



COLQUITT EMC NEWSLINE

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FEBRUARY 2023

LOCAL STUDENTS ADVANCE TO COMPETE AT STATE AGRICULTURAL ELECTRIFICATION CDE COMPETITION

The FFA South Region Agricultural Electrification CDE Competition took place on December 15. Two Colquitt County FFA students will move forward to compete at the state competition in March.

Caleb Smith (*top photo*) of Colquitt County High School placed first at the South Region Competition and was awarded a \$500 scholarship. Levi Hunter (*bottom photo*) of CA Gray Junior High School placed second at the competition and will also move forward to compete in the state competition.

The overall objective of the Agricultural Electrification Career Development Event (CDE) is to promote and expand educational programs in electrification for students enrolled in agricultural education. To achieve this objective, CDE reinforces the classroom instruction and FFA supervised activity projects in three stages – a problem solving exercise, practical wiring exercise and an oral demonstration.

Colquitt EMC is proud to partner with our local FFA programs! ***Good luck at the next competition Caleb & Levi!***



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COLQUITT EMC SCHOLARSHIP AND BRIGHT IDEAS GRANT APPLICATIONS COMING SOON!

Colquitt EMC Scholarship Applications Available April 1 – June 15! Applicants must:

- Reside in the household of a Colquitt EMC Member
- Be enrolled in a college or technical college with campus locations/degree offerings within Colquitt EMC's service area.
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Submit a complete application with two letters of recommendation, proof of enrollment and transcript.

Undergraduate and graduate students may apply. Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible. Applications will be available at colquittemc.com April 1 and will be due June 15, 2023.



The Bright Ideas Grant Application date is moving to June 1 – August 1! Bright Ideas awards teachers money for innovative lessons and projects to energize students learning abilities. The Bright Ideas Program will award grants of up to \$1,000 to winning teachers. Public and private school teachers teaching grade k-12 in any subject area are eligible to apply. Schools in the areas that Colquitt EMC serves may submit more than one application. However, teachers are eligible to submit only one application per school year. The grants are not for professional development. Bright Ideas Grant Applications will be available on colquittemc.com June 1 and are due August 1.



If you have any questions regarding the Colquitt EMC Scholarship or Bright Ideas Grant, please contact Shelby Cloud at 229-985-3620 ext. 1246.

5 WAYS TO SAVE DURING WINTER

Winter weather typically means increased energy use at home. Keep your bills in check with these tips to save energy – and money!

Mind the thermostat. If you have a traditional heating and cooling system, set the thermostat to 68 degrees or lower. Consider a smart or programmable thermostat for additional savings.

Get cozy. Add layers of clothing for additional warmth and snuggle up under your favorite heavyweight blanket.

Don't block the heat. If your air vents or

heating elements (like radiators) are blocked by furniture or rugs, your home isn't being adequately heated.

Take advantage of sunlight. Open window coverings during the day to let natural sunlight in to warm your home. Close them at night to block the chilly night air.

Block air leaks. Seal windows and exterior doors with caulk and weather stripping to improve indoor comfort and decrease the amount of energy used to heat your home.

2023

BEST YEAR EVER TO SAVE \$\$ ON YOUR POWER BILL

As of January 1, 2023, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 went into effect. The bill provides some of the most significant federal tax credits and deductions to date, empowering Americans to make their homes more energy-efficient and saving hundreds of dollars annually.

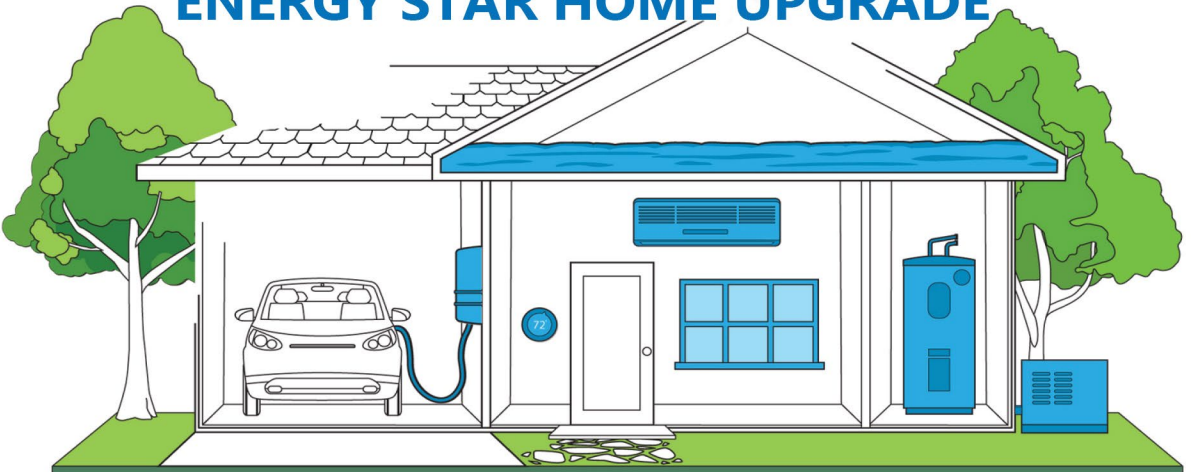
The new federal income tax credits are available through 2032, providing up to \$3,200 annually to lower the cost of energy-efficient home upgrades by up to 30 percent. Improvements such as installing heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, insulation, doors, and windows, as well as electrical panel upgrades, home energy audits, and more, are covered by the tax credits and can help families save on

their monthly energy bills for years to come.

Homeowners can achieve optimal savings by following the ENERGY STAR Home Upgrade. The ENERGY STAR Home Upgrade is a carefully crafted set of six high-impact, energy-efficiency improvements for your home. These upgrades are designed to work together to deliver significant energy and cost savings. They can also help you create a cleaner, healthier, and more comfortable home.

Visit the ENERGY STAR Home Upgrade website for more information at: https://www.energystar.gov/products/energy_star_home_upgrade.

ENERGY STAR HOME UPGRADE



CLEAN HEATING AND COOLING

SUPER-EFFICIENT WATER HEATER

SMART THERMOSTAT

WELL-INSULATED AND SEALED ATTIC

HIGH PERFORMANCE WINDOWS

ELECTRIC EV READY



POLE TOP & BUCKET RESCUE TRAINING

Our line crews recently participated in a pole top and bucket truck rescue training. This annual training event prepares our crews for quick response in the event of an emergency.

For pole top rescue, each line worker climbs the power pole to rescue the dummy by securing a rope to its harness and then lowers the dummy to the ground. For bucket truck rescue, the dummy is placed inside the bucket and raised up. Each line worker lowers the bucket, secures a rope to the dummy's harness, and raises the bucket back up to use a pulley system to remove the dummy from the bucket and lower it to the ground.

These training exercises are timed and must be performed quickly and safely as possible. Here are some images of our Colquitt County District Crews participating in this training! For more pictures and a video of this training event, please check out our social media pages.



Recipe OF THE MONTH



Slow Cooker Roast

INGREDIENTS

1 (4-5lb) beef roast, any kind
1 (1-1/4 oz.) pkg. dry brown gravy mix
1 (1-1/4 oz.) pkg. dried Italian salad dressing mix
1 (1-1/4 oz.) pkg. dry ranch dressing mix
1/2 cup of water

DIRECTIONS

Place beef roast in crock pot. Mix the dried mixes together in a bowl and sprinkle over the roast. Pour the water around the roast. Cook on low for 7-9 hours. *Optional: Use onion soup mix instead of ranch. Add potatoes, carrots, mushrooms, celery, or onion 2-3 hours before end.*

Church of the Month



Bemiss Road Baptist Church

3307 Bemiss Rd., Valdosta, GA 31605
Pastor Justin Atchinson

Service Schedule

Sunday School:	9:45 AM
Sunday Morning:	11:00 AM
Sunday Evening:	6:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM

Listen to their Radio Station at 810 AM WZYN.

To nominate your church for Church of the Month, please contact Shelby Cloud at 229-985-3620 ext. 1246 with your church's information. Please include service schedule, address and pastor's name.

Bible Verse of the Month

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

~John 16:33