

# HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

*The Beacon*

MAY 2024



## MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 57  
Holyoke, CO 80734-0057



## STREET ADDRESS

1300 S. Interoccean  
Holyoke, CO 80734



**ph** 970-854-2236

**tf** 800-816-2236

**fax** 844-996-1318

**email** info@hea.coop

**web** hea.coop



facebook.com/HighlineElectric

**Our mission** is to provide our members with reliable, high-quality electricity and other needed services, which will improve their economic and social well-being and provide significant long-range benefits for our communities, our state and our nation.

HEA Offices Closed Memorial Day

**SUMMER HOURS:** HEA's Sterling and Holyoke offices will be open Monday–Thursday 7 a.m.–5:30 p.m. through September 27.



HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION  
IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY  
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



Touchstone Energy®

## Grow Your Summer Energy Savings

BY DENNIS HERMAN GENERAL MANAGER

One of my favorite things about summer is the opportunity for local, homegrown food, whether it's fresh, seasonal produce at the grocery store or the abundance of garden tomatoes and cucumbers that show up in the break room. It's amazing how just a few seeds, some fertilizer and water can turn into a bounty.

When I think about energy efficiency, I think about that bounty of food, and how with just a few simple actions, you can use less electricity and reap the rewards of energy savings.

You don't need to be a farmer or gardener to know that plants need water—just like you don't have to be a lineworker or engineer to know that adjusting the thermostat or turning off lights can reduce your monthly electric bill. In fact, if you read Highline Electric Association's publications regularly and follow us on Facebook, you know there are a lot of things you can do at home to save electricity and money.

Summer months bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. But why?



DENNIS HERMAN

Cooling your home accounts for a large portion of your monthly energy use, and the hotter it gets outdoors, the harder (and longer) your air conditioner works to keep you cool indoors.

There are several ways you can manage energy use at home, and below, we're providing a few tips that can help grow your summer energy savings.

But I'd also like to share a few ways we're here to help you save—not only during the dog days of summer but throughout the year.

One of the great things about being part of Highline is that we're locally owned by you, our members. So instead of making profits, we can focus on helping our community. That's why we've developed incentives and programs to help you keep your money in your wallet.

### Save money with these easy incentives:

- **Rebates** – Highline, in partnership with

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## 5 WAYS TO SAVE THIS SUMMER

When summer temperatures rise, so do our energy bills. Here are a few ways you can reduce energy use and grow your summer savings.

### 1. Raise your thermostat.

The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temp, the more you'll save.

### 2. Install window coverings

like blinds or light-blocking curtains to prevent indoor heat gain during the day.

### 3. Seal leaks with caulk and weatherstripping

around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.

### 4. Run ceiling fans

for additional cooling but turn them off when you leave the room.

### 5. Lower your water heater thermostat

to 120 degrees to reduce standby heat loss.



Source: Dept. of Energy

# ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

Thanks to everyone who attended the 86th Annual Meeting at the Phillips County Event Center in Holyoke. Approximately 400 members and guests were in attendance the evening of March 26. Attendees enjoyed winning prizes and eating a brisket meal catered by Happy Jack's located in Holyoke. We're excited for another great year at Highline Electric. Watch your CCL for next year's annual meeting date.



▲ Jim Lueck (right) introduces the board of directors and acknowledges special guests.



▲ Board President Mike Bennett (left) presents an electric smoker to the giveaway winner.



▲ The TV giveaway is presented to the winners by Board President Mike Bennett.



▲ The HEA Annual Meeting brings together neighbors and friends from across the service territory.



▲ (left to right) Attorney Levi Williamson, Secretary Merlin Prior, GM Dennis Herman, Board President Mike Bennett.



▲ HEA employees hand out reusable grocery bags to members.



▲ At the annual meeting, members enjoy dinner catered by locally-owned Happy Jack's restaurant.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES WHO OBSERVE AN EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARY IN MAY:

James Ziebarth.....	22 years
Jason Doleshall.....	14 years
Tammy Kroeger.....	12 years
Landon Shaffer.....	11 years
Jace Rhodes.....	8 years
Tyler Hase.....	2 years
Jaciel (Chino) Villalobos.....	1 year

## Grow Your Savings

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Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, offers multiple ways to give you money back for efficient equipment you purchase, like heat pumps and water heaters. Many of our rebates can be claimed by simply filling out a form. Find a list of all our rebates [www.hea.coop](http://www.hea.coop).

- **Recycle** – If you have an old refrigerator or freezer that's running but is not used much, it's costing you. Contact us to find out how to recycle it and receive \$120.
- **Free Energy Audits** – Our energy advisors can determine the overall efficiency of your home and help you with ways to improve it.
- **Take Control of Your Usage** – Use the tools available at [www.hea.coop](http://www.hea.coop), in the member services section to help estimate energy use for all of your appliances.
- **Rates** – Call our office and ask about our time of use rates.
- **Ways to Pay** – If you're having a difficult time paying the higher bills that come with increased used in the summer, contact us to learn about our budget billing.

Most people don't know everything about electricity, and that's why we're here to help you. There are no investors making profits here. Just knowledgeable people with local jobs, working for our neighbors to ensure there is electricity available when you need it. Contact us, and we can work with you to find more ways to save energy—and money.

### ATTENTION LOAD CONTROL PARTICIPANTS

**IRRIGATORS:** If you are signed up for load control for 2024, it begins this month. Control dates for all options include May 12-31, June 21-30 and September 1-10. If you chose 1A or 2A, this includes one day per week in July and August in addition to the above dates. If you chose option 3, this will be only one day per week in July and August.

# 2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



## \$1,000 HIGHLINE RENEWABLE (FOR 4 YEARS) SCHOLARSHIP



▲ Tayla Martin of Holyoke High School.



▲ Makenna Sutter of Merino High School.

## \$1,000 BASIN SCHOLARSHIP



▲ Wyatt Sprague of Holyoke High School.

Each year, Highline Electric awards scholarships to high school students. The following students from HEA's service territory are continuing their education at a two- or four-year institution or trade school. Scholarship applications are available in the fall. Watch CCL for more information if you are interested in applying for a scholarship for the 2025-2026 school year.

Congratulations to these deserving students!

## \$1,000 HIGHLINE SCHOLARSHIP FOR LINEWORKER SCHOOL



▲ Jerren Hunter of Holyoke High School.

## \$1,000 HIGHLINE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR A 4-YEAR SCHOOL OR UNIVERSITY



▲ Cassidy Goddard of Haxtun High School.



▲ Charlotte Kramer of Kramer Family Homeschool.



▲ Jaxson Samber of Merino Jr./Sr. High School.



▲ Carter Van Overbeke of Holyoke Junior/Senior High School.

## \$1,000 HIGHLINE SCHOLARSHIP FOR A 2-YEAR OR TECHNICAL SCHOOL



▲ Brock Miller of Haxtun High School.



▲ Madisyn Kay Serrato of Fleming High School.



▲ Kaitlyn Meisner of Wray High School.

## \$500 HIGHLINE/TRI-STATE SCHOLARSHIP



▲ Luca Pendleton of Sterling High School.



▲ Jordyn Strasser of Julesburg High School.

# LUCY'S PLACE: A MUST-VISIT STOP ON YOUR ROAD TRIP THROUGH SEDGWICK

BY JESSIE HEATH MEMBER SERVICES SPECIALIST

When heading out on your next road trip, make sure to include Lucy's Place in your itinerary. Tucked away along Highway 59 in Sedgwick, this hidden gem promises an experience that's worth the detour.

As you wind your way along the South Platte River Valley, Lucy's Place awaits atop a hill, offering not only a respite for the weary traveler but also a feast for the senses. The scenic views overlook the valley and create a serene backdrop for a dining experience that transports you back to a simpler time.



Lucy's Place green chile is a great addition to a burrito.

Under the ownership of Marian and Les Yoshimoto since July 2021, Lucy's Place continues to uphold its reputation for

delicious home cooked meals and mouth-watering homemade pies. Whether you're craving a hearty breakfast to kick start your day or a satisfying lunch to refuel, Lucy's Place is the place to stop. With a commitment to quality, Lucy's Place proudly serves locally sourced products, ensuring that every dish is fresh and flavorful.

Reviews from satisfied patrons praise not only the large portion sizes but also the consistently great food that Lucy's Place serves. Their menu features a variety of options, with their most popular items being the locally grown hamburger steak, chicken fried steak, and green chili.

Lucy's Place isn't just a stop for a delicious meal — it's also an option for special event catering.

Lucy's Place is open seven days a week, ensuring that no matter when your road trip takes you through Sedgwick, you can always enjoy a delicious meal at this charming establishment.

For those looking to indulge in something special, Lucy's Place offers all-day specials throughout the week, including Sunday



Lucy's Place cinnamon rolls.

pan-fried chicken, Wednesday Mexican food, Thursday hamburger steak or chicken fries, and Saturday prime rib. These specials are sure to tantalize your taste buds and leave you coming back for more.

So, when planning your road trip route, be sure to mark Lucy's Place on your map. Whether you're a food enthusiast, a history buff, or simply in need of a delightful break from the road, Lucy's Place in Sedgwick invites you to experience a culinary journey that will leave you with fond memories and a satisfied palate.

*Lucy's Place, 10646 Highway 59  
Sedgwick, CO 80749*

## Member Capital Allocation

Highline Electric Association is a not-for-profit cooperative. After expenses have been paid, remaining funds (margins) are allocated to Member Capital accounts. Member Capital is allocated based on the amount paid by each member. The co-op keeps a record of each member's capital account, which grows every year that you remain on our lines.



Revenues

—



Expenses

=



## Co-op Margins

Margins left over after expenses are paid are allocated to members as Member Capital.

## Funding Ongoing System Improvements

Sound business practices require HEA to operate with margins to maintain its fiscal health. HEA uses these margins, or member capital, to help pay for the construction and maintenance of its electric distribution system and to minimize the amount the cooperative has to borrow.



When its financial status allows, Highline Electric's board of directors can authorize the cooperative to refund or "retire" a portion of member capital in the form of Cashback Credits paid to the members. Cashback Credits checks are typically mailed in December.

## How You Get Cash Back Over Time

[hea.coop/capital-credits](http://hea.coop/capital-credits)