

Rayle Lines

Member Newsletter



February 2024

The Official Newsletter of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation

Kathy King retired after 4 years of service



Kathy King, left, accepts retirement gifts from General Manager Tony Griffin.

Kathy King of Tignall retired Dec. 8, 2023, after four years of service with Rayle EMC. Before joining Rayle EMC, she worked for Southern Co. for 26 years as an Accounting Assistant. King was hired by General Manager Tony Griffin on Aug. 19, 2019. While at Rayle EMC, Kathy worked as a customer service representative and provided assistance in all three Rayle EMC offices.

King is married to Chris King of Tignall, who will also be retiring at the end of the year from Tignall Baptist Church as pastor. She has two grown children: daughter Emily (Jackson Lawrence) and son Jason (Leslie King). King has four grandchildren, Emory, 16; Harleigh, 13; Brooklyn, 10; and River, 2.

For King's retirement celebration she was treated to lunch at Miller's Bistro in Washington. King was presented with a glass plaque and a monetary gift for her service, and cake was enjoyed on her last day with co-workers. She and her husband moved back to Carrollton in January to be closer to family and spend quality time with them.

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Feb. 23 deadline approaches for 2024 Washington Youth Tour

Rayle EMC reminds local high school students that the Feb. 23 deadline to apply for the Washington Youth Tour is approaching. We will be selecting three high school students between the ages of 16 and 18 for an all-expenses-paid trip to our nation's capital. Students will join dozens of their peers from around the state and country, June 14-21, as delegates on the Washington Youth Tour, a fast-paced, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit Washington, D.C.

This great opportunity only costs the time it takes to write an essay of 500 to 1,000 words about the factors that make an electric cooperative different from other electric utilities and how it benefits the community. A panel of judges will select a group of finalists, and three winners will be chosen according to biographical information and ability to communicate both orally and in writing.

All essays should be postmarked by Feb. 23, 2024, and mailed to: Richard Heard, Rayle EMC, P.O. Box 1090, Washington, GA 30673.



Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*



Area rugs are an easy, cost-effective solution to cold floors. Adding area rugs to hard-surface flooring can add warmth to any room and keep your feet cozy on cold winter days.

Choose rugs made from wool or other natural fibers and plush or high-pile textures for the most insulation. Place rugs in areas where you need additional warmth, like the foot of a bed or under a coffee table. Area rugs can enhance the aesthetics of your home and keep you cozier.



Operation Round Up awards \$10,000 in grants to local organizations

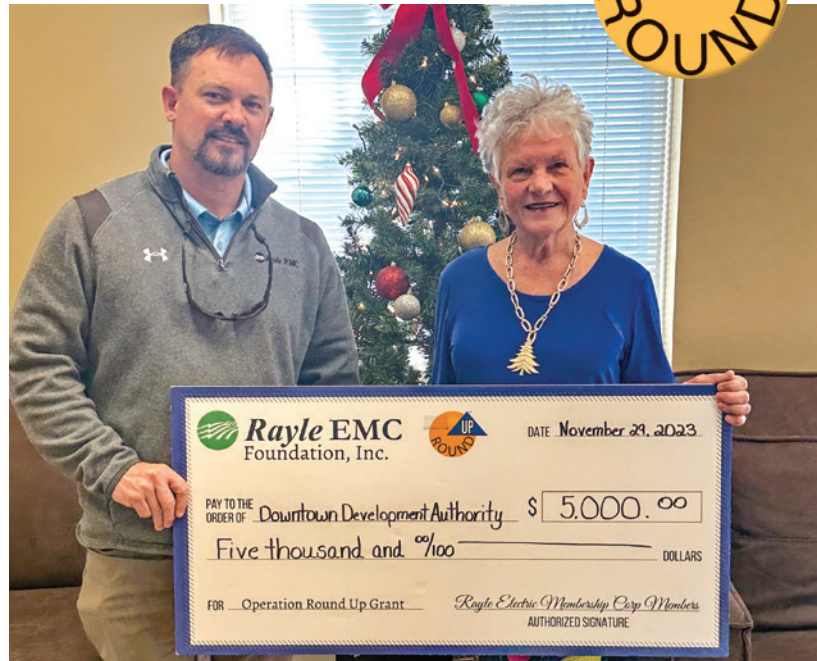


The Rayle EMC Foundation has allocated \$10,000 to support two community initiatives as part of its Operation Round Up program. At its recent quarterly meeting on Nov. 15, 2023, the co-op's foundation board designated charitable grants to the following local organizations:

- **Downtown Development Authority**, Union Point: \$5,000 to assist with the stage construction for the Historic Union Theater. The stage will provide a location for events such as performances, meetings, receptions and art exhibits for the citizens of Union Point and the surrounding counties.
- **Union Point Volunteer Fire Department**, Union Point: \$5,000 to assist with the purchasing of new bunker gear for the volunteer firefighters at the Union Point Fire Department. This will ensure that all members are outfitted with the proper personal protective equipment.

Operation Round Up is a charitable program supporting nonprofit organizations that serve to meet the health, safety, educational or recreational needs of the community. Funding is made possible when members voluntarily "round up" their monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar. Individual members contribute, on average, about 50 cents a month. To apply for a grant for your organization, please contact your local Rayle EMC office.

If you are a Rayle EMC member who participates in Operation Round Up, we thank you for your generosity. Operation Round Up is tax-deductible, so additional contributions can be made by calling or visiting your local Rayle EMC office. Operation Round Up's sole purpose is to improve the quality of life for those in our community.



Rayle EMC Director of Member Services Richard Heard, left, presents a check to Jill Rhodes, Chairman of the Downtown Development Authority for Union Point.



Richard Heard presents check to Will Wright, Fire Chief of Union Point Volunteer Fire Department.

Delinquent electricity utility accounts

Delinquent electric utility accounts occur when a full payment is not made by the due date on your bill.

Sometimes extenuating circumstances beyond your control cause you to have trouble making your payments by the due date. The best way to prevent disconnection of your electrical service is to stay in contact with your electric provider to explain these circumstances and see if you qualify for a payment arrangement.

It is important to understand the consequences and additional charges associated with delinquent accounts.

Rayle EMC members with power bills over two months past due are

eligible for their services to be disconnected due to nonpayment. If disconnected, the balance due, a collection fee, a reconnection fee, plus an additional security deposit must be paid before service can be restored.

Other factors that cause your power to be disconnected for nonpayment include broken payment arrangements, returned payments (checks and credit cards) and fraud.

Rayle EMC conducts monthly checks to review the status on all delinquent accounts at the end of each month. Those accounts that were eligible for disconnection during the month but were not physically turned off are reviewed and, if still delinquent, will be disconnected at



this time without further notification.

All Rayle EMC members should try to maintain a one-month status on their power bill to avoid power interruption. Contact your local office if you have any questions regarding your electric utility bill.

Recipe of the Month

Chocolate Bourbon Pecan Pie Bars

Courtesy of Georgia Grown

Crust ingredients

- 8 ounces unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups all-purpose flour

Topping ingredients

- 3/4 cup sorghum syrup
- 3/4 cup light brown sugar
- 2 farm eggs
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1 ounce ASW Resurgens Rye bourbon
- 2-1/2 cups pecan pieces
- 4 ounces chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a 9x13-inch baking dish with

parchment paper and spray with cooking spray. Brown butter in a pan, about 5-8 minutes over medium-high heat. Allow to cool for 5 minutes. In a large bowl, combine browned butter, sugar, vanilla and salt. Mix together. Gradually stir in flour until mixture is crumbly and begins to stick together. Press into the bottom of prepared pan and bake for 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, whisk sorghum syrup, brown sugar, eggs, melted butter, vanilla and bourbon together in a medium bowl. When crust has finished baking, remove from oven and sprinkle chocolate chips and pecan pieces evenly over the crust. Pour sugar mixture over pecans and chocolate, and spread evenly and gently with a spatula over the crust. Return to oven and



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bake for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and cover with foil, then return to oven and bake 10 minutes longer. Remove from oven and allow to cool. Chill in refrigerator for 2 hours, then cut into bars and serve. Makes 9 dessert-sized bars or 18 snacking bars.

For recipes from farms and producers across our state, visit www.georgiagrown.com.