

# CONNECT

ENERGYUNITED'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBER-OWNERS

## A COOPERATIVE **COMMUNITY**

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# MAKING CENTS SAVING LIVES

## OPERATION ROUND-UP, EST. 1996

**One way EU and participating members demonstrate a shared commitment to community is through our Operation Round-Up program. We are grateful for the 70,000 electric members who agree to round up their bills each month. Their support helps to serve community members in need—members like Brigette Parsons.**

In 2013, Brigette Parsons was balancing her role as a single mother with a typical nine-to-five job. Inspiration struck and a need within the community became increasingly evident. By that October, she began Saving Grace K9s, a nonprofit to help disabled military veterans who suffer from PTSD/TBI (post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury) reenter into civilian life with the help of a service dog.

“At the beginning, it was tough. I had no experience with dog training, didn’t know how to run a nonprofit, and really had no idea where to start,” Brigette says. But like many things that appear fated, things fell into place. She met dog trainer Kat Carter while shopping. They hit it off and together they came up with a training plan. By December 2014 the team had their first graduate of the program, who, as fate would have it, would later become Brigette’s husband.

The program places rescue dogs with veterans who suffer from PTSD/TBI and light mobility issues over a six- to eight-month training regimen. Bonding and camaraderie are often what veterans miss the most when reentering civilian life, and with a service dog, they know that man’s best friend will always have their back.

**“This Operation Round-Up donation is so important to the well-being of our program and the veterans we serve. Without funding we can’t save lives.”**

“\$10,000 may not be a lot to some people, but to us, a donation like this is the difference between life and death. It’s huge.” Brigette continues, “I struggle to find the words to describe it except to say that it literally is lifesaving. I am so thankful to have this donation from EnergyUnited so we can continue our mission and help these men and women reclaim a life they can love.”

**To lend a helping hand to those who need it, participate in the Operation Round-Up program. Contact EnergyUnited at 1-800-522-3793.**

# ENTERTAIN WITH Propane!

**Finally:** warm weather and clear skies! Why not take advantage of the spring and summer months by entertaining friends and enjoying the outdoors? And with our propane-powered grills, tiki torches, and fireplaces, your entertainment options are limitless!

**LEARN MORE AT ENERGYUNITEDPROPANE.COM  
OR BY CALLING 1-800-522-3793**



## THIS COULD BE YOU!

Congrats to February’s e-billing sign-up-winners.

These winners received a \$25 Visa® gift card just by signing up for e-billing! Make sure you check out your bill insert for other opportunities to win.

# LETTER FROM THE CEO



Energylimited relies on the support of its member-owners to thrive and keep our cooperative running smoothly. One of the most profound ways to help out is by joining our Member Advisory Committee (MAC).

MACs are composed of members who live throughout our 19-county service area. These members will help guide us in our efforts to offer safe, affordable, reliable and environmentally responsible energy by acting as ambassadors between leadership and Energylimited members. The ongoing communication with you, our members, helps us streamline service processes, spearhead the development of new community programs and keep an active pulse on the needs and concerns of the co-op.

Each MAC consists of members who reflect the diversity of our cooperative. In 2019, MAC diversity will be expanded to include Energylimited Propane customers. We humbly ask any of our members to consider applying, and especially our propane customers, who offer valuable insight and perspective to our committee.

We are currently seeking both electric members and propane customers to join each of our three MAC groups. Energylimited leadership attends and participates in every meeting. A chairperson for each of the three committees is selected at the last meeting of the year and will serve for one year. The committees will meet three times a year in the Foothills, Lake Norman and Triad regions.

If you believe that you would be a good fit for serving in 2019, please contact our Communications Manager, Maureen Moore, at [maureen.moore@energylimited.com](mailto:maureen.moore@energylimited.com). She'd love to tell you more about how you can get involved with your energy services provider!

At Energylimited, you're so much more than a customer—you're a valued member of our democratically controlled electric cooperative. Now that's powerful.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Wayne Wilkins".

**H. Wayne Wilkins**



## COMMUNITY SAFETY

is something we take very seriously. Which is why we have routine equipment checks, training reviews and safety protocols in place to protect the communities we serve. We are proud to serve our communities with a sense of security in mind.

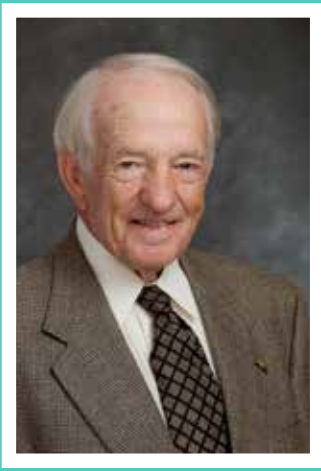
***It's just another way we're keeping communities connected and safe.***

Kelsey Oliver  
Georgia Navarro  
Cody Leftwich

Melissa Allen  
Zhaohue Qjiu  
Robin Paschal

James Benson  
Jennifer Barnes  
Kevin Motz

Lynn Ostasiewski



**IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS THAT WE ANNOUNCE**  
**the passing of longtime cooperative director, Mack Shoaf.**

Mr. Shoaf passed away on Monday, March 11, at the age of 83. He served as a cooperative director for 43 years and played an important role in guiding the cooperative into a new age by formally establishing the co-op we all know today. Over the course of his illustrious career, he also held the office of President of the Board and Chairman of the Executive Committee and lived a life full of service to his community.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Peggy Hanes Shoaf; his son, Mack Todd Shoaf and his wife, Rosa, of Midway; his daughter, Elizabeth (Sissy) Shoaf White and her husband, Lindley, also of Midway; and his grandchildren, Dania and Loucas.

**A search committee will make recommendations to the board of directors concerning the vacant District #2 directorship.**



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**EnergyUnited is proud to connect deserving students, athletes and teachers to scholarship and grant opportunities throughout the year like our Student Scholarship, Youth Tour, Bright Ideas Education Grants and Sports Camp programs.**



Our Bright Ideas Education Grant program empowers hardworking teachers with grants up to \$2,000 to implement creative and innovative projects at school.

**CALLING ALL TEACHERS!**

**VISIT [ENERGYUNITED.COM/BRIGHT-IDEAS](http://ENERGYUNITED.COM/BRIGHT-IDEAS) TO APPLY TODAY.**  
 Deadline for applications is Monday, September 23.



**GIVE YOUR A/C**  
**THE DAY OFF**

Our state-of-the-art tool, Energy Advisor, creates a home profile for your residence and shows ways you could better save your energy (and money). For example, you might just be running your A/C more than you need to.

*By opening the windows and running your fans, you can let Mother Nature do the heavy lifting, or should we say, cooling.*

**Sign up for Energy Advisor by visiting [EnergyUnited.com](http://EnergyUnited.com)**

**THE POWER OF STAYING CONNECTED:**  
**IT'S ELECTRIC!**

Sharing your email is one of the best ways to stay up to-date. Receive community alerts, announcements and the latest news.

**SIGN UP AND THREE LUCKY WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A SOUS VIDE!**

Provide your email address by visiting **MY ACCOUNT** at [EnergyUnited.com](http://EnergyUnited.com) and update your account information.

