

January 2018

MICHIGAN COUNTRY LINES

Cherryland Electric Cooperative

NO BARRIERS WARRIORS

THE POWER OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT

Cherryland's Power 56% Carbon-Free

RoasterJack's Drive For Better Joe

2018 Rate Change And You



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ON THE COVER

Through strenuous outdoor adventures, such as white water rafting, hiking or mountain climbing, No Barriers Warriors teaches veterans how to regain their skills and confidence after a service-related injury. Read more about this inspiring, non-profit organization on page 14.

Photo courtesy of No Barriers / Samantha Hanus

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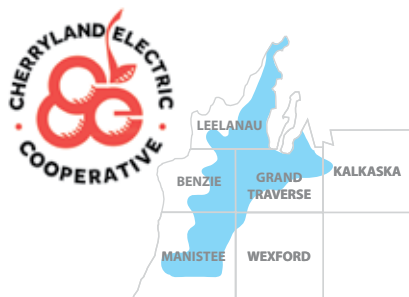
I Remember...

We invite members to share their fondest memories.

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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CO-OP NEWS

Board Approves Rate Change

At their October 2017 meeting, Cherryland's board of directors approved changes to the cooperative's rates. These changes include increases in both the residential and general service availability charges and combining of the current energy charge and Power Supply Cost Recovery (PSCR) charge while setting the PSCR charge to zero.

These changes will go into effect in the spring of 2018. For more information regarding these changes, see page 17 of this issue or visit our website at cherrylandelectric.coop.

Cherryland Accepts Applications For Youth Tour In Washington, D.C.

High school sophomores and juniors from Cherryland's service territory are invited to join the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour: a once-in-a-lifetime, all-expenses-paid leadership travel opportunity to Washington, D.C. in June.

Applications must be submitted by Wednesday, Feb. 28. For more information and to apply, visit cooperativeyouthtour.com.

Rebate Forms Due By End Of January

Members looking to receive credits for energy efficiency upgrades performed during 2017 must have their rebate forms to Cherryland by Jan. 31. Forms received on Feb. 1 will not be accepted for items purchased and installed in 2017.

If you have questions regarding rebates, visit our website or contact Tammy Squires at 231-486-9261 or tsquires@cherrylandelectric.coop.

Office Closed For Employee Training

The Cherryland office will be closed Monday, Jan. 15, for employee training. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Line crews are on call to respond to any outages or emergencies. You can report your outage through SmartHub or by calling us at 231-486-9200.

Serve On Cherryland's Board

Any qualified Cherryland member can be elected to serve a three-year term on the cooperative's board of directors. Two directors will be elected at this year's Annual Meeting, including one Grand Traverse/Kalkaska director and one at-large director.

To be nominated in 2018, candidates can file a petition with the cooperative's administrative assistant starting the first day of March until 4 p.m. on the last business day of March, which is Thursday, Mar. 29. Nominating petitions are available on the Cherryland website and at the co-op office in Grawn.

For more information regarding board nominations and the election process, review Article III of the co-op's bylaws on the Cherryland website.

Cherryland Announces Date Of 80th Annual Meeting

Cherryland's 80th Annual Meeting will take place Thursday, June 21, at Incredible Mo's in Grawn. Save the date.



Carbon-Free Reese's

Tony Anderson, General Manager

Readers of my maturity may remember a TV commercial from long ago. It visually showed how the Reese's Cup candy bar was crafted when an individual accidentally dipped a solid chocolate bar into a jar of peanut butter. The rest is history, as they say.

While maybe not accidental, I think something electrically similar (I know it's a stretch to go from candy to electrons but bear with me! I'm trying to suck you into a great story.) happened in 2017 when Wolverine Power Cooperative was walking around with an affordability mandate in one hand and ran into a carbon-free opportunity.

January 1, 2018, will be the start of a new era that covers the chocolate that is affordability with a peanut butter carbon-free coating. This first day of the year marks the beginning of a 10-year contract for an additional slice of nuclear power in the wholesale supply portfolio for all members of Cherryland Electric Cooperative.

This new piece of nuclear power acquired by Wolverine comes from plants in Illinois. When a Michigan wind deal did not materialize in 2017, Wolverine sought a compromise that would also result in lowering the carbon footprint of its member distribution cooperatives far into the future.

When you add Cherryland's renewable portfolio of wind, solar and hydroelectric to existing nuclear, plus this new contract, you get a "not-all-your-candy-bars-in-one-basket" blend of power that will be 56 percent carbon-free. There isn't an electric utility in the state of Michigan outside the Wolverine family of distribution cooperatives with a better mix of carbon-free power.

If you have read this column before, you know that affordability is important to your board of directors and management team as well. I am happy to report that this new contract will not cause an increase in our wholesale power costs. Wolverine has put together a power supply portfolio that will be the envy of utilities beyond Michigan's borders while keeping prices stable in the years to come.

On top of this, Wolverine added 150 megawatts of additional wind energy and installed a large utility scale solar project in 2017. These projects were also done at affordable prices.

In yet another move last year, Wolverine put out a 10 MW solar offering to members across its five distribution cooperative footprint. Individual members can build up to 1 MW each and receive a small premium over wholesale for the energy produced. This program will run until the 10 MW is built or until January 2020.

I am proud of the Wolverine team for making the effort to improve your power supply in length, price and carbon content. It would have been much easier to simply eat the chocolate alone and spread the peanut butter on some bread like everyone else. Instead, they set out with long-held traditional goals but with a mind open to creative options.

So, there you have it. When out-of-the-box creativity wraps affordability with carbon-free power, you have something as good as chocolate and peanut butter. Affordable, carbon-free electricity is even better than candy because you can use as much as you can afford without expanding your waistline!



Electricity Changes Everything

More than 1.6 billion people in the world remain without electricity. That's a pretty staggering statistic considering health, safety, education and economic growth all start with power. In modern times, no country has managed to substantially reduce poverty without access to electricity.

Electric co-ops know a thing or two about bringing electricity to people who don't have it. After all, it was the co-ops who brought electricity to rural America over 75 years ago when no one else would.

In partnership with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) International Program, Michigan's electric cooperatives sent 10 linemen to Buena Vista, Guatemala, in 2015. The linemen worked side-by-side with local residents to bring electricity to the remote, mountainous village. When work was completed, the community celebrated together as electric lights came on for the very first time. This moment marked the beginning of new opportunities and a new future for the 54 families that call Buena Vista home.

NRECA International Program Manager Ingrid Hunsicker recently visited Buena Vista to see how life has changed with electricity. Hunsicker reported that lights in the schoolyard and classrooms provide the children with a safe, bright place to learn. Processing corn is now easier and more efficient with electric corn mill grinders. Residents have access to better communication with radios and televisions, she noted.

And, thanks to a new refrigerator, the local convenience store is able to offer cold drinks and meats.

This is just the beginning. The good people of Buena Vista now have the opportunity to grow and flourish in a way that was never before thought possible.

Up Next: Bolivia

In 2018, Michigan co-ops will send 15 linemen to bring electricity to remote parts of Bolivia. The North Beni Electrification Project will electrify six communities located on the road between Riberalta and Guayaranerin in northern Bolivia. Due to the length of this project, several groups of co-op volunteers from different states will be needed to complete the entire project construction. Michigan linemen will be working to electrify the first two communities of Santa Malia and El Hondo. The climate there is hot and humid as it's one of the wettest regions in Bolivia. While planning is now underway, the construction trip will take place in the fall of 2018.

Visit partnersforpower.org to learn more.



ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
YOUTH TOUR



YOUTH TOUR 2018

Michigan Co-ops Inspire Tomorrow's Leaders Today
June 10–15, 2018

Youth Tour teaches students of Michigan about their past—and helps equip them with the skills they need to be Michigan's next generation of energy-minded leaders. This is a once-in-a-lifetime, all-expenses-paid leadership travel opportunity for high school sophomores and juniors (going into their junior or senior year this summer) and is sponsored by Michigan's electric cooperatives. From the battlefields of Gettysburg to the halls of Congress in Washington, D.C., the program explores the leadership lessons of our nation's history and will immerse students in the cooperative spirit.

Youth Tour offers a unique opportunity to build leadership and public speaking skills, enhance students' knowledge of the cooperative form of business, and build life-long friendships with other student-leaders from across the country.

**Youth Tour applications accepted
between now and Feb. 28.**

Trip Highlights Include:

- Visit the Gettysburg Civil War battlefields
- See Fort McHenry, birthplace of "The Star Spangled Banner"
- Explore the Washington, D.C. monuments and memorials
- Attend a world-class theater performance
- Explore the museums of the Smithsonian Institution
- Pay respects at Arlington National Cemetery
- Meet with Michigan Senators and Congressmen
- And much, much more

**Visit CooperativeYouthTour.com to learn more
and for an online application.**



COFFEE MATTERS

RoasterJack's Drive For Better Joe

By Rob Marsh

Just before sunrise, a couple dozen red trucks roll away from Cherryland's garage and spread out across northwest Michigan. While some head to bury wire and others to repair meters, each truck has the same thing resting in the cupholder: a travel mug filled with RoasterJack coffee.

Like Cherryland employees, working men and women trust a good cup of coffee to start their day off on the right foot. That is something that Traverse City native and local coffee roaster Jack Davis understands perfectly.

"There are two things that make the world go 'round: wrenches and coffee," says Davis, owner of RoasterJack Coffee Company in Traverse City.

Founded in his garage in 2001, Davis roasts, packages, and sells coffee to many of the area's most prominent restaurants, cafes, grocery stores, and businesses, including Cherryland. A Cherryland member business, RoasterJack is also home to the area's first coffee tasting room at the company's East Silver Lake Road location.

But if you were to ask Davis about his 17-year career in coffee, he would downplay his success. "We are not doing anything special," says Davis. "We've been focused on coming into work every day and getting the job done. I am proud of the fact that we are still here."

Davis didn't always imagine becoming northern Michigan's coffee guy. As a matter of fact, he thought he would be using one of his original skills: welding.

In high school, Davis studied welding at the TBAISD Career-Tech Center. Loving the outdoors, he thought he would use his welding skills to craft mountain bikes, but his interests

drew him elsewhere. "I kept turning down job offer after job offer in welding," says Davis. "What I really wanted to do was go out west and be in the mountains."

Davis followed his gut and moved to Montana. While attending college and enjoying the slopes, Davis gained experience roasting alongside a friend whose father was a coffee roaster. And that's where his love for coffee began.

"One cup of coffee is never the same as another," explains Davis. "If you give five people each a coffee pot and some coffee beans and ask them to brew you a cup, each cup is going to be different. That's why coffee is so interesting."

"There are two things that make the world go 'round: wrenches and coffee."

—Jack Davis

While the West has some of the more prominent coffee roasting areas, Davis chose to start his business in northern Michigan. "While Traverse City looks like just a great small town to retire in, it has all these people doing amazing and innovative work that reaches far beyond the region," says Davis. "It's something that I am proud to be a part of."

Today, Davis constantly looks for ways to make a better product; so much so that he has built self-improvement directly into RoasterJack's culture. "We follow only a few simple rules; the most important being 'make better coffee,'" explains Davis. "Coffee matters to people. Everything we do is built around the idea that people want better coffee."



Healthy Salads

Start the year off right with these easy-to-make healthy salads.

Photos—Robert Bruce Photography

Quinoa Cucumber Salad (pictured)

Patricia Wyers, Cherryland Electric Cooperative

- 4 cups cooked quinoa**
- 1 small cucumber, diced (local Michigan cucumber if in season, if not use English cucumber)**
- 1 small red onion, diced**
- 1 red bell pepper, diced**
- 2 tablespoons fresh dill weed, minced**
- 1 medium garlic clove, minced**
- 1 tablespoon canola oil**
- 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar**
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar**
- ½ teaspoon salt**

Prepare quinoa according to the package. Cool. Mix with the rest of the ingredients. Toss to coat evenly. Keep refrigerated and use within two to three days.



Watch a video of this recipe at
<https://goo.gl/6aZzpb>



Mediterranean Pesto Chickpea Salad

Ruthann Adams, Midwest Energy

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 15-ounce can chickpeas, drained and rinsed | 2 roasted red bell peppers, seeded and coarsely chopped |
| 1 15-ounce can black olives, drained and coarsely chopped | ⅓ to ½ cup pesto |
| 1 15-ounce can artichoke hearts, drained and coarsely chopped | • Salt and black pepper to taste |

Combine all ingredients. Chill and enjoy.

Note: If chickpeas are mashed, this makes a tasty sandwich filling.



Spaghetti Salad

Jan Goodwin, Great Lakes Energy

- 1 16-ounce package whole grain spaghetti
- 1 package mini Hormel pepperoni
- 1 16-ounce Kraft Zesty Italian dressing
- Parmesan cheese
- Perfect Pinch Salad Supreme Seasoning by McCormick
- Seasonal vegetables: tomatoes, cucumbers, green pepper or any of choice

Cook spaghetti according to the package. Drain. Cut up raw vegetables. Add to spaghetti. Add mini pepperoni. Mix in an entire bottle of Italian dressing. Top with Parmesan cheese and Perfect Pinch Salad Seasoning. Refrigerate 3 hours and serve. Can make the night before. The recipe makes a large amount for a big crowd.



Indulgent Desserts...

due February 1

Entertaining & Potluck...

due March 1

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

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

Enter to win a
\$50
energy bill
credit!

Featured Guest Chef

Participants in the No Barriers Warriors program spend their days hiking, rafting, skiing and mountain climbing. When they come back to base, there's nothing like a warm fondue, enjoyed around the fire, to cap off those daily adventures. Gather round, skewer up, and dip in!



Backcountry Fondues

Recipe Courtesy of No Barriers Warriors

Gear Required

- Two pots (one larger than the other) that will work as a double boiler
- Pot pliers/lifter to hold pots steady while stirring
- Camp stove (we used WhisperLite)
- Fuel
- A large spoon
- Skewers

Cheddar Cheese Fondue

- 3-4 cups Cheddar cheese
- ½ cup flour
- ½ can light beer
- Garlic (optional)

Suggested Dippers: fruit (apples, pears, etc.), vegetables, meat (summer sausage) and bread cubes

Swiss Cheese Fondue

- 3-4 cups Swiss and Gruyere cheeses
- ½ cup flour
- 1 cup white wine
- Garlic (optional)

Suggested Dippers: fruit (apples, pears, etc.), vegetables (carrots, broccoli), meat (summer sausage) and bread cubes

Chocolate Fondue

- 3-4 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup cream

Suggested Dippers: fruit (bananas, strawberries), marshmallows, cubed pound cake

Directions

It's recommended to pre-cut prior to heading to the backcountry when possible. Otherwise, add a cutting knife and cutting board to the gear list.

Place water in the larger pot and bring to boil. Place smaller pot in the larger pot and add the ingredients for whichever fondue you are making. (Note: the wine/beer helps keep the mixture smooth and prevents clumping.) Stir until ingredients are melted and smooth.

Read the full story about No Barriers Warriors on page 14, and find this recipe and others at micoopkitchen.com.



Photo Contest

Furry Friends

1. German Shepherds, Cash and Yulie, enjoy a sunset pontoon ride on Island Lake. *By Cathy Edmonds*
2. Ever since he was a tiny pup, Abe, the Chi-weenie, has been the happiest, smiling dog in the world. *By Christopher Linsell*
3. Oh, the dog days of summer! *By Davina Clark*
4. Sweetie the therapy dog loves the pumpkins. *By Whitney Allen*
5. Airborne! *By Julie Oliver*
6. Where ever you go, I go. *By Amy Devanney*
7. Playful Pups. *By Jere Pugh*
8. Captain, on the watch. *By Don DeManigold*
9. Sun's out, tongues out! *By Melissa Beaun*
10. Slash! *By Caroline Wright*

Photos With The Highest Facebook Votes!

The votes are in, and we're happy to share the photo with the most Facebook votes (and some favorites) from our photo contest. Thanks to everyone who submitted a photo, voted and spread the word by sharing the post on Facebook.

Enter Your Photos And Win A Bill Credit!

Submit your best photo and encourage your friends to vote! The photo receiving the most votes from our Facebook contest will be printed in an issue of *Country Lines* along with some of our other favorites. If your photo is printed in *Country Lines* during 2018, you will be entered to win a credit of up to \$200 on your December 2018 bill.

Our January theme is Talented Kids. Photos can be submitted from January 1 to January 20 to be featured in our March issue.

To enter the contest visit facebook.com/cherrylandelectriccoop and click "Photo Contest" from the menu tabs. If you're not on Facebook, don't worry. You can also enter the contest at cherrylandelectric.coop/photo-contest. Make sure to vote, and encourage others to vote for you, too!

Enter to win a
\$200
energy bill
credit!

Most votes on Facebook!





4



5



6



7



8



9



10

2017 Photo Contest Winner



"The Tuller Family" by Dana Tuller is our 2017 bill credit winner.



NO BARRIERS WARRIORS

THE POWER OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT

By Emily Haines Lloyd

When an organization's mission is to "unleash the power of the human spirit," participants suspect that challenging circumstances combined with lofty goals are probably expected. And, indeed, that is exactly what No Barriers Warriors does. The organization engages disabled veterans in challenging outdoor adventures that include hiking, paddleboarding, rafting and, ultimately, mountain climbing. The purpose is to help disabled veterans regain their confidence in spite of a service-related disability.

"When you take individuals from varying backgrounds and various levels of experience in the outdoors, you're obviously teaching some basic skills—like how to pitch a tent or the fundamental techniques of camping," said John Toth, director of No Barriers Warriors. "But it's

important to note that our purpose is not necessarily to build a skill set—our goal is to build a mindset."

No Barriers Warriors was inspired by the tenth anniversary of blind adventurer Erik Weißenmayer's historic climb of Mount Everest. Weißenmayer, founder of No Barriers USA, joined his Everest teammates to lead a group of disabled soldiers to the summit of Lobuche, a 20,100-foot-peak in the Himalayas. The endeavor was captured on film and eventually became the documentary "High Ground."

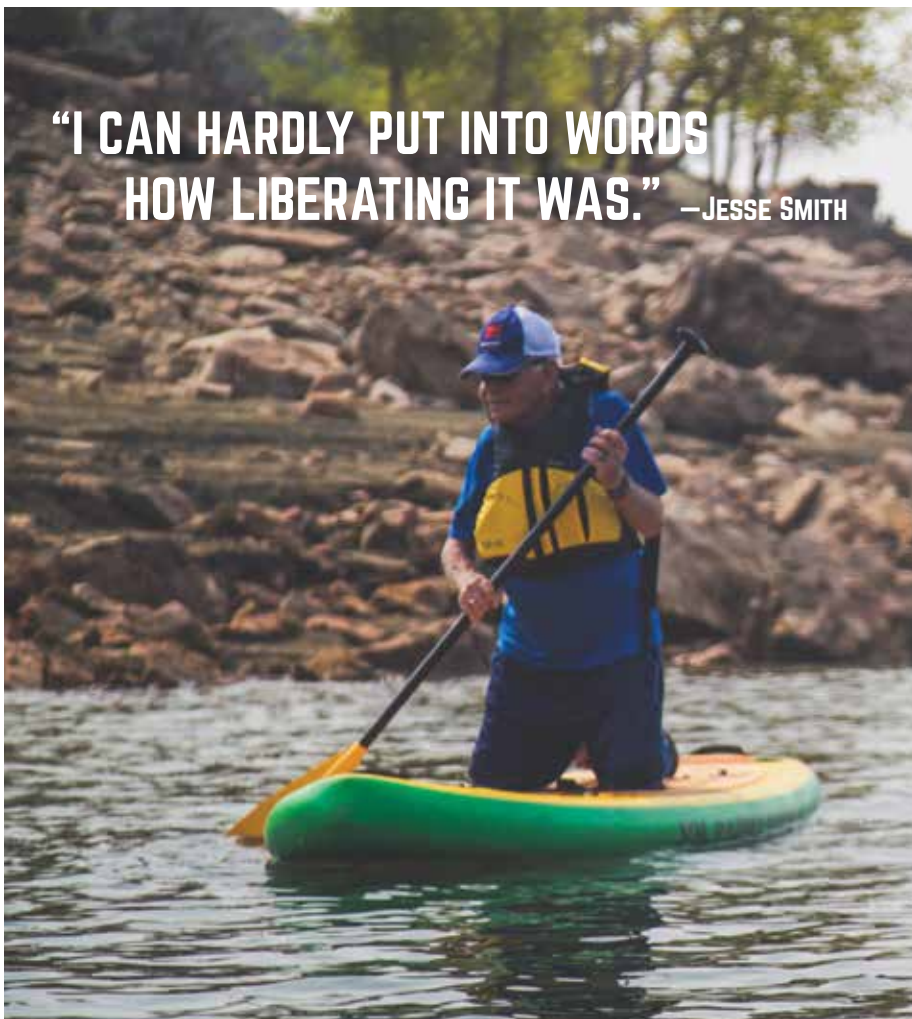
In 2012, No Barriers USA officially began incorporating its programming to include injured soldiers from all branches of the military, as well as survivors of the fallen. Today they are known as No Barriers Warriors (NBW). These individuals participate in mentally, physically, and emotionally

challenging activities, personal reflection, and group interactions designed to remind them that what's within them is stronger than what is in front of them.

Veterans from across the country have been helped through NBW's unique curriculum and no-pay policy, meaning all veterans who attend the program do so at absolutely no cost. This is another way that NBW wants to eliminate barriers, even when it comes to funding.

"When our veterans are given this opportunity, we see how their lives are changed—sometimes even saved," said Toth. "We set very high and lofty goals for our participants. When I see them accomplish those goals, I'm not surprised. I'm inspired."

Veterans are able to participate in the one-of-a-kind program through the



generosity of various organizations that donate to NBW. In November 2016, CoBank, a cooperative bank serving agribusinesses, rural infrastructure providers and Farm Credit Associations, announced a program that allowed its customer to nominate up to 50 rural veterans to participate in a No Barriers expedition. This corporate sponsorship allowed three Michigan co-op members and veterans to attend No Barriers Warriors adventures in 2017, Jesse Smith (Midwest Energy & Communications), Michael Valkner (Cherryland) and Christopher Irving (Great Lakes Energy). "America's rural communities are home to millions of men and women who have sacrificed for their country through military service, many of whom are facing some sort of disability," said Tom Halverson, CoBank CEO. "The No Barriers program provides these veterans with an opportunity to challenge their own limitations—both real and perceived—and to create a network of support that can last a lifetime."

Smith, a mostly-retired therapist, took the opportunity to attend a NBW adventure in Colorado in September and has already recommended the program to his friends and clients.

"I can hardly put into words how liberating it was, at nearly 80 [years old], to go and do the things I did," said Smith. "I would tell anyone who is even considering it, to not be afraid and just go for the adventure."

Are you a veteran interested in being nominated for the 2018 No Barriers program? If so, please go to countrylines.com/nobarriers by Feb. 28 and complete the form to express your interest. Your co-op will follow-up with more detailed information.

Photos courtesy of No Barriers /Samantha Hanus.

Your Board In Action

October Board Meeting

- The board approved the proposed rate increase for 2018. The board's decision comes after hearing comments from members via two public meetings in October. The rate increase will go into effect in the spring of 2018.
- The co-op's general manager reported to the board that the proposed pilot program aimed at providing renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions to low-income members will move forward with the cooperation of the Michigan Agency for Energy and Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency.
- The board approved the agenda for the co-op's annual training day in January. Every January, co-op employees spend a day receiving updates on co-op business, engaging in safety training, performing team-building exercises, and more.
- The co-op's member relations manager presented a plan for a program that engages local community leaders in the cooperative and teaches them about the cooperative business model and the electric utility industry.

November Board Meeting

The board reviewed and proved the co-op's \$6.9 million capital budget for 2018. Most of the capital budget covers the year's engineering and operations costs. Here are a few noteworthy items from the 2018 budget:

- Over 22 miles of co-op infrastructure will be repaired or upgraded. Cherryland performs these repairs and upgrades on approximately 20-25 miles of co-op infrastructure annually.
- Cherryland's old hydraulic reclosers will be replaced with new electric reclosers. A recloser is a circuit breaker equipped with a mechanism that can automatically close the breaker after it has been opened due to a fault. Unlike the hydraulic model, the new electric reclosers do not require regular maintenance and are more environmentally friendly.
- Field workers will be outfitted with wearable high voltage detectors. These devices will notify Cherryland field workers if they come in proximity to a high voltage electrical field. For instance, if a someone unknowingly comes upon a fallen wire that is still energized, the device will warn them of the danger.

Save Energy **SAVE MONEY**

Performing energy-saving upgrades at home could get you money back.

At Cherryland, we want to help you save energy and save money. That's why we offer rebates on the purchase of new, Energy Star rated appliances, light bulbs, and more. Once your rebates are approved, they'll appear as a credit on your next energy bill. It's that simple.

Planning a big project? We also offer limited rebates for specialty upgrades, like Well-Connect geothermal systems.

That's just another benefit of co-op membership.



cherrylandelectric.coop // (231) 486-9200

Funds are limited and restrictions may apply. Go online or give us a call for complete program details.

2018 Rate Change And You

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(800) 442-6616
Pay by phone: (800) 442-6615

Billing Date: 03/13/2017
Account Number: 1234567
Amount Due: 105.42
Current Charges Due Date: 04/06/2017

Member Phone: (231) 486-9200
Member Email: cec@cherrylandelectric.coop

JAMES Q MEMBER
1938 COOPERATIVE WAY
TRAVERSE CITY MI 49684

(See back of statement for additional info)

| SERVICE ADDRESS: 1938 COOPERATIVE WAY | | LINE AND POLE: 0N1 22 4N | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------|
| SERVICE INFORMATION | | READING INFORMATION | |
| METER # | RATE | FROM | TO |
| 887654321 | Residential | 02/05/2017 | 03/05/2017 |

| PREVIOUS | PRESENT | MULT | KWH | DEMAND |
|----------|---------|------|-----|--------|
| 99500 | 99300 | 1 | 790 | N/A |

Activity Since Last Billing

Beginning Balance: 146.20
Payment(s): -146.20
Total Previous Balance: 0.00

****COOPERATIVE NEWS****

Mark your calendars! Upcoming member meetings regarding rates will be held on October 12 at 5:30 p.m. and October 16 at 9 a.m. Keep an eye out for the October issue of Michigan Country Lines and our monthly e-newsletter for more information.

Current Charges Detail

Availability Charge: 18.00
Energy Charge 700 KWH @ 0.1191: 83.37
PSCR Adjustment 700 KWH @ 0.00: 0.00

Sales Tax: 4.05
CURRENT CHARGES: 105.42
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: 105.42

▲ KEEP
▼ SEND

Cherryland Electric Cooperative

Account Number: 1234567
Account Name: JAMES Q MEMBER
Service Address: 1938 COOPERATIVE WAY

Current Charges Due Date: 10/06/2017
Total Charges Due: 105.42
Total Charges Due After Due Date: 107.53

CHERRYLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.
PO BOX 500
GRAWN MI 49637-0500

2

QR Code

Kiosk

Effective in the spring, Cherryland will increase its rates for the first time in seven years. What does this mean for you? Here is a breakdown of what your bill will look like going forward.

Availability Charge

Your availability charge will increase \$3, from \$15 per month to \$18 per month. For members with general service accounts, you will see a \$2 increase in this charge.

Energy Charge

The energy charge will now include the Power Supply Cost Recovery (PSCR) charge (see below). The energy charge will look higher, but it will not influence your total amount due.

Power Supply Cost Recovery (PSCR) Charge

Because the current PSCR charge is being combined with the energy charge, we are setting the PSCR line item to zero.

If you have any questions regarding this rate increase, check out our website's blog or contact us at 231-486-9200 or email cec@cherrylandelectric.coop.

Notice to Members of Cherryland Electric Cooperative

Rate Changes Effective 2018 and later

The Cherryland Electric Cooperative Board of Directors, at their meeting held Oct. 16, 2017, took action on two matters:

- Revised the cooperative's rates to meet current and future financial needs, based on a cost of service study.
- Combined the current Energy Charge and Power Supply Cost Recovery (PSCR) charge and set the PSCR to zero.

These changes will go into effect in the spring of 2018. For specific details on any Cherryland tariffs or fees, please visit our website at cherrylandelectric.coop or call us at 231-486-9200.

Enter to win a
\$50
energy bill
credit!



Where In *Michigan* Is This?

Identify the correct location of the photo above by January 15 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 November/December 2017 issue is Christa Carbone, a HomeWorks Tri-County Cooperative member, who correctly identified the photo as Seal Choix Point Lighthouse near Manistique in Gulliver, Mich.

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



November/December Photo



Jack's Journal: Michigan's Main Street

By Jack O'Malley

Each year motorists drive over 95 billion miles on Michigan roadways, many of them on the state's longest route-numbered highway. Its full name is Interstate 75. We locals just call it 75. It has also picked up a nickname, some calling it Michigan's Main Street. In fact, Michigan's Main Street covers 395 miles through the state's upper and lower peninsulas.

Michigan's Main Street begins in Michigan's oldest city, Sault Saint Marie. Travelers headed south will pass Castle Rock, one of the upper peninsula's most iconic tourist attractions. After climbing the 196-foot limestone stack, travelers should leave time to visit Paul Bunyan and his Blue Ox, Babe. They're always ready for a picture or two! Continuing south, I-75 crosses the mighty Mackinac Bridge to Michigan's Lower Peninsula. From there, things get really interesting!

History lovers may enjoy an afternoon touring Mackinac City's colonial Fort Michilimackinac, while travelers on the hunt for souvenirs might prefer an excursion to the legendary Sea Shell City. With the famous "man-eating clam" located at the iconic shop, it's a trip back to 1960s tourism for sure.

Continuing south, Michigan's Main Street passes through Indian River, home to the world's largest crucifix, and Houghton Lake, the state's largest inland lake. Locals love to point out the lake is "so big you can see it from space." Pinconning has the honor of being the cheese capital of Michigan, and Birch Run is home to the largest outlet mall in the Midwest.

Rolling rural hills eventually give way to the state's urban setting. Motorists maintaining a southern course will pass Comerica Park, Little Caesar's Arena and Ford Field in downtown Detroit, as well as the Marathon Petroleum Refinery with its giant butane sphere painted like a basketball. The highway's Michigan journey ends in Monroe County, hometown to General George Armstrong Custer, who was a celebrated civil war veteran.

Interstate 75 continues for another 1,390 miles, finally ending in Miami, Florida. But that's not our 75. Our 75 is just like our people—diverse, entertaining and reliable. With so much to see in our great state, where will Michigan's Main Street take you?



SUN

It has fueled a lifetime of family getaways.
Today, it's fueling your everyday life.



THAT'S THE
Power
OF
Michigan
CO-OPS

Michigan's electric cooperatives are
proud to be the state's renewable
energy leaders.



cherrylandelectric.coop



THERE'S NO TELLING HOW *Youth Tour* WILL INSPIRE YOU,
JUST KNOW THAT IT WILL.

From the battlefields of Gettysburg to the halls of Congress in Washington, D.C., ***Youth Tour*** will explore the leadership lessons of our nation's history and immerse you in the cooperative spirit. Learn more about this FREE leadership travel opportunity, sponsored by Michigan's electric cooperatives, at **CooperativeYouthTour.com**.

