



CENTRAL ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION

A tradition of dependable, hometown service since 1937

CARTHAGE: 601-267-5671 | PHILADELPHIA: 601-656-2601 | RANKIN: 601-829-1201 | SEBASTOPOL: 601-625-7422

107 EAST MAIN STREET • CARTHAGE, MS 39051



Local students selected for 2025 COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERS

Three area high school juniors were recently selected through an interview process to represent Central Electric Power Association during an upcoming statewide leadership workshop in Jackson, MS, and the annual National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. this summer.

Now in its 38th year, the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi Cooperative Youth Leaders program is an enjoyable educational experience that makes a lasting impact on participants.

The Cooperative Youth Leaders program provides an opportunity for students across Mississippi to learn, grow, and experience.

LEARN

Students **LEARN** the value of the cooperative business model, specifically the impact that electric cooperatives have on their lives and communities.

GROW

GROW in their leadership qualities through team-building exercises as well as expanding their communication skills, confidence, and courage in decision making.

EXPERIENCE

EXPERIENCE the democratic process at state and federal levels by visiting the Mississippi and U.S. capital cities.



AN LE

An Le is the daughter of Xin Tran and Binh Le of Philadelphia. She attends Neshoba Central high school. After graduation, An plans to pursue a degree in mathematics and chemistry.



EMILY INGRAM

Emily Ingram is the daughter of John and Sissy Ingram of Brandon. She attends Northwest Rankin high school. After graduation, Emily plans to pursue a degree in secondary education and theatre performance.



HAYES HANEY

Hayes Haney is the son of Kent and Robin Haney of Brandon. He attends Northwest Rankin high school. After graduation, Hayes plans to pursue a degree in veterinary science.

CENTRAL ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION CONGRATULATES THESE STUDENTS!

2024 Holiday Events

ATTALA COUNTY

Lighting of the Tree
On the Square
November 21
6 p.m.

Christmas Open House
KAP office
November 24
1 - 4 p.m.

Merry Market Place
KAP office
November 24 - December 19
8 a.m. - 5 p.m., M-F

Christmas Parade
Downtown Square
December 2
6 p.m.

LEAKE COUNTY

Holiday Open House
November 10
1 - 5 p.m.

**Carthage Christmas Parade
and Lighting of the Park**
December 5
6 p.m.

Walnut Grove Christmas Parade
December 6
6 p.m.

Carthage Jingle and Mingle
December 12

NESHOBA COUNTY

Christmas Open House
November 20
1 - 5 p.m.

3rd Thursday
November 21
6 - 9 p.m.

Small Business Saturday
November 30

Christmas Parade
December 9
6 p.m.

Moonlight Madness
December 12
6 - 9 p.m.

3rd Thursday
December 19
6 - 9 p.m.

NEWTON COUNTY

Christmas Parade
Main Street
December 5
6 p.m.

Tour of Trees Gala
McElroy-Hoye House
December 7
5 - 7 p.m.

**A Merry Newton
Christmas Tour of Trees**
McElroy-Hoye House
December 9-13

RANKIN COUNTY

Brandon Magic of Lights
The Quarry
November 22 - January 5
6 - 9 p.m., Monday-Thursday
5 - 10 p.m., Friday-Sunday
magicoflights.com/locations/brandon-ms

**Flowood Chili Cook-Off
and Grand Lighting of
Winter Circle Park**
December 5
5:30 - 8 p.m.

SCOTT COUNTY

Holiday Market
Downtown
November 16
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Forest Christmas Parade
December 6
6 p.m.

Passport to Santa
December 7
9 a.m.
starts at the library

For more information, see the
Forest Area Chamber Facebook page.

Please contact your local
Chamber of Commerce
to confirm all events.

Happy Thanksgiving

from Central Electric Power Association

To report an outage, please visit centralepa.com and click on
Report An Outage, call 601-267-3043, or text the word OUT to
866-846-5671 if you are enrolled in the outage texting service.
A dispatcher is on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Central Electric's office will be closed
November 28 and 29 for Thanksgiving.**

NOVEMBER 11

VETERANS Day

THANK YOU!

We thank those who have served our nation
to preserve the freedom we hold so dear.

Best SMART HOME TECH on a budget

Q How can smart home technology help me lower my power bill?

A Smart technology can make it easier to save energy by simplifying or automating tasks. It can also optimize energy use to reduce waste and improve efficiency.

by Miranda Boutelle

When upgrading to smart technology at home, consider the purchase cost as well as long-term savings. For example, you may pay a little more for a product with the latest technology, but it could result in significant savings each year and over the lifetime of the appliance.

Here are some smart devices that will take the work out of saving energy.

Smart thermostats save energy by automatically adjusting your heating or cooling system. For example, you can save as much as 10% a year on heating and cooling costs by adjusting your thermostat 7 to 10 degrees from its normal setting for eight hours a day, according to the Department of Energy (DOE).

You can program a smart thermostat to change the temperature when you are asleep or away, or use a smartphone app to adjust your thermostat settings. Some models use artificial intelligence to maximize efficiency by learning your patterns and preferences. Prices range from \$80 to \$250, depending on features. Smart thermostats do not work with all heating and cooling systems, so check compatibility before you buy. Your water heater can also be controlled for energy savings. Installing a timer on your electric water heater can save 5% to 12% of the energy it uses by turning it off at night and when you don't need to use hot water, according to the DOE.

If you are already planning to replace your electric storage water heater with a heat pump water heater, consider a model equipped with smart technology features, including Wi-Fi capabilities for controlling it remotely or during peak demand times, viewing the amount of hot water available and tracking energy use. There are a variety of modes, including vacation, efficiency and high demand, which produces more hot water. Some models can notify you or shut off if a leak is detected. Depending on the manufacturer and size of the unit, a smart heat pump water heater may only cost a few hundred dollars more than a standard heat pump water heater.



Smart heat pump water heaters are equipped with automation features that help you use less energy. Photo Credit: Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

Smart lighting gives you the power to control lights in your home remotely or set a lighting schedule that fits your lifestyle. This can be beneficial for energy savings and provide home security benefits. If you or other members of your household are notorious for leaving lights on, smart lighting can help. Numerous features are available, including dimmable bulbs and color-changing effects.

Smart light switches are another budget-friendly way to control lighting. They're priced from about \$10 to \$50. Smart switches with dimmable options are available and can also control ceiling fans. Some have occupancy sensors that turn lights off when no movement is detected in a room.

A smart plug fits into any outlet to control whatever is plugged into it. Set them to automatically turn off and on or control them using a smartphone app. Prices range from \$8 to \$25.

A wide variety of smart shades, curtains, and blinds are available, including styles with integrated controls. You can also add smart controls to your existing blinds or curtains. Both options allow you to

adjust the tilt of blinds and open or close curtains. Set a schedule, control them remotely or use a voice command paired with a voice assistant, such as Alexa or Google Home. This allows you to reduce cooling needs in the summer and heating needs in the winter. Smart controls start at around \$70. To save the most energy, prioritize windows with the most incoming light.

Upgrading to smart home technologies can make it easy to use less energy at home. Choose options that make the most sense for your lifestyle to optimize savings.

Miranda Boutelle is the chief operating officer at Efficiency Services Group in Oregon, a cooperatively owned energy efficiency company.