



Line Items

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AREA STUDENT PARTICIPATES IN EMC/FFA WIRING CONTEST

Dimas Guillen, a sophomore at Southeast Bulloch High School represented his school in the Area IV EMC/FFA Electrification Career Development Event (CDE), held on November 13, 2018, at Treutlen County High School.

interpret and apply the National Electrical Code, and a speech demonstration activity. Any active FFA member enrolled in a 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade high school agricultural education class is eligible to participate. Chapters are limited to one contestant per chapter.



Dimas Guillen explains the operating principles and installation for a manually operated transfer switch used in conjunction with a generator on a storage building.



Dimas Guillen (left) with Southeast Bulloch High School FFA Advisor, Brian Elrick.

The Electrification CDE, also known as the EMC/FFA Wiring Contest, is a unique way to encourage high school students to learn about electricity. Students enrolled in agricultural education courses take part in FFA-supervised projects which prepare them to compete in the Electrification CDE. These projects and the Electrification CDE are designed to promote the safe, efficient use of electricity.

Students who participate in the wiring contest also compete for scholarship money. The first place winners from each of the six area competitions throughout the state receive a \$500 scholarship, while the second place winners receive \$300. Both have a chance to compete in the state event and receive up to an additional \$1,000.

The wiring contest contains three primary components: a practical wiring exercise, a problem solving exercise which requires the students to

Dimas is the son of Salvador and Alisa Guillen of Bulloch County. Southeast Bulloch High School FFA Advisor Brian Elrick helped Dimas prepare for the contest.

The FFA is a national organization of more than 650,000 members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. FFA is an integral part of the agricultural education program in our area public schools. Its mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

Excelsior EMC would like to congratulate Dimas Guillen on his second place finish at the Area IV EMC/FFA wiring contest and wish him the best of luck at the state competition in Covington on January 12, 2019.

Line Items

BRONSON BRAGDON
Editor

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Between the Lines

by
Greg Proctor
President/CEO

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The start of the new year brings plenty of work for your cooperative's employees. One of the main projects specified in the 2017-2021 Construction Work Plan called for system improvements in the Northeast Emanuel Substation area. Our crews began the process of reinsulating 82.9 miles of power lines on this substation in November 2017.

The transformer in the substation has reached 97% of its capacity and must be replaced. Rather than just upgrading it to a larger bank, we have elected to convert this substation area to a higher operating voltage. This conversion work will not only alleviate the capacity issues at the substation, but will also improve the voltage profile along the two circuits that it feeds. This conversion work also increases the capacity of the power lines on the substation and reduces losses in the area allowing for future growth and increased operating efficiency.

Another system improvement project included in the work plan is the relocation of 7.7 miles of power lines along Highway 67 from Statesboro to I-16. This relocation is required to accommodate the Georgia Department of Transportation road widening project. We began work on our first section of this project in December.

Our crews have built over 28 miles of new power lines during 2018, and we continue to receive requests for new service every day. In order to complete the improvements specified in the work plan and keep up with the requests for new service, we plan to bring in additional personnel and equipment. Lee Electrical Construction, Inc. was the low bidder for the system improvement projects specified in the work plan. Lee has been in the electrical construction business since 1988, has over 700 employees and is headquartered in Aberdeen, North Carolina.

Lee personnel and equipment will be arriving later this month and their first project will be to complete the reinsulation work on the Northeast Emanuel Substation so that the transformer bank can be replaced before the winter peak of 2019-2020. We look forward to working with them on these and other system improvement projects over the next two years.



Every Member Counts

NEW FACE AT EXCELSIOR EMC

Josh Holland has recently joined the Excelsior EMC team with the title of Operations Specialist.

As Operations Specialist, Josh will be planning, organizing, and directing the activities of the contract crews that are working to keep our right-of-ways maintained. This is vital in reducing the number of outages that our members experience. Josh will be working directly with our members to assist them with any right-of-way issues they might have as well as educating them on the

different methods that are used in order to protect our power lines from encroaching vegetation.

Josh is a native of Bulloch County, a husband, a father of two girls, an Army veteran, a member of Compassion Christian Church in Statesboro, and he enjoys hunting and fishing in his spare time. He is excited to have the opportunity to uphold Excelsior EMC's excellent standards of service. Please help welcome Josh to the Excelsior EMC team.



NELSAN HOBBS PROMOTED



Nelsan Hobbs was recently promoted to Information Technology (IT) Specialist. Nelsan has been with the Cooperative for over 14 years, with 2 years of service as a Warehouse Helper and 12 years of service as a Dispatcher prior to his most recent promotion.

As IT Specialist, Nelsan will help to maintain our network and computer infrastructure, identify new technologies to improve overall IT capabilities and functionality, develop and implement new and

existing computer services, and help to maintain Excelsior EMC's website and smart phone app to ensure that it retains the convenience and efficiency our members rely on.

Staying on the cutting edge of today's rapidly evolving technology is crucial to the effective operation of Excelsior EMC. Nelsan is prepared to take on this daunting task and ready to serve our members to the best of his ability. Please join us in congratulating Nelsan.



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