

Investing in our young members

We invest in our young members because we know it has a direct impact in making life better for our communities.

A great example of this is Gracie Furnish, a Blue Grass Energy scholarship recipient. The Cynthiana native graduated from Harrison County High

School in 2016 and is now a senior at the University of Kentucky. Majoring in agricultural education and minoring in agriculture economics, Gracie is currently completing her student teaching at Mercer County High School.

We recently caught up with Gracie to ask what receiving our scholarship

(and others) meant to her.

“The scholarship helped relieve some of the financial burden. While I have worked part-time during college, scholarships have helped me have more time to devote to my studies and to get involved on campus,” she says. “It has also given me motivation

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“The scholarship helped relieve some of the financial burden.

“It has also given me motivation knowing that others believe in me and support my college journey.”

—Gracie Furnish

WILLIAM D. ADAMS

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AS A SERVICE TO OUR MEMBERS.**

Rachel Settles, Editor



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Call before you dig.**

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We power business and economic development

At Blue Grass Energy, we're dedicated to powering local economies and jobs across our 23 Kentucky counties.

Commerce and industry are the lifeblood of any community, large or small. That's just as true today as it was in 1937 when local citizens established our cooperative to transform our economy.

When new businesses arrive or existing ones expand, they create new jobs and added tax revenue—which is termed economic development. The bottom line is that when we are successful in attracting jobs or assisting current businesses to expand, the quality of life is made better for every member.

Blue Grass Energy has taken an active role in economic development for more than 80 years and our communities need it now, more than ever.

We're laying the foundations for economic success by maintaining partnerships with state officials, agencies and other organizations.

We are using cutting-edge technology to showcase our service area to companies from across the globe. Data from aerial drone flights, online videos and mobile mapping are among the tools we employ to bring new jobs and business investments.

I'm happy to report these efforts are beginning to yield progress. Recently, we worked with Hitachi Astemo Ltd. in Berea on an expansion, which will produce automotive electric systems for Honda. This expansion will be bringing at least 175 jobs to Madison County. We will be providing power to this new high-tech production facility in Berea.

We know that our communities are facing economic challenges, but we are working hard to overcome them and to build a better tomorrow. And that's why, when it comes to economic development, Blue Grass Energy knows that powering our communities is instrumental in making life better, the cooperative way.

*By President/CEO
Michael I. Williams*



knowing that others believe in me and support my college journey.”

Her involvement includes both regional and national FFA offices which took her across 25 states. She has also been involved in UK’s College of Agriculture and DanceBlue, a university student-run organization that fundraises for Kentucky Children’s Hospital.

Now, as a student teacher herself, Gracie is helping to make life better for yet another community by educating other young members. As any good investment does, our investment in Gracie is already providing a good return.

Since 1991, Blue Grass Energy has awarded nearly \$300,000 in scholarships.

Tips for around the house

LET THE SUNSHINE IN

There are many benefits of allowing natural sunlight into your home; one is energy savings. Opening your curtains on sunny days will warm your home naturally.

Here are four ways the sun can help you save energy on heating bills:

1. Open the curtains or blinds during the day and close them once the sun goes down. The heat from the sun’s rays could warm up the room enough to remain comfortable even if you lower the thermostat. South-facing windows are the best for letting sunlight in during the winter.
2. Clean your windows. Nobody likes that chore, but dirty windows can block natural light from finding its way into the home. Wipe down the indoor glass panes once a month year-round and the outdoor panes once a year.
3. Install a skylight in an otherwise shaded room. The rooftop windows aren’t cheap, but they let the sun into the room and give you a view of the sky.

4. As spring arrives and the weather starts warming up, an abundance of natural light in your rooms could allow you to turn the thermostat off a bit sooner.

Energy savings aren’t the only benefit of adding natural daylight to your rooms. Daylight is also a natural stimulant that makes people feel better.





Home Energy Solutions... at your fingertips

Complete a no-cost online analysis of your home today. We can help to identify opportunities to save on your energy bills. Your personalized energy report allows you to budget home expenses and make informed decisions when it comes to buying energy-efficient appliances.



Blue Grass Energy
Virtual Energy Assessment
bgenergy.com

From Blue Grass Energy's Bylaws:

Members will elect one director from District 4. Directors serve a four-year term. The following, from Article IV, Section 5, of Blue Grass Energy's bylaws, outlines the nomination process.

Article IV, Section 5—Nominations. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than fifty (50) days and not more than one hundred twenty (120) days before the date of a meeting the members at which a report of the election of directors is to be made a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation on the committee to the geographical areas served or to be served by the Cooperative. No officer or member of the Board of Directors shall be appointed a member of such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least forty-five (45) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for Board of Directors.

One-half percent (1/2%) or more of the total number of consumers shown

on the Financial and Statistical Report of RUS Form 7 as of December 31 of the calendar year preceding the election may make other nominations in writing over their original dated signatures, signed within 120 days prior to the annual meeting, together with printed names, telephone numbers, and addresses by filing such nominations not more than ninety (90) days and not less than fifty (50) days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted, if, after examination of the Provost, it is determined by said Provost that said petitions meet the requirements of the Bylaws, Articles of Consolidation, and the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In no event shall a member sign more than one petition for the nomination of a director from a district. All nominating petitions shall be submitted on the form of "Nomination Petition" provided by the cooperative. All shall certify their qualifications by signing a "Certification of Candidate for

Director" and completing the "Application for Candidate for Director" form provided by cooperative and file same with the cooperative not less than 50 days before the date of the meeting of the members.

The date of the first working day not less than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Meeting shall be established as the certificate date which determines whether a member is in good standing and qualified for the purpose of signing a nominating petition and/or voting. A member in good standing is any active member who is in compliance with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Cooperative, and Rules and Regulations of the Public Service Commission as of forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting. The Secretary shall deliver a list of members in good standing on the certification date to the Provost.

Any member, whose service is disconnected for any reason, will automatically become a nonvoting member until said member is reconnected and receiving electrical current.