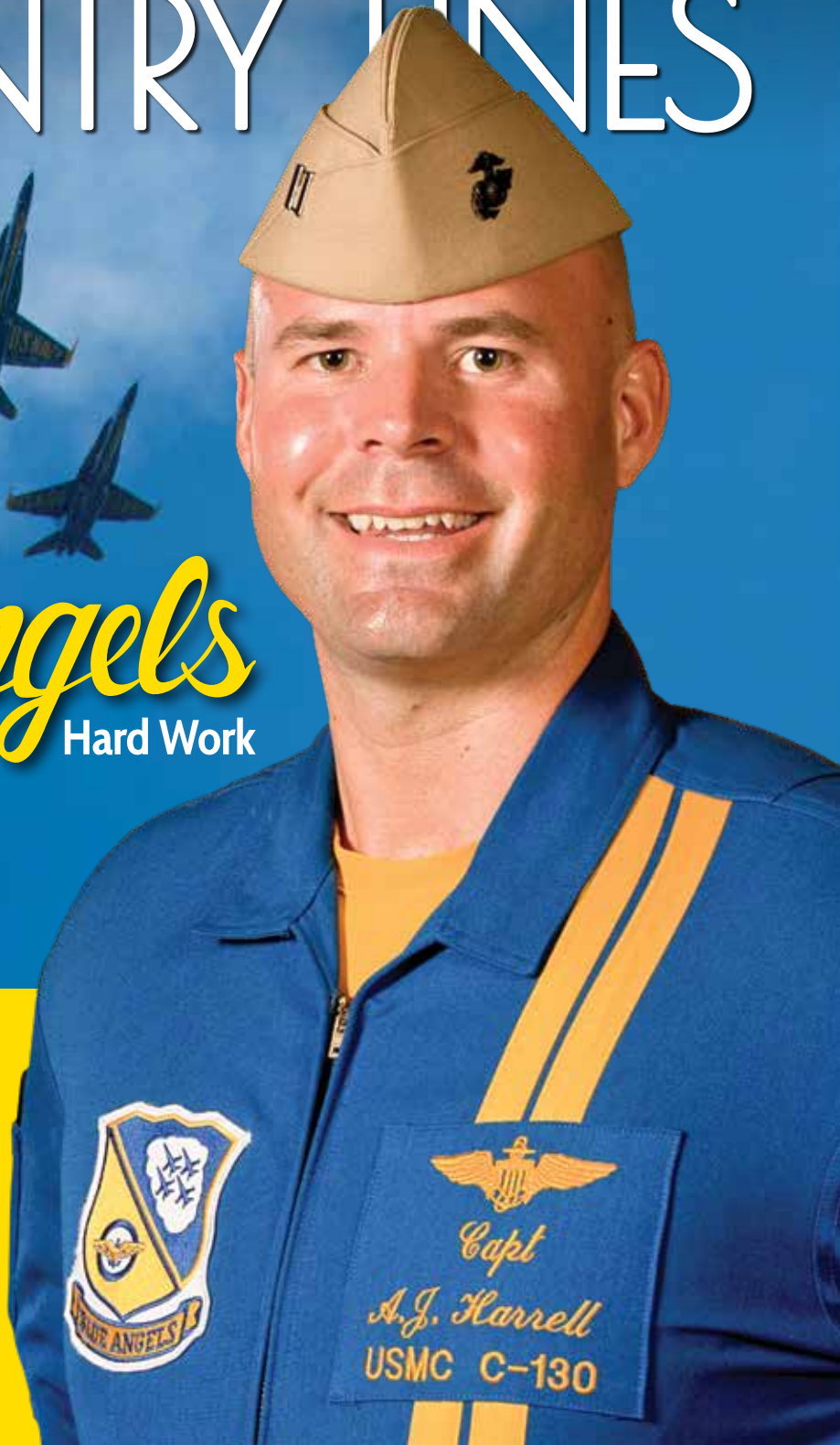


MICHIGAN COUNTRY LINES

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Plus!

- 4 Meet Your Co-op's Board Candidates
- 9 Special Board Meeting Set
- 13 Great Rebate Offered On A New Furnace



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POSTMASTER: SEND ALL UAA TO CFS.

Letters to the editor should be sent to Country Lines, 2859 W. Jolly Rd., Okemos, MI 48864. Phone 517-913-3531. Email: gknudtson@meca.coop.

Association officers are **Ken Swope**, Midwest Energy, chairman; **Robert Schallip**, Cloverland, 1st vice chairman; **Jon Zickert**, Cherryland, 2nd vice chairman; **Eric Baker**, Wolverine Power, secretary-treasurer; and **Tony Anderson**, Cherryland, past chairman. **Craig Borr** is president and CEO.

Unsolicited letters, photos and manuscripts are welcome. *Country Lines*, however, will not be responsible for their safe keeping or return.

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

Change of Address: Please notify your electric cooperative. See page 4 for contact information.



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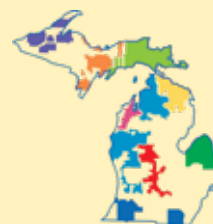
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Michiganian vs. Michigander,
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ON THE COVER*

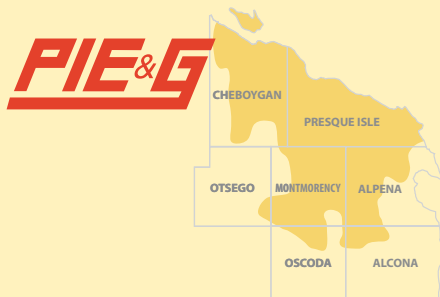
A.J. Harrell says it takes "endless practice" and hard work to become part of the Blue Angels team. He is the son of Alger Delta Electric Co-op CEO Tom Harrell, and performs flight demonstrations at the squadron's air shows.

Photos—U.S. Navy Blue Angels Public Affairs Staff

**Some co-op editions have a different cover.*



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Cooperatives
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Brian J. Burns

bburns@pieg.com

Most PIE&G natural gas rates and charges are not regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission.

Meet Your Candidates

Just like you, these candidates are member-owners of this co-op.

Your vote is important!

(See instructions on the cover wrap of this magazine for voting ballot and details.)

CHEBOYGAN DISTRICT



JOHN F. BROWN

Cheboygan

I live in the Indian River area with my wife, Carlene, and we have three children. I work as a partner in Brown's Saw Mill, have served as a PIE&G board member since 1993, and have been a member of the Co-op for 31 years.

The electric business is a big part of our world and it influences everything we do. As a director, the issues currently being discussed are renewable energy, climate change, future power supply, and the possibility of a power plant being constructed in northeast Michigan. I believe keeping the price of energy affordable and maintaining a reliable distribution system are important to all of us.

I would be honored to continue representing the members of PIE&G.



CHARLES (CHUCK) MAZIASZ

Cheboygan

I became a Cheboygan resident in 1968 after vacationing on the Black River at our family home, and then a tour of duty in the Marine Corps. My wife Dar and I still reside in the home where we raised our two daughters on Long Lake in Cheboygan County. Both daughters are married and we have three beautiful grandchildren.

My wife and I have had many business adventures during our 47 years of marriage. It all started with a Sears salesman job that led us to buying a Montgomery Ward Catalog Store in 1969. We successfully ran that together until Montgomery Ward went out of business. By then, Dar was running the Hallmark Store in Cheboygan. Thirty-four years later, we still own Dar's Hallmark and our grandchildren love to work there as a "fun" job.

I served as Aloha Township supervisor for 34 years, and am fortunate to have worked with members of the Barr family in making Aloha Township a wonderful place to live. I'm a member of St. Mary's-St. Charles Catholic Church and sit on their Cemetery Board, and also serve on the Long Lake Association and Conservation board.

CANDIDATES FOR CHEBOYGAN VACANCY (1-YEAR TERM TO FILL)



SANDY BOROWICZ

Cheboygan

My husband Harold and I have been PIE&G members for over 40 years and are lifelong residents of Cheboygan County.

I have a degree in human resource management and recently retired after

28 years as an account service representative with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. I have worked with many business, government and industry leaders in our service area and enjoyed providing a valuable and necessary service.

I have been involved with the Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce, served as a Junior Achievement instructor, been a religious education instructor, and have been an active member of the Cheboygan County Farm Bureau for over 40 years.

As a credit union member for over 44 years, I understand the cooperative philosophy as well as the business structure of nonprofit organizations. I want to continue to actively serve the people and communities of the northeast Michigan area, and I would appreciate your vote to allow me to do so as a member of the PIE&G board.



BRUCE BRANDT

Benton Township

I'm a lifetime resident of Benton Township, Cheboygan County, and worked the last 35 years at my family business, which I operate today. My wife Shelly and I raised three children on our beef and hay farm, and have been PIE&G members over 28 years. I served as Benton Township supervisor for 16 years

and serve as the Benton Township representative on the PIE&G Liaison Board. I volunteered with the Alverno Fire Department for over 30 years, and served on many other township and community boards.

I pride myself on being a hard-working family man, and enjoy being involved in and supporting Cheboygan and northern Michigan.

I look forward to using my experience to serve all PIE&G members and would greatly appreciate your vote.



BOB LYON

Forest Township

I was raised on our family farm (dairy and forest) in Forest Township, Cheboygan County. I started working on the farm at age nine, before and after school, seven days a week. I graduated from Onaway High and Michigan State University.

I was employed by Charmin Paper Products (Proctor & Gamble) for 24 years as an industrial electrician until the plant closed in 1990. Then I became a licensed electrician and worked for several contractors in the Cheboygan area until I retired. I now own and manage, along with my wife Sharon, a 560-acre tree farm in Forest Township. I have many different species of native trees, but have planted over 100,000 white spruce and red pine that I manage for use as utility poles, which is a 50- to 60-year process.

I would appreciate your vote for director of PIE&G.



KEITH SHUGAR

Indian River

I have been a resident of Indian River for 34 years. My wife and I have been married for 21 years, and raised six children.

As the owner of Brothers Tree Service for over 20 years, I have worked around power lines as an operator/truck driver. I also sat on the board at Cornerstone Christian School for one year.

I'd like to be considered for the board in order to bring new ideas to address member concerns and to keep electric rates affordable for everyone. Serving as a director would allow me the opportunity to look at alternative energy sources and implement programs that benefit the homeowner. I believe I would be an asset with my diverse background.



MARY TALASKE

Rogers City

I was born and raised in Rogers City and graduated from Michigan State University. I have been living in Cheboygan County since 1975, when I became the executive director of the Cheboygan County Humane Society. I still hold this position today.

Managing a nonprofit corporation has taught me many valuable skills, such as budgeting, personnel and resource management—all skills that I can bring to PIE&G. I am from northern Michigan, so I know and understand the needs of our community. I look forward to serving the members of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op.

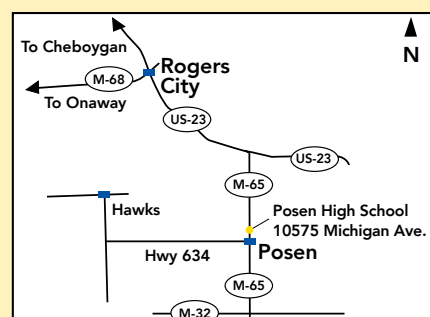
(Continued on page 8)

Don't miss your co-op's 2014 Annual Meeting

Posen High School

Friday, Oct. 24 • 10 a.m.

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. Lunch is provided



See you there!

\$100 prize drawing for voting by mail (see back cover for your ballot), with an additional **\$50** if you are present at the meeting!



SURVIVING A SNACK ATTACK

These recipes will satisfy just about every craving and can be enjoyed at home or on the go.

Toffee Butter Crunch

- 12 oz. box Crispix® or Corn Chex®
- 1 c. butter
- ½ c. dark Karo® or other dark corn syrup
- 2 c. pecan halves
- 1 c. brown sugar
- ½ t. vanilla extract



Preheat oven to 250°. Coat 9"x13" pan (or a large cookie pan) with cooking spray. In a small saucepan, combine butter, brown sugar and corn syrup. Cook until boiling. Add vanilla. Empty cereal into pan and coat with syrup mixture. Sprinkle with pecans

and toss until evenly coated. Bake for 1 hour, tossing every 15 minutes. Toss until cool. You can store these in jars.

Kathryn Southerland, Hillman

Baked Crab Rangoon

- 12 oz. flaked crab meat
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- ½ c. thinly sliced green onions
- ½ c. mayonnaise
- 24 won ton wrappers

Preheat oven to 350°. Mix crab meat, cream cheese, onions and mayonnaise. Spray 24 medium muffin cups with cooking spray. Gently place one won ton wrapper in each cup, allowing edges of wrapper to extend above sides of cups. Fill evenly with crab meat mixture. Bake on lowest rack of oven for 18 to 20 minutes, or until edges are golden brown and filling is heated through. Serve warm. Garnish with chopped green onions, if desired. 24 servings.

Janice Harvey, Charlevoix

Birdseed Bars

- 2 c. rolled oats
- 1 c. sunflower seeds
- 1 c. pumpkin seeds
- 1 c. sesame seeds
- 1 c. dried fruit (I use a combination of dried cherries, dried cranberries, and golden raisins)
- 4.25 oz. unsalted butter
- 6 T. honey or light corn syrup
- 8 T. raw sugar
- ⅓ c. peanut butter (creamy or crunchy)

Place oats and all seeds on an ungreased 9"x13" cookie sheet. Toast in oven at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. In medium saucepan, combine honey, sugar, butter and peanut butter. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly, for 5 minutes. In large bowl, combine fruit, toasted ingredients and wet ingredients, ensuring all dry ingredients are well-covered by the wet. Press mixture into a greased 9"x13" cookie sheet, cover tightly, and store at room temperature. When ready to serve, cut into bars or squares. Leftovers may be refrigerated, but always serve at room temperature.

Debbie Williams, Rapid City

SUBMIT YOUR RECIPE!

Thanks to all who send in recipes. Please send in your favorite **"Holiday"** recipes by **Sept. 15** and your favorite **"Ethnic"** recipes by **Oct. 10**.

Mail (handwritten or typed on one side, please) to: *Country Lines* Recipes, 2859 W. Jolly Rd., Okemos, MI 48864; or email recipes@countrylines.com.

Contributors whose recipes we print in 2014 will be entered in a drawing and *Country Lines* will pay the winner's January 2015 electric bill (up to \$200)!

Find more of our readers' recipes at countrylines.com

'Smart' Products Make Saving Energy Easier

Energy savings can be easy with some savvy shopping for power strips, thermostats and residential lighting. These are the most common products you can use to reduce energy costs, and with a little research, choosing and using them correctly is easy, too, says Brian Sloboda, a program manager specializing in energy efficiency for the Cooperative Research Network.

Programmable & 'Smart' Thermostats

There are plenty of programmable thermostat brands and types to choose from, but you won't find one that carries the EPA's Energy Star® seal, as it was dropped from these products in 2009. Why?

Programmable thermostats can save up to \$180 a year on heating and cooling, notes ENERGYSTAR.gov, but many customers miss out on savings by failing to install them correctly. "Most people failed to use the programmable capabilities. They didn't know how or didn't want to," Sloboda says. This led to poor EPA consumer surveys, so ratings dropped, and therefore the Energy Star seal for most of them.

Enter "smart" thermostats, which are intended as an easier alternative and come with motion sensors that detect and set a home's temperature. Nest® is one brand. "Sensors will start to turn the thermostat up or down, depending on the season," Sloboda says. In a few days, the unit will learn your schedule, automatically dialing the thermostat back when you're not home.

The addition of phone and iPad apps are other smart features that make temperature control easy. But, he adds, "A thermostat will only save you money if you allow it to program."

Interior Lighting

As of January 2014, a federal phase-out replaced incandescent lightbulbs with more energy efficient options.

Currently, there are only three bulb choices—halogen-incandescents, CFLs and LEDs.

The LEDs are the equivalent of the most widely used 60-watt incandescent, and are more long-lasting and energy-efficient, but Sloboda warns that the brand you buy matters. "There is a whole lot of junk out there. You can buy name-brand LEDs for about \$10 and more expensive



Nest® thermostat
Photos—Nest

ones from not-so-reputable companies." He recommends sticking with long-time brands such as GE® and Sylvania®, but says "don't overlook the lesser-known Cree® products." A 60-watt (800 lumens) Cree costs about \$10 at a big box store and is guaranteed to last 10 years or more.

Transitioning to LEDs is easy if you read the "lighting facts" on the box, which will help narrow your choice by temperature and color, which has nothing to do with wattage, and means you can choose bulbs with a "daylight" or "soft white" glow.

Smart devices are even now in the lightbulb aisle. Manufacturers like LG® and Philips® produce LEDs that can be controlled by your cell phone and change colors to suit your mood. "Today's lighting is really starting to become part of a home's entertainment system," Sloboda says. Many smart lighting units come with software that allows you to create different modes (party, romantic, reading or TV watching) with the flip of a switch.

With the new lightbulb standards, the Department of Energy estimates consumers will save between \$6 billion and \$10 billion a year.

Power Strips

Traditional power strips expand your number of outlets, but waste electricity by drawing power when they're not in use. Smart power strips are a better choice because they are bigger, color coded, and reduce energy use by shutting down power to products that go into standby mode.

Most feature three outlet colors, each with a unique task. Blue controls heavily-used devices, like a TV. Anything plugged into a red outlets stays on—electricity to these is never cut off—making them perfect for satellite boxes or units needing constant power. The remaining outlets, usually neutral or green, are sensitive to current flowing through the blue one, so turning off the TV or computer also cuts power to them. Some smart power strips (about \$20) even have occupancy sensors and timers that can determine when to cut power to various devices, and you can start to see a payback in about one year. ■



SmartThermostat iPhone

Meet Your Candidates *(Continued from page 5)*

MONTMORENCY DISTRICT



ROGER FUNK

Hillman

I am a lifelong resident of Hillman, and a member of PIE&G for 41 years. My wife Karen and I have three children and four grandchildren. I have an associate's degree from Alpena Community College in engineering. I am a U.S. Navy veteran.

I retired from Wayne Wire Cloth Products as supervisor of the engineering department after 38 years of service.

As a recent retiree, I would like to give back to my community and serving as a PIE&G director is one way to do so. I have an understanding of electricity and engineering concepts. Therefore, I would appreciate your vote.



DAVID W. SMITH

Atlanta

I retired from the U. S. Coast Guard, live near Atlanta, have a master's degree in engineering, have been a member of PIE&G since 1994, and have served on the PIE&G board for 12 years. I'm very active in community affairs.

My thoughts on being a director: I'd like to contribute my leadership and decision making skills, as well as my budgeting, planning and engineering experience to best serve the members. Having all 35,000+ co-op member-owners meet each time it's necessary to determine issues or direct the management team wouldn't work. Instead, the members elect directors they trust to represent them fairly, speak on their behalf, and direct the staff to provide the best choice for safe, economical power and gas services. I am best suited to meet that responsibility.

PRESQUE ISLE DISTRICT



ALLAN BERG

Belknap Township

Allan was elected to the PIE&G board in 2008 and is a lifelong resident of Presque Isle County. Allan receives residential electric, seasonal electric, and natural gas service through PIE&G. He believes the availability of energy and energy costs are very important

in our lives. "We need to ensure that management is making good, efficient decisions to combat the rising cost of energy and keep it affordable for the citizens of the community," says Allan.

Allan holds a bachelor's in accounting, a master's in administration, and three state licenses. He has over 10 years of government experience, including 10 years as Belknap Township supervisor, and works with many local townships throughout the district providing property tax administration services.

Together with his work experience and educational background, Allan will bring good leadership decisions to keep PIE&G innovative and strive to deliver low cost energy to the membership.



RONALD HORROCKS

Onaway

As a life-long resident of Presque Isle County, I have been actively involved in many community organizations throughout the area such as the Onaway Area School Board, Onaway Area Federal Credit Union Board of Directors, Onaway City Commission, Onaway Area Chamber of Commerce, Presque Isle County Historical Museum, and the Onaway Historical Museum. I feel that my knowledge and experience would be an asset to the PIE&G board.

In our northern Michigan area, the legacy and purpose of the 1934 REA act still lives on. I will do my best to keep northern Michigan energized. Please cast your vote on the attached ballot for Ron Horrocks, Presque Isle District. Thanks for your support.

Natural Gas Rates Returning to Previous Level

Much of the Midwest experienced prolonged frigid temperatures last winter, which averaged about 20 percent colder than normal for the region and resulted in higher market prices for heating fuel. Like other natural gas utilities, it was necessary for PIE&G to acquire additional volumes of natural gas at higher costs to meet increased demand.

PIE&G temporarily reduced the Gas Cost Recovery (GCR) in April from \$0.5417/ccf to \$0.461/ccf.

Effective with bills rendered in October, natural gas rates will be as indicated above. Note that only the GCR is changing, by returning back to the previous level of \$0.5417/ccf.

	Residential	Gen. Service	Industrial
	October 2014	October 2014	October 2014
Monthly	\$12	\$17	\$188
Distribution	\$0.4544/ccf	\$0.3203/ccf	\$0.2336/ccf
GCR	\$0.5417/ccf	\$0.5417/ccf	\$0.5417/ccf
Total, \$/ccf	\$0.9961/ccf	\$0.8620/ccf	\$0.7753/ccf

Notice to Members of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

A Special Board Meeting is set for Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. at the cooperative's Onaway office.

The board of directors will consider changes to the cooperative's rates and tariffs on Sept. 29, 2014, at its meeting to be held at the cooperative office at 19831 M-68 Highway, Onaway, Mich. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. and is open to all members of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op.

The session will begin with an opportunity for members to provide direct input to the board of directors. Time constraints on each member's comments will be at the discretion of the board president, but members are asked to keep comments to less than 5 minutes.

Any interested member may attend and participate. *The location of the meeting site is accessible, including handicapped parking.* Persons needing any accommodation to participate should contact Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op at 800-423-6634 a week in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. Comments may also be made before the meeting date by calling Chief Executive Officer Brian Burns at 800-423-6634, or by email at bburns@pieg.com.

The following items will be considered:

1. Establish the 2015 Power Supply Cost Recovery Factor, to be applied to the cooperative's retail member-consumers' kilowatt-hour use. The Power Supply Cost Recovery Factor represents the power supply costs as established by the cooperative in conjunction with Wolverine Power Cooperative. The factor is established annually, and reviewed monthly.
2. Revisions to the cooperative's billing rules.

If approved, notice of changes or additions to the cooperative's rates or service rules shall be sent to all members, as required by P.A. 167, by first class mail or by publication in *Michigan Country Lines* at least 30 days prior to their effective date.

Public Act 295: The Clean Renewable and Efficient Energy Act

2013 Annual Energy Optimization Report Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op MPSC Case Number U-17372

Presque Isle Electric & Gas (PIE&G) contracted with the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association (MECA) to administer the Energy Optimization efforts in order to comply with PA-295. MECA filed a 4-year Energy Optimization plan with the MPSC on August 1, 2011, as required by PA 295. This EO plan was approved by the MPSC on November 10, 2011 and we began implementing the plan January 1, 2012. The Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation (WECC) was selected to implement all Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Programs, and the Energy Optimization website michigan-energy.org. WECC has subcontracted with JACO, Michigan Energy Options, Franklin Energy, Morgan Marketing Partners, and Honeywell to assist with the implementation of the EO Programs. MECA contracted with KEMA as the independent 3rd party evaluation contractor for the certification of kWh savings.

In 2013, PIE&G collected \$502,449 through the Energy Optimization Surcharge and spent \$425,955, resulting in an over-collection of \$76,494 which will be applied towards the 2014 EO Program delivery expenses and goal achievement. Presque Isle achieved 3,176 MWh of energy savings in 2013. For every dollar spent on energy efficiency programs, customers will save \$3 in avoided energy costs. The full report can be obtained at michigan-energy.org or <http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile>.

Fuel Mix Report

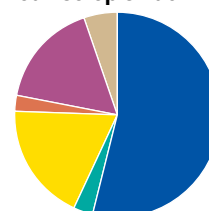
The fuel mix characteristics of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op as required by Public Act 141 of 2000 for the 12-month period ended 6/30/14.

COMPARISON OF FUEL SOURCES USED

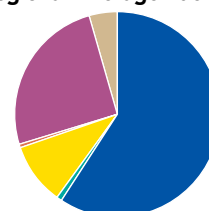
Regional average fuel mix used		
Your co-op's fuel mix		
FUEL SOURCE		
Coal	54.0%	59.4%
Oil	3.2%	0.6%
Gas	18.4%	9.8%
Hydroelectric	2.7%	0.6%
Nuclear	16.6%	25.4%
Renewable Fuels	5.1%	4.2%
Biofuel	0.4%	0.5%
Biomass	0.1%	0.5%
Solar	0.0%	0.0%
Solid Waste Incineration	0.0%	0.0%
Wind	4.5%	2.7%
Wood	0.1%	0.5%

NOTE: Biomass above excludes wood; solid waste incineration includes landfill gas, and wind includes a long-term renewable purchase power contract in Wolverine's mix.

Your Co-op's Fuel Mix



Regional Average Fuel Mix



EMISSIONS AND WASTE COMPARISON

TYPE OF EMISSION/WASTE	lbs/MWh	
	Your Co-op	Regional Average*
Sulfur Dioxide	4.9	7.6
Carbon Dioxide	1,504	2,170
Oxides of Nitrogen	1.8	2.0
High-level Nuclear Waste	0.0054	0.0083

*Regional average information was obtained from MPSC website and is for the twelve-month period ending 12/31/13.

Presque Isle Electric & Gas purchases 100% of its electricity from Wolverine Power Cooperative, which provided this fuel mix and environmental data.



Blue Angels

Fly on the Wings of Hard Work



A.J. Harrell decided early in life that he didn't want to sit behind a desk. Strapped into the cockpit of a C-130 aircraft, he now works at executing maneuvers at 400 mph and fighting G-forces that double his bodyweight, which pretty much takes care of that aversion to desks.

But Blue Angels pilot Capt. Harrell sees a mission beyond the roaring engines. "The folks at our shows see that I'm just a guy in the cockpit. I'm from a small town (Frederick, Md.), I went to college in the middle of nowhere (Anderson, Ind.). I'm proof that a job like this is not outside the grasp of the average person."

The Blue Angels, the U.S. Navy's flight demonstration squadron, performed at the 88th National Cherry Festival Air Show in Traverse City, July 5–6. Capt. Harrell, the son of Tom Harrell, CEO of Alger Delta Electric Cooperative in the U.P. town of Gladstone, flew his Marine Corps C-130, known affectionately as "Fat Albert."

Just before heading to Traverse City, Capt. Harrell came down from the clouds to talk to Country Lines about the Blue Angels. Like Harrell's achievements, the breathtaking precision of their flight acrobatics is the result, he emphasizes,

of hard work. To air show spectators, it's 48 minutes of magic, but in reality, he notes, "We practice endlessly; talent is not enough."

While the primary mission of Harrell's C-130 is to give the squadron logistical support, the plane is also part of the show. Fat Albert starts the action with an 8½-minute flight demonstration that showcases its tactical capabilities.

Flying in tight formations, the squadron's six Boeing F/A-18 Hornets reach speeds of 700 mph. Fat Albert chugs along at 400 mph. Between shows, the Blue Angels—named after a 1950s New York night club frequented by pilots—don't stand still, either. From mid-March to mid-November they typically travel to 35 U.S. towns, doing 70 shows for 11 million spectators.

Based in Florida, Harrell regrets being away from his wife and children so much. "I'm on the road 300 days a year," he says, but adds that 10 years in the Marines has taught him to accept travel as part of the job.

The automatic spending cuts triggered by the federal budget sequestration in April 2013 grounded the Blue Angels. Harrell's reaction? "Our season got canceled, but we were more concerned about our friends and coworkers in Afghanistan. It's one thing to not have air shows; it's a completely different thing to not have people who, due to budget cuts, are not as prepared as they should be going into combat."

The squadron was flying again in 2014, after Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel ruled that outreach is crucial to the military's mission.

Still on Harrell's bucket list: Landing a jet on an aircraft carrier. "I'm holding out hope," he says. ■

Opposite page: Capt. A.J. Harrell, 33, earned his wings in 2006, has flown in Afghanistan and on humanitarian missions, and applied to the Blue Angels in 2011. A Blue Angels pilot generally spends up to three years in the squadron before returning to regular duty.

Below: Capt. A.J. Harrell's C-130 is nicknamed "Fat Albert."

Photos—U.S. Navy Blue Angels Public Affairs Staff



Captain Harrell takes a selfie at Mach 3.



**STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
NOTICE OF HEARING FOR THE REGULATED NATURAL GAS DIVISION CUSTOMERS
OF PRESQUE ISLE ELECTRIC & GAS CO-OP CASE NO. U-17135-R**

- Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-Op (Presque Isle) requests Michigan Public Service Commission approval to reconcile its gas cost recovery (GCR) costs and revenues for the 12-month period ended March 31, 2014. The reported undercollection is \$757,471 and a total net undercollection of \$743,611 a portion of which has already been incorporated in Presque Isle's GCR plan and factor for the 12-months ending March 31, 2015, in Case No. U-17336.
- The information below describes how a person may participate in this case.
- You may call or write Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-Op, 19831 M-68 Highway, P.O. Box 308, Onaway, Michigan 49765, (800) 423-6634 for a free copy of its application. Any person may review the application at the offices of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op.
- The first public hearing in this matter will be held:

DATE/TIME: October 8, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.

This hearing will be a prehearing conference to set future hearing dates and decide other procedural matters.

BEFORE: Administrative Law Judge Theresa A. G. Staley

LOCATION: Constitution Hall, 525 West Allegan, Lansing, Michigan

PARTICIPATION: Any interested person may attend and participate. The hearing site is accessible, including handicapped parking. Persons needing any accommodation to participate should contact the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160 in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a public hearing to consider Presque Isle's June 18, 2014 application to reconcile its 2013/2014 GCR plan for the 12-month period ended March 31, 2014 for its regulated natural gas division. Presque Isle states that the Company experienced an undercollection (gas costs exceeded gas revenues) in the amount of \$757,471 with a remaining overcollection from prior years of \$13,860 for a total net undercollection of \$743,611 a portion of which has already been incorporated into its GCR plan and factor for the 12-months ending March 31, 2015, in Case No. U-17336. Presque Isle proposes to incorporate the remaining undercollection into its 2016 GCR plan.

All documents filed in this case shall be submitted electronically through the Commission's E-Dockets website at: michigan.gov/mpscedockets. Requirements and instructions for filing can be found in the User Manual on the E-Dockets help page. Documents may also be submitted, in Word or PDF format, as an attachment to an email sent to: mpscedockets@michigan.gov. If you require assistance prior to e-filing, contact Commission staff at (517) 241-6180 or by email at: mpscedockets@michigan.gov.

Any person wishing to intervene and become a party to the case shall electronically file a petition to intervene with this Commission by October 1, 2014. (Interested persons may elect to file using the traditional paper format.) The proof of service shall indicate service upon Presque Isle's attorney, Albert Ernst, at Dykema Gossett PLLC, Capitol View, 201 Townsend Street, Suite 900, Lansing, Michigan 48933.

Any person wishing to appear at the hearing to make a statement of position without becoming a party to the case may participate by filing an appearance. To file an appearance, the individual must attend the hearing and advise the presiding administrative law judge of his or her wish to make a statement of position. All information submitted to the Commission in this matter becomes public information, thus available on the Michigan Public Service Commission's website, and subject to disclosure. Please do not include information you wish to remain private.

Requests for adjournment must be made pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure R 460.17315 and R 460.17335. Requests for further information on adjournment should be directed to (517) 241-6060.

A copy of the Presque Isle's request may be reviewed on the Commission's website at: michigan.gov/mpscedockets, and at the office of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-Op. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Commission at the above address or by telephone at (517) 241-6180.

Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 300, as amended, MCL 462.2 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.54 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1982 PA 304, as amended, MCL 460.6h et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1999 AC, R 460.17101 et seq. August 1, 2014

How To Use A Generator Safely

Keep this page in your home's emergency kit or with your generator.



1. Never plug a portable generator into a wall outlet or your home's electrical system. There are only two safe ways to connect a standby generator to your equipment:

Stationary Generator: An approved generator transfer switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the electric co-op, should be installed by a professional.

Portable Generator: Plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator.

2. Set up and run your generator in a dry, well-ventilated area outside your home, and away from the garage, doors, windows, and vents. The carbon monoxide generated is **DEADLY**—install a CO detector in your home and check the batteries regularly.

3. Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.

4. Start the generator **BEFORE** connecting appliances.

5. To avoid a fire, turn off and let the generator cool before refueling.

Source: SafeElectricity.org

Developed jointly by the Energy Education Council & Rural Electricity Resource Council

Did you wear out your furnace last winter?

With another winter just around the corner, don't wait until the last minute. Purchase a furnace with a high-efficiency motor and get **\$150 back from Presque Isle Electric and Gas Co-op**. Rebates available at michigan-energy.org.

ENERGY TIP: Don't wait until your furnace stops working—shop now, avoid a rushed decision, and get a great rebate!

ONLINE: michigan-energy.org PHONE: 877.296.4319



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

IT'S TIME

Are You a Michiganiaan or a Michigander?

Based on the positive feedback on its debut, "Jack's Journal" looks to be a winner in the eyes of many Country Lines readers. So far, so good! The first column (May 2014) hit a nerve, however, as readers sounded off on my use of the term "Michiganiaan" over "Michigander." I chose Michiganiaan because words written and spoken infrequently tend to garner a bit more attention than "the usual." Little did I know just how much debate my choice of words would cause!

"I chose Michiganiaan because words written and spoken infrequently tend to garner a bit more attention than the usual."

Needless to say, Michiganiaan fans were overjoyed as a serious blow was struck against the villainous Michiganders. To any newcomers, let me explain the apparent identity crisis. A battle of sorts has raged for years about the proper way of referencing folks from here. I remember Michiganiaans debating Michiganders when I was a kid growing up in Detroit. So, what are we? Michiganiaans or Michiganders?

While surveys show Michigander to be the people's choice, research uncovered some interesting facts. Abraham Lincoln coined the phrase in 1848 while making

a speech as a member of Congress. Abe took a shot at Michigan Gov. Lewis Cass, who was running for president against Lincoln's Whig Party candidate. In his speech, Lincoln called the governor a "Michigander" in an effort to make the state's top man appear foolish, like a "goose." The term seems to have stuck, and the original use seems lost on us...Michiganders.

Before Honest Abe was born, "Michiganiaan" was used as far back as 1805. The Michigan Historical Society has favored it since 1870, when the term first appeared in its publications. Turns out, most women prefer "Michiganiaan" too, saying "Michigander" is a sexist and discriminatory term that essentially leaves women out of the picture by referencing the male goose (gander) only.

I could further muddy the waters by adding to the debate another popular moniker, "Michiganite," but I'll save that for a future column. Whether you're a Yooper or a Troll, hail from the Motor City or somewhere on the Sunrise side or Gold Coast, it's safe to say we like our nicknames in the Wolverine State, regardless of the name's bearing.

(Michigan hasn't seen a wolverine in a long time!)

Until next time, be kind and enjoy the Great Lakes State no matter what you call yourself!

Share a story idea with Jack by email to: jack@countrylines.com or write J. O'Malley, 2859 W. Jolly Rd., Okemos, MI 48864. ■



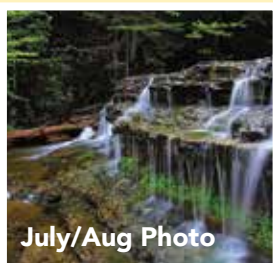
Jack O'Malley



«« Do You Know Where This Is?

Every co-op member who identifies the correct location of the photo at left by **Oct. 10** will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 credit for electricity from their electric co-op.

We do not accept Mystery Photo guesses by phone. Enter your guess at countrylines.com or send by mail to: *Country Lines Mystery Photo*, 2859 W. Jolly Rd., Okemos, 48864. Include your name, address, phone number, and the name of your co-op. Only those sending complete information will be entered in the drawing. The winner will be announced in the Nov/Dec issue.



Photo—Bill Savage

The July/Aug contest winner is Chris Rogers, a Great Lakes Energy Cooperative member from Grand Rapids, who correctly identified the photo as Au Train Falls.

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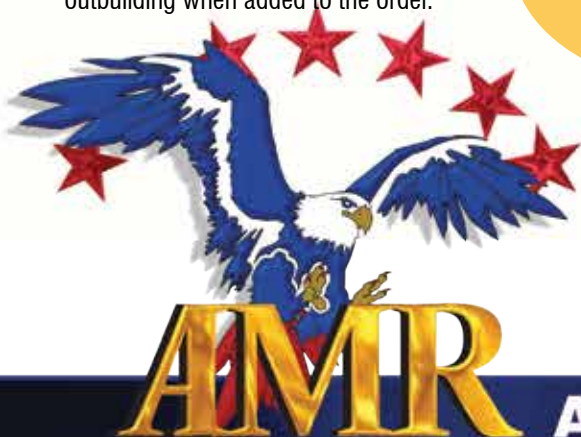
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