

September 2018

MICHIGAN COUNTRY LINES

Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association



Your Cooperative
Doubles Its Wind Power
With A New Resource

Board Elects
New Leadership

Sweet Bait For Fish
And Fishermen

BRINGING SPIRITS HOME

Iron Fish Distillery
Embraces Its Roots



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POSTMASTER: SEND ALL UAA TO CFS.

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Guest Column

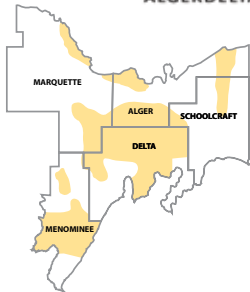
Country Lines
invites members to
submit stories.

Guidelines

1. Approximately 350 words
2. Digital photos must be at least 600 KB
3. Submit your guest column at countrylines.com under the MI Co-op Community tab

2018 International Project Postponed

The Bolivia electrification project featured in previous issues of *Michigan Country Lines* magazine has encountered an unexpected setback. Due to unforeseen in-country circumstances, the project will not be completed this year as planned. Michigan's electric co-ops are evaluating other potential international outreach opportunities.



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Alger Delta Cooperative *Doubles Its Wind Power* With Cost-Effective New Resource

Bishop Hill III Wind Energy Center Now Online

When Alger Delta Cooperative consumers flip on a light switch or plug in a device, they now receive more than twice as much of their electricity from wind power. The additional renewable energy is generated at the new Bishop Hill III Wind Energy Center located in Henry County, Illinois. Bishop Hill is operated by Invenergy, LLC.

“Not only are we adding more renewable energy to our power supply portfolio with Bishop Hill III,” said Tom Harrell, Alger Delta’s CEO, “we are doing so cost-effectively.”

Alger Delta’s wholesale power supplier, WPPI Energy, entered an agreement with Invenergy LLC last summer to buy electricity from the 132-megawatt facility. Alger Delta is a member-owner of WPPI Energy and has a long-term power purchase agreement with the joint action agency.

Construction on the Bishop Hill III Wind Energy Center began in August 2017, and the facility began operating in May of this year. “We began looking a couple of years ago at whether new renewable resources could be a cost-effective addition to our power supply portfolio,” said WPPI Energy President and CEO Mike Peters. “Of the dozens of proposals we received, Bishop Hill III Wind Energy Center rose to the top as a project that is projected to lower our wholesale costs to WPPI Energy members over the long-term.”

The project also delivers environmental benefits. Not only does Bishop Hill III more than double the WPPI Energy membership’s use of wind energy, but when combined with the solar power from Point Beach Solar Energy Center, which is expected to come online in 2021, the project will result in Alger Delta achieving a power supply that is more than 22 percent renewable energy, nearly 40 percent emissions-free, and approximately 40 percent lower in carbon dioxide emissions than in 2005.

WPPI Energy will purchase the electricity from Bishop Hill III through mid-2040 in order to serve its 51 member utilities across Wisconsin, Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, and Iowa, including Alger Delta. The agreement represents WPPI Energy’s largest renewable energy purchase to date.

Board Elects New Leadership

Following Alger Delta's Annual Meeting on June 13, the board met to elect new leadership. Paul Sederquist (District 6—Nathan, White Rapids) was elected president; Dave Prestin (District 4—Cedar River, Palestine) was elected vice president; and Darryl Small (District 1—Big Bay) was elected secretary/treasurer.

Sederquist has served on Alger Delta's board for 29 years and is familiar with the president's chair, having held the gavel in the past. This is Prestin's second ascension to

an executive committee position and comes after more than four years on the board. Small previously served as secretary/treasurer and was re-elected to the position. Small has been on the Alger Delta board for just under 13 years. During their tenures, all three have served stints on the co-op's finance and rates, employee relations, and policy committees. Immediately following each year's Annual Meeting, the board holds a reorganization meeting to elect leadership.



Netzel Joins Alger Delta Board of Directors

Ivy Netzel was appointed to the Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association Board of Directors at their July meeting. Netzel represents District 5 (Gourley, LaBranche, and Cornell) and was appointed to complete the unexpired term of Dave Anthony who retired from the board in June. Netzel has also been appointed to the policy committee.

Netzel holds an MBA from Norwich University and a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and brings extensive experience in consulting and power plant operations to Alger Delta's boardroom. Netzel worked at several nuclear-generating facilities operated by We Energies in Wisconsin and ComEd in Illinois. "I'm excited to join the board at Alger Delta. As an engineer, I like to look at things and see what makes them work. I'm looking forward to doing that at Alger Delta and getting involved at the board level of a utility," she says.

The unexpired portion of the term runs until the next district election which is May 2019.

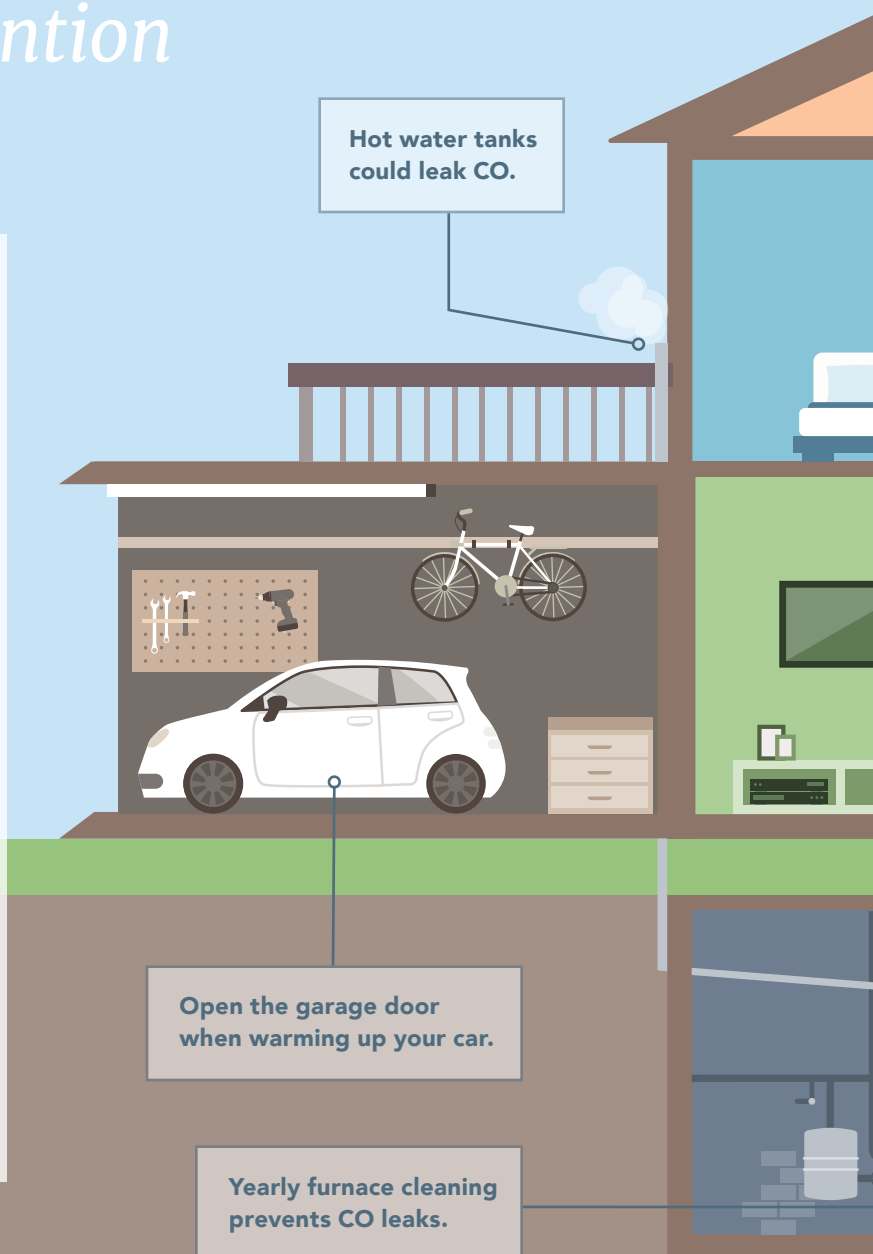
"As an engineer, I like to look at things and see what makes them work. I'm looking forward to doing that at Alger Delta and getting involved at the board level of a utility." —Ivy Netzel

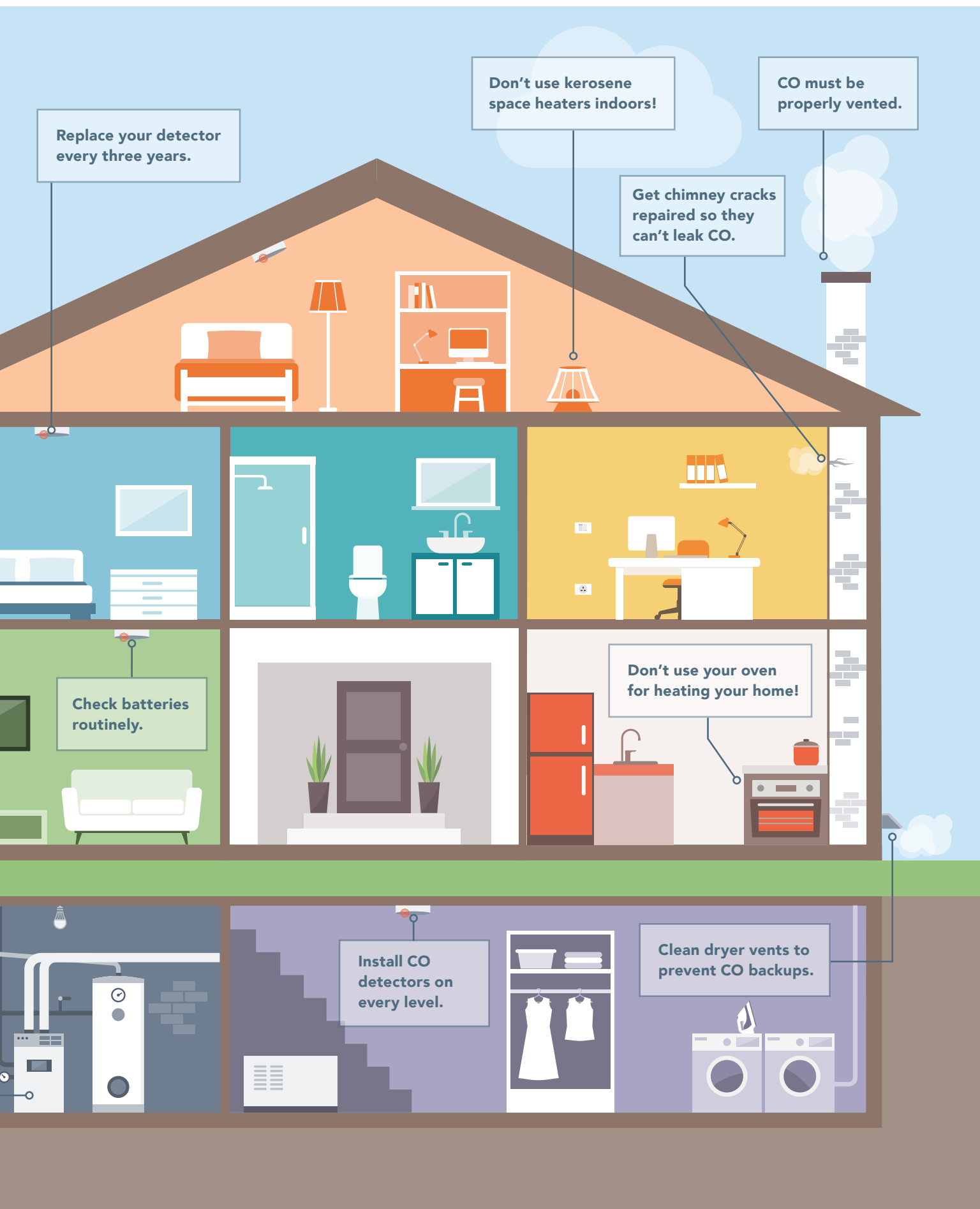
CARBON MONOXIDE

Causes and Prevention

CARBON MONOXIDE FACTS

- CO poisoning is responsible for 20,000 ER visits every year.
- ER visits for CO poisoning are highest in the midwestern states.
- CO is a colorless, odorless gas which makes it more dangerous since it is invisible to the senses.
- Symptoms of CO poisoning include: nausea, vomiting, headache, dizziness, confusion, chest pain, and decreased level of consciousness.
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Replace your detector every three years.

Don't use kerosene space heaters indoors!

CO must be properly vented.

Get chimney cracks repaired so they can't leak CO.

Check batteries routinely.

Don't use your oven for heating your home!

Install CO detectors on every level.

Clean dryer vents to prevent CO backups.

Get Cozy And Save Energy

Cooler weather is on the way. Now is the time to take action and upgrade your outdated, inefficient furnace. Doing so will help you save energy and money for years to come, and also ensure consistent, evenly-distributed air throughout your home—improving your overall comfort.

Plus, cash incentives are now available from the Energy Optimization program!

HVAC REBATES

(visit michigan-energy.org for amounts)

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What is an ECM Motor?

An electronically commutated motor adjusts operating speeds, ensures optimal airflow, and uses less electricity—saving you energy and money.

If you can't afford to purchase a new furnace, replace your existing blower motor with an ECM to improve efficiency. Since the blower motor uses about 80 percent of the total electricity consumed by the furnace, switching to an energy-saving ECM can make a major impact.

Heat Pumps: Even More

Efficient heat pumps use electricity to move heat, rather than generate heat. Air-source heat pumps are the most common, and can reduce electricity use for heating by up to 50 percent. For homes without ducts, mini-split heat pumps are available.

Geothermal (ground-source) heat pumps achieve even higher efficiencies by transferring heat between your home and the ground. They can cost up to 75 percent less to operate compared to conventional heating or cooling methods. Consult your HVAC contractor for recommendations.

Buy a New Thermostat

Wi-Fi-enabled and smart thermostats help control energy costs by allowing you to program and adjust temperatures remotely, 24/7. Smart thermostats can program themselves as they "learn" your behavior patterns and desired temperatures.

Visit michigan-energy.org or call **877-296-4319** for additional energy-saving information and incentives.

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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.

get cozy

Alger Delta Sponsors School Program

On May 25 elementary students at Au Train-Onota School were entertained by "The Treasure Trove of Conservation Cave," an educational, pirate-themed show from the National Theatre for Children (NTC). NTC is an award-winning educational program that uses storytelling to put a fresh spin on learning and provides a number of resources for elementary schools. Alger Delta Cooperative and WPPI Energy provide these performances to schools at no charge, and this is the ninth year that the program has been performed at Au Train-Onota Public Schools.

This year's program focused on helping the next generation of consumers learn about what

energy and electricity are, the uses of energy, how energy is wasted and how to save natural resources. According to Beth Carlson, manager of mass market programs for WPPI, "We get such great feedback from educators about how effectively the program teaches students. Many times, the students take home what they've learned in school and share it with their parents. It's a great way to get the whole family involved in our energy efficiency efforts."

The tour season ran from mid-January through mid-May, and the actors performed 123 shows at 91 schools across the WPPI service territory.



SUBMIT A NOMINATION TODAY!

Michigan Country Lines is on the hunt for entrepreneurial movers and shakers to showcase in our March 2019 magazine. We know co-op members are awesome and there is no shortage of pioneers, innovators and leaders in our service territory. Featured entrepreneurial endeavors can be small start-ups, large operations or anything in between.

If you know a friend, neighbor or coworker we should consider, nominate them by December 31 at countrylines.com.

Self-nominations are accepted.



Cocktails And Drinks

Shake things up with these easy-to-make, boozy drinks.

Photos—Robert Bruce Photography

Mexican Sangria (pictured)

Mindy Aves, HomeWorks Tri-County

- 1 cup lime juice
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 bottles White Zinfandel wine
- 2 cups fresh orange juice
- ½ cup triple sec
- ½ cup tequila
- 2 cups frozen, seedless grapes (red, green, and purple)
- 2 cups sliced oranges or nectarines
- 1 cup sliced limes

Mix lime juice and sugar. Add wine, orange juice, triple sec and tequila. Chill until cold. Add fruit (may not need as much as called for.)



Watch a video of this recipe at
micoopkitchen.com/videos



French Blonde

Jan Updike, Cherryland

- 1 cup ruby red grapefruit juice
- 1 cup Lillet Blanc (available at larger liquor or wine stores)
- ½ cup gin (or less to make it less alcoholic)
- ¼ cup St. Germain elderflower liqueur
- 4 dashes of lime or lemon bitters
- garnish with a slice of grapefruit or another citrus

Mix all ingredients in a suitably sized pitcher. Chill if needed. Serve in a martini glass. Garnish with a slice of grapefruit or another citrus. Makes approximately 3–4 drinks.

Celery Sipper

Jodi Moelker, Great Lakes Energy

- 2 cups chopped celery, including leaves
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon celery seeds

In a medium bowl, stir together the chopped celery, sugar, water and celery seeds. Let stand, stirring occasionally until sugar dissolves. Chill, covered, 8 hours or overnight. Strain through a fine-mesh sieve. Transfer syrup to a lidded jar or bottle and store in the refrigerator for up to two weeks.

For an alcoholic version, throw in an ounce or two of gin. For a non-alcoholic version, use celery sipper liquid to flavor soda water, adding a squeeze of lemon if desired. Serve immediately and enjoy!



Fisherman's Punch

Arline Welty, Ontonagon REA

- 1 30-ounce bottle of 100% pure peach juice (no added sugar)
- 1 bottle (750 mL) dark rum
- 1 1-pint bottle (375 mL) brandy
- 5 ounces freshly squeezed lime juice
- 5 ounces freshly squeezed lemon juice

Punch: Chill the peach juice, rum and brandy. Squeeze limes and lemons. Pour all ingredients into a large plastic or non-reactive jug. Stir well to combine. Cover and place jug in the refrigerator to chill, at least 4 hours. If serving in a punch bowl, pour into a bowl over a large block of ice. Garnish with lime or lemon slices.

Ice Block (Optional): Wash and dry a rectangular cardboard milk carton. Cut off the top to create a rectangular mold. Pour filtered water to fill to 25 percent and add thinly sliced limes on top. Let freeze, and repeat process of adding water and limes, and freezing. This creates a block of ice with limes throughout, which looks nice in the punch bowl.



Holiday Favorites: due October 1
Pasta Perfect: due November 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

Enjoy this creative cocktail from Iron Fish Distillery. Their true passion is to offer customers the craft of soil-to-spirit distilling from a family business that cares about their employees, community and the living land. Every step of the process—from growing and harvesting non-GMO grain to cultivating native yeast, milling, mashing, fermenting, distilling, aging, and bottling—is done by hand at their distillery. Cheers!



Salted Maple Old Fashioned

- **Glass:** Rocks
- ½ Bar Spoon (¼ ounce) of maple syrup
- 2-3 dashes of aromatic bitters
- 2 ounces maple bourbon
- **Garnish:** 5 salt flakes and an orange twist

Build ingredients in glass, combine with ice, and stir until chilled. This drink also tastes great with Iron Fish Experimental Barrel Finished Gin!

Bourbon Whiskey Finished In Maple Syrup Barrels

Bourbon Whiskey: Iron Fish Distillery has some delicious local maple syrup, from the Griner Family Sugar Bush, that was aged in used whiskey barrels for months. Those whiskey barrels were then filled with a high rye bourbon and left to marry, resulting in a subtly sweet and deep flavor.

Black Label Bourbon: As the leaves began to fall, and while waiting for their own Iron Fish distilled whiskey to reach its prime, distillery staff came upon this spirit—a blend of corn, rye and malted barley in fired American oak barrels. The staff fell for it and gave it a trace of maple by finishing the spirit in aged whiskey barrels steeped in maple syrup. Settle in and enjoy this unique, thoughtful and distinct Bourbon—the beauty is in the contrast.

Both the Bourbon Whiskey and the Black Label Bourbon are available for purchase at Iron Fish Distillery.

Read the full story about Iron Fish Distillery, on page 14, and find this recipe and others at micoopkitchen.com.



Sweet Bait For Fish And Fishermen

By Yvonne Whitman

When Bob and CJ Kennard moved from Wichita Kansas to Channing, Mich. in 1997, they weren't exactly sure about their next steps. CJ's elderly parents needed some assistance and Bob, a retired firefighter, felt the couple had a blank slate for the future. After exploring several employment opportunities, a building that had once been the American Legion came up for sale in 2003.

"We bought the building because I was bored," Bob said. They originally considered opening a Laundromat, but when longtime friends Pat and Lorna Carey offered to help with starting a bait shop business, they bit. After some considerable remodeling to the 1920s building, Midtown Bait & Tackle opened in May 2009. It was just in time for the opening of walleye season.

With space in the back of the building, they started to consider other business options. "The BP gas station had been selling ice cream and stopped," CJ remembers. "It

left a hole in the community, and we said, 'We have to do it.' John Jilbert got us set up and we started selling cones." Selling homemade pies came about a year later when CJ started to explore the art of pie baking and began serving it to family and friends who gave her rave reviews. That's when selling pies with ice cream turned into the Back Room Bakery & Ice Cream Shop.

The first pie the Kennards sold was a pear caramel pie, and it remained their best seller for quite a while. Today, the shop sells 21 different pies, with Michigan Mix Pie ranking as their current best seller. Their Bacon Maple Cheesecake retains the title as the current top seller among the many cheesecakes served. To keep flavors interesting, the Kennards host a "tasting party," attended each spring by invitation only, to pick different pie combinations and to test new recipes.

While they both are good bakers, CJ says, "Bob makes a mean cheesecake and has perfected it to where his are better

"They are just the most giving people and are always willing to lend a hand to anyone who needs it. And, on top of that, their pie is to die for."—Deann Johnson

than mine. He has secret things that he does to them." Because CJ works full time elsewhere and Bob is running the bait shop, the baking is done in the early morning and evening. Locals know that to guarantee a pie, it is best to place an order a day or two ahead—although on any given day there are pies for sale.

It's important to get there early as pies are usually sold out by noon. "We sell as many as we bake every day," Bob says.

Along with their retail business, the Kennards have catered the dessert for seven weddings. "Can you imagine the parents of the bride and groom when they tell them, 'We are going to get our wedding dessert from the Midtown Bait Shop,'" CJ says with a grin.

As if running a successful business didn't keep them busy enough, Bob and CJ are active in the community. Along with being involved in the town's Community Improvement Association, the couple hosts a Christmas dinner each year at the bait shop for anyone who is alone or would just like to come. "Last year we had 20 people attend," Bob recalls. "We had such a good time."

According to longtime friend Deann Johnson, "Bob and CJ welcome everyone into their shop and to Channing. They are just the most giving people and are always willing to lend a hand to anyone who needs it. And, on top of that, their pie is to die for." Deann concluded, "I would do anything for them."

It doesn't get much sweeter than that.

For more information, visit their Facebook page at Midtown Bait & Tackle and Back Room Bakery or contact them at 906-542-7080.



Ben, Robert, Maddy, and Aubrey Applekamp are frequent visitors to the ice cream shop. Each cone is always served with a gummy worm in the bottom of the cone. Any child who brings in a photo of themselves with a fish gets a free cone.

Michigan Mix Pie



Recipe for Pie Crust:

For one crust:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup butter flavor Crisco
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- Water

Mix the flour, sugar and salt in a medium bowl. With pastry cutter, cut in Crisco until mixture resembles coarse sand, with no shortening bits larger than a pea. Toss mixture with white vinegar, and then add water, one tablespoon at a time, until dough begins to hold together and all flour is slightly moistened. Gather dough into a ball, and wrap in waxed paper, flattening it to form a disc. Roll out within $\frac{1}{2}$ hour, and place in a 9 or 10-inch pie pan, turning under and crimping edge. Alternately, rewrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to two days, or freeze for up to two months. Makes one single crust; recipe can be doubled.

Pie filling

- $\frac{3}{4}$ c. sugar
- 3 tablespoon cornstarch

Mix together sugar and cornstarch together and pour over:

- 1½ cup blueberries
- 1½ cup tart pie cherries
- 1½ cup sliced apples
- 1 teaspoon almond extract

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. After tossing to coat fruit with dry mixture, place in unbaked pie crust. Cover with top crust, and cut slits in crust to vent steam. Brush lightly with milk; sprinkle with large (raw) crystal sugar, and dust with granulated sugar. Bake in preheated 425 oven for 15 minutes. Cover edges with foil, turn oven down to 400 degrees, and bake for approximately 45 minutes more or until filling begins to bubble. At that point, bake for 5 additional minutes. A crumb crust may be used in place of a top crust.



BRINGING SPIRITS HOME

Iron Fish Distillery Embraces Its Roots

By
Rob
Marsh

Every year Great Lakes steelhead return to their home in the Betsie River, running inland throughout northwest Michigan. Like these tenacious fish, the proprietors of Cherryland member Iron Fish Distillery in Thompsonville are returning the heritage of farm-distilled spirits back to the region.

Iron Fish is the only small-batch farm distillery in Michigan, but they are far from the first. "This area has a history of distilling small-batch spirits," said Richard Anderson, co-owner of Iron Fish. "Before Prohibition, there were plenty of people in this area distilling their own spirits on their farms."

These farms were a memory for Anderson's wife, Sarah, and her sister, Heidi, when they were young, spending their

summers visiting family in Benzonia. Heidi and her husband, David, later bought a seasonal home on the Betsie River, near the 120-acre farm that would later become the home of Iron Fish.

"It was a second-generation family farm that had been abandoned for a decade or so," said Anderson. "David and Heidi bought the land to save the farmhouse and barn and preserve the farm from being parceled up and sold."

While they enjoyed spirits, Anderson and his family didn't have plans to start a second career, let alone open a distillery on the property. It took a birthday trip to Scotland to give them the push they needed. "Touring distilleries in Islay, Scotland, we came across a farm distillery which really fed our passion for returning to northern Michigan to start our own farm distillery. That was when we began to take this idea that we could distill spirits seriously."

Within three years of returning from Scotland, Iron Fish became a reality.

From the beginning, Anderson quickly realized that they were doing something special. "Last year over Labor Day weekend, we just opened our doors. We didn't have the time to do a soft opening," said Anderson. "And within days of opening the tasting room, we sold out of our vodka!"

To date, Iron Fish has won over 10 national awards for their spirits, become the vodka provider for premium seating at Ford Field in Detroit, and started distributing their products to over 600 Michigan locations and throughout Chicago, Illinois. "It's going better than we thought," chuckled Anderson.

Iron Fish embraces their roots and takes full advantage of their farm's natural resources, using the property's grain for distilling spirits, growing their own cocktail garnishes in a bartender's garden, and supplying mash as cattle feed for local farmers. "We are a full ecosystem here. It's been our commitment to create a sustainable, working landscape."

This commitment to the land extends to their neighbors as well. In addition to hosting community and charitable events, Iron Fish partners with local farms and uses their products in Iron Fish spirits. "When someone drinks our white rum, they taste honey from Sleeping Bear Farms. And when someone drinks our gin, they taste sprigs of Concolor Fir from Antioch Tree Farm. We are perfecting the craft and art of distilling while giving back to our community."

Like the schools of steelhead working their way up the river, the people at Iron Fish Distillery are determined to continue the northwest Michigan tradition of distilling. All the while, they are supporting the land and the community who depends on it. 🐟



Iron Fish's four family partners, staff, and distribution representative gather to see their first pallet of spirits placed into statewide distribution. Iron Fish spirits can be found in over 600 Michigan locations as well as throughout Chicago, Illinois.



For more information about Iron Fish Distillery and to access a special coupon code for a tour of the facility, visit ironfishdistillery.com.

The coupon code is good for 50 percent off the cost of a tour through 2018, normally \$10. Enter CODE: **MCL2018** on the "Tour" tab of their website and complete the registration, by selecting the date, time and number of people.

Visit ironfishdistillery.com to book a tour.



Visit countrylines.com to learn more about Iron Fish Distillery and the craft beverage scene in Michigan on a special episode of the Co-op Energy Talk podcast, hosted by Cherryland Electric Cooperative.

Tips for a Safe Harvest



Harvest season brings hard work and can be an exhausting, but rushing the job to save time can be extremely dangerous (even deadly!) when working near overhead power lines. We urge farm operators and workers to keep the following safety tips in mind:



Use care when operating large machinery near power lines.



Inspect the height of equipment to determine clearance.



Always keep equipment at least 10 feet away (in all directions) from power lines.



Remember to lower extensions when moving loads.



If a power line is sagging or looks to be dangerously low, please call us immediately.

Source: SafeElectricity.org



Notice to Members Of Alger Delta Cooperative

Case No. U-16589 2017 Renewable Energy Plan Annual Report Summary

Michigan law requires all Michigan electric utilities to get approximately two percent of their power supply from renewable sources by 2012 and increasing to 10 percent by 2015.

Under this requirement, Alger Delta Cooperative submits an Annual Report to the MPSC regarding its Renewable Energy Plan. In 2017, Alger Delta acquired a total of 6,989 renewable energy credits. All credit transfers were directed through Alger Delta's wholesale power supplier, WPPI Energy. WPPI Energy will continue to generate renewable energy and bank unused renewable energy credits for future use and compliance with statutory renewable portfolio standard requirements on behalf of all of its members.

A full copy of the cooperative's Renewable Energy Plan Annual Report that was filed with the MPSC is available on the cooperative's website at algerdelta.com or by request at the cooperative's office.

Public Act 295 as amended by Public Act 342: The Clean Renewable and Efficient Energy Act

2017 Annual Energy Waste Reduction Report Alger Delta Cooperative MPSC Case Number U-18271

During 2017, Alger Delta Cooperative administered its Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) plan through the Michigan Electric Cooperative Collaborative in order to comply with PA-295. Previously, Alger Delta, through the Collaborative, submitted its EWR plan with the MPSC. This EWR plan was approved by the MPSC. The Collaborative implemented the EWR Plan during 2017.

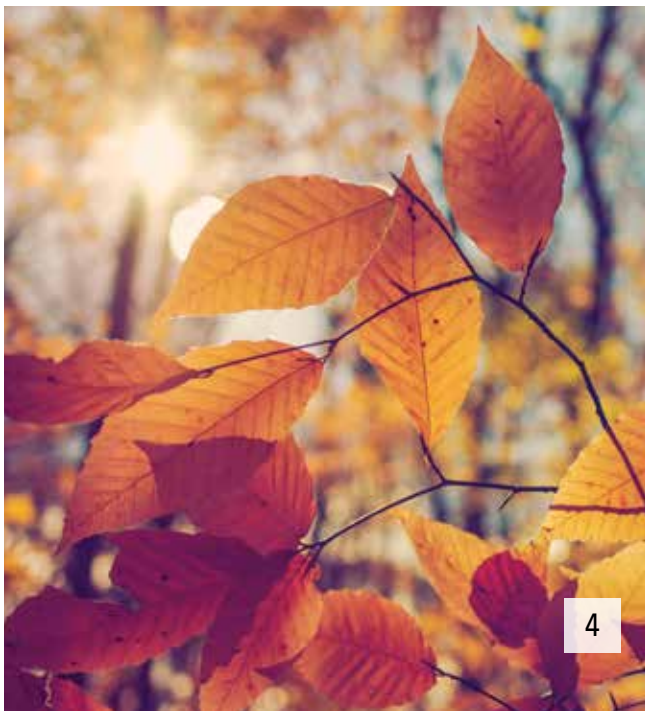
Overall, Alger Delta achieved a goal at approximately 120 percent savings. The full report can be obtained at your cooperative's headquarters.



Photo Contest

Fall Colors

1. "Murphy" blends into the fall colors. *By Kathy Sabel*
2. Fall colors at Dana Lake in Delta County. *By Sandy Smiley*
3. Rapid River Falls is one of my favorite places to just sit and listen to the water and the wind. Add the beauty of the fall colors and you have a place where all your senses can be fed. *By Wausnodaeqwe Debrann Holmes*
4. Sunshine through the leaves on a crisp fall morning. *By James Gonyea*



Share Your Photos!

Alger Delta invites members to share their amazing photos. Selected photos will be published in *Michigan Country Lines*.

Upcoming Photo Topics And Deadlines:

Celebrations, deadline: September 20 (November/December issue)

Cutest Kids, deadline: October 20 (January 2019 issue)

To submit photos go to <http://bit.ly/countrylines>

We look forward to seeing your best photos!

Guess this photo and enter to win a \$50 energy bill credit!



Where In Michigan Is This?

Identify the correct location of the photo above by September 20 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 July/August 2018 issue is Kevin Dubord, an Alger Delta Cooperative member, who correctly identified the photo as the Shrine of Bishop Frederick Baraga. He was also known as the Snowshoe Priest who became the first Bishop of the Upper Peninsula and the Apostle of the Great Lakes.

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

July/August 2018



Best Cider Mills

Between the cider, doughnuts, hayrides and corn mazes, cider mills provide a great day out for families. Enjoy a perfect fall day at one of these awesome cider mills recommended by your fellow co-op members.



1 Phillips Orchards & Cider Mill, St. Johns

Phillips Orchards & Cider Mill has the best cider, donuts, Michigan gifts and paintings. It's just about the neatest place to go. —*Marilyn Fitzpatrick, HomeWorks Tri-County*

2 VerHage Fruit Farms & Cider Mill, Kalamazoo

VerHage Fruit Farms & Cider Mill is by far THE BEST cider I have ever tasted! There are no preservatives and nothing added except real apples and sometimes other fall fruit. They also have homemade doughnuts, pick your own apples, shopping, music, hayrides, a zip line and more fun for kids at nominal prices. If you haven't been to VerHage Cider Fruit Farms & Cider Mill farm you need to go there! If you have...you already know what I'm talking about...They are open from the spring with all kinds of fruit and fresh baked goods through the holidays in December. —*Sue Gottlieb, Midwest Energy & Communications*

3 Klackle Orchards, Greenville

Klackle Orchards has something for everyone. You will not be disappointed by making a trip to Klackle! The donuts and cider are to die for. —*Shelly Dunn, Great Lakes Energy*

4 Friske Orchard & Farm Market, Ellsworth

Friske Orchard & Farm Market is a bushel of fun! Families love the outdoor orchard playland and the animal petting zoo, self-guided nature walk, you-pick fruit and festive events—many of which include live music and wagon rides! They also have homemade doughnuts and pies, a fruit stand, Michigan products and so much more! —*Walter Dorr, Presque Isle Electric & Gas*

5 Knaebe's Mmmunchy Krunchy Apple Farm & Cider Mill, Rogers City

Knaebe's Mmmunchy Krunchy Apple Farm & Cider Mill is as unique as its name. It's a great place to indulge in all things fall! Plus, [cider mill goers can find] great wood-fired pizza and craft hard cider. —*Gerry Baller, Presque Isle Electric & Gas*



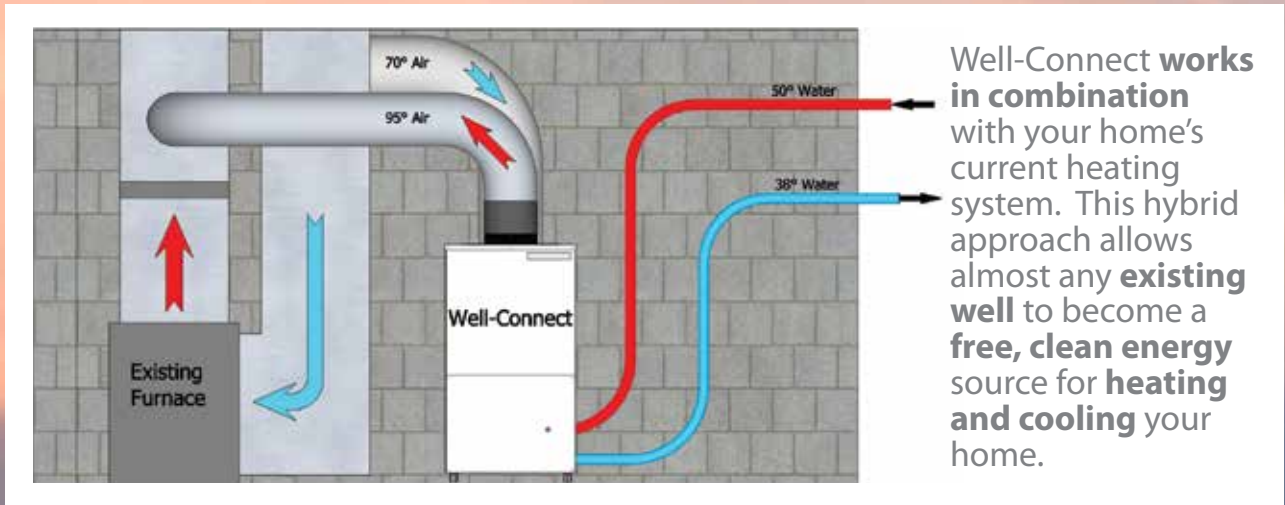
Best of Michigan

Up Next: Share your favorite Michigan snowmobile trails. Help your fellow readers explore some new places this winter. We will publish these trails in our Nov/Dec issue.

Submit your favorites at countrylines.com under the MI Co-op Community tab by October 1.

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DARRYL SMALL

DISTRICT 1 –
BIG BAY



KAREN ALHOLM

DISTRICT 2 –
HARVEY/DEERTON



MIKE LAWLESS

DISTRICT 3 –
GRAND MARAIS



DAVE PRESTIN

DISTRICT 4 –
CEDAR RIVER/PALESTINE



PAUL SEDERQUIST

DISTRICT 6 –
NATHAN/WHITE RAPIDS



KIRK BRUNO

DISTRICT 7 –
STONINGTON/RAPID RIVER



RAY YOUNG

DISTRICT 8 –
NAHMA/ISABELLA



DOUG BOVIN

DISTRICT 9 –
HIAWATHA/MAPLE RIDGE

Directors work for you and you alone.
That's the cooperative difference.