



# Line Items

The Official  
Newsletter  
Of Excelsior EMC

December 2022 • Vol. 43, No. 10

## Holiday Décor Tips for an Energy-Wise Home

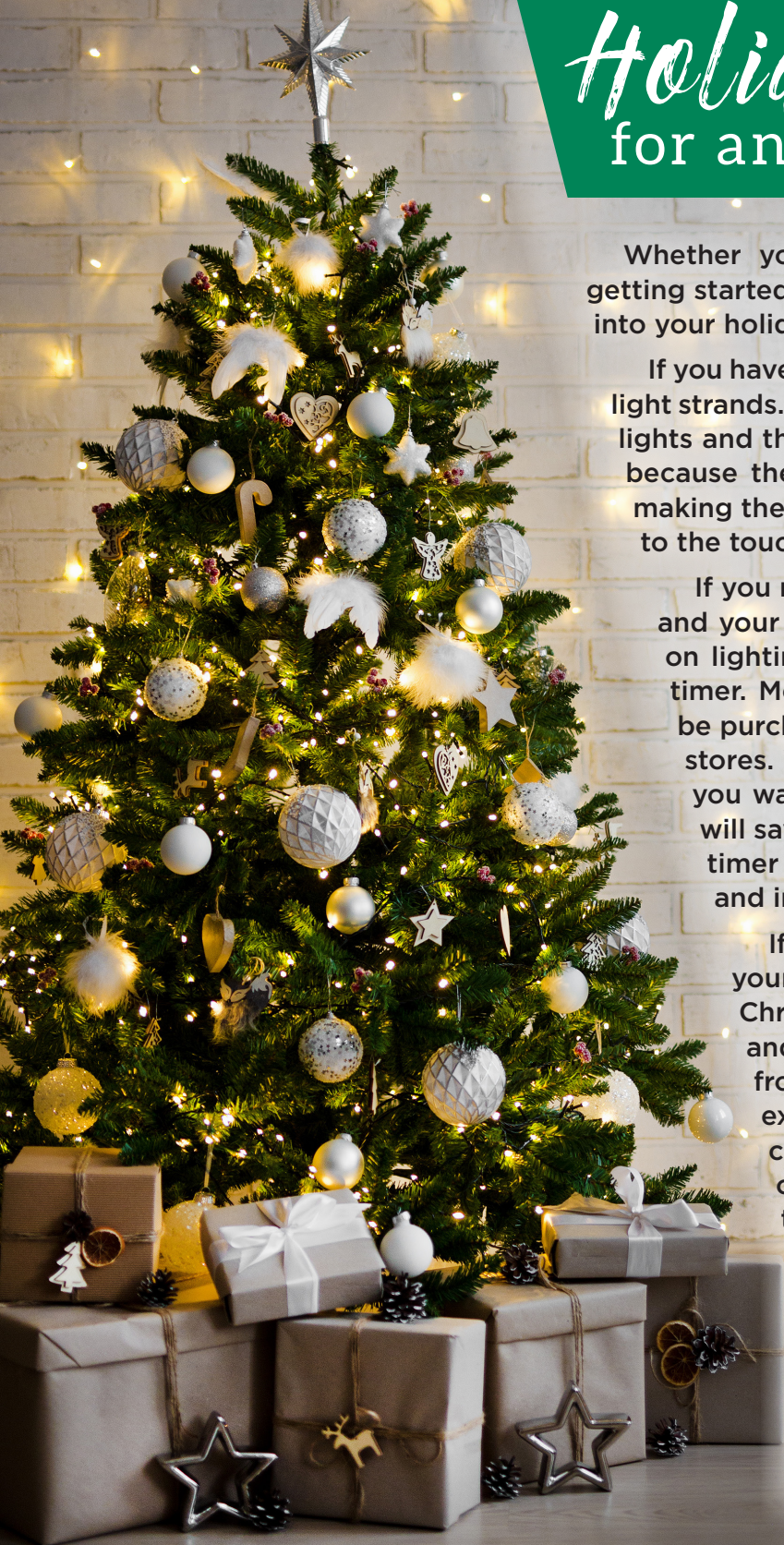
Whether you've already decked the halls or you're just getting started, there's still time to incorporate energy savings into your holiday décor planning.

If you haven't strung your twinkle lights, be sure to use LED light strands. LEDs consume far less energy than incandescent lights and they can last up to 40 seasons! They're also safer because they're made with epoxy lenses instead of glass, making them more resistant to breaking. They are also cool to the touch, so no more burnt fingers!

If you missed Santa's memo about energy-saving LEDs and your holiday lights are already up, you can still save on lighting costs. All you need is a programmable light timer. Most models cost between \$10 and \$25 and can be purchased at most big box stores and local hardware stores. With a light timer, you can easily program when you want your holiday lights turned on and off, which will save you time, money, and energy. If you're using a timer for exterior lighting, make sure its weatherproof and intended for outdoor use.

If Clark Griswold's décor style is a bit much for your taste, consider a more natural approach. Many Christmas tree farms, and even retailers like Lowe's and Home Depot, give away greenery clippings from recently trimmed trees. With a little twine, extra ornaments, and sparkly ribbon, you can create beautiful garlands and wreaths to hang over your front door or windows. To add extra twinkle at night, install solar-powered spotlights to illuminate your new greenery. Because solar spotlights run on energy from the sun, there is no added cost to your power bill.

Regardless of how you decorate your home for the holidays, there are plenty of ways to save energy throughout the season. Follow us on social media for regular energy saving tips.





# Line Items

Bronson Bragdon  
Editor

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Anderson <i>Chairman</i>	<i>Statesboro, Georgia</i>
Wade Hodges <i>Vice Chairman</i>	<i>Statesboro, Georgia</i>
G.W. Johnson <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	<i>Twin City, Georgia</i>
Jordy Carter	<i>Metter, Georgia</i>
David Cromley	<i>Brooklet, Georgia</i>
Amy Hendrix	<i>Metter, Georgia</i>
Russell Mathis	<i>Statesboro, Georgia</i>
Grady McCray	<i>Metter, Georgia</i>
Solly Trapnell	<i>Statesboro, Georgia</i>

Greg Proctor  
*President/CEO*

Bill Walden  
*Executive Vice President*

Jessie Goodman  
*Vice President, Construction and Maintenance*

Howard Porter  
*Vice President, Engineering Services*

Lindy Chester  
*Vice President, Finance and Member Services*

Bronson Bragdon  
*Director of Marketing and Communications*

Josh Holland  
*Director of Operations*

### When Your Power is Off - Call (912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123

When your power goes off, don't stay in the dark longer than you have to. To restore your power as quickly as possible, we need your correct phone number. Your phone number is the quickest way for us to locate your home or business when you call to report an outage.

LINE ITEMS (ISSN 1089-9987) is published monthly for \$1.00 per year by Excelsior EMC, 2574 Northside Dr West, Statesboro, GA 30458. Periodicals postage paid at Statesboro, Georgia. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to LINE ITEMS, P.O. Box 297, Metter, Georgia 30439

## Between the Lines

by  
Greg Proctor  
President/CEO

### *The Light of the World*

Excelsior EMC is in the business of providing light. We work each and every day to improve how we deliver safe, reliable and affordable power so that you have it for the things that are important to you.

At Christmas, we often put lights on our Christmas trees. We string lights around our houses. Our communities hang lights along their streets. Local citizens spend countless hours preparing Christmas lights for all to enjoy.

The lights are pretty. They make us feel good. They remind us of the season.

The season reminds us of why we celebrate.

Our employees have worked all year to make sure you have the power to enjoy this holiday season. We remain grateful and thankful for our many blessings.

As we celebrate Christmas this season, all of us at Excelsior EMC wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Season's Greetings

The directors and employees of Excelsior EMC wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Our offices will be closed Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Additionally, our payment system will be down for maintenance beginning 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> and ending at 8:30 a.m. on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.

As always, emergency personnel will be available by calling our 24 hour dispatch center at (912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123.



Every Member Counts

# EXCELSIOR EMC RECEIVES SAFETY AWARD



Excelsior EMC recently earned a “No Lost Time” Safety Award. The Cooperative received this “No Lost Time” award from Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, the statewide trade association representing the state’s 41 EMCs.

Each month, Excelsior EMC employees attend a safety meeting where a safety instructor covers topics such as personal protective equipment, rescuing injured personnel, heat stress awareness, DOT flagging procedures, first-aid and other safety topics. Employees are also reminded of correct procedures for working with energized lines and methods for ensuring the entire crew is aware of the potential dangers at the work site and how to respond in case of an accident. As always, safety is Excelsior EMC’s top priority.



**Photos: Top:** This construction crew adds rubber sleeves to the power lines inside their work zone as they prepare to replace this broken pole. These sleeves act as line insulators to protect our linemen while they work on energized lines.

**Bottom:** During a monthly safety training exercise, Groundman Dakota Berry climbs to the top of a pole while practicing pole top rescue on a training mannequin. Crew Leader Chris Howell watches on from the bucket in order to provide instruction.

# PATRICIA BEASLEY RETIRES

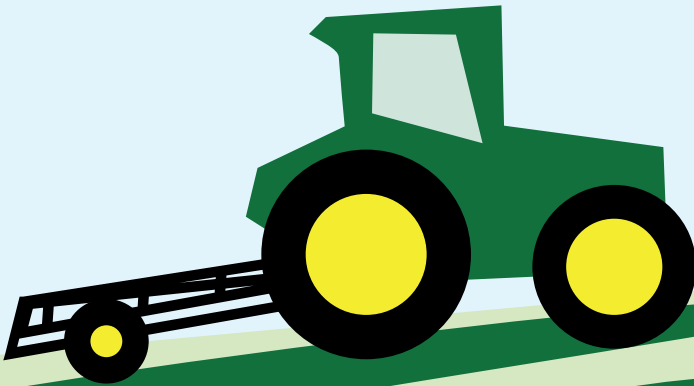


Bill Walden, Executive Vice President, congratulates Patricia Beasley on her retirement after having completed over 31 years of service to the Cooperative.

Patricia Beasley started her career at Excelsior EMC on May 6, 1991 as a Cashier. She was promoted to Customer Service Representative in 1994 where she worked until she was named Head Satellite Customer Service Representative in 2001. In 2011, our partnership with DirecTV ended and she went back to her role as a Customer Service Representative. In 2015 she was promoted to Customer Service Manager where she worked until her retirement on August 31, 2022. Patricia provided the Cooperative with a total of 31 years of dedicated service. We will surely miss her detailed work ethic, knowledge of the Cooperative’s operations, and her willingness to help with any task at hand. All of us at Excelsior EMC would like to wish Patricia all the best in her retirement!

# GATE

GEORGIA AGRICULTURAL TAX EXEMPTION  
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



**Your  
Gate Card  
Expires  
Dec. 31.**

Georgia Agricultural Tax Exemption (GATE) is an agricultural sales and use tax exemption certificate issued by the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The document identifies its user as a qualified farmer or producer who is exempt from sales tax on the inputs used in the production of their commodity.

Qualified producers must apply/re-apply with the Georgia Department of Agriculture each year to receive the exemption. Excelsior EMC members that qualify must provide Excelsior EMC with a copy of their renewed GATE card. We must receive a copy of the new card by December 31, 2022 for the exemption to continue.

Producers that have never received GATE can also apply. First-time applicants to Excelsior EMC will need to provide a copy of their GATE card as well as an Excelsior EMC GATE form that can be picked up at either our Metter office or Statesboro office. Additionally, we can email or fax the form by simply calling our customer service department at (912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123. For more information or to renew visit [www.agr.georgia.gov](http://www.agr.georgia.gov) or call 1-855-FARM-TAX.

**Please mail updated copies  
of GATE cards to:**

**Excelsior EMC  
PO Box 297  
Metter, GA 30439**

PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
PAID AT  
STATESBORO, GA 30458