

# JACKSON ENERGY



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## Honor Flight recognizes veterans

Local veterans who served during the Vietnam War are representing Jackson Energy as participants in the upcoming Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., on Aug. 24.

Glenn Wallin of Brodhead and Earl Brandenburg of Irvine are traveling to the nation's capital with other Kentucky war veterans to experience a full day of honors and see memorials built in their honor.

"Making it possible for both Glenn and Earl and the other heroes from Kentucky to make this trip is our sincere pleasure," says Carol Wright, president and CEO of Jackson Energy. "We owe them so much for the freedoms we enjoy, and we hope all the veterans return saying it was one of the greatest days of their lives."

Wallin, 84, served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and retired as Sergeant First Class (E-7) after 20 years of service. He had nine tours of duty with five of those overseas. During his years of service, Wallin served in Vietnam, Germany, Korea and Japan—to name just a few. Wallin was responsible for the logistics of supplies and materials being delivered to the units in the field.

Brandenburg, 79, served in the U.S. Army from 1964 to 1970 during the Vietnam War. His duties included working with heavy equipment and

construction. He was also granted the coveted job as the commander's chauffeur on many occasions.

The trip will take Wallin and Brandenburg to view memorials dedicated to those who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The group will also tour memorials dedicated to those who served in the Air Force and Marine Corps. The day culminates with a wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

On their return flight, the veterans will participate in "mail call." Each receives cards and letters thanking them for their service to the nation.

Jackson Energy is helping organize a special homecoming celebration for the Honor Flight participants. Families, friends and supporters are invited to arrive at Blue Grass Airport in Lexington by 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 24 to cheer on the veterans as they parade through the airport terminal.

This is the 13th year Jackson Energy and Kentucky's Touchstone Energy



Vietnam War veterans Glenn Wallin, left, and Earl Brandenburg will be on board the 2024 Honor Flight to visit their memorials on a one-day tour of Washington, D.C. Photo: Lisa Baker. Below, Wallin, left, and Brandenburg both served in the Army with tours in Vietnam.



PHOTO: WALLIN FAMILY

PHOTO: BRANDENBURG FAMILY

Cooperatives have sponsored the all-expenses-paid trip. Co-op employees and volunteers accompany the vets to assist them as they travel.

**Lisa Baker, Editor**

Published by Jackson Energy

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# More than a slogan

As a member-owned cooperative, Jackson Energy embraces the core co-op principle that drives our organization: "Concern for Community." At the heart of our cooperative lies a commitment not only to providing reliable electricity but also to actively engaging with and supporting the communities we serve.

The most powerful way Jackson Energy shows concern for community is through the essential services we deliver every day. The employees and leaders of your co-op have a vested interest in doing what's best for the community because we, too, are members of the cooperative that live in the same community.

In addition to our day-to-day efforts to keep the lights on, Jackson Energy supports the community through routine actions, like promoting energy efficiency, helping members understand their energy use and educating the public about electrical safety. Jackson Energy speaks up on issues like the reliability of the electric grid, because we know that you, our members, are relying on us to look out for your best interests.

Did you know Jackson Energy is a not-for-profit business? Co-ops show concern for community by keeping more money in the local economy. Rather than being returned to Wall Street investors, any "profit" Jackson Energy makes is reinvested in the cooperative by being used to pay down debts or saved for emergencies.

Jackson Energy is active in community projects. From clean-up efforts to festivals, our team aims to embody the cooperative spirit of service. As a cooperative, we actively seek out opportunities to support local businesses, schools and organizations. Whether it's sponsoring special events such as the Honor Flight for our veterans, supporting charities such as the Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass or providing grants for local community projects, we're dedicated to investing in the success of our communities.

Jackson Energy is only as strong as the communities we serve. By embracing the principle of concern for community and engaging with and supporting our local areas, we're not just providing electricity; we're building brighter futures for everyone. Together, we can continue to power progress and make a positive impact in the communities we call home.

By President & CEO  
Carol Wright



# Electricity provides powerful value

As we all look for ways to save money in this age of increasing inflation, think about your daily routine and how much value it provides you compared to the money you spent. A morning latte will cost you about \$6, a fast-food combo with a burger, fries and a drink will set you back \$10, and your Netflix subscription is about \$16 each month. All these daily expenses total around \$85 a week, or about \$340 monthly. And what was the real value—short-term satisfaction and a larger waistline?

Electricity provides benefits that we often take for granted. It goes well beyond short-term satisfaction by allowing us to charge devices and have cold food and hot water, all in a comfortable indoor climate. Besides the privilege it affords, electricity has maintained a relatively stable cost, even amidst rising inflation.

As a member-owned cooperative, Jackson Energy does everything in

our power to ensure your costs stay reasonable and that electricity remains a great value for our members. It's not always easy, as there are several factors beyond inflation that impact the price of electricity—some within our control but most beyond it.

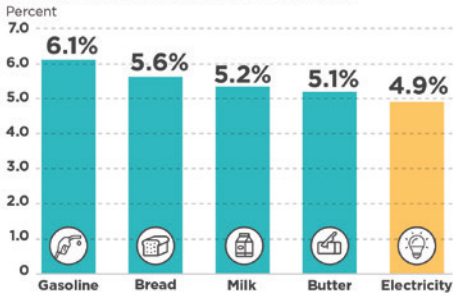
The cost of electricity can fluctuate due to supply and demand, infrastructure investment, maintenance and operational expenses. Weather patterns also contribute, affecting both demand and generation capabilities, with extreme conditions leading to heightened energy use or disruptions. Government policies, such as subsidies for renewable energy or taxes and regulations on emissions, shape electricity costs as well. Your electric co-op considers all these aspects when adjusting rates, and because we're a cooperative, we consider the impact of those costs on our members as well.

As our community continues to rely

## ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

Although inflation has led to increasing costs in many areas of our lives the cost of powering your home rises slowly when compared to other common goods. Looking at price increases over the last five years, electricity remains a good value.

Average Annual Price Increase 2018-2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Consumer Price Index

on electricity for nearly everything in our homes, schools, hospitals and businesses, we need it to be reliable and affordable. You can be assured, Jackson Energy always puts you top of mind and works each day to ensure electricity remains the best value for your money.

## More than just books



Working foreman Jon Tillery, top, and 1st Class Line Tech Tyler Robinson give a lesson on electrical safety during Jackson County Public Library's summer education program. Photos: Lisa Baker



## Mark your calendar

*Member appreciation event dates/locations*

**Oct. 15, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

**Estill County**

Meade's Do-It Center - Irvine

**Lee County**

Jackson Energy's Beattyville District Office

**Rockcastle County**

Renfro Valley - Mount Vernon

**Oct. 16, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

**Clay County**

Jackson Energy's Manchester Office

**Laurel County**

Jackson Energy's London District Office

**Owsley County**

United Methodist Church Life Center - Booneville

**Oct. 17, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

**Jackson County**

Jackson Energy's McKee District Office



LISA BAKER

Members are invited to stop by and register for our member appreciation event and collect your free bucket and LED bulb. Drive-thru registration will be available. Members may only register at one location.

**2024 Annual Business Meeting—October 17, 3 p.m.  
McKee District Office**

More information will be provided for the annual business meeting in next month's edition and on social media.



# Making summer special

*Cooperatives support Special Olympics Summer Games for 12 years*

**M**ore than 1,200 athletes and hundreds of coaches and family members participated in competitions during the 2024 Special Olympics State Summer Games at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond.

Jackson Energy and other Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives again proudly sponsored the games, which took place May 31-June 2. The Summer Games included competitions in track and field, soccer, bocce and rhythmic gymnastics.

Cooperatives provided more than 120 volunteers to help events go smoothly. Athletes were treated to tethered hot air balloon rides, courtesy of Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, during the morning.

Supporting the games gives the cooperative an opportunity so remind the world about their principles. In particular, it allows Jackson Energy to demonstrate its commitment to the communities it serves.

"We are proud to help make the Special Olympics State Summer Games possible and to make it an unforgettable

day for the athletes," says Carol Wright, president and CEO at Jackson Energy. "We are inspired by their courage and compassion, and we are proud to support them and the communities we serve."

This was the 12th year of partnership between Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and Special Olympics Kentucky.

"We appreciate so much everything that Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives does to make our State Summer Games so special for our athletes and their families," says Trish Mazzoni, president/CEO of Special Olympics Kentucky. "Everybody looks forward to seeing their team members at the track each year and the work they do to make our awards process there go smoothly is incredible."

The state Summer Games are the Kentucky Special Olympics' largest competition of the year. This was the 29th year of competition at Eastern Kentucky University. Each athlete qualifies through participation at a regional or area-level event.



LISA BAKER



LISA BAKER



LISA BAKER



Jackson Energy employees and guests volunteered at the Special Olympics Summer Games in Richmond. Shown above, from left front, are Jacob Baker, Lisa Baker, April Renner, Heather Ward, Regina Hatfield, Brooke Benghe, Taylor Moore, Danielle Stewart, Mikayla Byrd; back, Cayla Fox, Renita Fox, Jessica Jackson, Drew Jackson, Avery Stewart and Willie Byrd. Photo: Linda Perry