

A new spin on ceiling fans

Ceiling fans are popular not only because of their good looks but also because they can help make your home more comfortable during summer and winter. But it pays to take note of a few facts that could make your ceiling fan an energy drain instead of an energy boost.

For instance, if you keep those fans turning for cooling power but don't raise the setting on your air conditioning system, you can use more energy than you need to cool your home. Although the fans aren't big energy users, if you keep them running at high speed and keep the air cranked up too high, you're wasting energy — as much as 15 percent. However, if you raise your air conditioning thermostat by just

three degrees and use your fans, you can cut your energy use by about the same amount.

Many fans come equipped with switches that change the fan's direction. In the winter months, you can use that adjustment to make your fan push warm air down from the ceiling — remember, hot air rises — and help your home feel warmer. In the summer, reverse the switch so the fan brings cool air up from the floor. Check the information on your fan to determine how your model works. If you're running your fan the wrong way during the heating or cooling season, you're really wasting energy and not getting the benefits of that ceiling fan. □

Is it time to retire your Fridge?

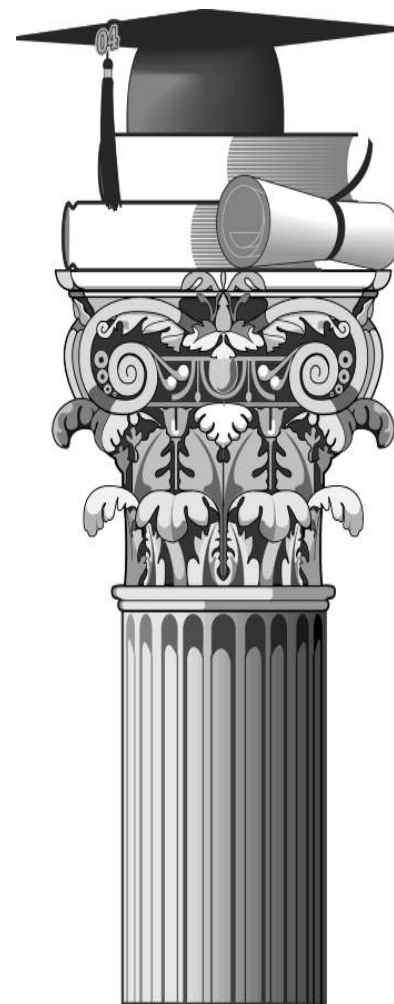
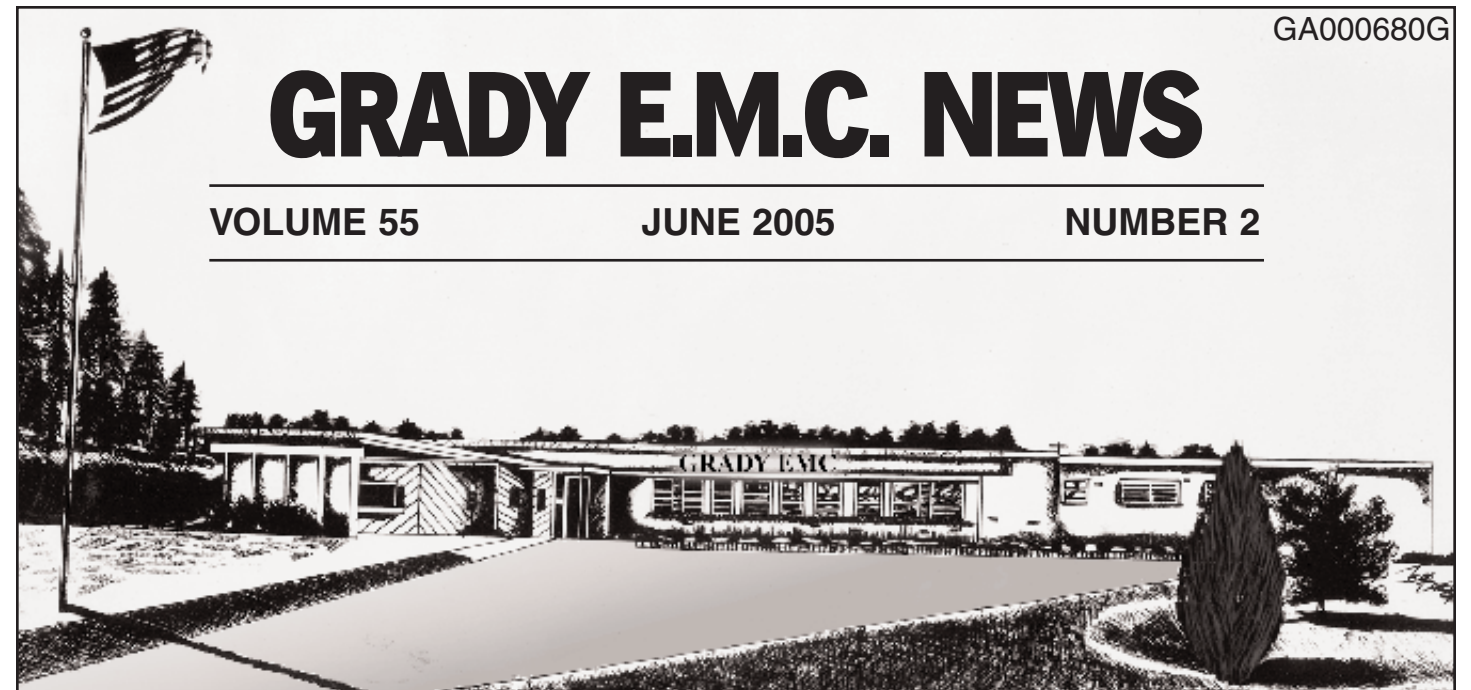
Refrigerators are among the biggest energy-users in American homes. You might want to take a look at yours and decide if you should retire it in favor of a new, more efficient model. An old inefficient model can cost you more than \$100 more per year to operate than a new one and puts more waste heat into your home, too, putting an extra strain on air conditioning.

The good news is that the most efficient standard refrigerators are less expensive. The bad news is that many of the features consumers want, such as automatic icemakers and on-door ice and water dispensers, make refrigerators less efficient. You have to consider your family's needs to make the best choice. Some points to consider if you're refrigerator shopping:

- Side-by-side refrigerator/freezers use more energy than top-freezer models.
- It costs much less to buy and operate one large refrigerator than two small ones.
- Piling things on top of the refrigerator can affect air circulation. Keep it clear.
- Check the interior temperatures of your fridge and freezer with a separate thermometer. For maximum food safety and energy efficiency, the refrigerator should stay around 35 to 40 degrees F, the freezer from 0 to 5 degrees F
- Clean the condenser coils once a year to help the fridge run efficiently. Mount your refrigerator on a wheeled platform or slides to make access to the coils in the back simpler.

As a member-owned utility, your co-op is always happy to help you save money. □

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Congratulations to the Graduates of the Class of 2005

We know this is a day that you have looked forward to for a long time. Your hard work and efforts have finally been rewarded. The friends and classmates that have preceded you in graduation are now moving on with their lives, whether furthering their education, or entering the workplace. You, the Seniors of '05, will now start doing the same and contributing to your communities and society. You have been equipped to handle the challenges, overcome the objectives, and become a productive individual. Your families, friends, relatives, and educators have watched you grow and mature and are extremely happy for you and for your accomplishments. Grady EMC also takes pleasure in wishing you much happiness and success in whatever you try to accomplish.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

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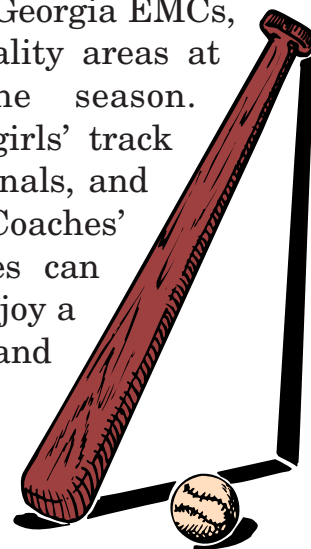
Grady EMC Congratulates the Georgia High School Association, Its Coaches and Student Athletes

Grady EMC Wraps Up Another Year of GHSA Sponsorship The 2004-2005 school year had its share of ups and downs - and Grady EMC was there every step of the way. Thanks to our sponsorship of the Georgia High School Association (GHSA), Grady EMC had the opportunity to once again support the student athletes and coaches that make every season of high school competitions one to remember.

While we at Grady EMC are more than pleased to do our part, it is the coaches out there everyday motivating our student athletes that deserve the real credit. As a way of repaying high school coaches for all their hard work, Grady EMC, along with 29 other Georgia EMCs, operated Coaches' Comer hospitality areas at championships throughout the season. Present at events such as the girls' track championship, state basketball finals, and cheerleading competition, the Coaches' Comer is a place where coaches can relax during a competition and enjoy a beverage, receive a free T-shirt, and learn about electric cooperatives.

One of the ways we helped support coaches and students alike was by partnering with Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) to televise some of the GHSA action. The state basketball finals in Gwinnett and Macon, the state football semi finals in the Georgia Dome and finals were broadcast live on GPB. In addition to the competitions, GPB also broadcast Prep Sports Plus, a weekly program featuring high school sports highlights.

As summer vacation starts and students and coaches begin preparing for the 2005-2006 season, so does Grady EMC. We look forward to sponsoring the GHSA again next season and supporting a brand new year of exciting high school athletics and competitions. n



2005 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR

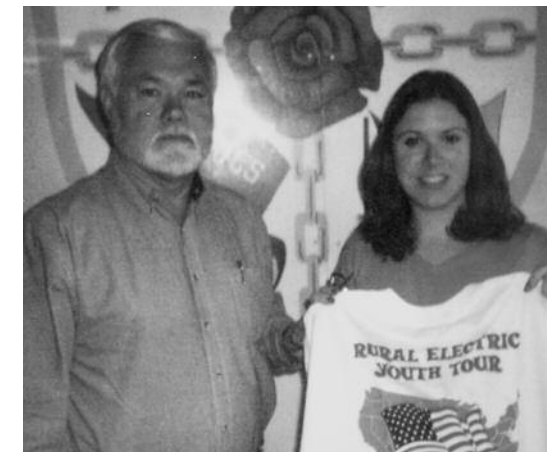
RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR

June 16th thru 23rd are the dates for this year's Washington Youth Tour leadership experience. Two well-deserving and energetic students have been selected and sponsored by Grady EMC to attend as this year's delegates. Caitlin Jones, a rising senior from Thomasville High School and Jaleasa Martin, a rising senior from Bainbridge High School will be experiencing a trip of a lifetime. They will be representing themselves, their schools, their parents, and their communities and have already shown they have the ability to do this very well.

Caitlin has been very active in both her school and community. She is Vice-President of the "Y"

Club, President of the Foreign Language Club, Treasurer of her Junior Class, member of the swim team, and Sergeant-at-Arms of the Student Government Association. She is a member of the Thomasville Music and Drama Troupe, and a member of Thomasville's "Youth Leadership for the Millennium" program. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church. Some of Caitlin's favorite things to do include reading, spending time with her family, working at Camp Arrow (a summer camp for handicapped children), traveling, and swimming. Caitlin naturally plans to go to college but is leaving her career path options open at the present. A very unique aspect to Caitlin is that she has had perfect attendance in school since starting kindergarten.

Jaleasa is a member of the Leo Club and a member of the Bainbridge High School Band colorguard team which takes up a lot of her time. She stays busy also helping her family with a younger brother and sister. Jaleasa likes to read. She loves to listen to music and dance. Jaleasa's future also includes college and is looking at either the education or medical profession as a career. She will do well whichever way



Pictured on the left is Donnie Prince, Grady EMC and on the right is Caitlin Jones, Thomasville High School.

she decides to go.

Their youth tour experience has already started for them by learning more about rural electric cooperatives, their role in bringing electricity to rural America and how they compare and contrast from other electricity providers.

The Washington Youth Tour is a dynamic, fast-paced, fun, educational experience that will last for seven days but will provide them with a lifetime of friendships and memories. The tour starts out in Atlanta with a banquet conducted in their honor for being chosen as the EMC's delegate. It will proceed into several visits including CNN, the Governor's Mansion, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, etc. Interspersed will be various leadership building exercises throughout the tour. They will depart for Washington on Saturday morning and spend five nights there. They will now be able to see and get "hands-on", up close and personal with the city and the people that is the heartbeat of America. Congressional delegation luncheons with their representatives, visiting the Supreme Court, National Cathedral, White House, Capitol Hill, Arlington Cemetery, laying a wreath at the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier", Holocaust Museum, Bureau of Printing and Engraving, plus all of the war memorials and monuments are just a small portion of what they will encounter. Cruising down the Potomac River, Hard Rock Cafe, Pentagon City Mall are also part of what these delegates will have memories of. The leadership sessions and team-building exercises are designed to further challenge, stimulate, and educate the already highly motivated individuals. They will be part of an 83 member Georgia delegation (largest delegation in the nation to attend the Washington Youth Tour) to attend this event.

Grady EMC considers it an honor to sponsor Caitlin and Jaleasa for the 2005 WYT and we offer our CONGRATULATIONS to them. n



Pictured on the left is Jaleasa Martin, Bainbridge High School and on the right is Donnie Prince, Grady EMC.