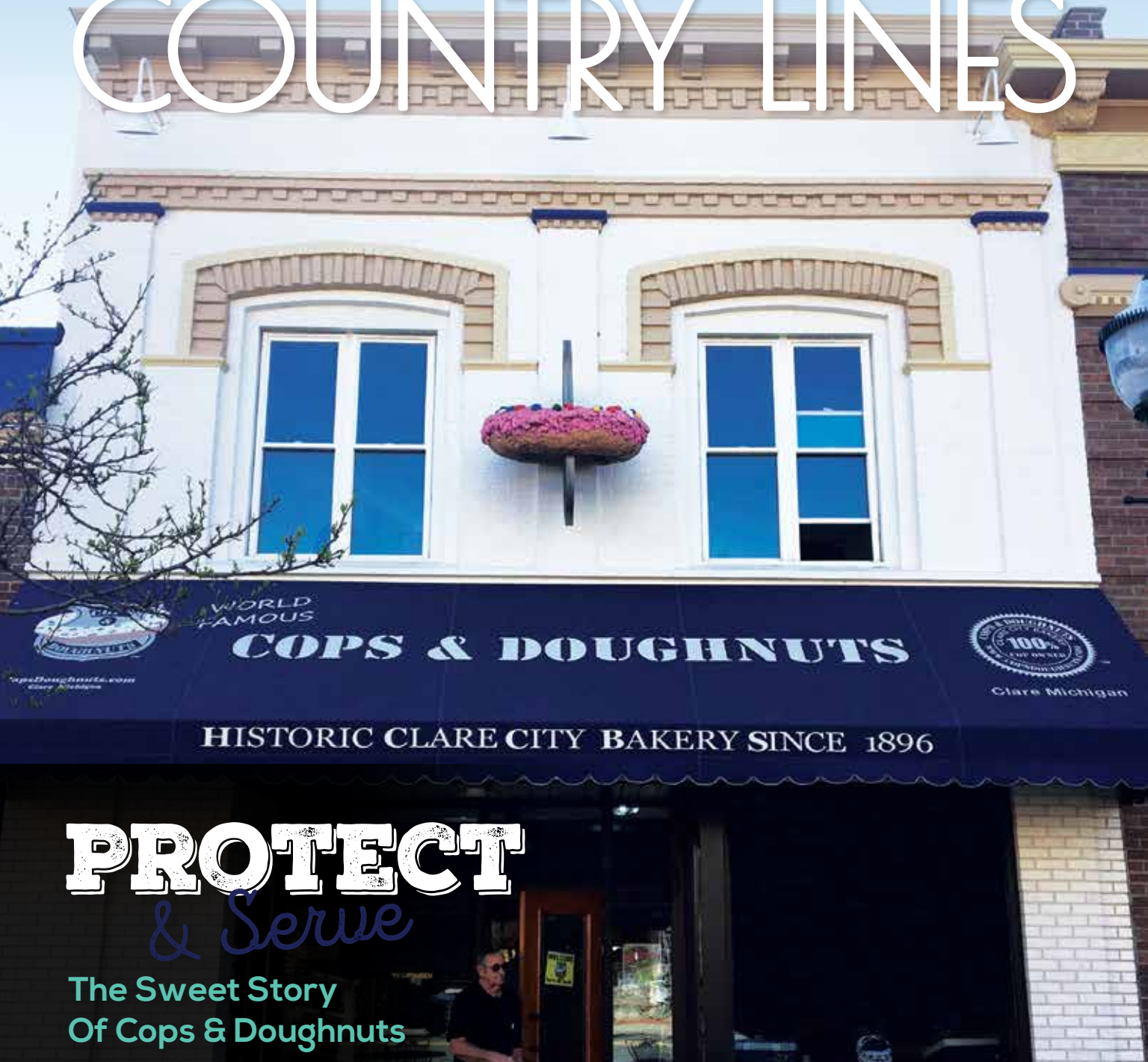


MICHIGAN COUNTRY LINES



PROTECT & Serve

The Sweet Story
Of Cops & Doughnuts

New Renewable
Programs For Members

Colorful Snap Shots

More Classroom
Technology Grants



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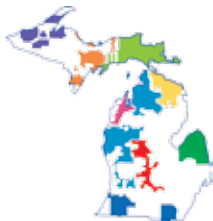
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Michigan's Electric Cooperatives
countrylines.com

July/August 2017
Vol. 37, No. 7

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Publisher
**Michigan Electric
Cooperative Association**

Michigan Country Lines, USPS-591-710, is published monthly, except August and December, with periodicals postage paid at Lansing, Mich., and additional offices. It is the official publication of the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, 201 Townsend St., Suite 900, Lansing, MI 48933.

Subscriptions are authorized for members of Alger Delta, Cherryland, Great Lakes, HomeWorks Tri-County, Midwest Energy, Ontonagon, Presque Isle, and Thumb electric cooperatives by their boards of directors.

POSTMASTER: SEND ALL UAA TO CFS.

Association officers are **Robert Kran**, Great Lakes Energy, chairman; **Mark Kappler**, HomeWorks Tri-County Electric, vice chairman; and **Eric Baker**, Wolverine Power Cooperative, secretary-treasurer. **Craig Borr** is president and CEO.

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Please notify your electric cooperative. See page 4 for contact information.

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IN THIS ISSUE

ON THE COVER

A bakery in Clare, Michigan, that had been in constant operation since 1896 was within weeks of closing in 2009. That's when the members of the Clare Police Department came to the rescue. All of them. Unwilling to let their historic bakery fail, all nine members of the local police department banded together to save this historic business. Today dubbed "Cops and Doughnuts," the bakery boasts handmade confections of all types and now has several locations throughout Michigan.

6 FEATURE

Protect & Serve: The Sweet Story
Of Cops & Doughnuts
Emily Haines Lloyd

10 COOKING COMMUNITY

Transform Dinner With These Easy-To-Prepare
Chicken Recipes
Christin McKamey & Our Readers

Enter Our Recipe Contest And Win A \$50 Bill Credit!

14 Doughnuts And Craft Beer: A Divine Pairing

Emily Haines Lloyd

18 READER'S PAGE

Beaver Island's Music Festival Offers Unique
Vibes In A Throwback Setting
Jack O'Malley

Guess Our New Mystery Photo And Win
A \$50 Bill Credit!

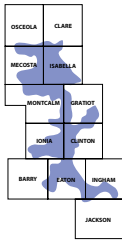
I Remember...

We invite members to share their fondest memories.

Country Lines will pay \$50 for stories we publish.

Guidelines

1. Approximately 200 words
2. Digital photos must be at least 600 KB
3. Only one entry per household, per month
4. Country Lines retains reprint rights
5. Please include your name, address, email, phone number and the name of your electric co-op
6. Submit your memories online: countrylines.com or email to cdorr@meca.coop



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Electric bill/account questions:

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homeworks.org

E-mail: tricoenergy@homeworks.org

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Independence And Interdependence



Mark Kappler
General Manager

We're celebrating America's Independence Day this month. We should take a few moments to honor our interdependence, too.

Electric cooperatives like HomeWorks Tri-County form a network across America. There are nearly 900 of us, located in 47 states. But each co-op is, like HomeWorks, a unique, independent business.

We work with many other organizations, including other co-ops, but our member-owners control the co-op by electing a board of directors from among their neighbors. Our board then approves policies that guide the way management and employees do business.

The fourth cooperative principle is autonomy and independence. Autonomy is another way to say self-sufficient. To be honest, like most Americans, we aren't completely self-sufficient. We don't grow our own trees and process them into power poles; we don't take metal and string it into wires to conduct electricity. We don't build our own trucks and trailers, nor our computers and other tools.

Instead, we are interdependent: part of many other organizations that work together with the end goal of serving our members. We partner with Wolverine Power Cooperative to purchase and transmit the electricity that serves your family. We are member-owners of the Portland Federal Credit Union, where we do most of our local banking.

We are member-owners of, and partners with, many other cooperatives, that help us obtain products and services, such as financing, computer services, insurance, materials, legislative and regulatory support, and more.

Of course, we work with many non-cooperative organizations and governmental agencies as well. Any time HomeWorks enters into agreements with other organizations, we do it with terms that ensure democratic control by you, our members, in order to maintain our independence. This allows us to continue to be the self-help organization envisioned by the founders of the modern cooperative movement.

As always, we welcome your participation and suggestions about how we can improve our locally owned and controlled services. ■

Sharing Success Helps Serve Area Veterans

A \$5,000 gift to EightCAP's Supportive Services for Veteran Families program was presented recently by HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative of Portland.

Delivered by General Manager Mark Kappler and Director Jim Stebbins, the gift was made possible by a \$2,500 matching grant from one of the cooperative's lenders, CoBank, as part of CoBank's Sharing Success program. This \$3 million charitable fund was designed to benefit cooperatives and the charitable groups they support throughout rural America. CoBank first launched the program in 2012 in conjunction with the International Year of Cooperatives.

"As EightCAP says, no one who has served our country should ever go without a safe, stable place to call home. This gift will help provide funds and other support for area veterans," says Stebbins. He adds that community service is an essential part of HomeWorks Tri-County Electric's mission to provide its members and customers with energy, comfort and communications solutions that will enhance their quality of life.



EightCAP President Dan Petersen (left) and Manager of Self-Sufficiency Programs Christa Jerome (right) accept the \$5,000 gift to their Supportive Services for Veteran Families program. HomeWorks Tri-County Electric Cooperative General Manager Mark Kappler (middle left) and Director Jim Stebbins presented the check.

EightCAP serves Gratiot, Isabella, Ionia and Montcalm counties, and partners with Veterans Affairs and others to help with housing, transportation, childcare, and other expenses. For more information, including income eligibility requirements, call 866-754-9315 toll-free. ■



HomeWorks Teens Tour Capital

Anthony Warchuck of Six Lakes (left), Breanna Seavolt of Vermontville, and Keigan Storey of Weidman pause near the U.S. Capitol during the National Rural Electric Youth Tour, held June 10-15 in Washington, D.C. They were among 20 high school students representing HomeWorks Tri-County and other Michigan electric cooperatives.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE
ABOUT YOUR BILL**

The HomeWorks Tri-County electric and propane remittance address is changing to:

**7973 E. Grand River Ave.
Portland, MI 48875**

Please mail all payments to this new address.

If your bank or other service pays your bills for you, please notify them of this change immediately to avoid delayed payments.



PROTECT & SERVE

The Sweet Story Of Cops & Doughnuts

By Emily Haines Lloyd

There's something sweet happening in Clare, Michigan, and it's on a roll.

It started with a classic tale of a group of small-town police officers sitting in a local doughnut shop back in 2009. But then a twist occurred—the owner of Clare City Bakery told the officers he had to sell the bakery, which was one of the few open storefronts in the two-block downtown area of Clare. The officers lamented, continued talking and were struck by a thought—what if *they* bought the bakery?

"At first we laughed at [the thought of] a bunch of cops buying the only doughnut shop in town," said

Al "Bubba" White, the now vice president of Cops & Doughnuts. "But eventually we stopped laughing."

The recession had hit hard and the police force saw their small town slowly close storefront after storefront. Eventually, Clare City Bakery, a shop that had been around since 1896—surviving wars and the Great Depression—looked like it was about to be lost as well.

After making calls to the owner and quick talks among the nine-member police force, the deal was finalized within two weeks. Clare City Bakery became Cops & Doughnuts: Clare Precinct.

Without much business experience, White, along with now-president Greg "Ryno" Rynearson, as well as the other officers/owners, kept some of the bakery's key recipes along with the head baker. The result was a good first day.

It wasn't long before the story of a bunch of cops opening a doughnut shop caught some attention. They got a call from a reporter with *The Associated Press*, confirming that they were, in fact, a bunch of cops who opened a doughnut shop. Before they knew it, the guys were fielding interviews from





**"It's a combination of things—
a good product, of course, but it's
also a good story. We don't just
sell doughnuts," explains White.
"We sell cops selling doughnuts."**

*"NBC Nightly News," "Fox and Friends," and
"Good Morning America."*

When asked why he thinks Cops & Doughnuts is a story, White has some ideas.

"It's a combination of things—a good product, of course, but it's also a good story. We don't just sell doughnuts," explains White. "We sell cops selling doughnuts."

That combination, plus a healthy dose of good humor and community spirit, seems to be working in a big way. The Cops & Doughnuts crew saw that they had a good thing and knew they could grow. But where to expand became the next question. It had been important to them to save their beloved Clare City Bakery and the important role it had played in their story. So, what if they could save another historic bakery?

The group expanded to McDonald's Bakery, a fifth-generation establishment in Ludington, Mich., followed by The Sutherland Bakery in Bay City, which originally opened in 1912. The crew then expanded and opened a precinct (or bakery) in Jay's Sporting Goods in Gaylord, and finally, a gem in South Bend, Indiana, was acquired, known as The Dainty Maid Bake Shop. Each town was reinvigorated by the lively atmosphere and genuine love that White, Ryneanson and the team have for the history, community and, of course, the bakery.

With five precincts, more than 500 retail outlets, and approximately half a million customers visiting annually, Cops & Doughnuts is well on its way to their goal of "world domination," they attest. However, at the very heart, it's still a group of civic-minded public servants determined to protect the rich history of small-town bakeries by serving up great doughnuts. ■

Save Now On ENERGY STAR Air Purifiers

If you suffer from allergies, or would simply like to ensure the best air quality in your home, an air purifier is a great investment. These appliances can be costly, but the Energy Optimization program is here to help: Receive a \$50 cash incentive when you purchase an ENERGY STAR® qualified air purifier!

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Energy Optimization programs and incentives are applicable to Michigan electric service locations only. Other restrictions may apply. For a complete list of participating utilities, visit michigan-energy.org.

SnapSHOT

The Art Of Nature



Barbara Valek of Remus says of her subject, "It's not easy being green!"



Lisa Haynes of Lake Isabella shared this Snap Shot taken on M-20 east bound out of Remus. "The double rainbow was spectacular!" she reports.



Mark Ackerson of Portland took this photograph in his back yard, looking east at a November sunrise.



Mary Ellen Wynes of Mount Pleasant sent in this shot, "[It's] a true picture of springtime in Michigan!"



Sue Mills from DeWitt found "a hunting shack turned into art" by an ice storm in December, 2013.

Upcoming Snap Shot Contest Topics And Deadlines

"Birds and Feathers," Deadline: **July 17** (September issue)

"Life's a Beach (Michigan Waters)," Deadline: **August 15** (October issue)

"Decorative Mailboxes," Deadline: **September 15** (November-December issue)

Go to homeworks.org and select *Country Lines* under the Electric tab to submit your photos and see additional themes. It's fast and easy. To send by mail: include your name, address, phone number, photographer's name, and details about your photo. Mail to Attn: *Country Lines* Snap Shots, 7973 E. Grand River, Portland, MI 48875. Photos will not be returned. Do not send color laser prints or professional studio photos.

Submit Your Photo!

Contributors whose photos we publish in 2017 will be entered into a drawing. *Country Lines* will choose two winners for a bill credit of \$100 each on their December electric bill, due in January 2018!

CHICKEN CHALLENGE

Transform your dinner with these easy-to-prepare chicken recipes.

Pepper Jack Pasta

Deb Mitteer, Great Lakes Energy

- 2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into medallions
- 1 red bell pepper, cut into small strips
- 1 green bell pepper, cut into small strips
- 1 yellow bell pepper, cut into small strips
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 4 cups mini penne pasta, uncooked
- 5 cups milk
- 8-ounce block pepper jack cheese, cut into small pieces
- 2–3 tablespoons cooking oil

Drizzle cooking oil in a dutch oven pot. Add the chicken medallions and cook chicken until no longer pink. Remove chicken from pot and set aside. Add the peppers and onions to the pot and cook until onion is transparent. Add chicken back to the pot with the peppers and onion. Add the uncooked penne pasta and 5 cups of milk to the pot. Bring the milk to a boil and stir constantly for 8–10 minutes or until pasta is tender. Remove from stove and add the pepper jack cheese. Let set until the cheese is melted. Stir until well mixed. Serve immediately.



Watch a video of
this recipe at
<https://goo.gl/BRjFXS>

Rosemary Chicken And Brie Bundles

Denise Barth, Cherryland

- 8-ounce can refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
- 2 tablespoons green onions, sliced
- 6 ounces Brie cheese, rind removed, cubed
- 1 ½ cups cooked chicken breast, chopped
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 teaspoon crushed dried rosemary
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese



Heat oven to 350 F. Separate dough into four rectangles, press perforations to seal. Spoon ¼ of green onions onto the center of each rectangle; top with ¼ of the Brie cheese cubes. Top each with ¼ of chicken, pressing into cheese. Fold short

ends over chicken, overlapping slightly. Fold open ends over about ½ inch to form a rectangle. Press all edges to seal. Place seam side down on ungreased baking pan or cookie sheet. Cut three 1-inch slashes on top of each roll to allow steam to escape. Brush with egg, sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and rosemary. Bake for 21 to 26 minutes or until golden brown. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Serves 4.

Dawn's Elegant Chicken

Dawn Wagner, Great Lakes Energy

- 8 half chicken breasts (4 whole)
- 8 Swiss cheese slices
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- ½ to ¾ cup white cooking wine
- Pepperidge Farm Stuffing mix (or your favorite)
- ⅔ stick of butter



Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray a 9×13 baking dish with vegetable spray. Place chicken breasts in the baking dish. Place a slice of Swiss cheese on each piece of chicken. In a separate bowl, mix the cream of chicken soup, the cream of celery

soup and the white wine. Pour the mixture over the chicken. Cover the entire top of the dish with stuffing mix. Melt butter and pour it on top of the stuffing/chicken. Bake for 1 hour. Serve over Uncle Ben's Wild Rice (or your favorite).



Submit your favorite recipe for a chance to win a \$50 bill credit and have your recipe featured in *Country Lines*:

- “Slow Cooker Favorites” due August 1
- “Pleasing Pies” due September 1

Go to micoopkitchen.com for more information and to register.

Cream Cheese Chicken Dumpling Soup

Jessi Smith, Great Lakes Energy

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 celery stalk, chopped
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 2 cups cooked chicken
- 8 cups chicken broth
- 2 eggs
- 1 package of cream cheese, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 cup flour
- salt and pepper, to taste



Melt butter in soup pot. Add chopped onions and sauté for 2 minutes or until lightly golden brown. Add chopped celery and carrots, and sauté for 2 minutes. Add chicken and chicken broth to vegetables. Continue to cook soup on medium

heat. To make the cream cheese dumplings, you will need either a food processor or a bowl and mixer. Combine the eggs, cubed cream cheese and flour, mix until smooth. When the broth in the soup pot is near a boil, reduce heat to low. Dip a large metal spoon into the pot to get the spoon hot. Remove about half a spoonful of the dumpling mixture and dunk the spoon into the soup, wiggling the spoon until the dumpling releases. Repeat this step until all the dumplings are in the pot. Allow the last dumplings to cook 2 minutes per side. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve and enjoy.

Your Board In Action

Meeting at Portland on May 22, your board of directors:

- Learned about Tri-County's street lighting program and authorized staff to amend the budget for converting existing high pressure sodium or mercury lights to LED fixtures which will be more efficient as well as "dark sky" compliant.
- Discussed the first week of district membership meetings.
- Authorized donations from 2011 unclaimed capital credits, including \$5,000 in matching grants to CoBank's Sharing Success program, authorized at the April meeting; \$5,000 each to 4-H County Endowments in Clinton and Ionia counties; \$20,293 in supplemental Touchstone Energy Classroom Technology grants, and \$5,000 in additional 2017 Touchstone Energy scholarships; \$5,000 to the Jordan Lake Trail project; \$5,000 to the Ionia Free Fair Association to help rebuild the 4-H Livestock Barn, which was destroyed in a fire; \$50,000 to the Tri-County Electric People Fund; and retire the balance to the cooperative's donated capital account.
- Learned more about the elements of a Fiber to the Home system.
- Reviewed the cooperative's loan portfolio, including interest rates and loan discounts for which the cooperative qualifies.
- Authorized 2017 donations of \$2,500 to the NRECA International Foundation, and \$2,000 to the Cooperative System Integrity Fund.
- Reviewed and approved Board Policy 104 – Committees of the Board of Directors, and Board Policy 105 – Political Activities of Directors as amended.

- Learned there were 97 new members in March.
- Acknowledged the April safety report, listing employee training, and employee and public incidents. ■

Time Set Aside for Members to Comment Before Cooperative Board Meetings

The first 15 minutes of every board meeting are available for members who wish to address the board of directors on any subject. The next meetings are scheduled for 9 a.m. on July 24 at Blanchard, and on Aug. 28 at Portland. Members who need directions to the meeting, or wish to have items considered on the board agenda, should call 517-647-7554.

How to Apply for a Tri-County Electric People Fund Grant

The Tri-County Electric People Fund provides grants to individuals and organizations in the co-op's service area for food, shelter, clothing, health, and other humane needs, or for programs or services that benefit a significant segment of a community.

Write to 7973 E. Grand River Avenue, Portland, MI 48875, for an application form and grant guidelines, or visit the People Fund tab at homeworks.org.

Note: Applications must be received by Aug. 14 for the August board meeting, and by Sept. 25 for the October board meeting.



Director Kimber Hansen, left, of Edmore receives his Director Gold certificate from Board Chairman Luke Pohl. The Director Gold credential, offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, recognizes directors who have earned their Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) and Board Leadership Certificate (BLC), and are committed to continuing their education throughout their service on the board. Mr. Hansen is the third HomeWorks Tri-County Electric director to earn the Director Gold designation.

Classroom Technology Grants Help Students Learn

Fourteen mid-Michigan schools received nearly \$25,000 in Touchstone Energy Classroom Technology Grants this spring. Applications for 2018 grants will be available this fall at homeworks.org. Watch *Michigan Country Lines* all year for more grant announcements.



Neff Kindergarten Center, Grand Ledge, received \$2,000 to purchase Wiggle and Learn chairs for kindergarten classrooms. L to R: Kindergarten teacher Marlene Promer, teacher consultant Tiffany Organek, and occupational therapist Gerri Guild.



St. Michael School, Remus, received \$2,000 to purchase iPad and OSMO starter kits to start a traveling learning cart. L to R: St. Michael Principal Jerry Ward, HomeWorks Tri-County's Cheri Rauch, St. Michael Technology Director Erika Hoogerhyde (pictured with 1st and 2nd grade students from St. Michael School).



Fulton High School, Middleton, received \$1,954 to update classrooms with document and data projectors. L to R: English teacher Jim Goodspeed, special education teacher Janae Yeomans, HomeWorks Director Corinna Batora, and Principal Paul Hungerford.

DOUGHNUTS & Craft Beer: A Divine Pairing

Our cover story on page 6 features the fun-loving Cops & Doughnuts bakeries. So, what better than to pair a few of these business-savvy police officer's favorite baked goods with some popular Michigan-made beers. It's a fun idea for dinner parties, tailgating or lounging around the fire pit.

By Emily Haines Lloyd | Photos—Christin McKamey

This is a classic doughnut for a reason and is a dream to pair.

When it comes to chocolate, fruit is pretty much a no-brainer. For a berry "wow factor," try **Short's (Bellaire) Soft Parade**—a fruity-rye ale featuring strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries. It's a home run in contrasting flavors.

If you want to stay in the sweet pocket, look at **Saugatuck Brewing Company's (Saugatuck) Neopolitan Milk Stout**. It truly drinks like its namesake with a blend of chocolate, vanilla and strawberry. Super smooth and rich, you'll feel like you just added a dollop of ice cream to your already delicious doughnut.

**CHOCOLATE
DIP RAISED
GLAZED**



**CINNAMON
BUN MAPLE
FROSTED**



You would think a fresh-baked cinnamon bun can't get any better, but then you discover the delicious Cops & Doughnuts maple frosting and realize you were wrong.

A dessert lover's dream is a rich pairing with **New Holland's (Holland) Dragon's Milk Bourbon Barrel Aged Stout**. Its roasty malt character intermingled with deep vanilla tones, all dancing in an oak bath, is a whopping 12 percent ABV, but perfect for sipping with this dreamy doughnut.

Screamin' Pumpkin Ale from Griffin Claw Brewing Co. (Birmingham) is like a slice of warm pie, offering flavors of cinnamon, clove, sweet pumpkin and a little molasses. Paired with the cinnamon bun, it's like double dipping in the dessert category.

PEANUT BUTTER DEPUTY

Cops & Doughnuts' Peanut Butter Deputy is a Long John filled with peanut butter cream, topped with chocolate frosting and chopped peanuts. In other words—YUM!

Founder's (Grand Rapids) Curmudgeon is an old ale brewed with molasses and uber malty. It's a barrel-aged brew that seems made for this kind of decadent pairing.

Atwater Brewery's (Grand Rapids) Vanilla Java Porter has the rich flavor of dark roasted coffee with plenty of vanilla notes. It's a fairly simple beer that packs a classic coffee and doughnut punch.



FELONY FRITTER

This is a classic apple fritter that is sweet, tart and showcases hints of cinnamon. Each one is handcrafted in the historic bakery in downtown Clare, Michigan. Let's be honest, they're huge, satisfying and could be shared, but do you really want to do that?

For a beer pairing, try a hoppy IPA like North Peak's (Traverse City) Diabolical. It is unfiltered and dry-hopped with Michigan grown Chinook and Cascade hops. It has a smooth malt character and citrus pine aroma that brings forward the tartness in the apples.

Looking for something a bit more earthy and smoky? Try a Scotch Ale, such as Dark Horse Brewing Company's (Marshall) Scotty Karate. It's brewed with cherry wood smoked malt instead of the traditional peat smoked malt, offering up warming notes of coffee, caramel and sweet caramelized brown sugar. If that doesn't sound like a pair made in fritter heaven, we don't know what does.





Powered By The Sun

By Charly Markwart

Ah, Michigan summertime... For many Michiganders, this time of year means lake days, beach time, barbecues and longer days filled with lots of sunshine. But, did you know that same sunlight that provides the backdrop to your favorite summer activities can also help to power your home?

Solar power is one of the fastest growing sources of renewable energy in the United States. It's an excellent option to consider for anyone looking to offset their electricity costs or to be more environmentally friendly with their energy use. And now, thanks to an agreement with our power supply partner, Wolverine Power Cooperative, HomeWorks Tri-County Electric can provide member-owners with three exciting new ways to take advantage of solar and renewable energy opportunities.

"This offering from Wolverine is a really good thing for our members. Now, anyone can participate in solar," says HomeWorks Tri-County Energy Advisor Brandon Trierweiler. "You don't have to invest \$5,000; there are three programs set up with different levels of participation that are meant to provide something for everyone."

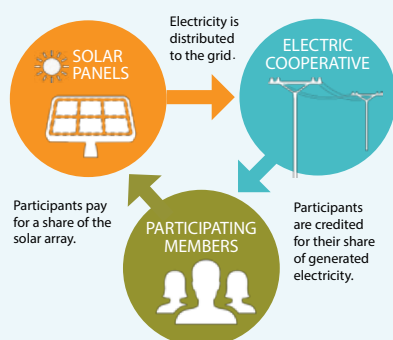
Those varying levels of participation are presented in three new renewable energy rates approved by the HomeWorks board of directors late last year. The rates took effect in February and will be available on a first come, first served basis until Wolverine Power's offer expires Dec. 31, 2019, or when the program cap is met.

The next page provides a summary of the three solar programs available to interested member-owners.

1

Community Solar

This is a great option for member-owners who wish to participate in solar but don't want to make a large investment or install solar panels or other equipment on their property. Instead, this program provides the opportunity to subscribe to our 1.2-megawatt SpartanSolar community array located in Cadillac. In exchange for a subscription fee, participants receive a monthly solar energy output credit on their electric bill, based on the amount of energy generated by their share in the array.



For more information on our community solar array, visit spartansolar.com.

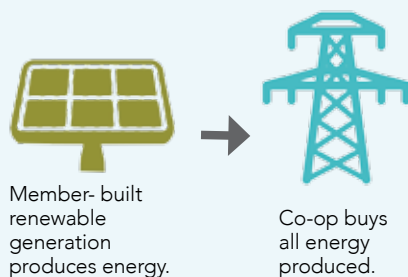
Program Details

- Subscription cost: \$600/panel upfront or \$10 monthly for five years
- 15-year agreement
 - Opt-out at any time
- Monthly bill credit: \$.10/kWh generated
- Additional Energy Optimization rebates of up to \$150 per panel (up to 20 panels) when you pay up front
- Solar array consists of 4,352 panels (335 watts each)

2

Buy-All/Sell-All

This program is designed for member-owners who wish to generate electricity on their property using a stand-alone solar or wind renewable energy generator. HomeWorks Tri-County Electric will purchase all energy generated by the member-owner, with payment made as a monthly credit on the member's electric bill. This option is best for members looking to generate more energy than their own annual usage.



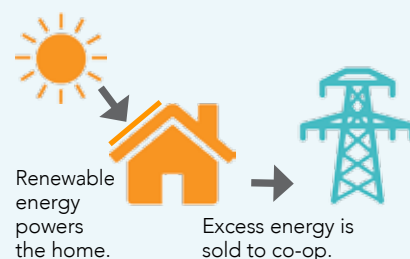
Program Details

- \$100 application fee
- 20-year agreement
 - Cancel at any time
- Payment: \$.10/kWh generated
- One megawatt cap
- You pay standard rate for all energy delivered to you by the cooperative, including energy necessary to operate the generator

3

Net Metering (Distributed Renewable Energy)

Net metering is another option for those who wish to generate renewable energy on their property. With this program, though, the member-owner generates a portion or all of the electricity required to power their home and sells to the cooperative only any excess energy generated by their facility. This option is best for members striving to generate just enough electricity to offset their own energy usage.



Program Details

- \$100 application fee
- 10-year agreement
- Payment: \$.056/kWh for any excess generation
- 20 kW cap

To learn more about the renewable energy options available to you or to obtain an application form, contact HomeWorks Tri-County Energy Advisor Brandon Trierweiler at 517-647-1213 or solar@homeworks.org.

Beaver Island's Music Festival Offers Unique Vibes In A Throwback Setting

With a population of 600 living on 56 square miles of land off the coast of Charlevoix in Lake Michigan and accessible only by boat or air, Beaver Island could be described as a throwback to another era. How fitting then that the island hosts its own musical festival featuring sounds of the Renaissance.

Celebrating its 16th season this summer, Baroque on Beaver (known as BonB) focuses on classical music; however, guests may also be treated to jazz, Broadway, folk and other genres throughout the 10-day festival. Renowned musicians from symphonies in Midland, Grand Rapids, Chicago, and even as far away as Mexico, gather for what many consider the epicenter of classical music on the Great Lakes.

Originally organized by locals for locals, the event quickly gained a wider audience and became one of the island's most popular events and tourist destinations. According to Festival Director Matthew Thomas, the reason for the event's growth is simple. "Beaver Island is a unique place. Add high-quality music you can enjoy up close and personal, and suddenly a great experience becomes unforgettable!" For this small community, that's music to its ears.

While the event continues to be celebrated for raising cultural awareness of classical music, BonB also makes an important economic contribution to the island. Guests tend to stay longer, spend more, and support businesses whose primary focus is tourism, hospitality and transport. For those who don't have time for an extended stay, day packages are now available. Visit baroqueonbeaver.org for ticket, travel and accommodation information.



In the meantime, as locals and tourists gather under a canopy of stars on a remote island, the sound of music echoing off the water and surrounded by the region's finest musicians, the words of one musician sum up the experiences of most who attend BonB. "This might sound strange," this first-time event musician said, "but I really hope you have me back next year." ■

The Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association was formalized as a 501c3 corporation in 2006. BICAA's mission is "To serve the Beaver Island community by promoting and supporting the cultural arts, including the annual Baroque on Beaver Festival." For information about BICAA, please visit the website at bicaa.org or by calling 888-511-5189.



Jack O'Malley

The 2017 festival is July 28 through August 6.



«« Where In Michigan Is This?

Identify the correct location of the photo on the left by August 10 and be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 electric bill credit. Enter your guess at countrylines.com or send by mail to: Country Lines Mystery Photo, 201 Townsend St., Suite 900, Lansing, MI 48933. Include the name on your account, address, phone number, and the name of your co-op.

Our Mystery Photo Contest winner from the May 2017 issue is Paul Morningstar, a Midwest Energy Cooperative member, who correctly identified the photo as the annual Harbor Beach BiYakAthon (bike, run, kayak) at Lincoln Memorial Park.

Winners are announced in the following issues of Country Lines: January, March, May, July/August, September and November/December.



May Photo



AMERICAN METAL ROOFS President, Frank Farmer



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