

Bringing power and energy services to local communities

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

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For more information, call 601-947-4211. 228-497-1313 or visit singingriver.com. ♥ @SRECooperative SRE is an equal opportunity employer and provider.



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Bright and efficient holiday lighting

This holiday season, consider replacing older light strings with new Energy Star LED lights. LED lights use 75 percent less energy than standard lights and come in a variety of styles and colors for both inside and outside use. In fact, the energy used to light just one incandescent bulb could power two 24-foot strings of LED holiday lights.

You can save even further by installing a timer for outdoor holiday lighting and decorations. Program the timer to turn on in the evenings and cut off later at night when you retire to bed.

So, celebrate all night knowing that your Energy Star decorative holiday lights are also a safe choice. They are cool to the touch, which reduces the risk of fire.

Visit **singingriver.com** or energystar.gov for more tips.

Notice of Singing River Electric Director Qualification Period Candidates seeking election to the board of directors for Singing River Electric Cooperative must visit Singing River Electric's Lucedale office (11187 Old 63 South) and obtain a Director Candidate Packet. The forms and petitions in the packet must be completed and returned by close of business on the last business day in February (Thursday, February 29).



Supporting art education SRE NHN Grant assists George County Middle School

NHN Community Grants

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Community Grants help Singing River Electric merge efforts with the hard work of those within our communities.

Since the program's inception in 2001, \$278,149 has been awarded to local non-profits in local communities.



Singing River Electric recently awarded a \$2,426.25 Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Community Grant to George County Middle School. Grant funds purchased a slab roller, three tabletop pottery wheels, an artisan tool kit and glazes, all for students to create pottery in art class.

According to GCMS art teacher Jacob Havard, the art department can now offer ceramics and pottery classes to the 7th and 8th graders and let the students create, fire, glaze and save these treasures from their middle school art experience. In addition to benefiting the students, the art department intends to offer art classes to the community and partner with local nursing homes for art therapy using ceramics.

Visit singingriver.com/my-community for more information on SRE NHN Community Grants or how to apply. Grants for up to \$2,500 are awarded to nonprofits in SRE's service area three times a year: in January, May and September.

As we reflect back on

the year 2019, there have been many accomplishments to make the Singing River Electric family proud. Starting at the source, our wholesale power provider continued on its mission

Taking a quick look back

Brian Hughey General Manager & CEO

to replace conventional generation resources with more environmen-

tally friendly, renewable options.

Additionally, wholesale power costs remained stable over the past year, primarily due to the low cost of natural gas. As for our members, you showed signs of becoming more energy efficient, which is supported by your cooperative through education and services. With that said, weather patterns remained the primary driver of electricity consumption.

From an operations standpoint, our employees implemented system upgrades, defined in our long-range work plan, to allow for projected load growth on our distribution system. Some examples included: the construction of the Frank Snell substation, upgrades of copper lines to the more durable aluminum wire and

upgrades of tie lines to allow for better system reliability. Equally important was performing necessary maintenance on our distribution system. Over the past year, our linemen conducted line inspections to address any deficiencies on the system. Singing River Electric partnered with Cooperative Energy to use infrared technology to inspect substations during summer heat. These inspections identified potential issues early and allowed SRE to make proactive repairs, reducing outages and inconveniences to members.

Over the past year, we focused on the Seventh Cooperative Principle, "Concern for Community." Singing River Electric supported the communities we serve through programs that provide education, assistance and value to members, such as the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Grant and energy assistance programs, energy fairs, river cleanup events and a variety of youth leadership and education programs. As your electric cooperative, we will continue our efforts of enriching the communities we serve.

As we near the end of 2019, on behalf of the Singing River Electric family and myself, we wish you a blessed Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Round up your billing statement this holidav season and help a neighbor in need pav their electric bill. You can sign up using the SmartHub app or checking the box on the back of your bill. It averages only \$6 per year.

Visit singingriver.com for more information.

Merry Christmas from evervone at

Singing River Electric

Our offices will be closed December 24 and 25 for Christmas, and January 1 for New Year's Day. We wish everyone Happy Holidays!

Call 601-947-4211, 228-497-1313 or visit singingriver.com for more information.

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2020 Mississippi Youth Leadership Program

Singing River Electric hosted its Youth Leadership Program Cooperative University and interviews at the Lucedale office on November 14. Since 1988, Singing River Electric's goal for this program is to educate the future leaders of our communities about electric cooperatives and introduce them to their government in action.

During the Cooperative University event, students participated in networking activities, learned about the cooperative form of business and took a closer look at how Singing River Electric provides power to its members, restores power after an outage and emphasizes electric safety. A legislative panel discussion driven by student questions featured



Representative Jeramey Anderson, Senator Dennis DeBar, Representative Doug McLeod, Representative Roun McNeal and Senator Michael Watson.

Each student also participated in an interview moderated by a panel of out-of-town iudges from electric cooperatives across the state. Following interviews and the Cooperative University event, Laney Kate Hulbert, Byron Swetman, Bethany Toche and representatives.

2020 MS Youth Leaders:



BETHANY TOCHE

Ocean Springs High School









Avarie Wells were selected as Singing River Electric's 2020 Youth Leadership Program

High schools serving Singing River Electric's service territory were invited to nominate one member of the junior class for this program. Student nominees had to meet certain criteria for school and community involvement and receive electricity from Singing River Electric at their main residence.

PACK YOUR BAGS

The students selected as Singing River Electric's 2020 Youth Leaders will attend the Youth Leadership Workshop in Jackson in February 2020 and the Youth Tour of Washington, D.C. in June 2020. On both trips, all expenses are paid for these young Singing River Electric members, including travel, lodging, meals, educational materials and admission fees.

BYRON SWETMAN St. Martin High School

AVARIE WELLS Resurrection High School

SRE Leadership Participants

RACHEL CARLINO Wavne Countv High School

ABIGAIL COLLEDGE St. Patrick High School

ANNA HILLMAN Perry Central High School

BRIANNA MITCHELL Pascagoula High School

KENDALL CHANDLER Vancleave High School

> JOZELYNE FURBY Gautier High School

LINDSEY MCCULLOUGH East Central High School

> CASSIDY PARKER Richton Hiah School

ZOE SCARBOROUGH Greene County Hiah School

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