

## Give thanks for our veterans

November is both a month of thanksgiving and a time for recognizing those among us who have put on a uniform in service to our nation. Here at Fleming-Mason Energy, we count veterans and active duty military among those for whom we give thanks every day.

There are more than 34,500 men and women in uniform stationed in Kentucky. The commonwealth ranks 12th in the nation for having the most active duty military and reservists living and working within its borders.

According to the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, there are also 304,000 residents of the commonwealth who previously served in the armed forces. They range from those who fought overseas in World War II to individuals who have worn uniforms in more recent years.

On Nov. 11, Veterans Day, Fleming-Mason Energy will give particular thanks for Tony Frame of Maysville who we sponsored for the Honor Flight in September. He was among the Kentucky veterans from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War who flew to Washington, D.C., for a one-day tour of memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifices.

We are thankful for all 68 of the

veterans who made the trip.

The 2018 contingent included our own 97-year-old Henry Howard “Dover” Smith of Flemingsburg and 96-year-old Frank Zupan of Frenchburg, who are among the oldest WWII veterans living in Kentucky. Army veteran Zupan was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart for valor in combat.

Veterans Day also has another important meaning to your cooperative. Years ago, while Fleming-Mason Energy was still taking root in the communities we serve, World War II veterans were often among the first in their communities to sign up for a membership. Some became leaders within the co-op as well. Their influence is ongoing as the cooperative reflects their values of making service to people and community the top priority.

As you gather with family and friends this holiday season, please join your electric



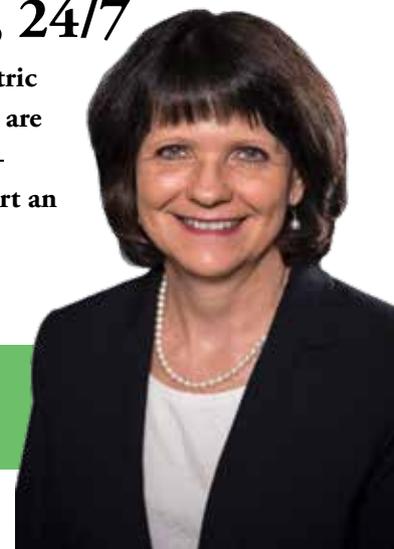
PHOTOS: TIM WEBB

cooperative in saying a prayer of gratitude for every man and woman who has put on an armed forces uniform.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

### At your service, 24/7

**Should you experience an electric outage, cooperative employees are standing by to respond 24/7—even during a holiday. To report an outage, call 1-800-464-3144.**



Joni Hazelrigg  
PRESIDENT & CEO

## Contact us:

In Fleming County:

(606) 845.2661

Other Counties:

(800) 464.3144

Hours:

7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Editor

Lori Ulrich

President & CEO

Joni Hazelrigg

Board of Directors

Lonnie Vice

CHAIRMAN

J.E. Smith Jr.

VICE CHAIRMAN

Dina Gooding

SECRETARY TREASURER

Other Directors

Timothy S. Eldridge

Rick Hord

John M. Roe

Tom Saunders

Attorneys

Marvin Suit

Earl Rogers III

Follow us on:



# Connected to our communities

Electric co-ops like Fleming-Mason Energy are all about people.

They are the reason why our locally based co-op began, and it's why we exist today, serving people in our communities to make lives better.

Every day, Fleming-Mason Energy does work to improve the lives of people in eight counties across north-east Kentucky.

We provide power to farmers working the land and harvesting crops, and to students finding solutions.

We sponsor athletes in Special Olympics who overcome challenges, and power the young people who bring art to our communities.

We support local men and women who served—and suffered—for

freedom by sponsoring an Honor Flight for them to see their memorials in Washington, D.C.

We power business owners who are making products and providing jobs, and coaches preparing kids to be the best they can be.

It's people who make Fleming-Mason Energy much more than a collection of power lines and substations. Our co-op is all about families and communities.

They connect us to our purpose to safely deliver reliable and affordable power.

And they remind us constantly why we do everything we can to provide the highest quality of life possible.

That's the power of human connections, and the cooperative difference.



TIM WEBB

# Fleming-Mason Energy honors teachers who completed innovative SOAR-STEM training

Fleming-Mason Energy and Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are celebrating the graduation of 64 teachers from an innovative program to lay the groundwork for creating a Kentucky workforce trained in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

The SOAR-STEM initiative will result in 100 K-12 teachers who will return to local school districts in eastern Kentucky prepared to educate children in STEM fields while also providing training for other teachers.

“SOAR-STEM is a bold, unique initiative to develop the world's largest workforce trained in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and centered in Kentucky,” says Joni Hazelrigg, president and CEO of Fleming-Mason Energy. “These teachers will have a tremendous impact on the future of eastern Kentucky because they will provide the basis for a sustainable

STEM-based workforce for many years to come.”

Graduates not only will implement STEM education in their classrooms, but they will also help train additional eastern Kentucky educators to teach STEM-related topics.

This year's graduates were honored at ceremonies held in Corbin and Salyersville. Three of those teachers come from Rowan County, which is served by Fleming-Mason Energy. Those teachers include Britt Bush, Lindsay Johnson and Stacie May.

Each SOAR-STEM graduate completed a three-year curriculum to achieve a Teacher Leader Master's Degree from Morehead State University and the University of Pikeville, as well as certification for the National Board and for the renowned Project Lead The Way STEM curriculum.

In addition to the degree and certifications, each graduate received:

- A laptop computer, presented by Fleming-Mason Energy and

Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.

- An iPad and VEX Robotic Kit, provided by the Toyota Foundation, Appalachian Regional Commission and the Kentucky Department for Local Government.

Lead providers are Morehead State University, University of Pikeville and Union College. Other SOAR-STEM partners include the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, the Kentucky Department of Education, Shaping Our Appalachian Region and the Kentucky Valley Education Cooperative.

Another 18 teachers are on track to graduate next year.

Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives helped to develop the SOAR-STEM project, identifying and engaging partners to fund and implement the program. The cost is covered by funding partners. Teachers must commit to remain with their school district for three years.



STEVE CRAYCRAFT OF SPECTRUM PHOTOGRAPHY

# Tommy Parks takes top prize at 2018 Lineman Rodeo

The 14th Annual Kentucky Lineman's Rodeo was September 13-14. More than 100 lineworkers from 17 Kentucky electric cooperatives competed in a variety of individual and team events. The event was created by the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives to promote safety for co-op linemen around the state. The mission of Kentucky's electric cooperatives is to provide a high level of electrical services at the lowest possible price through a local, consumer-owned form of business.

Competition includes events based on length of experience with the co-op. This year, Fleming-Mason Energy's own Tommy Parks won the Overall Apprentice division. Tommy had to compete in individual events such as "Hurt Man" rescue, capacitor de-energize, line de-energize and armor rod and tie. Those with the highest number of points based on time completed



*Clarence Greene, KAEC Safety and Loss Prevention manager, presents Tommy Parks with the 2018 Kentucky Lineman's Rodeo Overall Apprentice Division plaque. Photo: Thom Whittinghill*

minus points taken for mistakes were then ranked. Tommy came out on top with a score of 400 and a total time of 16:37.85. He has one year remaining in the Apprentice division before moving to the Individual Journeyman category.

Tommy has been with Fleming-Mason Energy for two years. He is a graduate of the Lineman Training Program at Maysville Community and Technical College. Congratulations, Tommy!

