

ENERGYUNITED'S MONTHLY MEMBER NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

THE VALUE OF ELECTRICITY FOUNDATION SPOTLIGHT YOUTH TOUR LAST CALL

A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

THOMAS

December is often filled with all sorts of

activities, holidays, and of course, the final push to get work and school tidied up before we welcome the new year. Many of you may be looking forward to this season, while others may be feeling a sense of concern especially with the upcoming rate change around the corner.

As mentioned in the October and November Connect CEO letters, we will be facing a slight rate increase in 2023. To be frank, this is something that we put off for as long as possible in hopes that global and economic factors would swing in our favor, and unfortunately they have yet to. We have worked with our member-led Board of Directors to find the rate increase that will work the best both for you on an individual level and for the health and well-being of our cooperative. As of January 1, members will see an increase. This increase is as low as it can possibly be, and is a direct reflection of economic inflation, as we always provide you power at the cost at which we receive it.

If this increase, and the swell of prices across the board, is affecting your wallet more severely, please check out our page of resources at EnergyUnited.com/we-arehere-to-help-you. There you will find several cost-saving tips, programs and funding opportunities to help you during this tougher time. For those of you who have the ability, I strongly encourage you to participate in our Operation Round-Up program that funnels directly to the EnergyUnited Foundation and can help a neighbor in need.

We are grateful for your understanding and support during this time, and wish you and your family a very safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

Thomas Golden, CEO



Check out this video message from the CEO by scanning this QR Code!

THE COOPERATIVE **DIFFERENCE**

UNDERSTANDING CAPITAL CREDITS



One of the things that sets us apart as a cooperative is our Capital Credits program. Just as other companies and entities give a percentage of profits back to their stakeholders, so do we! The key difference is we are owned and governed by our members and credits are returned to you. It's a benefit to be a member because every year that we collect more than what was required to operate, we return it in the form of a bill credit!



We have **more than 3.5 million dollars to return to our members!** Those who are still within our service area will see a portion of this returned in the form of a bill credit, while those who have moved out of our service areas and off our lines will receive this as a check.

This year, we will be issuing capital credits to any member that was connected in 1991, 1992, 2001, and 2021. We will publish a list of those who have yet to claim their credits in the spring of 2023. That list can be found at EnergyUnited.com



ISSUED TO MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN 1991 | 1992 | 2001 | 2021

THE VALUE OF YOUR **ELECTRICTY**

Electricity is all around us, literally. And some of our most-used household appliances actually are a pretty good value for the benefit they provide. Take a look at these comparisons to get a sense of what daily items your electricity use equates to!



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Mooresville is known as Race City USA, home to over 50 race teams and businesses that include Dale Junior Motorsports, the North Carolina Auto Racing Hall of Fame and the NASCAR Technical Institute. Walk with legends along the sidewalks of Downtown Mooresville at the Racing Walk of Fame. Immerse yourself in the racing experience at GoPro Motorplex, an outdoor karting facility open to the public. You can reach speeds of up to 55 miles per hour, delivering a highadrenaline racing experience.

Mooresville is nestled in the heart of the Piedmont in Iredell County along the shores of Lake Norman. Lake Norman is North Carolina's largest lake, with over 500 miles of shoreline, and situated right at its center is Mooresville. There are a variety of water sports activities available to enjoy along with great fishing. Easy lake access is



available at numerous spots including Lake Norman State Park, which



offers more than 30 miles of hiking and mountain bike trails. When it is time for a break take the local craft brewery tour and try Ghostface Brewing, Hoptown Brewing, the Jolly Roger Brewery or even King Canary Brewing for the best in malted barley.

In the early 20th century, Mooresville was known as the home of one of the largest mills in North America, Burlington Mills. This site had over 1 million square feet of space and is now known as Merinos Mill. Over 100,000 people visit the mill each month to visit Alino's Pizzeria, the Barcelona Grill, Main Street Antiques and much more. While visiting downtown Mooresville stop by DE Turner Hardware, listed as a historic landmark, Built in 1899, the store remains the same today as when it opened. Just down the street from Turner's is Welcome Home Veterans Military Museum, also known as Richard's Coffee Shop. This is a military museum dedicated to honoring America's veterans, active duty and emergency service personnel. Stop by for a cup of coffee, share, reflect and get inspired. Over 25,000 veterans have signed the big book of honor recognizing their service to our country.

Mooresville is home to attractions and adventures of all types! Choose from exciting exotic animal encounters at the Lazy 5 Ranch, slow Lake Norman cruises on a river boat, whipping around in a go-kart at world-class GoPro Motorplex or chilling out with a locally brewed craft beer. It's all here at Race City USA!

FAMILY AND FRIENDS FAMOUS TOASTERY IN MOORESVILLI

Famous Toastery started when friends Brian Burchill and Robert Maynard decided to dream up a local spot where good times and good food could come together. In 2005, they opened their first Toastery in Huntersville, NC, with three more to follow. By 2013 they had turned their big idea into a thriving franchise system. Today, nearly 30 Famous Toasteries have popped up along the East Coast, with more on the way. We sat down with Mooresville franchise owner Stacy White to discuss her path to operating the "Toastery with the Mostery."

Stacy White retired in 2015 after 30 years of teaching middle and high school math. A selfproclaimed "people person" and lover of good food, Stacy always saw a future for herself in the restaurant industry. "I put myself through college waiting tables and continued to do so to supplement my teaching. I knew I always wanted to be in the restaurant business!"

She continues, "It's also great that this role allows me to see and work with my (now adult) kids and husband. My husband is retired too, and helps out only as needed — I joke that he's my errand boy."

Stacy and her family treat the folks that visit Famous Toastery like an extension of their family. They have locals who come and eat here every day and they will even look out for fellow patrons who may be going through a tough time. "My husband and son often deliver meals to customers who are dealing with health issues," explains Stacy. "Good food can really just make you feel so much better."



You can visit Stacy's Famous Toastery at Mooresville Commons as well as downtown Mooresville. They serve breakfast, brunch and lunch and if you're asking Stacy's favorites she'll gladly tell you: "Get the Left Coast BLT, Pancakes or the Famous Corn Beef Hash!"

> Watch an interview with Stacy here



FamousToastery.com

FOUNDATION SPOTLIGHT: CHARLES CLEMENT

Charles Clement is a resident in Davie County who has been through a lot over the past 20 years. In 2005, Charles was first diagnosed with cancer and underwent treatment, only for it to then recur in 2011 and again in 2017. Through these struggles, Charles has done his best to stay optimistic and positive but the medical bills have left him on a tighter budget, and cancer still persists. Over this past year, Mr. Clement noticed that his roof was starting to leak and show signs of damage.

He reached out to the EnergyUnited Foundation, which granted him the financial support to get his roof repaired and the comfort of his home restored. "I'm just so grateful for everyone who rounds up their bills so that people like me can receive help."

From the EnergyUnited Foundation, we wish Charles all the best in his health and hope and pray for his recovery.

View the message in his words

SEE YOU AROUND TOWN

Looking for something to do this season? Check out these amazing events! You might just see us there. ;)

CHRISTMAS PARADES IN DENVER & TAYLORSVILLE

DECEMBER 3

CORNELIUS TREE LIGHTING NOVEMBER 26

You'll see our linemen top the tree at this event!





APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN 2023 YOUTH TOUR

EnergyUnited is accepting applications through December 31 for the 2023 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program. This year, *EnergyUnited will be selecting two outstanding students for the all-expenses-paid nationwide leadership program in Washington, D.C.* The week-long leadership experience is scheduled for June 17-23, 2023. Students who attend the Youth Tour will join 1,500 high school students from across the U.S. to learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the United States government. Students will also visit the historic sites of the nation's capital and meet with their congressional leaders.

Applicants must currently be enrolled in their sophomore year or junior year and either receive service from EnergyUnited at home or attend a school that is served by EnergyUnited. All high school sophomores and juniors attending the following schools that are served by EnergyUnited are automatically eligible to apply: Central Davidson Sr. High, South Davidson High, Ledford High, Davie County High, Davie County Early College, North Iredell High, West Iredell High, Hopewell High or William Amos Hough High.

Applications will be accepted until December 31, 2022. To apply, visit: EnergyUnited.com/youth-tour



Scan to apply

OUR EMPOWERED CO-OP

Our membership is full of inspiring folks! In 2023 we'd like to take a moment to highlight and celebrate these members of the community. If you know or are someone who empowers your community, let us know! We'd love to spotlight innovative and excellent neighbors!

Some examples of what this might look like in your community:

- A neighbor who has done something extraordinary
- A local business that goes above and beyond in serving its customers
- A beloved teacher or staff member who has inspired their students
- Local members who have invented something new or carved a new path for themselves or others
- Those who have seen a pain point within the neighborhood and resolved it themselves
- And so much more!

Send your nominations to communications@energyunited.com.

HOLIDAY HOURS

We will be closed on *Friday* 12/23 and *Monday* 12/26 for business.



