



POWERLINES

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Official Newsletter of Tri-State Electric Membership Corporation

Tri-State EMC Remembers Thomas Graham

Long-time Tri-State EMC employee Thomas Graham, 74, passed away in February. He worked at Tri-State EMC for just over 33 years, starting in 1990. During his time with the EMC, Thomas worked as a Groundworker and Truck Driver.

Thomas was well-known for his love of the outdoors, and he was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Thomas' longtime co-worker and friend, Billy Henry, sums Thomas up nicely, saying, "He was the hardest worker I ever knew. He loved growing his garden and sharing what he had grown with everyone. He was one of the best friends you could have. He would always check on you and your family. I'm proud I got to be around him and work with him. He loved his family and always made me feel like part of his family. I will never forget my friend Thomas."

Thomas will forever be missed by his Tri-State EMC family!



Thomas Graham



Pictured (l-r): Darren Queen, Thomas Graham, Billy Henry, Mike Earley, Stacy Galloway and Chad Green.



Thomas Graham (left) and Billy Henry taking a break during storm work.

West Fannin Elementary School Wins TVA STEM Grant

West Fannin Elementary School was one of 343 schools to be awarded a grant from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), in partnership with Bicentennial Volunteers Inc. (BVI), a TVA retiree organization, to develop science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education programs for students that will inspire interest in STEM-related fields.

Citing specific projects or programs they hoped to implement, educators from across TVA's seven-state region applied for grants of up to \$5,000.

"This grant will help us offer hands-on activities and programs for students that develop skills that can help solve real-world problems," says Amber Mathis, West Fannin Elementary School STEM teacher. "We know that opportunities in STEM fields are the jobs of the future, and TVA's commitment to STEM education will allow us to begin preparing our students for those careers."

Schools that are awarded grants must receive their power from a local power company served by TVA. West Fannin Elementary is served by Tri-State EMC.

West Fannin Elementary used the grant to purchase a GlowForge Plus, which is a laser cutter and engraver.

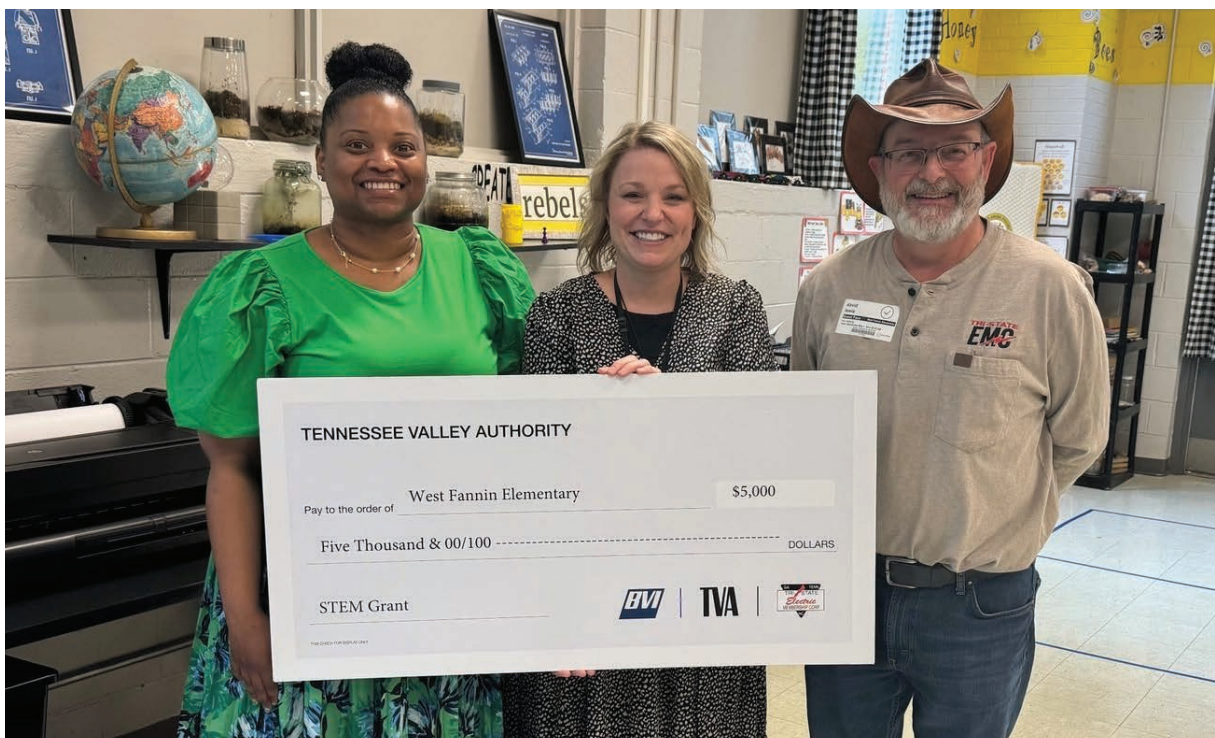
"TVA is committed to supporting schools and educators that are inspiring an interest in STEM education in students across the valley, as we know our young people will design and build the energy systems of the future,"

says Jeannette Mills, TVA's Executive Vice President and Chief External Relations Officer.

"Providing resources and access to STEM education is key to inspiring innovation, and we're proud to contribute to the next generation's visionaries."

Since 2018, TVA and BVI have awarded nearly \$6 million in STEM grants to support local education.

West Fannin Elementary used the grant to purchase a GlowForge Plus, which is a laser cutter and engraver.



Pictured (l-r): Taquiya Thompson, TVA Project Manager of External Planning and Performance; Amber Mitchell, West Fannin Elementary School STEM Teacher; and David Lewis, Tri-State EMC IT Manager.