



# NewsLine

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## *Congratulations, Bright Ideas Winners!* **Colquitt EMC Awards Grants to Area Teachers**

Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation awarded area teachers with Bright Ideas education grants during the month of September. They were surprised in their classrooms and presented with a big check courtesy of the "Bright Ideas Prize Team" – representatives from Colquitt EMC.

The purpose of the Bright Ideas education grant is to provide funding for teachers to put their creative plans in action. Earlier this year the cooperative invited teachers to submit grant proposals up to \$1,000 each for creative lesson plans. Grants totaling \$28,000 were awarded within Colquitt EMC's service area.

Funding for the grants is made possible through Georgia legislation that allows unclaimed capital credits to be used for education in the communities served by EMC's.



See more photos inside.

# *Congratulations to our winning teachers!*



**BRIGHT  
IDEAS**



*Tammy Jo Allen*  
Clyattville Elementary



*Jacqueline Beals*  
Tiftarea Academy



*Herbert Bennett*  
S.L. Mason Elementary



*Diana Chartier*  
Quitman Elementary



*Phyllis Childree*  
Valwood



*Sarah Current*  
Dewar Elementary



*Nora Eakin*  
Lowndes High



*Holly Farrens*  
Sallas Mahone Elementary



*Tina Garrick*  
Charles Spencer Elementary



*Danielle Gibbs*  
Pinevale Elementary



*Kalen Grant*  
Lowndes High



*Rena Hendley*  
Clyattville Elementary



*Donna Hobby*  
Tiftarea Academy



*Matt Howell*  
Brooks County High



*Kimberly Keen*  
Tift County High



*Melissa Kostyu*  
Highland Christian Academy



*Jeanne Love*  
Tiftarea Academy



*Arlene Manning*  
St. John Catholic School





*Ella Mobley*  
Brooks County High



*Tirzah Morris*  
Cox Elementary



*Chrisie Osborne*  
Berrien Middle



*April Richards*  
Tift County High



*Becky Rogers*  
Berrien High



*Carole Rozier*  
Lowndes High



*Christina Simpson*  
Clyattville Elementary



*Michele Stokes*  
J.L. Lomax Elementary



*Amber Spiwey*  
Tift County High



*Gina Tindall*  
Pine Grove Middle



*Angie Tillman*  
Quitman Elementary



*Corine Walker*  
Stringfellow Elementary

## Prepare Your Heat Pump for Winter

**T**he days are getting shorter and soon we will be getting our first frost. Now is the best time to prepare your heat pump for the cold days ahead. Follow these tips to keep your home nice and warm:

- **Schedule preventative maintenance:** Contact your heating and cooling contractor to clean and tune up your heat pump. Preventative maintenance is the key to lowering heating bills and preventing mid-season breakdowns.
- **Check the filter monthly:** Change it when it appears dirty or every 90 days, whichever comes first.
- **Set your thermostat to heat – Not EM Heat:** Did you know that your heat pump has two settings for heating your home – Heat and EM Heat? The EM in EM Heat stands for emergency heat. As the name implies, only use emergency heat when the regular heat setting does not work and then just until the repairman arrives to fix the primary heating. Setting your heat pump to EM HEAT will double the cost to heat your home.
- **Replace thermostat batteries:** Most modern thermostats have batteries to prevent losing your settings if the power goes out. The beginning of the heating season is a good time to install a fresh set.
- **Remove obstructions from all supply and return vents:** Remove obstructions from your supply and return vents to ensure that the warm air is well-distributed throughout your home.
- **Consider a thermostat makeover:** The new generation of “smart” thermostats are loaded with features to keep heating costs at bay and increase your comfort and convenience. Consider a change-out to enjoy a full heating season of savings.

# Local. Dependable. Serving **YOU.**

## *Colquitt EMC at Sunbelt Ag Expo*

Georgia's EMC's, including Colquitt EMC, hosted the "Electric Cooperatives of Georgia" tent at the 40th Sunbelt Ag Expo held in Moultrie, GA on October 17-19, 2017.



## *Happy Thanksgiving!*



*We're grateful for the opportunity to serve our members. Wishing you the bounty and blessings of the season...*

*from Colquitt EMC's Board & Employees*

**Our offices will be closed**  
**Thursday, Nov. 23 & Friday, Nov. 24**

**Monday, Dec. 25, Tuesday, Dec. 26**  
**& Monday, Jan. 1**



# Recipes of the Month



## Cranberry Salsa

### INGREDIENTS

*Servings: 20*

1 (12 ounce) package fresh cranberries  
1 bunch cilantro  
1 bunch green onion  
2 jalapenos (may use canned)  
1 cup sugar  
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice  
Serve over  
2 (8 ounce) blocks cream cheese

### DIRECTIONS

Add first 4 ingredients above together in food processor. Pulse well to combine. Add sugar and lemon juice, and pulse until combined. Pour over cream cheese and serve!



## Fresh Cranberry Orange Relish

### INGREDIENTS

*Servings: 10-12*

2 (12 ounce) packages fresh cranberries  
2 large oranges, unpeeled  
2 cups sugar substitute  
1 cup pecans, chopped (optional)

### DIRECTIONS

Wash the cranberries and set aside. Wash the oranges and do not peel them. Slice each orange into eight sections. Using a food processor, process cranberries and oranges. Stir in sugar substitute. (If using the pecans, add those as well.) This can be made the day before, (keep it chilled until ready to serve).

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