

POWERLINES

CONTACT US: ☎ 770-502-0226 🌐 WWW.UTILITY.ORG



AUGUST 2026



Monuments, Memories and Future Leaders

Two outstanding local students recently returned from the Washington Youth Tour, a leadership experience sponsored by Georgia's Electric Membership Corporations. Simone Antoine of Sandy Creek High School and Josiah Benjamin, a homeschool student from Senoia, represented Coweta-Fayette EMC during the 2026 trip to Washington, D.C.

From June 12–19, Antoine and Benjamin joined more than 1,800 high school students from across the country to explore the nation's capital, develop leadership skills and learn more about civic engagement and public service.

"The Washington Youth Tour gives students a unique opportunity to experience history beyond the classroom while connecting with other young leaders from around the country," said Tiffany Trueblood, CFEMC Youth Tour Coordinator and Public Relations and Communications Manager.

During their week in Washington, students visited many of the city's most historic landmarks and monuments. Among their favorite experiences were the Marine Corps Sunset Parade, the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, and touring the nation's iconic memorials and monuments.

The delegates also participated in leadership activities, met students from across the United States as well as Sen. Raphael Warnock and the staff of Rep. Brian Jack, all while learning more about the cooperative principles that connect electric cooperatives nationwide.

"The monuments and museums were incredible, but getting to meet so many students from different backgrounds was just as meaningful," said Antoine.

Benjamin agreed, noting that the Marine Corps Sunset Parade was one of the many highlights of the trip.

Since its inception, the Washington Youth Tour has provided life-changing experiences for nearly 50,000 students nationwide, helping inspire future leaders in communities across America.

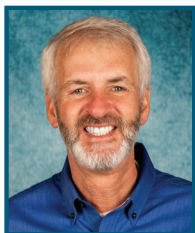
"We're proud to support these students and excited to see the impact they'll make in their schools, communities and beyond," said Trueblood.



2026-27 High School Juniors!
Learn more and pre-register for
the 2027 Youth Tour TODAY!
Scan the QR code below.



Preparing for Tomorrow Starts Today



Chris Stephens
CEO

One of the things I love most about serving our members is seeing firsthand how our cooperative's impact reaches far beyond delivering reliable electricity. Every day, we're helping build stronger communities, creating opportunities, and preparing the next generation for success.

In this month's issue, you'll meet several outstanding local students who recently participated in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. For nearly 70 years, electric cooperatives have invested in young leaders through this unique program, giving students the opportunity to experience our nation's history, engage with government leaders, and develop leadership skills that will serve them for years to come.

Each year, I'm inspired by the students who represent our community. They return with new perspectives, greater confidence, and a deeper understanding of how they can help shape the future. If you have a high school student who may be interested in this life-changing experience, scan the QR code in this issue to join our notification list and receive information about future application opportunities.

Our investment in education doesn't stop with students.

This summer, we once again welcomed a group of dedicated educators for our annual Summer Teacher Tour. Through visits to Plant Vogtle and a utility-scale solar facility, teachers gained firsthand insight into how energy is generated and delivered. These experiences help bring real-world energy concepts into

classrooms and inspire students to explore STEM-related careers.

We're also investing in tomorrow through our Bright Ideas Teacher Grants program. These grants provide funding for creative classroom projects that inspire curiosity, encourage critical thinking, and help students discover new passions. Applications will close soon, so we encourage teachers to apply before the deadline. Scan the QR code in this issue to see examples of previous grant-winning projects and their impact on local classrooms.

What makes Bright Ideas especially meaningful is that these grants are funded through Operation Round Up. More than 30,000 members participate by allowing their monthly electric bill to be rounded up to the nearest dollar. Those small contributions come together to create extraordinary opportunities for students, teachers, families, and community organizations across our service area.

That's the cooperative difference in action.

If you're not currently participating in Operation Round Up, I encourage you to consider joining your fellow members. It's an easy process. Just visit our website (<https://utility.org/operation-round-up-signup/>) and fill out a short form. Together, we're proving that small actions can create lasting change and help build a stronger future for everyone.

As a cooperative, we believe the future isn't something that simply happens to us—it's something we create together. Thank you for helping us invest in the students, educators, and leaders who will shape tomorrow's communities.

Together, we're not just powering homes and businesses. We're powering the future.

Bright Ideas Grants:
Deadline: Aug. 9, 2026
For: Educators in counties
served by CFEMC
Amount: Up to \$1,500
Possibilities: Endless!

Hatching New Ideas in the Classroom

Great ideas start small—sometimes even in an egg incubator. Through our Bright Ideas Grant program, local educators can bring creative, hands-on learning experiences to life, just like the classroom incubation project featured in this month's video (Scan the QR code to see something to "peep" about!)

If you're an educator with an innovative lesson or project in mind, now is the time to apply. Bright Ideas Grants provide funding for classroom programs that spark curiosity, creativity, and real-world learning. Applications are due August 9.

A special thank you to the members who participate in Operation Round Up. Your spare change helps hatch new opportunities for students and makes programs like Bright Ideas possible. Apply today and let your next great idea take flight!



Scan to watch what's
Hatching!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Neal Shepard, Jr., Chairman • Ross Henry, Vice Chairman • Daniel C. Langford, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
Therol Brown • James W. Fulton, III • Donald E. Harris • James Lee Hunter • Chuck Johnson • Mildred A. Winkles

Coweta-Fayette EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer /M/F/Y/D