



COLQUITT EMC NewsLINE

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 10

OCTOBER 2026

1 THIS MONTH IN 1936

Hoover Dam began transmitting its first electricity over 266 miles to Los Angeles.

Pan American World Airways inaugurated its regular weekly passenger service between San Francisco and Manila via Honolulu.

Lou Gehrig is voted **American League MVP** by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.



Franklin D. Roosevelt rededicates the Statue of Liberty on its 50th anniversary.

Cole Porter's musical "Red, Hot and Blue" starring Ethel Merman, Jimmy Durante and Bob Hope opens at the Alvin Theatre in New York City and runs for 183 performances.



2026 BRIGHT IDEAS GRANT WINNERS

This year, Colquitt EMC awarded Bright Ideas Grants to 303 local teachers across our service territory. These grants were made possible by Colquitt EMC's Unclaimed Capital Credit Fund. Bright Ideas awards teachers money for innovative lessons and projects to energize student's learning abilities. The purpose of the Bright Ideas Program is to provide resources for teachers that will enable them to plan and implement special instructional opportunities to improve student achievement through the implementation of the Georgia Performance Standards.

Please visit our social media pages and website to view the full list of teachers who were awarded a Bright Ideas Grant this year!



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LOCAL VOICES SHAPE LOCAL SOLUTIONS

October is National Co-op Month

By Abby Berry, NRECA

When you hear the word cooperative, what comes to mind? As your local electric co-op, we hope you think of Colquitt EMC

Regardless of the services offered, all cooperatives have one thing in common: they're led by the people they serve—and that simple idea makes a meaningful difference.

Cooperatives come in all shapes and sizes, each created to meet a specific need. Credit unions help members save and borrow money. Producer cooperatives, like Ocean Spray and Land O'Lakes, help farmers bring their products to market. Retail

utilities wouldn't. While a lot has changed since then, our purpose has remained steady. We're still here to provide power and make decisions with our community's best interests in mind.

Being locally owned means we have the flexibility to focus on what matters most to the communities we serve. That's why no two electric cooperatives are exactly alike. Every community has different needs, and every cooperative reflects those priorities.

For some co-ops, that means expanding programs that help members save energy and money. Others may focus on supporting economic development, investing in new technology or creating new opportunities for local students. In 2026, Colquitt EMC awarded 303 teachers Bright Ideas Grants and nearly \$200,000 in scholarships to students residing in the household of a Colquitt EMC member. This is made possible by our Unclaimed Capital Credit Fund.

You'll also find the co-op difference in the little things. It's the lineworkers restoring power after a storm. The employees answering your questions when you call. The team members volunteering at community events. The board members—your neighbors—who help guide decisions for the future.

We're your neighbor and local energy partner, and we're committed to serving this community for generations to come.

This National Co-op Month, we invite you to join us in celebrating the cooperative difference, because this co-op belongs to you.

Whether it's Colquitt EMC, your local credit union or ACE Hardware, cooperatives prove that when people work together, everyone benefits.

Your membership is what makes our mission possible—and it's what keeps us focused on serving the people and communities that matter most.

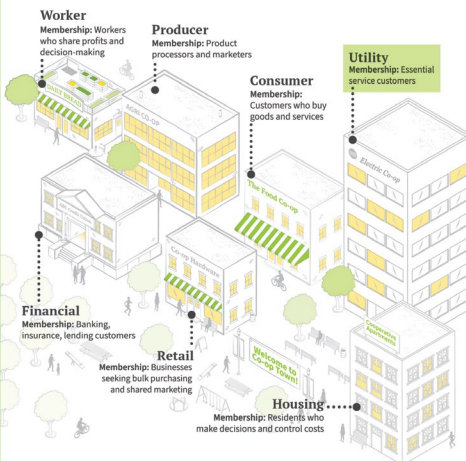
Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56% of the nation's landscape.

KINDS OF CO-OPS

Cooperatives come in many forms—from electric utilities and credit unions to farm supply stores and housing co-ops—but all cooperatives are built with a common purpose: to meet the needs of the members they serve.

Co-ops strengthen local communities, keep decisions close to home and invest in long-term success.

October is National Co-op Month.



cooperatives, like REI and ACE Hardware, are owned by their shoppers or a membership of store owners, while housing cooperatives give residents a voice in managing their communities. And utility cooperatives—like Colquitt EMC—provide reliable electricity to the communities they serve.

Unlike many businesses that answer to outside investors or shareholders, cooperatives are built for their members. Their goal isn't simply to earn a profit—it's to provide value, meet unique local needs and strengthen the communities they call home.

That's exactly what makes Colquitt EMC different.

Our story began in 1936 when neighbors came together to bring electricity to an area when other

CO-OP MONTH QUIZ



October is National Co-op Month

Did you know there are many different kinds of cooperatives? A cooperative, or co-op, is a business that's owned by the people who use it. Some co-ops help people buy groceries, some help farmers sell their crops and some—like your electric co-op—bring power to your home. Read each clue below and guess the type of cooperative you think it is.

Answer Choices:

Worker	Producer	Consumer	Utility	Retail	Financial	Housing
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1. Your local electric cooperative

It keeps the lights on, restores power after storms and is owned by the members it serves.

Type: _____

2. REI

People can become members to shop for outdoor gear, enjoy special benefits and help support the business.

Type: _____

3. Ocean Spray

Thousands of cranberry and grapefruit farmers work together to grow fruit and produce juice sold across the country.

Type: _____

4. Your local credit union

Members save money, open checking accounts and apply for loans through a financial institution they own together.

Type: _____

5. A grocery co-op

Local shoppers become members to help support a community grocery store and buy fresh foods.

Type: _____

6. A cooperative apartment building

People work together to own and manage the place where they live.

Type: _____

7. A cooperative bakery

The people who bake the bread, decorate the cakes and serve customers also own the business together.

Type: _____

Answer Key:

1. Utility 2. Retail 3. Producer 4. Financial 5. Consumer 6. Housing 7. Worker



CEMC'S 90TH ANNUAL MEETING • LUNCH RESERVATION FORM

NOVEMBER 3, 2026 DRIVE-THRU: 9AM - 1PM SPENCE FIELD IN MOULTRIE

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Account # _____

Member's Signature _____

Including myself, you may plan on _____ person(s) for lunch.

Deadline for drive-thru lunch reservations is October 20, 2026. (Limit 3 meals per member)

HONORING OUR HISTORY.

ENERGIZING OUR FUTURE.

CELEBRATING ALL YEAR LONG!

DON'T LET HIGH ENERGY BILLS HAUNT YOUR HOME THIS HALLOWEEN



As Halloween approaches, ghosts, goblins, and spooky decorations aren't the only things that can sneak into your house. Energy waste can quietly haunt your monthly electric bill too! The good news is that a few simple tricks can keep those "energy vampires" from draining your wallet.

Beware of Energy Vampires

Many electronics continue using electricity even when they're turned off. TVs, game consoles, chargers, and coffee makers can slowly suck power day and night.

Halloween Trick: Unplug devices you aren't using, or plug them into a power strip and switch it off when not needed.

Keep Chilly Air From Creeping In

Small gaps around doors and windows can let cooled or heated air escape like ghosts slipping through walls.

Halloween Treat: Check for drafts and seal them with weatherstripping or caulk. It's a low-cost fix that can help reduce heating and cooling costs.

Don't Let Your HVAC System Become a Monster

A dirty air filter makes your heating and cooling system work harder than it should.

Halloween Trick: Replace or clean your air filter regularly. A clean filter helps your system run more efficiently and keeps your home comfortable.

Cast a Spell on Lighting Costs

Traditional incandescent bulbs use more energy and generate extra heat.

Halloween Treat: Replace old bulbs with LEDs. They use far less electricity, last longer, and are perfect for lighting up jack-o'-lanterns and festive decorations.

Put Your Thermostat Under Your Control

Heating and cooling account for the largest portion of most home energy bills.

Halloween Trick: Set your thermostat a little higher in summer and a little lower in winter. Even a small adjustment can produce noticeable savings.

The Final Scare

The scariest thing about Halloween shouldn't be your electric bill! By hunting down energy vampires, sealing air leaks, maintaining your HVAC system, and using efficient lighting, you can enjoy a more comfortable home and keep more money in your pocket.

SAVE THE DATE - NOVEMBER 3, 2026

Colquitt EMC's 90th Annual Meeting of Members

SPENCE FIELD, MOULTRIE



Colquitt EMC is an equal opportunity provider.

Recipe OF THE MONTH



Sticky Peanut Butter Popcorn Balls

INGREDIENTS

5 cups of popped popcorn
1 cup dry roasted peanuts
½ cup Reese's pieces or ½ cup M&M's
½ cup sugar
½ cup light corn syrup
½ cup chunky peanut butter
½ teaspoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

Place popcorn, candies, and peanuts in a large bowl, set aside. In a large saucepan over medium heat, bring sugar and corn syrup to a boil, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and stir in peanut butter and vanilla. Quickly pour over popcorn mixture and mix well. When cool enough to handle, shape into 10 2.5" balls and let stand at room temperature until firm. Wrap in plastic wrap.

Church of the Month



St. John Holiness Church

2910 6th Ave. • Tifton, GA
Bishop Walter Walker Jr., Pastor

Services:

SS 1st-4th Sunday 9:00 AM
(no Sunday School on 5th Sunday)
Sunday Morning Worship
Every 1st-4th Sunday 10:00 AM
Bible Study Via Teleconference
Every Tuesday at 6:30 PM - 425-585-7265

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

Bible Verse of the Month

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

~ Galatians 6:9