED CONEXON CONNECT CUSTOMERS: Please take a moment to set up your new MyBroadbandAccount to better manage your internet services. For step-by-step instructions on how to create your new account, visit: conexonconnect.com/mybroadbandacct.

If you missed the exciting news, Conexon Connect has upgraded to a more user-friendly billing and account management platform. *Connected customers - please take some time to set up your new account today!*

Mitchell EMC's offices will be closed on COLUMBUS DAY - OCTOBER 14TH

Equipment Auction

Mitchell EMC has the following vehicles/equipment for sale 'as is' to the highest bidder. If you wish to bid, please pick up a form from any of the district offices or download one from the website. You can view the items at our Camilla Office Monday - Friday, 8am until 5pm. For more information, contact Keith Gilliard, Shop Mechanic, at (229)336-5221 or (800)479-6034. Please submit your bid in a sealed envelope no later than 5pm, Friday, November 1st, 2024, to the Camilla Office location, PO Box 409, Camilla, GA 31730. The winners will be contacted by Friday, November 8th. Pickup and payment of vehicles/equipment no later than Friday, November 22nd.

Item #	MEMC#	Year	Make	Model	Description	Mileage	VIN
1	4039	1998	INTERNATIONAL	4000	TRUCK FLATBED 4000 SERIES 47 TK	51,150	1HTSCABM5WH565864
2	2114	2014	DODGE	2500	PICKUP 2500 4X4 CREW	141,110	3C6TR5HT6EG298613
3	2124	2017	DODGE	2500	PICKUP 2500 4X4 CREW	164,424	3C6UR5CJHG771898
4	7052	2009	INTERNATIONAL	4000	DIGGER DERRICK 4000 SERIES 44 (CHASSIS ONLY)	93,512	1HTMKAAN39H094548
5	9123	1988	SHERMAN REILLY		TRAILER WIRE PULLER TENSIONER	NA	123WM1315J1T06620
6	9124	1988	SHERMAN REILLY		TRAILER WIRE PULLER TENSIONER	NA	123WM1315J1T06621
7	9134	1990	SHERMAN REILLY		TRAILER WIRE PULLER 4 DRUM	NA	123WM1625L1T05023
8	9176	2019	CATERPILLAR	299D2XHP	SKID STEER (TRACK LOADER) W/ MULCHING HEAD & BUCKET	NA	CAT0299D2DX204442

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



Photo Credit: <https://theworldisanoyster.com/ladyfinger-strawberry-cheesecake/>

Ladyfinger Cheesecake

Ingredients

2 pkgs. (11.1 ounces each) no-bake
cheesecake mix
2/3 cup butter, melted
1/4 cup sugar
1 pkg. (3 ounces) ladyfingers (25 cookies)
1 pkg. (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
3 cups cold 2% milk, divided
1 carton (12 ounces) frozen whipped
topping, thawed
1 can (21 ounces) strawberry pie filling or
flavor of your choice

Instructions

In a large bowl, combine the contents of crust mix from both packages, butter and sugar. Press onto the bottom of an ungreased 10-in. springform pan. Arrange ladyfingers around edge of pan. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and 1/2 cup milk until smooth. Gradually beat in remaining milk. Add contents of filling mix from both packages; beat until smooth. Beat on medium for 3 minutes. Fold in whipped topping. Pour over crust. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Top with pie filling. Remove sides of pan before serving.

Submitted by:

Stephanie Paige, Dougherty County

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.