Rayle Lines
Member Newsletter



November 2026 The Official Newsletter of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation

Operation Round Up awards $19,848 in grants to local organizations

The Rayle EMC Foundation has allocated $19,848 to support six community initiatives as part of its Operation Round Up program. At its recent quarterly meeting on Aug. 19, 2026, the co-op's foundation board designated charitable grants to the following local organizations:

- **Arnoldsville Volunteer Fire Department, Oglethorpe County:** $5,000 to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) and a thermal imaging camera for the frontline rescue unit.
- **Oglethorpe County 4-H Club, Oglethorpe County:** $1,350 to cover the cost of registration for students to compete at Junior/ Senior District Project Achievement.



Malinda Hall with Vibe Kidz Inc., left, receives a $5,000 check from Rayle EMC Director of Member Services Richard Heard.



- **Touching Taliaferro with Love Inc., Taliaferro County:** $2,500 for instructional supplies for STEM enrichment activities, including engineering challenges, science experiments, introductory coding and math-based problem-solving games, along with character camp for students.
- **Vibe Kidz Inc., Wilkes County:** $5,000 to help with the revitalizing of the community park located in Tignall, which includes a new pavilion, renovated restrooms, bleachers and playground equipment.

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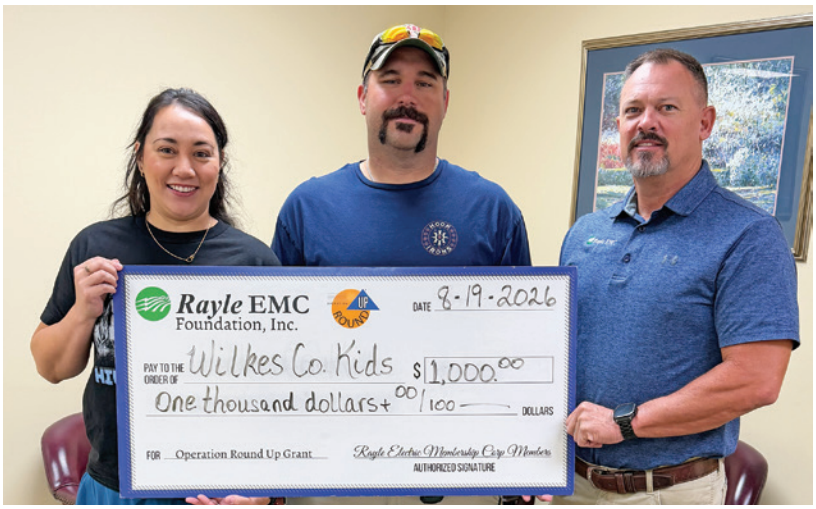
Operation Round Up, *Continued from page 14A*

- **Beulah Volunteer Fire Department, Wilkes County:** $4,998 to purchase new portable radios for the firefighters.
- **Wilkes County Kids, Wilkes County:** $1,000 to purchase toys, educational materials, clothing and other essential gifts for children participating in the Christmas Toy Drive.



From left: Mary Ellen Howard and Matthew Howard, Co-Presidents of Wilkes County Kids, receive a check from Richard Heard, Rayle EMC Director of Member Services.

Operation Round Up is a charitable program supporting nonprofit organizations that help 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 an average of about 50 cents a month, but no more than $12 a year. If you are a Rayle EMC member and participate in Operation Round Up, we thank you for your generosity. Operation Round Up is tax-deductible, and 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 communities.

Make your home safe during the holidays

The winter holidays can be the best time of the year—as long as you and your family stay safe.

Be extra vigilant about fire safety as you celebrate the holidays. Amid the guests, cooking, decorations and busyness of the season, one-third of all residential fires occur during the winter, according to the National Fire Protection Agency.

Protect your family and your home by following these electrical safety tips:

- Don't overload outlets or electrical cords. Instead of plugging the extra lights, appliances and decorations into a multi-sided plug, invest in a power strip.





- Never run extension cords under rugs or in high-traffic areas. People can trip over them, and the rug can cause wear on a cord, which can make it vulnerable to overheating and starting a fire.
- If you find a crack or frayed wire on a cord, throw it away.
- After the holidays are over, pack up your extension cords and store them with your decorations. Extension cords are not designed for permanent use.
- Keep your smoke detector batteries fresh and your detector up to date.

Rayle EMC adds new employee

Rayle EMC General Manager Tony Griffin announces the addition of a new employee, Sean Nicholson, who will be working out of the Washington District.

Nicholson of Tignall began his career with Rayle EMC on Aug. 17, 2026, as an Apprentice Lineman. He is the son of Bob and Jennifer Nicholson of Tignall and has one brother, Garrett Nicholson of Tignall.

Nicholson graduated from Piney Woods Homeschool in 2025 and then completed his Electrical Lineworker Certification from North Georgia Technical College in Clarkesville. Before joining Rayle EMC, he worked as an equipment operator and general laborer for Tri Scapes LLC in Elberton.

Nicholson and his family attend Elberton Christian Church in Elberton. He said his favorite Bible verse is Romans 5:8, which says, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us."

In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, being outdoors and being involved in the ministry of sharing Jesus.



Sean Nicholson



FOR SALE
BY SEALED BID

Rayle EMC has six vehicles for sale by sealed bid. Items for sale may be inspected from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekdays, at the Rayle EMC office in Washington. Bid sheets can be picked up at any Rayle EMC office location. Mail all bids to:

Tony Griffin, Bids
Rayle EMC
PO Box 1090
Washington, GA 30673

Bids must be received by noon on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2026. Everything will be sold "as is," with no warranties implied or intended. Each bid amount must include sales tax.

A 10 percent deposit of the bid being made will be required on each vehicle bid and must be submitted with the bid. The deposit will be refunded to unsuccessful bidders. **If a bid is successful, but the bidder chooses not to purchase the item, the 10 percent deposit will be forfeited.**

Rayle EMC reserves the right to reject all bids.

#100 **2009 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 –** 1FTRX14839FB12245, 232,147 miles, A/C, automatic transmission, gas

#104 **2019 Ford F-150 XL 4x4 –** 1FTMF1E50KKD06312, 162,573 miles, A/C, automatic transmission, gas

#613 **2008 New Holland TB100 85 HP Tractor with 6-foot tree trimmer –** Serial # B61393M

#619 **2003 Hooper Pintle Hitch Trailer 7.5' x 16' –** GVWR 8,000, 4TOFB16273001938

#711 **1997 Hooper Pintle Hitch Trailer with dovetail 8' x 25' –** GVWR 20,000, 4TOFB2529V1001921, dual tire with tandem axle

#714 **2001 Better Built Pintle Hitch Trailer 7.5' x 16' –** GVWR 8,000, 4MNDP162811001997

Cranberry Apple Farro Stuffing



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2-2/3 cups vegetable stock
1 cup farro, dried
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 cup red onion, chopped
3/4 cup Granny Smith apples, diced
1/4 cup celery, chopped
1/4 cup scallions, chopped
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 cup fresh parsley
1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 cup dried cranberries

In a small pot over high heat, bring vegetable stock to a boil. Add the dry farro and stir. Reduce to low heat, cover and cook for 15-20 minutes or until all the liquid is gone.

In a sauté pan over medium heat, add olive oil and red onion. Once red onion becomes translucent, add apples, celery and scallions. Continue to sauté for 1-2 minutes or until apples soften slightly.

Combine the cooked farro and sautéed mixture in a mixing bowl. Add garlic powder, lemon juice, parsley, seasoned salt, black pepper and cranberries. Serve as a Thanksgiving alternative or with any fall-inspired dish. *Serves 6.*