



# Plugged in to Altamaha EMC

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LYONS, GA

*The Official Newsletter of Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation*

**Serving: Toombs, Montgomery, Emanuel, Treutlen, Laurens, Johnson and Tattnall**

## The Washington Youth Tour—

### ★ Investing in Our Youth ★

Since achieving the monumental task of delivering electricity to rural areas all over the United States, the calling of electric cooperatives has always been to have a positive impact on the communities they serve. Providing exceptional local students the opportunity to experience their country's history up close in Washington, D.C., achieves that goal.

“Send youngsters to the nation’s capital, where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents,” encouraged U.S. Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson in 1957 at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Annual Meeting in Chicago. Since that challenge was presented, electric co-ops from sea to shining sea have been sending students to Washington, D.C., each year to educate our next generation of leaders.



The group enjoyed having a picture taken in front of the White House.

In June 2017, more than 1,700 talented and ambitious students from 43 states descended upon the nation’s capital to take part in the annual pilgrimage known as the Washington Youth Tour (WYT). Altamaha EMC delegates—

Kenlee Foskey, from Vidalia High School; Jansen Killian, from Montgomery County High School; and Tyler Summerall, from Treutlen High School—joined 110 other Georgia students for the prestigious leadership event.

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# The Washington Youth Tour,

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The weeklong, all-expenses-paid journey, which took place June 8-15, offered students a mix of leadership and team-building exercises, history lessons with visits to some of the country's most treasured museums and monuments and a rare opportunity to meet one-on-one with members of Georgia's congressional delegation.

Highlights of the trip included guided tours and stops at Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian museums, Holocaust Memorial Museum, Mount Vernon, Supreme Court, U.S. Capitol, Washington Monument and the MLK, FDR, Jefferson, World War II, Korean War Veterans, Vietnam War Veterans and Lincoln Memorials.



The Jefferson Memorial honors Thomas Jefferson, the main drafter and writer of the Declaration of Independence.



Chaperone Susan Sullivan, right, joins Altamaha EMC delegates for a photo at Mount Vernon, George Washington's home.



The U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (more commonly known as the Iwo Jima Memorial) is perhaps one of the most moving memorials in the D.C. region.

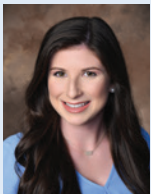


U.S. Rep. Rick Allen (third from right) spent time talking to the WYT delegates about political issues.

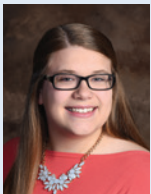
## Meet the 2017 Altamaha EMC Delegates

**A**ltamaha EMC's Washington Youth Tour delegates were carefully selected through a rigorous application process. Any junior or senior who attends a high school in the cooperative's seven-county service territory is eligible to apply.

All applicants receive a study packet containing information on the history of rural electrification in America, facts about Altamaha EMC, energy conservation, electrical safety and green power. After a two-week study period, the applicants take a written exam over the study material. The 10 students who score the highest on the written exam advance to the final level of the competition, a personal interview session. The finalists are given a score on their interview and this score is averaged together with the grade from their written test. The three students with the highest overall average are selected to represent Altamaha EMC on the tour.



**Kenlee Foskey** is a senior at Vidalia High School. She is the daughter of Matt and Stephanie Foskey. Kenlee is a member of the National Honor Society, FBLA, Beta Club, Meadows Regional Medical Center Youth Advisory Board and the Toombs Montgomery Youth Leadership Program. She volunteers with many community organizations including Winshape Camp, Rachel's House, Boys and Girls Club and American Red Cross. After graduation, Kenlee plans to pursue a law degree and become a politician.



**Jansen Killian** is a senior at Montgomery County High School. She is the daughter of James and Elizabeth Wilkes. Jansen's school activities include FFA, FCA, Beta Club and National Honor Society. She is a member of the golf team, Toombs Montgomery Youth Leadership Program and the DHS Youth Empowerment Series. Jansen also enjoys showing livestock. She plans to attend college before going to law school.



**Tyler Summerall** graduated from Treutlen High School in 2017 and is now a freshman at Georgia Southwestern State University. He is the son of Mike and Christy Kight and Shane and Jennifer Summerall. While in high school, Tyler was a member of the football, baseball and wrestling teams. His career goal is to become a politician.



The delegates take a short break to cool off in the shade while enjoying the sights of our nation's capital.

## ★ Washington Youth Tour 2018 Tentative Itinerary

**June 7:** Kickoff banquet, Atlanta

**June 8:** Team-building activities; flight to Washington, D.C.

### Dates TBD for the following activities:

- Tour and lunch at Mount Vernon; Holocaust Memorial Museum; dinner at Union Station; evening guided tour of memorials; photo op at White House
- Guided tour of Jefferson, Lincoln, Korean War and Vietnam Veterans memorials; Arlington National Cemetery guided tour; dinner performance of "Newsies" at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, Md.
- All States assembly; tour Smithsonian museums; cruise on Potomac River
- Tour Supreme Court, U.S. Capitol and Washington National Cathedral; Sunset Parade at U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima statue)
- Meet with Georgia's congressional delegation; tour Newseum and Library of Congress; All States farewell event

**June 14:** Return flight to Atlanta

*Note: Itinerary subject to change*



★ Each year, Altamaha EMC selects three local students to represent our cooperative on the WYT. The dates for the 2018 tour are June 7-14. All high school juniors and seniors interested in the opportunity can obtain information by contacting our Washington Youth Tour Coordinator, Tammye Vaughn. She can be reached at 912-526-2120 or by email at [tammye.v Vaughn@altamahaemc.com](mailto:tammye.v Vaughn@altamahaemc.com).

# 10 Quick Tips to Avoid High Winter Bills

Looking to lower your bills this winter?  
Use the 10 tips below to conserve energy.

1



Seal air leaks and insulate well to prevent heat from escaping and cold air from entering your home.

2



Reduce waste heat by installing a programmable thermostat.

3



Turn off lights when not in use.

4



Lower your water heater temperature. The Dept. of Energy recommends using the warm setting (120 degrees) during fall and winter months.

5



Unplug electronics like kitchen appliances and TVs when you're away.

6



Open blinds and curtains during the day to allow sunlight in to warm your home.

7



Close blinds and curtains at night to keep cold, drafty air out.

8



Use power strips for multiple appliances, and turn off the main switch when you're away from home.

9



Wash clothes in cold water, and use cold-water detergent whenever possible.

10



Replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, which use at least 75 percent less energy.

*Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy*



## Scholarship Deadline Approaching

January 31, 2018, is the deadline to submit applications for the \$1,000 Walter Harrison Scholarship. For more information, visit our website at [www.altamahaemc.com](http://www.altamahaemc.com) or call Tammye Vaughn at 912-526-2120.