

# JOBS WELL DONE

Operations Employees Recognized



Debra Clay, left, and Bob Gibbs received awards at the recent Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council annual meeting for their dedication and efforts on behalf of the organization. Clay, engineering and operations administrative assistant, was named Secretary of the Year and also accepted the Damage Prevention Advocacy Award. Gibbs, contract construction coordinator, was named Chairman of the Year. GUCC promotes local utility coordination committees with the goal of reducing utility cuts.



2019 marks the third time Keith Kirk's underground crew has earned the Golden Backhoe Award for their workmanship and care in preventing utility cuts. The criteria for the award includes avoiding accidents, public outreach and careful documentation. Pictured are, front, Josh Wolaver, Kirk, Tyler Gray and, back, Ryan Garner, Bradley MacCallister.

Kent Brown, operations director, was presented with the Cofer-Langston Award at the Georgia EMC Foremen and Supervisors' Association annual meeting. The award recognizes leadership in electrical safety. Brown has worked at the co-op for 53 years.



Dennis Simmons' underground crew was honored at the GUCC annual meeting with their second Golden Backhoe award. The Golden Backhoe recognizes crews that demonstrate expertise in "keeping Georgia safe and connected." Simmons, the line crew supervisor, said "Winning takes a lot of meticulous, hard work. You're being recognized for doing your job the right way. It's an honor to win for the second time." Shown are, front, Calleb Tallent, Tommy Ledford, Tyler Harris, Dalton Lingold, Simmons and, back, Darrin Cain, Blaine Pulliam, Frederick Muldrow and John Wanek.

# Realite

The news you need to know in 5 minutes!

FEB 2020

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## THE Rundown

**inside:** emergency alert system, beware fake chargers, unclaimed refunds **on the back:** jobs well done

## CONCERN FOR

# community

Our primary mission is to deliver affordable, reliable electric energy to our customer-owners. But running a close second is caring for and improving our communities. Take a look at the investments your cooperative made in our communities during 2019.



Walton EMC Employee Charities

### donations

**\$556,467**

Operation Round Up

**\$298,000**

Walton Electric Trust Scholarships

**\$50,000**

UGA Engineering Leadership Scholarships

**\$360,338**

School EmPOWERment Grants

**\$137,291**

Walton EMC Corporate

**\$162,720**

Walton EMC Employee Charities

**\$1,564,816**

Total Donations



### taxes

**\$2,615,104**

Property Taxes

**\$121,561**

Ad Valorem Taxes

**\$17,893,548**

Sales Taxes

**\$2,153,515**

Franchise Fees

**\$22,783,728**

Total Taxes



School EmPOWERment Grants

## impact

# OVER \$24M

in donations and taxes to strengthen our communities in 2019.

2019 Walton Electric Trust Scholarships



## QUICK GUIDE



**IF YOUR POWER IS OUT**

770.267.2505

waltonemc.com > Report an Outage

## FIND US

Phone 770.267.2505

In person Monroe – 842 US Hwy. 78

Snellville – 3645 Lenora Church Rd.  
Watkinsville – 2061-D Hog Mountain Rd.

Web waltonemc.com

Facebook facebook.com/waltonemc

YouTube youtube.com/emctv

## WHEN WE'RE AVAILABLE

Power Outages and Emergencies > 24/7

Contact Center > M-F, 7A-7P

Business Offices > M-F, 8A-5P



## EMC LEADERS

CEO Ronnie Lee

Sr. VP Corporate Services

Russell DeLong

Sr. VP Engineering & Operations Ron Marshall

Sr. VP Power Supply Robert Rentfrow

Sr. VP Finance Marsha Shumate

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## Emergency alert system goes where you go



Belle® is a small, easy-to-use mobile medical alert pendant that gives you confidence to live life on your terms!

You can easily get help at home or away with the press of a button – anywhere there's 4G LTE cellular coverage.

- Low cost! Only \$21.95 a month.
- Lasts up to 30 days per charge.

- Included charging cradle makes charging easy.
- Lightweight.
- Easy to carry with included belt clip and lanyard.
- Has WiFi location technology.
- Water-resistant.

Call the EMC Security medical alert experts at 770-963-0305.



[emcmedicalalert.com](http://emcmedicalalert.com)

## where are you? Unclaimed Refunds

Take a look at these Walton EMC customer-owners who discontinued service. We mailed refunds of deposits and/or membership fees, but the Post Office returned them.

If you know someone on this list, please have them contact us at 770-266-2507.

**Adobaw**, Ebenezer; **ALW** Wealth Management, LLC; **Arcovia** Properties, Inc.; **Arrindell**, Johannes F.; **Athens** Grill; **Ayala**, Nikkeshia; **Bass**, Audrey G.; **Berduo**, Dilma E.; **Boone**, Talisha; **Bowers**, Tiffany A.; **Braxton**, Sheena; **Bush**, Melissa; **Callejas**, Jose E.; **Centric**, LLC; **Claxton**, Gerald; **Cook**, J.C.; **Copeland**, Sr., Kimper L.; **Cruz**, Amparito R.; **Dunamis** Performance; **FD** Communities; **Floyd**, Tina; **Francescas** Collection, Inc.; **Helping** Hearts Hospice; **Henry**, John; **L. Milsaps**, Inc.; **Keller**, Christina; **Living** Suite Corp. Housing; **Lopez**, Amsi M.; **Lumpkin**, Tasha; **Marcano**, Melanie; **Mason**, Catlin M.; **Millwood**, Jennifer L.; **Murphy**, Ashley; **Narcisse**, Claire; **Nash**, Darnell; **Opendoor** Atlanta, LLC; **Overall**, Candace; **Pean**, Lewis L.; **Phillips**, Raymond P.; **Powers**, Grace M.; **RCDE** Atlanta, Inc.; **Real** Property Management of Gwinnett Co.; **Reed**, Tiffany; **Renzo** Construction, LLC; **Rodriguez**, Richard; **Ross**, Cathy A.; **Ross**, Rory L.; **Sam**, Stanley A.; **Sambi**, Basant K.; **Satterfield**, Jerry L.; **Scott**, Keyra; **Smith**, Lois M.; **Smith**, Samuel C.; **Sweitzer**, Sarah; **Taylor**, Khalif A.; **Trejo**, Nelly E.; **VAC**, LLC; **Wiggins**, Chanella P.; **Williams**, Ashley A.; **Williams**, Florence I.; **Williamson**, Jeanine; **Wilson**, Valerie; **Zarling**, Dawayne G.



## CHEAP AND DANGEROUS:

## Fake chargers can be risky business

U.S. consumers are now spending more time with their mobile devices than watching TV. Smartphones account for 70 percent of that mobile time, with users spending an average 3 hours, 10 minutes per day on them, according to a study by trend-watcher eMarketer.

As mobile device use – and the necessary charging – increases, so does the safety risk, warns Brad Adcock, Walton EMC's director of safety and training. Cheap replacement charging accessories that seem like a bargain can do harm that is costly.

### COSTLY CONSEQUENCES

The number of home fires attributed specifically to counterfeit charging accessories is climbing, say experts like Randy Ivans, wire and cable program manager for UL, one of the world's largest product safety laboratories.

Uncertified, or counterfeit, charging cords or blocks are less likely to meet established safety and quality testing guidelines as compared to their name-brand counterparts.

"They are readily available, easy to get, nice on the pocketbook, but be aware that you are going to get what you pay for. These cheap chargers may or may not have safety certifications on them," said Ivans.

Overcharging a battery can cause a fire or explosion. It can also damage or destroy the device.

Generic, low-cost chargers can also injure users, according to a study published in the Annals of Emergency Medicine.

"Even with a low-voltage device, if the current is high, then the electric shock can be severe," said Dr. Carissa Bunke, a leader of the study. Fires resulting from faulty chargers can potentially cause severe burns to the body, too.

### BUYER BEWARE

So, how does a consumer guard against counterfeit charger hazards? The technology experts at Komando.com provide these suggestions for ensuring your safety:

- Only purchase charging accessories from name brand manufacturers.
- If you use Apple products, use only MFi (Made For iPhone) chargers. Check the Apple website for a list of sources for genuine, certified chargers.
- For Android, make sure the charger is compliant with USB-C specifications.
- Don't leave your phone charging unattended.
- Never sleep with your phone or mobile devices charging in bed.
- Avoid leaving a charger plugged in when it is not connected to a phone.
- Don't charge in hot environments.

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