

---

# MICHIGAN

---

# COUNTRY LINES

Cherryland Electric Cooperative

## *Interlochen*

Making Beautiful Music  
In Northern Michigan



Members Saved Big In 2017

---

**Father And Son  
Keep Automotive  
Business Personal**

---

Co-op Dads Remember  
Father's Day Gifts



**Act now to receive a  
30% Federal tax credit**

**7 Series**  
*Ultimate comfort  
and efficiency*



## Time is running out to take advantage of a 30% tax credit for geothermal

You may not realize it, but right beneath your feet is an almost unlimited reservoir of stored solar energy. A WaterFurnace geothermal system taps into this free and renewable resource to provide savings of up to 70% on heating, cooling, and hot water—with a comfort you have to experience to believe. Right now you can save thousands on installation thanks to a 30% federal tax credit. But hurry, the credit is set to decrease each year through 2021. Contact your local WaterFurnace dealer today to learn more!

### **Bad Axe**

B & D Htg  
(989) 269-5280  
bdheating.com

### **Berrien Springs**

WaterFurnace Michiana  
(269) 473-5667  
gogreenmichigeothermal.com

### **Big Rapids**

Stratz Htg & Clg, Inc.  
(231) 796-3717  
stratzgeocomfort.com

### **Caro**

AllTemp Comfort, Inc.  
(866) 844-HEAT (4328)  
geo4less.com

### **Clifford**

Orton Refrig & Htg  
(989) 761-7691  
sanduskygeothermal.com

### **Hart/Ludington**

Adams Htg & Clg  
(231) 873-2665  
adamsheatingcooling.com

### **Indian River**

M & M Plmb & Htg  
(231) 238-7201  
mm-plumbing.com

### **Kalkaska**

Kalkaska Plmb & Htg  
(231) 258-3588  
kalkaskageothermal.net

### **Michigan Center**

Comfort 1/Aire Serv of  
Southern Michigan  
(517) 764-1500  
comfort1.net/geothermal

### **Mt Pleasant**

Walton Htg & Clg  
(989) 772-4822  
waltonheating.com

### **Muskegon**

Adams Htg & Clg  
(231) 873-2665  
adamsheatingcooling.com

### **Kiessel Geothermal**

Htg & Clg  
(231) 747-7509  
kiesselsgeo.com

### **Portland**

ESI Htg & Clg  
(517) 647-6906  
esiheating.com

### **Sunfield**

Mark Woodman  
Plmb & Htg  
(517) 886-1138  
mwphonline.com

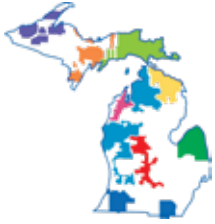
### **Traverse City**

D & W Mechanical  
(231) 941-1215  
dwgeothermal.com



[waterfurnace.com/Credit](http://waterfurnace.com/Credit)





Michigan's Electric Cooperatives  
[countrylines.com](http://countrylines.com)

**Executive Editor:** Casey Clark

**Editor:** Christine Dorr

**Copy Editor:** Heidi Spencer

**Design and Layout:**  
Karreen Bird

**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 & Communications, 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.

**CONTACT US/LETTERS TO EDITOR:**  
*Michigan Country Lines*  
201 Townsend St., Suite 900  
Lansing, MI 48933  
248-534-7358  
[editor@countrylines.com](mailto:editor@countrylines.com)  
[countrylines.com](http://countrylines.com)

 [facebook.com/  
michigancountrylines](https://www.facebook.com/michigancountrylines)

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:**

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

The appearance of advertising does not constitute an endorsement of the products or services advertised.

# In This Issue

June 2018 // Vol. 38, No. 6



## ON THE COVER

Located in northwestern Michigan, Interlochen Center for the Arts offers arts education programs for students in grades 3-12 and adults of all ages. Interlochen also hosts hundreds of concerts and events.

Photo courtesy of Interlochen Center for the Arts

## 6 MI CO-OP COMMUNITY

A place for you to share, win and belong. Learn how to win bill credits and cash with *Country Lines*.

## 7 SAFETY

Safety Tips On How To Prevent Electric Shock Drowning

## 10 MI CO-OP KITCHEN

Spice It Up With These Recipes Packed Full Of Flavor  
Christin McKamey & Our Readers

Interlochen Shares Their Indulgent Cookie Bar Recipe

[Enter Our Recipe Contest And Win A \\$50 Bill Credit!](#)

## 14 FEATURE

Interlochen: Making Beautiful Music In Northern Michigan  
Emily Haines Lloyd

## 18 MI CO-OP COMMUNITY

**MEMBER GUEST COLUMN:**  
Anything Is Possible While Fishing In The Dark  
Andy Duffy, Great Lakes Energy Member

[Submit A Guest Column And Win \\$150!](#)

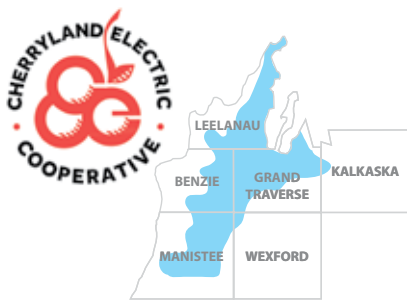
## *I Remember...*

We invite members to share their fondest memories.

### Guidelines

1. Approximately 200 words
2. Digital photos must be at least 600 KB
3. *Country Lines* retains reprint rights
4. Submit your memory at: [countrylines.com](http://countrylines.com) under the MI Co-op Community tab.

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



# CO-OP NEWS

## Cherryland Members Awarded Scholarships

Three high school seniors and two adult learners were awarded 2018 Cherryland Electric Cooperative scholarships. The three high school scholarships are worth \$4,000 each—\$1,000 per year for four years. The adult scholarships are a one-time award of \$1,000 each.

Winners of the high school student scholarships are:

- Ryan Bertschy of St. Francis High School
- Abraham Gutzka of Glen Lake High School
- Christopher Hettinger of Benzie Central High School

The adult scholarship winners are:

- Emily Sippola of Kaleva
- Nancy Wright of Thompsonville

## Join Us For The 80th Annual Meeting On June 21

Cherryland's 80th Annual Meeting will take place Thursday, June 21, at Incredible Mo's in Grawn. Join us for an evening of food, fun and information. Learn more about this year's Annual Meeting on page 17.

## Cherryland Cares Supports Local Nonprofits

Cherryland Cares distributes funds to local nonprofit organizations in need of financial support. The funds distributed by Cherryland Cares are a result of members electing to round up their monthly bills to the nearest dollar. Members can contribute to the Cherryland Cares fund by calling 231-486-9200, signing up through SmartHub, or sending an email to [cec@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:cec@cherrylandelectric.coop).

If you are an area nonprofit agency seeking financial help, please call Shannon Mattson at 231-486-9234 or e-mail [smattson@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:smattson@cherrylandelectric.coop). The deadline for second quarter applications is Friday, June 8.

## Members May Give Input At Monthly Board Meeting

The board of directors at Cherryland is offering an opportunity for members to provide direct input to the board at 9 a.m. Monday, June 18, at the company office in Grawn.

Members are asked to come to the lobby and request to speak to the board. Please keep comments to five minutes. Member attendance at the board meeting is allowed for the public input portion of the meeting only.

## Cherryland Office Closed Independence Day

The Cherryland office will be closed Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Normal business hours will resume Thursday, July 5.

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.

## Cherryland Presents The Touchstone Energy Junior Royale Parade

Cherryland is sponsoring the Touchstone Energy Junior Royale Parade held Thursday, July 5, in downtown Traverse City from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. as part of the National Cherry Festival. Known as one of the largest children's parades in Michigan, the Junior Royale Parade is highlighted with kid-friendly floats, junior royalty, clowns, marching units and more.

## Board Of Directors

### TERRY LAUTNER

President  
231-946-4623  
[tlautner@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:tlautner@cherrylandelectric.coop)

### TOM VAN PELT

Senior Vice President  
231-386-5234  
[tvanpelt@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:tvanpelt@cherrylandelectric.coop)

### MELINDA LAUTNER

Secretary  
231-947-2509  
[mlautner@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:mlautner@cherrylandelectric.coop)

### DAVID SCHWEITZER

Treasurer  
231-883-5860  
[dschweitzer@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:dschweitzer@cherrylandelectric.coop)

### JOHN OLSON

Director  
231-938-1228  
[jolson@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:jolson@cherrylandelectric.coop)

### GABE SCHNEIDER

Director  
517-449-6453  
[gschneider@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:gschneider@cherrylandelectric.coop)

### JON ZICKERT

Director  
231-631-1337  
[zickert@cherrylandelectric.coop](mailto:zickert@cherrylandelectric.coop)

## GENERAL MANAGER

Tony Anderson

## CO-OP EDITORS

Rachel Johnson  
Rob Marsh

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday 7:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.

## TELEPHONE NUMBERS

231-486-9200 or 1-800-442-8616 (MI)

## ADDRESS

P.O. Box 298, Grawn, MI 49637

## WEBSITE

[cherrylandelectric.coop](http://cherrylandelectric.coop)

## PAY STATION

Cherryland Electric Cooperative office  
5930 U.S. 31 South, Grawn MI, 49637

*Cherryland Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner  
*The power of human connections*

Follow us on Facebook.  
[facebook.com/cherrylandelectriccoop](https://facebook.com/cherrylandelectriccoop)

Follow us on Instagram.  
[@cherrylandec](https://www.instagram.com/cherrylandec)



## Not So Sleepless Nights

Tony Anderson, General Manager

“What keeps you awake at night?” is a question I get from time to time. I always have to start off my answer with what does NOT keep me awake. The list of important things that doesn’t keep me awake is far longer than any list that does. Maybe I’m just a good sleeper?

Cherryland employees have worked hard over the years to reduce our outage times. We have put millions of dollars of member money into maintenance, line upgrades and new construction over the past 15 years. I can point to numerous examples of projects that have incrementally improved our outage times. But, like every utility, we are only as good as our last major storm.

What about the winter/spring storm Xanto in April? It brought with it high winds, heavy wet snow and treacherous driving conditions. It didn’t bring widespread outages to Cherryland’s service territory. We had 10 here, 20 there and one bunch of 46 members. All were very short in length and insignificant in cost. I checked the outage page often, but I slept well.

A couple months ago, I walked into CFO Mark Wilson’s office to make sure I was reading our monthly wholesale power bill correctly. It was the lowest per kilowatt hour price of my entire tenure at Cherryland. Mark assured me it was accurate.

Wolverine Power Cooperative has done a great job of holding down and actually lowering costs while improving the reliability of their transmission system, lowering our carbon footprint and maintaining a “not-all-eggs-in-one-basket” portfolio of supply sources. When I look at the

long-range wholesale power supply that the Wolverine team has put together for the next decade, I can only smile while I doze off to dreamland.

Transparency? Yeah, I’m not losing any sleep here either. I will simply point to columns like this, the only electric co-op podcast in the nation, an informative cooperative Facebook page, an active blog with two-way dialogue and face-to-face interaction with members.

Yes, Cherryland gets knocked from time to time because we don’t let members sit in our boardroom for an entire meeting. Each time the knock has come from an individual or organization with a singular issue they are trying to force on the entire membership. The board, the management team and I have never rolled over on single-minded issues. We have 35,000 members from all walks of life, political views and income levels to care for and we take the job seriously.

These single-issue individuals always forget that we actually do have cooperative members in every board meeting from the beginning to the end. They are your duly-elected board of directors. It is how our system has worked and worked well for almost 80 years.

By now, you have probably gotten the point that I sleep well. I have a membership, a board and a group of employees that I feel like I know and that I trust. Isn’t trust the only thing that keeps us up at night no matter what the specific issue is? If I trust myself and those around me every day, I should always be able to sleep well. I do. Now, if I could only get better at taking naps!

Look For The Blue Ribbon  
For Chances To

WIN  
BILL CREDITS  
& CASH!

# MI CO-OP Community

## A place for you to share, win and belong.

As a *Michigan Country Lines* reader, not only are you the heart of your co-op, you are the heart of this magazine. The recipes, memories, photos and stories you share are what make our magazine one-of-a-kind. It brings us together as a community, and we want to encourage more of it. Thanks to the new MI Co-op Community page on [countrylines.com](http://countrylines.com), it's now easier than ever to share your content and to read content submitted by other members. Better yet, we don't expect you to work for free. Many submissions are rewarded with cash and bill credits. Just look for the blue ribbon—and we'll look forward to your content.



1.

## Monthly Recipe Contest And MI Co-op Kitchen

If you're in need of some food inspiration, look no further than MI Co-op Kitchen—our online cooking community. MI Co-op Kitchen is an interactive space where you can share your recipes and food ideas with other like-minded members. Submit a recipe for our monthly contest and you could win a \$50 bill credit and have your recipe published. A winner is selected every month.



2.

## Where In Michigan Is This? Our Mystery Photo Contest

Have you traveled much in the mitten state? If so, it could pay off. Correctly identify our mystery photo and you could win a \$50 bill credit. A new "Where in Michigan Is This?" mystery photo is published in our January, March, May, July/August, September and November/December *Michigan Country Lines* issues. Each correct guess is placed into a drawing and one lucky winner is selected.



3.

## I Remember—Members Share Their Fondest Memories

The best stories come from the people who've lived them, so share yours with us. If we publish your story, you receive a \$50 check! Just send us your memory up to 200 words; photos are always a great addition!



4.

## Our New Guest Column

We know many of our members are talented and have great ideas—so we invite you to share that talent in *Country Lines*! We will pay \$150 for stories we publish. Let the ideas flow! Stories could be about a significant or memorable event, a person in your life, life lessons learned, educational topics, Michigan recreational activities—and more! Please keep stories to approximately 350 words. Photos are always welcome!



**NEW!**

## Best Of Michigan

Do you have a favorite spot you bring out-of-state guests? What about a favorite Michigan ice cream store you can't resist or a Michigan-inspired treat you always buy? We want to know! Our new Best of Michigan column is a way for you to submit your favorite treats, sites, restaurants, opinions and activities.

We will publish many submissions for the Best Of Michigan section—so there is no monetary reward. However, your name will be published!

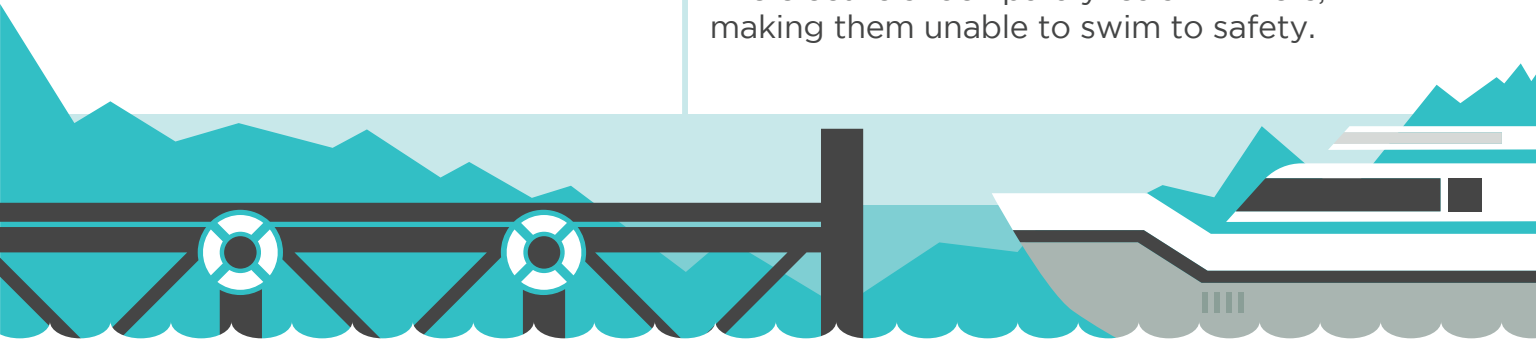
### Best Beaches!

Tell us your top toes-in-the-sand, sun-soaking beaches along Michigan's coastline.

Submit your answers at [countrylines.com](http://countrylines.com) under the MI Co-op Community tab by June 20.

# HOW TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING

Each year 3,800 people die from drowning. Electric shock drowning occurs when an electric current escapes boats, docks and lights near marinas, shocking nearby swimmers. There are no visible signs of current seeping into water, which makes this a hidden danger. The electric shock paralyzes swimmers, making them unable to swim to safety.



## ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR:

### Swimmers

- **Never swim near a boat or launching ramp.** Residual current could flow into the water from the boat or the marina's wiring, potentially putting anyone in the water at risk of electric shock.
- If you feel any tingling sensations while in the water, **tell someone and swim back** in the direction from which you came. Immediately report it to the dock or marina owner.

### Boat Owners

- **Ensure your boat is properly maintained and consider having it inspected annually.** GFCIs and ELCIs should be tested monthly. Conduct leakage testing to determine if electrical current is escaping the vessel.
- **Use portable GFCIs or shore power cords** (including "Y" adapters) that are "UL-Marine Listed" when using electricity near water.
- Regularly have your boat's electrical system inspected by a certified marine electrician. **Ensure it meets your local and state NEC, NFPA and ABYC safety codes.**

## IF YOU SEE ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING TAKING PLACE:



**TURN POWER OFF**



**THROW A LIFE RING**



**CALL 911**

**DO NOT enter the water. You could become a victim, too.**



# FATHER and SON

## Keep Automotive Business Personal

By Rob Marsh



Tom and Ryan Siler travel across northwest Michigan to showcase, sell, and deliver car detailing products to their nearly 200 customers.

In a world of online shopping and virtual customer service, businesses are changing and, perhaps, losing some of that personal touch. For Cherryland members and father-son duo Tom and Ryan Siler of Traverse City, they choose to keep doing business the way they always have: with a handshake and a smile.

Tom Siler Sales, LLC sells car detailing products to car dealerships, mechanic shops and detailing centers throughout northwest Michigan, from Ludington to Gaylord to Petoskey. Operating out of a truck customized to feel like a traditional brick-and-mortar store, the Silers regularly visit nearly 200 locations showcasing, selling and delivering products directly to their customers.

"We're a 'handshake business,'" said Tom Siler. "When we agree on a sale with one of our customers, we don't need a signature, just a handshake. That's how it was designed from the very beginning."

Tom was no stranger to the automotive world before starting his business over 30 years ago. Tom's father owned a Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealership in Merrill, just outside of Saginaw. Before striking out on his own, Tom worked as a General Motors master-technician and a service manager.

In all that experience, he saw trends that would make any car-lover cringe. "Back then, people were using degreaser and diesel fuel to clean cars," said Tom. "Not only did they not use the right products, they also didn't know which products were environmentally safe and which weren't. I saw

an opportunity to not only have a business but to educate."

While spending years educating northwest Michigan about properly detailing cars, Tom's son, Ryan, was also receiving an education, and ultimately an interest, in the automotive world. "I've always been interested in cars. It's part of my family's history," said Ryan. "I grew up watching my dad work on car projects in the barn. We still work on projects together today."

*"We're a 'handshake business.' When we agree on a sale with one of our customers, we don't need a signature, just a handshake."*

—Tom Siler

About seven years ago, Tom suffered a back injury and needed help with the business. Ryan stepped in to lend a hand and never left. "Honestly, I initially took the job just to help my dad," said Ryan. "But as I continued to do the work, I got more interested in the job and began to see the potential for a long-term career."

In those first few weeks, Tom quickly saw his talent for their business and knew his customers were in good hands. "Soon after he started

working, I began to receive calls from long-time customers," said Tom. "They all told me how friendly and professional Ryan was. I am blessed to have him."

Today, Tom Siler Sales, LLC continues to thrive. And as for their business strategy, they have no plans of changing in the future. "Our business is about developing relationships with all our customers—from a dealership's general manager to the guys in the wash rack," said Ryan. "We want each one of them to feel comfortable enough with us that, when the day is over, they would have no problem sitting down and having a beer with us."



# Members Save Big And Help Co-op Exceed Energy-Savings Goal In 2017

By **Tammy Squires**, Energy Use Adviser

Claiming rebates paid off big for residential Cherryland members this year. It not only put real money back into the pockets of our members, but it also became a long-term, energy-efficient investment for these members' homes and businesses.

Our Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) program is a state-mandated program designed to incentivize members to become more energy efficient through specific state-approved measures, including replacing incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs and purchasing energy-efficient home appliances.

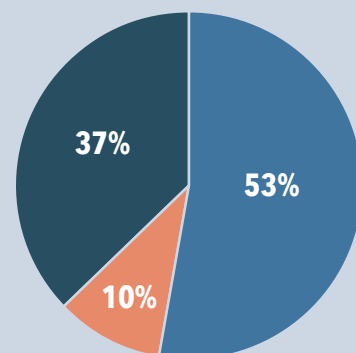
Our goal for 2017 was to save just under 4 million kilowatt hours. Over 800 residential members took advantage of the program and turned in rebate applications for approved Energy Star-rated measures. With every bulb replaced, appliance installed, and freezer recycled last year, we again were able to exceed our goal. In 2017 we saved a total of 4.15 million kilowatt hours.

To claim a rebate in 2018, visit our website and download the residential rebate form with the list of approved measures and qualification requirements. Cherryland member-businesses can call our office to learn more about energy efficiency rebates available. We want to work with each of our members to maximize energy efficiency goals and potential rebates.



**4.15 million kWh**  
saved in 2017

## Percent of Rebates Claimed by Category in 2017



- E.S. appliances/HVAC/Solar
- Fridge/Freezer recycling
- Lighting

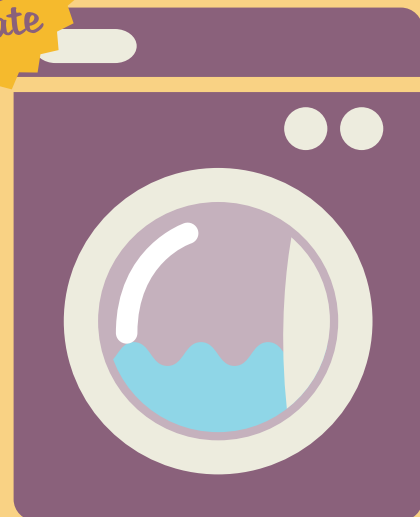
## Save Energy **SAVE MONEY**

### 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.



# Spice It Up

These recipes are packed full of flavor.

Photos—Robert Bruce Photography

## Spiced Red Lentil Soup With Cilantro (pictured above)

Cynthia Hodges, Ontonagon REA

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 tablespoons unsalted butter</li> <li>1 large onion, chopped fine</li> <li><math>\frac{3}{4}</math> teaspoon ground coriander</li> <li><math>\frac{1}{2}</math> teaspoon ground cumin</li> <li><math>\frac{1}{4}</math> teaspoon ground ginger</li> <li><math>\frac{1}{8}</math> teaspoon ground cinnamon</li> <li><math>\frac{1}{4}</math> teaspoon pepper</li> <li>• pinch cayenne powder</li> <li>1 tablespoon tomato paste</li> <li>1 garlic clove, minced</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 cups chicken or vegetable broth</li> <li>2 cups water</li> <li>10<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> ounces (1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> cups) red lentils, picked over and rinsed</li> <li>2 tablespoons lemon juice, plus extra for seasoning</li> <li>1 teaspoon paprika</li> <li><math>\frac{1}{4}</math> cup fresh cilantro, chopped</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

Melt butter in large saucepan over medium heat. Add onion and 1 teaspoon salt and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened but not browned, about 5 minutes. Add coriander, cumin, ginger, cinnamon, cayenne, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon pepper and cook until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Stir in tomato paste and garlic and cook for 1 minute. Stir in broth, water, and lentils and bring to simmer. Simmer vigorously, stirring occasionally, until lentils are soft and about half are broken down, about 15 minutes. Whisk soup robustly until it is coarsely pureed, about 30 seconds. Stir in lemon juice and season with salt, pepper and extra lemon juice to taste. Ladle soup into individual bowls, sprinkle with paprika and cilantro, and serve.



Watch a video of this recipe at  
[micoopkitchen.com/videos](http://micoopkitchen.com/videos)

## Chicken Hot Legs

Stanley Pohl, HomeWorks Tri-County

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4-5 pounds of chicken legs</li> <li>2 eggs</li> <li>• salt and pepper</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 cup Drake's Crispy Fry Mix</li> <li>1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> cups Frank's RedHot™ sauce</li> <li><math>\frac{1}{2}</math> stick butter</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

Preheat oven to 425 F. Pull skin over the meat (do not remove the skin). Beat eggs; add some salt and pepper. Dredge legs in eggs then coat well with Drakes mix. Cover a cookie sheet with aluminum foil and grease generously with butter. Bake until the bottom side gets crispy, then turn over and bake again until bottom is crispy.

For the spicy sauce: Mix together the butter and hot sauce in a large bowl.

Toss the chicken legs in the spicy sauce until well coated. Place the drumsticks back on the cookie sheet and continue baking an additional 10 to 15 minutes.





## FEATURED GUEST CHEF



### Buffalo Chicken Tacos

Nancy Popa, Cherryland

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 boneless chicken breast halves</li> <li>2 tablespoons hot sauce (such as Frank's RedHot™)</li> <li>1 teaspoon butter, melted</li> <li>½ teaspoon ground red pepper</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 tablespoons buttermilk</li> <li>2 tablespoons mayonnaise</li> <li>1 ounce blue cheese crumbled (about ¼ cup)</li> <li>2 cups shredded romaine lettuce</li> <li>1 celery stalk, thinly sliced</li> <li>8 6-inch corn tortillas</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

Heat a grill pan over medium-high heat; coat with oil. Cut the chicken breasts in half lengthwise to make 4 cutlets. Season well with salt and pepper. Cook chicken 2–3 minutes on each side until done. Remove from pan and let the chicken sit a few minutes before slicing thin. Combine hot sauce, butter and red pepper with a whisk. Add sliced chicken to mixture and coat. Combine buttermilk, mayonnaise and blue cheese; mash with a fork. Add lettuce and celery to the mixture. Warm the tortillas as the package directs. Place chicken mixture in tortilla and top with cheese mixture. Serve with tortilla chips or rice.



**Cookies And Cakes: due July 1**

**Cocktails And Drinks: due August 1**

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

Go to [microopkitchen.com](http://microopkitchen.com) for more information and to register.

Enter to win a  
**\$50**  
energy bill  
credit!

### Interlochen Cookie Bar

Stone Cafeteria at Interlochen Center of the Arts works hard to nourish the body and creative spirits of the students, faculty and staff. While menus are managed weekly to take advantage of local and seasonal produce, the menu occasionally includes an indulgent treat. So, when the Cookie Bar hits the menu, it's music to everyone's ears.

- ½ cup butter or margarine, melted
- 1½ cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1 (14-ounce) can EAGLE BRAND® Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate morsels
- 1⅓ cups flaked coconut
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Heat oven to 350 F (325 F for glass dish). Coat a 13x9-inch baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. Combine graham cracker crumbs and butter. Press into bottom of prepared pan. Pour sweetened condensed milk evenly over crumb mixture. Layer evenly with chocolate chips, coconut and nuts. Press down firmly with a fork. Bake 25 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool. Cut into bars or diamonds. Store cookie bars covered at room temperature.

Read the full story about Interlochen Center of the Arts on page 14, and find this recipe and others at [microopkitchen.com](http://microopkitchen.com).



## Cherryland Dads Remember

# FATHER'S DAY GIFTS

Finding a Father's Day gift for dad is not always easy. What do you get the guy that passed on to you all those great life lessons? We asked a few Cherryland dads about some of the most memorable gifts they've received and why they are so special to them.



### Bedazzled Shirt

Normally my kids don't buy me anything for Father's Day, but they have given me homemade gifts. One year, my daughter gave me a gift inspired by the movie "The Game Plan" with Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. In the movie, the young girl uses fake jewels to bedazzle Dwayne's trophy football. So, that Father's Day, my daughter got the idea to bedazzle a shirt and give it to me. I can't say that I wear it, but I still have the shirt along with the other homemade gifts my kids have given me.

—Jeff P.

### Hand Prints, Homemade Cards And A Rock

If you've ever dropped your child off at daycare, you know how hard it can be. You hate leaving them to be cared for by someone that isn't you. During the workday, you worry about them because you aren't there, and you can't wait to pick them up. Thankfully my kids enjoyed daycare and part of the reason was that there were some great people working there.

One of the things I always secretly appreciated were the super cheesy Father's Day gifts they helped the kids make around Father's Day. I cherished the paintings made with their handprints, homemade cards or even a rock with the word Dad painted on it. The gifts themselves were nothing special, but my kids were always so excited to give them to me because they had helped to make them. It made me feel good to know that even though I wasn't with my kids, they were having fun during the day and those gifts were a little reminder of that.

—John M.



### Gas Grill

About five years ago, my family got me a new gas grill for Father's Day. I like to grill my favorite non-red meat (in case my cardiologist should read this) and so I was quite thrilled with this gift, especially since it was all put together and ready to use. Lord knows that if I had to assemble that thing it would still be in the box!

Fast forward about a month and my son wanted me to grill spare ribs for his birthday. So, the meal preparation was well underway when the fire got away from me. As my family and I were attempting to save the meal, my hand got a little too close to the flame and I ended up having to make an unplanned trip to the ER with a second degree burn on my hand.

So, what did we end up having for dinner that night you ask? Let's just say it was finger-lickin' good—as only the Colonel can do!

—Mark W.

# Filling The Gap

By Caroline Simaz, GIS Technician

This will be the seventh Father's Day without my father. I lost him suddenly, at a relatively early age of 68. Even in my 40's I still relied on my father's wisdom, sage advice and support. Right about the time I lost my dad, I got to know one of my co-workers better. You might recognize his name, or more likely, you actually know Nick Edson. He used to write many of the human-interest columns in this magazine. And if you know Nick, then he probably considers you a friend, and you have been on the receiving end of his generous friendship.

Even before I got to know Nick very well, he could tell that I was deeply affected by the loss in my life. He made, what most would think, a very uncomfortable step and pointed out his observation—opening up a possible dialog of pain. From that point on, Nick has continued to always be "present" when I'm around him. He genuinely wants to know what's going on in my life and my children's lives.

About four years ago I was facing some big decisions about selling our house and other financial concerns. Nick patiently listened to my concerns—even set up a meeting time for it—and helped me make some solid choices that I could feel confident about. This is something my own father would have done.



Cherryland's Caroline Simaz with Nick Edson

---

*"You never know what kind of "gaps" you may be filling in the lives of those around you when you invest in genuine friendship."*

---

Nick was notorious here at Cherryland to host what he lovingly referred to as "The Phil Donahue Show" in his office. Co-workers would each take their turn on any given day or time and sit across from his desk and just let loose. Whatever was going on in your life, either personally or at work, was brought up in conversation. Even if there was no magic fix to whatever was ailing you, you always felt better leaving Nick's office than when you entered. Nick has since retired from Cherryland, and

I think I am safe in saying that those left behind really miss those talks.

There are other ways that Nick has helped to fill the gap of not only a missing father but even a grandfather for my own children. He is the ever-hopeful cheerleader that attends as many music performances and athletic events as possible. He has taken the time to get to know my children and celebrates with me in all their adventures and successes.

I would bet that Nick doesn't even realize how he has provided that "missing-father link" in my life; he was just being a genuine friend. I think we can all take a page from Nick's playbook (Did I forget to mention what a HUGE sports fan Nick is?) and aim to be generous with our friendship. You never know what kind of "gaps" you may be filling in the lives of those around you when you invest in genuine friendship.





# *Interlochen* Making Beautiful Music In Northern Michigan

By Emily Haines Lloyd // Photos courtesy of Interlochen Center for the Arts



In Interlochen, Michigan, nestled within 1,200 acres of woods with not one, but two crystal blue lakes sparkling with glints of light, is an idyllic setting worthy of an opening sequence in a movie. With its rustic-looking cabins, noticeable absence of technology, and campers rushing off to their activities, it's not unlike other summer camps.

But, as they say, it's all about the details.

Take a closer look to see campers in their iconic blue polo shirts, walking along with instrument cases, sheet music, scripts, portfolios and a variety of accessories that display the fact that Interlochen is no ordinary summer camp. Each year Interlochen plays host to approximately 2,500 third through 12th-grade students from around the world who want to make something beautiful over their summer vacation.

"The Interlochen Arts Camp experience gathers students and teachers from all over the country and the world in an intensive, inspiring artistic experience that trains and rejuvenates young artists," said Jason Hubbard, vice



president of academy programs. “The reservoir of skills and experiences informs their practice and continues to inspire their work throughout the year.”

Interlochen Arts Camp, formerly called National High School Orchestra Camp, has been in operation since 1928. It expanded its efforts in 1962 when it opened its year-round boarding school—Interlochen Arts Academy, which now hosts approximately 500 students each year from grades nine through 12. Both programs offer young artists opportunities to explore their craft in a variety of disciplines like music, theater, creative writing, dance, film, visual arts and more, while building in authentic camp experiences like off-campus field trips or lake activities.

While you’ll find a large number of campers and students who hope to one day have a career in the arts, there are just as many who will one day find careers as software designers, teachers, or accountants, but the long-term impact can be equally significant.

“Students come to Interlochen to find their voice, to develop in their artistry, and to find their people,” said Leslie Donaldson, director of engagement.

This finding of one’s tribe is a common theme. Famous alumnus Josh Groban, an actor and vocalist, talked about his experience as a camper at Interlochen Arts Camp on Bloomberg TV in 2015.

“You’re surrounded by nature, on a lake, and you’re also surrounded by kids from all over the country and all over the world who share the same passion for the arts as you do,” said Groban. “It was the first place I realized I was not an outcast.”

Interlochen provides world-class instruction in the arts for its campers and provides a variety of performances, shows and interactions for art lovers from the region. In 2018, Interlochen announced a new Day Camp program that invites local residents in grades six through 12 the opportunity to attend three and six week programs at a substantially discounted rate. Now, community members can more than enjoy the performances against the camp’s idyllic backdrop, they actually have the opportunity to participate.

Yes, Interlochen is brimming with talented artists, unlike your average camp program. But at its core, it is all about the students and the opportunity for them to produce beautiful art, make lifelong friends and create cherished memories. So maybe, at its heart, Interlochen is exactly what summer camp is all about.



Tickets for the 2018 Interlochen Arts Festival are now on sale!  
Buy your tickets today!  
See all featured events online  
at [tickets.interlochen.org](http://tickets.interlochen.org) or  
call 800-681-5920.

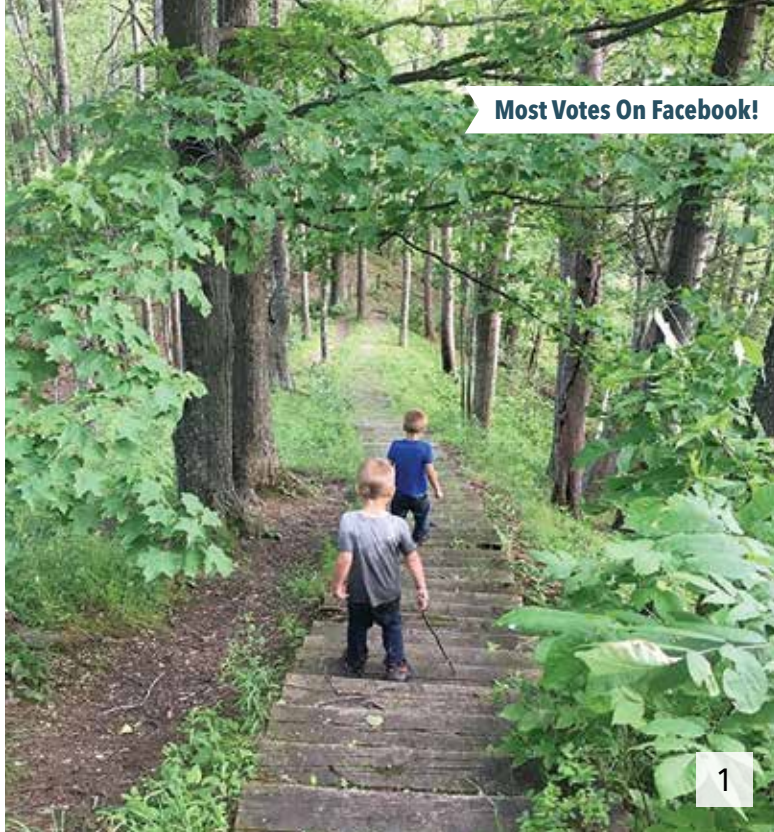




# Photo Contest

## Outdoor Adventures

1. "Checking out the Sawdust Hole near Tippy Dam" by Erika Girven
2. "The colors of pure Michigan" by Mandy Schram
3. "Exploring is what we do best" by Caitlyn Morrison
4. "Sunrise while backpacking across Isle Royale" by Mike Palko
5. "Cats enjoying the first spring hike with their kids!" by Anne Grant



### Submit Your "Fall Colors" Photo!

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.

Our June theme is **Fall Colors**. Photos can be submitted from **June 1 to June 20** to be featured in our September issue.

### Enter Your Photos And Win A Bill Credit!

To enter the contest visit [facebook.com/cherrylandelectriccoop](https://facebook.com/cherrylandelectriccoop) and click "Photo Contest" from the menu tabs. If you're not on Facebook, that's okay. You can also enter the contest at [cherrylandelectric.coop/photo-contest](https://cherrylandelectric.coop/photo-contest). Enter your picture, cast your vote, and encourage others to vote for you as well. 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.

Enter to win a  
**\$200**  
energy bill  
credit!



# Attend!

## Cherryland Electric Cooperative's 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting!

Thursday, June 21, 2018 • Incredible Mo's, Grawn

**Registration:** 4 – 8 p.m.

**Business Meeting:** 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**Evening:** Food, entertainment and education until 8 p.m.

### Inside Incredible Mo's:

- Buffet (pizza, pasta, salad)
- Bowling (16 lanes!)
- Arcade Games
- Special Guest:  
Willie Wiredhand

### Outside Incredible Mo's:

- Business Meeting
- The Michigan Stiltwalker
- Bucket Truck Rides
- Kids' Area (face painting)
- Cornhole (weather permitting)
- Raffle
- Selfie Booth

*All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who is a Cherryland member at all times.*

IN-PERSON  
**VOTING**  
AT THE  
ANNUAL MEETING  
ENDS AT  
**5:30 P.M.**  
ON JUNE 21.

## Your Board In Action

### April Board Meeting Highlights

- The board welcomed the candidates running for a board seat in the 2018 board of directors election to the beginning of the meeting. The board spent time answering the candidates' questions about the responsibilities of a co-op board director.
- Upon hearing a presentation about outage text message notifications, the board approved the addition of an outage texting service to the budget. The co-op will offer outage communications via text message to its members within the next several months.
- The co-op's general manager and member relations manager provided an update to the board regarding their recent legislative visit to Washington, D.C. Cherryland staff regularly meets with legislators to promote the co-op's federal legislative priorities.
- Cherryland's 2017 net margins were reviewed. The total amount of last year's margins to be assigned and allocated to members is \$3,790,472.





**Left:** Sam Shaffer of Concord knows that at the time of the summer solstice, magical things can happen. A kiss probably won't turn a fish into a princess, but anything is worth a shot.

**Below:** Janet Day of Clark Lake fishes one of Michigan's country lakes. The lakes are magical places where anything can happen.



GUEST COLUMN

# Anything Is Possible While Fishing In The Dark

Love or monsters: Take your pick.

By Andy Duffy, Great Lakes Energy Member

"You and me going fishing in the dark," wrote a brace of country song lyricists. My dad was a fan of the idea.

Dad grew up when white pine stumps remained from the logging days. Lakes were pristine. I don't know where he got his fishing knowledge, but he knew about fishing in the dark.

We lived on some derelict farmland perched beside a winding river. I was just a kid with a compulsion to fish. Dad told me to try fishing at night with a black, Arbogast Jitterbug.

I had the Jitterbug. My yard-mowing income saw to that. My empty tackle box compartments always outnumbered my full ones because I lost lures as fast as I bought them. Trees, old bridge pilings and rocks were anglers' adversaries, and they beat me often. Because of my dad's recommendation, though, I always had a Jitterbug.

So, one June night after the final rays of sunlight disappeared in the evening sky, I made my way down the winding path, between patches of poison ivy and snake grass, to the sandbar that lined the river. Mosquitoes descended on me. I swatted.

Still, I dutifully went about my fishing. I made a cast, and then another.

I had little room to fish. Upstream and down, the stream wasn't safe for someone my age. I was restricted to 30 feet of shoreline. So, I decided to make one last cast and call it a night.

In the dark, I could hear my lure, but I couldn't see it. When the plug was right at my feet, an unholy commotion shook my world. Water splashed. A maelstrom opened, and I thought it would suck me in. My heart leaped into my throat. My rod bent. Line zipped through the line guides. I realized I had a fish on. I played it in. It was a smallmouth bass, the first one I ever caught. The world became a magical place for me that night.

Today, Michigan remains an enchanted place. As the song suggests, the magic may come with falling in love in the middle of the night. Or, it might come as a raging monster surging from the water to devour a young angler. A person can take his pick: One type of magic is probably just as enchanting as the other.



A proponent of the bucolic life, Andy lives in co-op country in a rural area near Evart. There, he engages in a wide variety of outdoor activities including hunting, fishing and gathering.

## Country Lines Invites Members To Submit A Guest Column

Country Lines will pay \$150 for stories we publish. In general, great columns are those that talk about a significant or memorable event or person in your life, and the lessons learned. If we choose to publish your column, we will contact you via phone or email.

### Guidelines

1. Approximately 350 words
2. Digital photos must be at least 600 KB
3. Country Lines retains reprint rights
4. Submit your guest column at [countrylines.com](http://countrylines.com) under the MI Co-op Community tab
5. Please include a head shot photo and a couple sentences about yourself

Country Lines will pay **\$150** for stories we publish.

# Well-CONNECT Hybrid Geothermal

Add a Well-Connect in Hours. Heat for Half for Decades.

## WHAT DO OUR CUSTOMERS SAY?



"I'm above and beyond impressed with my Well-Connect. My bills are shockingly less than the same period last year."

Daniel M. - Manistee, MI



"We're saving \$1,500 per year and would recommend Well-Connect to anyone."

Roger and Judy R. - Atlanta, MI



"With a Well-Connect, we now fill our propane tank only ONCE per year vs. every 7 weeks!! Well-Connect also keeps our home cool and comfortable all summer. We love it!"

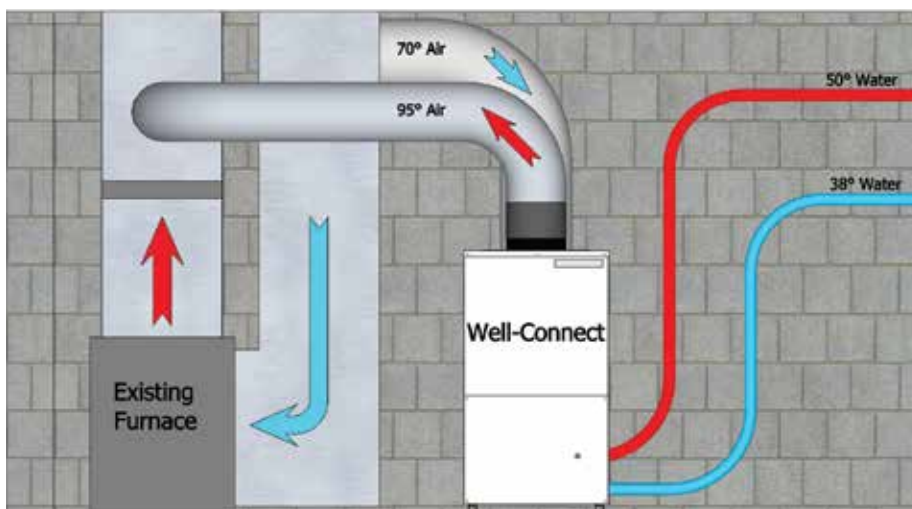
Steve & Miriam - Owosso, MI



## IT PAYS FOR ITSELF

The cost to finance and heat with a Well-Connect is typically less than your current heating cost.

## HOW DOES THE SYSTEM WORK?



Well-Connect **works in combination** with your home's current heating system. This hybrid approach allows almost any **existing well** to become a **free, clean energy** source for **heating and cooling** your home.





cherrylandelectric.coop



now  
powered by  
**56%**  
carbon-free  
energy

*raising  
spirits.*

That's a number you can toast to.

*That's the Power of Michigan Co-ops.™*

Learn more at [CherrylandElectric.Coop](http://CherrylandElectric.Coop)

