

GEMC

GreyStone Power brings you

Georgia[®]

MAGAZINE

January 2019

GreyStone

Member News

Helping our
sister co-ops
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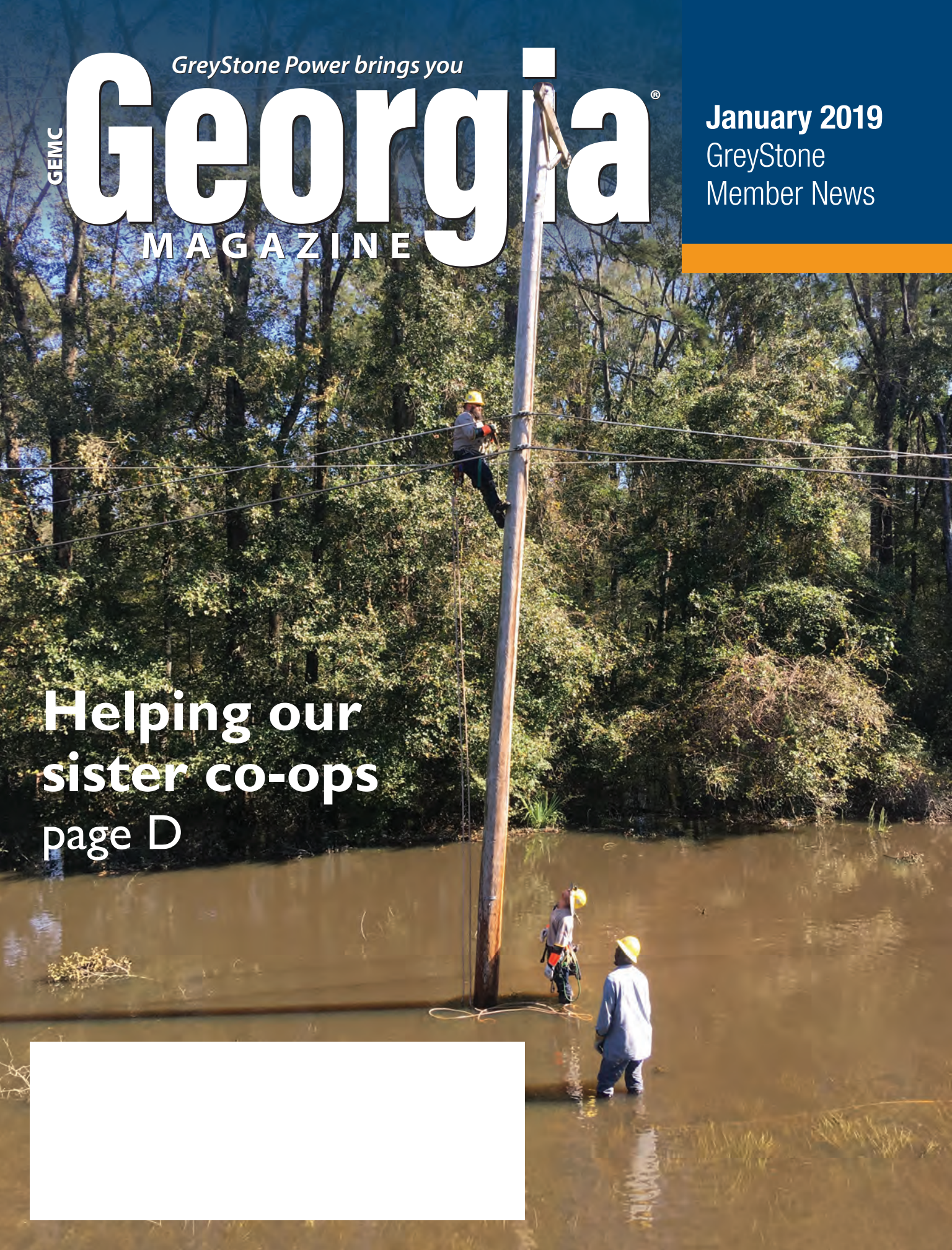




Photo Credit: Robb Maag

MILLER'S MINUTE YOUR SAVINGS CONNECTION

Across the state, GreyStone Power continues to be a low-price leader for electricity. That's in part thanks to our fiscally conservative practices and our continuing Wallet Watch program. For the average member household using 1,000 kilowatt-hours, you paid \$16 less every month than Georgia Power customers in winter, and \$27 less than Georgia Power customers in summer. Our winter rates run seven months out of the year, so that adds up to a savings of \$247 a year! For many of you, that's about the cost of two electric bills—quite a savings!

Out of 94 electric providers across the state, our winter rates were the third lowest. For summer rates, we came in sixth lowest out of 94 providers and third among Georgia's electric cooperatives.

Unlike for-profit utilities like Georgia Power that make money for shareholders, GreyStone returns money to you each year in the form of capital credits. It's one of the many benefits of being an electric cooperative member. In October, we were proud to return a record amount to you, our members—\$12 million in capital credits. That's \$12 million returned to your pockets and fueling our local economy as we all begin a prosperous new year.

- Gary
Gary Miller,
President/CEO



www.greystonepower.com
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The GreyStone Connection, which wraps GEORGIA Magazine, is a quarterly newsletter published by GreyStone Power to keep you informed about the cooperative you own.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Johns, Chairman, District 8, Douglas County
Genevieve Cole, Vice Chairman, District 1, Paulding and Bartow counties
David Hagenow, Secretary-Treasurer, District 3, Douglas and Paulding counties
John Walton, District 2, Paulding County
Neal Dettmering, District 4, Carroll and Douglas counties
Billy Mayhew, District 5, Carroll and Douglas counties
Maribeth Wansley, District 6, Fulton, Fayette and Coweta counties
Milton Jones, District 7, Fulton County
Lucy Andres, District 9, Cobb County

LOCATIONS

11490 Veterans Memorial Hwy. Douglasville, GA 30134	120 GreyStone Power Blvd. Dallas, GA 30157
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CONTACT US

Main 770-942-6576
Outage 1-866-GREYSTONE (473-9786)

OTHER WAYS WE SERVE YOU

Co-op Connections® Card, 770-370-2436
EMC Security, 770-370-2030
Gas South, 1-866-563-8129
GEMC Federal Credit Union, 770-949-3557, 770-445-2800
Operation Round Up®, 770-370-2080
SurgeMaster Plus, 770-370-2070
Cooperative Solar, 770-370-2252

DOWNLOAD OUR APPS

The **GreyStone Power app** allows you to pay your bill, view billing history and electricity use, and verify payments. The **Outage Helper app** lets you report an outage, receive live restoration times and view an outage map. Download both apps from the App Store or Google Play on your mobile devices.

FIND THE BOLT AND ENTER TO WIN!

Find the hidden lightning bolt (⚡) in the following GreyStone pages and send us an email to MemberMatters@greystonepower.com with the subject line: Find the Bolt!

Include the following information in the email: the page you found the lightning bolt on, your full name, your phone number and your member account number. You will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 Visa gift card.

Not available in the EU



Above, Superintendent Dr. Brian Otott speaks at the ground-breaking event for the Paulding College & Career Academy.



New board member joins GreyStone Power Board of Directors

After Board Member Jennifer DeNyse retired in September due to relocating, GreyStone's Nominating Committee interviewed candidates for the District 5 seat, which represents Carroll and Douglas counties. Billy Mayhew was appointed by the committee to serve as the new District 5 director.

Mayhew is a longtime Douglas County resident and currently serves as Market Executive Senior Vice President at ServisFirst Bank. Prior to that, he served for 29 years as president and CEO of Douglas County Bank. "We are excited to have Mr. Mayhew join our board," says GreyStone President/CEO Gary Miller.



GREYSTONE GIVES

BREAKING GROUND

In October, Paulding County School District officials and a host of public officials and community representatives broke ground on the new Paulding College & Career Academy (PCCA).

Located at 4555 Dallas Acworth Highway in Dallas on the campus of the New Hope Education Center, the renovated facility will serve students from all Paulding County School District high schools and help them develop job skills to meet the future needs of employers in Paulding County.

GreyStone made a special donation to the PCCA in honor of a GreyStone employee, Jerry Tucker, who retired with 50 years of service last year.

The management and board of GreyStone made a donation of \$50,000—\$1,000 for each year of Tucker's 50 years of dedicated service, to the PCCA to fund the Jerry & Ellen Tucker Energy Lab in honor of Tucker and his late wife.

The lab will offer training to those who are interested in an energy career.

In addition to the donation, GreyStone is supporting the PCCA through service. The co-op's Human Resources Manager, Rita Harris, is serving as chair of the PCCA Board of Directors.



A leadership opportunity for high school juniors



“The Youth Tour helped me gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of our government and American history. That is something I will carry with me for the rest of my life.”

—2018 GreyStone delegate Mark Essien

Juniors, compete for a chance to join student leaders from across the state on an all-expenses-paid, week-long leadership trip to our nation’s capital. GreyStone will sponsor five students on the 2019 Washington Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., on June 13-20.

GreyStone employees visit participating high schools in the co-op’s service area in January and February to meet with eligible students. Participating students are leaders selected by counselors or other school staff. Students are given study information during a presentation held at their school.

After learning about electric cooperatives, American government and electricity, students are tested on their knowledge in March. The students who earn the top five scores on the test win the trip!

GreyStone delegates who are selected for the Youth Tour have the opportunity to visit historical sites and monuments, as well as hear inspiring words from elected officials. More than 110 teens from electric cooperatives across Georgia will represent the state during this year’s program and learn valuable leadership skills.

Students will also have the chance to interact with delegates from other states, as the tour brings more than 1,800 students from across the country to D.C.

The Washington Youth Tour is Georgia’s oldest leadership program for teens, and there are more than 50,000 alumni from the program. For more information on the program, contact your school counselor or call GreyStone’s Youth Tour coordinator at 770-370-2600.



CO-OP PRINCIPLES COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

Hurricane Michael left a devastating trail of broken poles and downed lines in Georgia, and GreyStone Power answered the call when it came time to help our sister cooperatives with power restoration.

Electric membership cooperatives (EMCs), like GreyStone, operate according to seven basic principles. One of those is cooperation among cooperatives, and following major storms, that really comes into play. GreyStone sends linemen all over the country when needed, and in return, other cooperatives send aid to GreyStone in times of need.

GreyStone initially sent 26 linemen to assist Jefferson Energy Cooperative in Wrens, Georgia, with power restoration efforts following extensive power outages due to Hurricane Michael, which made landfall in Georgia as a Category 3 hurricane.

With winds in excess of 100 miles per hour, the storm left approximately 177,000 EMC members without power

primarily in middle and south Georgia. Some EMCs had to rebuild as much as 100 percent of their distribution system, and at the height of the storm, 53 high voltage transmission lines were down.

Another six GreyStone linemen later joined the restoration team, and crews went on to help other co-ops in Georgia, including Sumter EMC in Americus, Grady EMC in Cairo, Irwin EMC in Ocilla and Mitchell EMC in Camilla.

An additional 17 GreyStone linemen later traveled to replace crews at Mitchell and Grady EMCs.

The severity of damage to transmission assets made restoration efforts especially daunting. High-voltage transmission lines and substations—the critical link between power generation and EMC distribution—had to be repaired before lights could come back on in homes, businesses and other facilities.

At the height of the storm, nearly 100 substations serving EMCs were

out of service. Rural EMCs also have far fewer members per miles of line than investor-owned utilities, which is another challenge with restoration.

In addition to sending crews, GreyStone also delivered much needed supplies. The co-op delivered a truck full of items from GreyStone employees who donated items or gave funds for supplies to Mitchell EMC following Hurricane Michael.

GreyStone delivered cases of water to Three Notch EMC in Donalsonville, Georgia, and later transported water, Gatorade and other supplies purchased by the cooperative to Mitchell EMC.

Because the co-ops hit by Hurricane Michael were also short-staffed in other areas, GreyStone sent a mechanic and warehouse stock clerk to assist Three Notch EMC as well.

When major storms hit or when GreyStone offers aid to other co-ops, tune in to GreyStone’s Facebook page at [facebook.com/greystonepower](https://www.facebook.com/greystonepower) for updates and photos.

SAVINGS

YOU CAN FEEL

Find all the ways to save at connections.coop/greystonepower

Being a GreyStone Power member has its perks

Show your Co-op Connections® Card and save on hundreds of health-related products and services

Getting healthy just got easier, and now is a great time to start thinking about your New Year's resolution. With your Co-op Connections® Card (CCC), you can save on everyday purchases for yourself or your family. Strategize on what you and your family can do to create a healthier lifestyle and take advantage of the savings as you put your plan into practice. The first step to a new you is always the hardest, so let the CCC help!

In addition to the participating local businesses, be sure to show your card to your local pharmacy for savings from 10-85 percent off prescription drugs at more than 60,000 national and regional pharmacy chain stores, including Walmart, Target, CVS and many more! The CCC also provides additional discounts on dental and vision services, diabetic supplies, hearing aids, chiropractic treatments, lab testing and MRI and CT scans through the Healthy Savings program.

So, how do you get a card? Visit connections.coop/greystonepower to download a card, or call 770-370-2273 to request one by mail. You can also stop by our Douglasville or Dallas office to pick one up in person.

IT'S SIMPLE

- 1** Present your Co-op Connections Card at check out. If you have insurance, present your insurance card as well.
- 2** Ask the pharmacist to calculate the discounted price. If you have insurance, ask the pharmacist to compare the discount card price to your insurance price.
- 3** You pay the lowest price between the two.



AROUND GREYSTONE MEETING OF MEMBERS



WRAP-UP

During the business portion of GreyStone's 81st Annual Meeting of Members, the co-op's President/CEO Gary Miller (pictured above) announced a plan to move GreyStone's headquarters to Paulding County.

The co-op plans to break ground on the new headquarters in the spring at the same site where GreyStone's solar farm is located, at the intersection of Laird and Ridge roads off Highway 92. Construction is expected to be completed by fall of 2020.

In 1987, when GreyStone began to consider building its current headquarters, there were less than 45,000 members and \$43 million in operating revenue. Today, the co-op has more than 116,000 members and \$259 million in operating revenue. Over that time, GreyStone has more than doubled its miles of power lines, with about 3,000 miles of line in 1987 and more than 6,900 miles of line today.

"We have vastly outgrown the space needed to best serve you.

Our new headquarters will allow us to better serve members and the community," Miller said.

Proceeds from the sale of the main office and the district office in Dallas, combined with funds being saved for years, will mean the new campus will be built without debt, saving members substantial interest costs.

Also during the business meeting, an election was held by voice vote for three uncontested directors continuing their service to members. Those incumbent directors include Genevieve Cole, District 1, Paulding and Bartow counties; Neal Dettmering, District 4, Carroll and Douglas counties; and Jim Johns, District 8, Douglas County.

Members had the opportunity to win one of 45 door prizes following the business meeting, including the grand prize, a 2007 Chevy Silverado retired from the GreyStone fleet. Member Daniele Haynes was the lucky winner of the truck.

The grand-prize winner Daniele Haynes, Douglasville



EFFICIENCY 101

KEEP YOUR HVAC SYSTEM IN CHECK

One of the simplest things you can do to manage your electricity use and keep your home's HVAC system running smoothly is to change your filter when it is dirty. That's why GreyStone introduced FilterEasy to help our residential members.

With the FilterEasy program, you get filters delivered conveniently to your home when you need them. Your first shipment is free of charge, compliments of GreyStone Power. Plus, GreyStone members receive a 20 percent discount on future shipments and free shipping.

The program is designed to help you install and replace your furnace filter on a routine basis. This low cost, energy-efficient measure increases your home's comfort level, improves the indoor air quality of your home and reduces your energy costs. Plus, you protect your heating and cooling equipment when you change your filter regularly.

GreyStone's FilterEasy program will last until allocated funds are depleted.

Visit www.filtereasy.com/greystone to get started today, and breathe a little easier.

Pictured at right is GreyStone's new Energy Services Manager Drew Hook, who leads a team of energy efficiency experts in serving GreyStone members. Hook joined GreyStone in 2010 and steps into the new role following the retirement of Rudy Echols.



improving service FOR GREYSTONE MEMBERS

Visit our Storm Center



GreyStone's Storm Center page on our website, www.greystonepower.com/stormcenter, is your handy resource for storm preparation tips, outage updates, safety information and more.

Another way you can prepare for storms is by downloading our Outage Helper app, which lets you easily report an outage, receive restoration times and view an outage map.

The Outage Helper app can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play on your mobile devices. The first time you use the app you must register your account, and then your account information will be saved for future use.

Ways to connect: like, follow, watch, share

If you like GreyStone on Facebook, you may have seen the adventures of our line crews as they helped co-ops in other parts of the state with power restoration following the extensive damage caused by Hurricane Michael. Plus, learn more about how GreyStone is helping the local community and see how our employees are assisting those in need through our GreyStone Gives program. Like us today at facebook.com/greystonepower.

GreyStone is also active on Twitter, where you'll find storm updates, energy efficiency tips and GreyStone news. Follow us at twitter.com/greystonepower.

You can also see our latest video blog updates on YouTube. Check out The GreyStone Minute at youtube.com/greystonepower for the latest on your co-op happenings.



LOOK ON THE SUNNY SIDE

Did you know you can support Cooperative Solar for just \$22 per block monthly? The price has been reduced from \$25 per block monthly, so it's even easier to support green energy.

Cooperative Solar allows members to sign up for solar power without the obstacles of owning their own system. Every month, the energy output of your block is calculated and credited to your bill. Energy output varies based on the sun's angle, the time of the year and the number of cloudy days. Sign up at www.greystonepower.com/solar.





Six GreyStone employees honored for heroic efforts

SAVING LIVES, GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Serving members and the community goes beyond electricity. Five GreyStone employees were honored with Life Saving awards by Georgia EMC, the statewide trade association for Georgia's 41 electric membership cooperatives, and GreyStone Power.

A sixth employee received two GreyStone Gatekeeper awards. This award is given to employees who recognize situations where assistance is needed and go the extra mile to render aid.

Nabil Chabayta was leaving his snow-covered subdivision when he noticed something large lying in the snow. He carefully made his way through several inches of snow and discovered an unresponsive, elderly woman lying facedown. Her dog was lying beside her in the snow.

Picking her up and getting her to the front porch, he sat her up in a chair. He rang the doorbell until her daughter came to the door. Chabayta helped get the woman inside, and they wrapped her in blankets. He stayed until the woman's body temperature was up, and checked on her that evening, finding her much better.

Vicki Harshbarger noticed an elderly man who was sitting alone at a restaurant and making choking gestures. She ordered a waitress to call 911 and began hitting the man on the back between the shoulders, taking care because he was on oxygen and appeared fragile. The man's airway began to clear to where he could cough and breathe, and finally, say thank you.

Eric Taylor, Travis Turner and Casey Jackson were starting line work when they heard a loud boom. A car had run underneath a tractor trailer, crossed two lanes of traffic and hit a guardrail, leaving the driver severely injured. ⚡

Another tractor-trailer driver stopped. The linemen asked him to call 911 and block lanes to keep traffic away from the wreck. The fire chief arrived and said that they needed to get the injured man up because his airway was obstructed. The linemen supported the injured man's head and neck while sitting him upright. The man became responsive. The fire chief thanked the GreyStone crew and said that if they hadn't been there to help, the man probably would have died due to an obstructed airway.

Shomari Abdur-Raheem broke up a fight between a young woman and a man stealing her bag, alerting police, who arrested the man. He also happened upon an accident where a young woman was trapped in her vehicle after hitting a pole. Abdur-Raheem talked with the woman, keeping her calm, and assisted an officer with entering and exiting the vehicle.

Five Life Saving Award winners were honored at Georgia Electric Membership Corp.'s Annual Meeting and GreyStone's Service Awards banquet, and a sixth employee was awarded two Gatekeeper awards at the banquet. Pictured from left are Shomari Abdur-Raheem, Eric Taylor, Casey Jackson, Travis Turner, Vicki Harshbarger and Nabil Chabayta.

YOUR Savings CONNECTION



GreyStone Power members have more cash in their wallets thanks to a recent \$12 million capital credits return.

That's in addition to having some of the lowest-priced electricity in the state — 21 percent^{*} lower than Georgia Power!

Energy savings matter, too. Qualifying members receive a \$100 rebate on a smart thermostat^{**} that helps manage heating and cooling costs.

GreyStone Power
Your savings connection



GREYSTONE
POWER CORPORATION



* According to the 2018 summer rate survey by the Georgia Public Service Commission. Based on the residential use of 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) per month.

** Must be ENERGY STAR-rated.

GreyStone Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
Not available in the EU.

