HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The Beacon

AUGUST 2022



MAILING ADDRESS

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STREET ADDRESS

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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.

SUMMER HOURS:

HEA's Sterling and Holyoke offices are open

Monday–Thursday

7 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



LOANS AVAILABLE THROUGH HIGHLINE

BY DENNIS HERMAN GENERAL MANAGER

ighline Electric Association, like all cooperatives, operates according to the same set of core principles and values. These values have been articulated in the Seven Cooperative Principles and include:

- 1. Open and Voluntary Membership
- 2. Democratic Member Control
- 3. Members' Economic Participation
- 4. Autonomy and Independence
- Education, Training, and Information
- 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- 7. Concern for Community

While each of these values is equally important, my focus today is on Highline's Concern for Community. While HEA's concern for the communities it serves is evident in several initiatives, efforts in the areas of economic development and energy efficiency stand out. HEA's participation in the USDA's Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program began over a decade ago when grant funds awarded to Highline provided low-interest loans to aid in the construction of the Crook Community Center and Fire Hall, and Melissa Memorial Hospital in Holyoke. As these low-interest loans were repaid to HEA, they established a revolving loan fund that has provided nine subsequent loans to diverse economic development projects within our service territory and remains as a potential source of funding for business loans going forward. HEA has once again submitted a successful application to the REDL&G program. Funds from our latest application will help the Haxtun Hospital District to construct a new clinic on Main Street. As the district repays this loan, a portion of the funds will go to increase the size of Highline's revolving loan funds. These recycled funds will stay in our community to further stimulate economic development.

HEA's commitment to improving energy efficiencies within our service territory

YOUR CO-OP NEWS

DENNIS HERMAN

is further evidence of the concern we have for the communities we serve. HEA's energy efficiency rebate program, coupled with the rebates provided by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., has provided our members with over \$100,000 in rebates over the past three years in support of the purchase of energy-efficient equipment. Rebates are currently available for qualifying equipment, including heat pumps, water heaters, air conditioners, irrigation motors, commercial LED lighting and Energy Star*-certified appliances.

The approval of HEA's application to the USDA's Rural Energy Savings Program provides another source of funds to our consumer-members who wish to make energy efficiency improvements. These low interest loans can be used to fund a range of investments in efficiency, including improved insulation, Energy Star-qualified window upgrades, insulated door upgrades, energy-efficient water heaters, Energy Star-qualified heating and air conditioning equipment, LED lighting and controls, and Energy Star-qualified appliance upgrades when attached to real property. The interest rates on these loans will never exceed 3% and loan terms can extend up to 10 years. Loan payments are incorporated into your monthly Highline bill, providing our consumer-members with an easy and convenient way to realize energy-efficiency improvements in your home or business.

HEA continually strives to provide resources and implement programs to improve our members' quality of life. Details of the opportunities discussed here can be found on our website at hea.coop or by calling and speaking with a member services representative.

YOUR CO-OP NEWS



New Director: David Carlson

avid Carlson joined the Highline Electric Board of Directors in June. David is a fifth generation ag and cattle producer who was born and raised in Sedgwick County and presently resides in Deuel County, Nebraska, on the family ranch. David attended Colorado State University for two years before returning to the family operation. He has served 12 years on the CHS Grainland Board of Directors, as well as serving as vice chairman of the William Stretesky Foundation since 2013.

David and his wife Billie have four children. Dalton, 20, Nolan, 18, Jaxon, 16, and Ryen, 14, all are very active with sports and school activities, along with helping out on the farm. As a family, they enjoy showing cattle at numerous shows around the country. They focus on breeding stock of many breeds but mainly show Maine Anjou heifers. David also serves as vice president of the Rocky Mountain Maine Anjou Association.

David was happy to learn he was chosen to fill the vacancy following the Board's interview process. "I look forward to representing the members of Sedgwick and Deuel counties. I feel it is important for Highline to continue to invest in our service and communities, while keeping our power as affordable as possible. As a director, I want to be available to any and all consumer-members and employees for questions or concerns."

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM UTILITY SCAMS



- Never give personal information to an unknown visitor or caller.
- Demands for payment by gift card or cryptocurrency should immediately raise red flags.
- When in doubt, call your electric co-op directly.

HEA IS CLOSED September 5 for Labor Day

PESTICIDE SAFETY

Please protect our employees

ur employees face serious health risks when they unknowingly enter a field that was sprayed with any chemical. Just as you would not subject your family or employees to risk, we do not want to subject our employees to risk. Please consider the following:



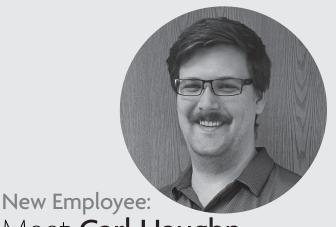
- If you used any chemicals on a field, please notify Highline.
 You may call the office or you can place a flag at the entrance to the field. Please note the day when it is safe to enter the field and what chemical was used.
- Notification signs or flags are available free of charge at any Highline office.
- If calling during in an outage, please notify Highline if the field was sprayed.
- The initial and long-term effects of absorbing chemicals in the body are extremely hazardous to one's health. Please don't subject our employees to these dangers.



Funds are being donated on behalf of Bryan Kroeger, husband of HEA employee Tammy Kroeger (pictured at center), who was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS/Lou Gherig's disease) in 2021. Not all employees who participated are pictured.

In the June edition of *Colorado Country Life*, we talked about Highline Electric's Walk/Bike to Work Day to benefit the ALS Association. Concern for community is a cooperative principle that HEA puts into action. On June 22, HEA hosted a walk/bike to work day and donated \$50 to the ALS Association for every

employee who participated. HEA is proud to report that employees raised \$1,450 to be donated to the ALS Association Rocky Mountain Chapter. With matching funds available through Basin Electric Cooperative, we doubled our donation for a total of \$2,900.



Meet Carl Haughn

Carl joined us on June 27 as the second IT Administrator.

Carl grew up in Washburn, Wisconsin, with his parents Gary and Karen and attended Washburn High School. Later he graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Stout.

Prior to coming to Highline Electric, Carl was a network security analyst for Bayfield County in Washburn.

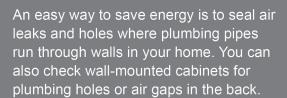
In his spare time, Carl enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, photography and video games.

Carl is "excited to learn more about the electric industry." Congratulations Carl, and welcome to the Highline family!



Congratulations to the HEA employee who observes an August employment anniversary: Jim Jackson, 3

Energy EfficiencyTip of the Month



Fill any holes or gaps with spray foam. Wear protective gloves and use a damp rag for cleanup.

Source: Dept. of Energy



YOUR CO-OP NEWS

Unclaimed Capital Credits
The following is a list of Highline Electric Association consumer-members who have an unclaimed capital credit. If you find your name on this list, please contact Highline Electric during business hours at 970-854-2236.

DEC'D. LEAVETA BREMER DEC'D. MAYNARD LANGE DEDO, DAVID DEE, LISA DEE, MELINDA DEHNING, LANCE DEMERS KARLAD DENBO, SPENCER & KELLY DENMAN TROY DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIR ERDELYI, ELIZABETH DERBY, I'NEANNE DETERDING, WILMA DEVEREAUX, SUZY DIAMOND OPERATING DICKINSON, JEANNETTE R DICKSON, ROSEMARY DIFT7 MFI DIETZ, SCOTT DILLEHAY, ALFORD DITTLER, KURT DIV, NEBRASKA NETWORK DIX. ROBERT DOBSON, DERRICK L DODSON, MYRON E DOMAN, JAMES A DONNELLY, IOLA DONNELSON, KARIANNE DONNELSON, KARL F DOOLEY, DEBBIE DORLAND, DAVE DOWELL, JOHN F DOWNING, ERIC R DOYLE, ANNA M DRACON, GEORGE W DRAGWAY, JULESBURG DREIER, LYNN **DUDDEN IMPLEMENT** COMPANY DUDEN, D SCOTT DUFFY, MIKE DUGHMAN, GORDON DULOHERY, MARY DUNCAN, RAYMOND T DUNKLE DALE DUNN, JON A **DUNN, NICHOLE & JEREMY** DURFEE, PAULA DUSENBURY, LINDA DYE, JOHN R DYKE, JACQULYN VAN DZINGLE, ALOIS P E, MOTOROLA C & EBEID, MOHAMED FRFI SAMUFI R EBERLE, MARJORIE ANN EBERT, CONLEY EBERT, TONYA ECKERT, CLAUDIA VATALARO EDMISTON, LARRY EDWARDS, DUKE EDWARDS, LANA EGAN. ALAINA EGGAR, RICHARD A EGGERS, YVETTE EHLERS, JONI FINSPAHR KFITH EIRING, JUNE EKMAN, FALIA ELK ECHO RANCH LLC ELKOURI, RANDY

ELLIOTT, GEORGE EMERY, STEVEN R ENERGY OIL & GAS INC ENGELKER, JAMES P ENGELKER, JEAN P **ENTERPRISES. KULBE** ENTERPRISES, SKAER ENTERTAINMENT, ADAMS ERICKSON, GERALD I ESKEW, JEREMY ESTATE, DORVIN E **SCHEPLER** EULER, DONALD EVANS, BRIAN T EVANS, JOE EVANS, VICKIE EVERHART, LARRY A EVERS. ANDREA EVERS, JAMES D EVINGER, GEORGE H **EWERTZ. CASEY EXCELL SERVICES INC** FACILITIES, RAILROAD FALCONBURG, DARRIN FANTASY FIBERGI ASS INC. GABLE BRIDGET FARLAND, WILLIAM & DEBORAH FARM CREDIT BANK OF **WICHITA** FARMS, BOGGS FARMS, BOHLENDER SOUTH FARMS, CSS FARMS, D-T FARMS, MIKE ROTH FARMS N&B FARMS, NEWTON FARMS, WARREN FARNER, KEVIN & CARRIE FARRAN, ERIC L FECHT, JEAN FELZIEN, MOREAN FENDER DENNIS FENNELL, Y J FEREBEE ALENE FERGUSON, MARY ANN FERGUSON, RICHARD N FERNANDEZ, JUAN M FERTILIZER, WENDELL'S FETZER, LEON FIELDER, KARLA FINLEY, PAUL D FINNIGSMIER, FRED FIRME DENNIS FIRST AMERICAN MORTGAGE INC FISCHER, GEORGE FISCUS, JUSTIN L FLESNER, MINNIE P FLINT, PAUL J FLOEN, MICHAEL FLOYD, RUSSELL FLUHARTY, STANLEY FOILES, CLYDE E FOLEY, GERALD & TAMMY FOOS, VELMA FORBES, MARILYN J FORD, MASON FORD, ROBIN

FORSYTHE, PEGGY L FOSTER, JOEL FOWLER, CHAD FOXHOVEN BANDAG SHOPLIC FOXHOVEN, MATT FRAKER, DEAN FRANK, LENNY OR LISA FRANK, LEROY FRANSON, JEFF & ANITA FREDRICK I GILLIS III FREELAND, JENNIFER FREEMAN, JOSEPH FREEMAN, STERLING COLE FREIGHTWAYS, PLATTE VALLEY FRIEND, SCOTT FRIES DOUGLAS FRISTROM, VIOLA FRITZLER, CHRIS A & **DAVID F** FRITZLER, HAROLD FUGATE, CINDY FULLER, JAMES R & KATHY S FURNISH, AUDREY D GAFFORD, CHRISTY GALE DAVID C GALLES, SHANE GALVAN, GUADALUPE GALVAN, LUPE GALVIN, KAREN GARCIA, DAVID GARCIA, GLORIA GARCIA. ISMAEL M GARDINER, GEORGE L GARDINER GREG GARDNER, JIM GARDNER, MARVIN GARLIECH, BRANDI GARLOW, DUVA GARNER, JARRID GARRETT, JERI L GARRISON, JAY D GARZA, J R GEISELHART, LORENE GEISERT, LOUISE **GELINAS. CATHY** GEMAEHLICH, DAISY B GEMAEHLICH, DON E GENEREUX, RICHARD C GENTRY, CHRIS H GENTRY, GARY B GEORGE, DONNA L GEORGE, OTTO L GERLACH, RAYMOND G GEROLD CORLEY GIAUQUE, HEATHER GIBBS, JIMMY & JEANETTE GIBBS, WAYNE GIBSON, KEITH D GIBSON, KIMBERLY GILLHAM, RONALD K GILLIAM. HOLLIE E GITCHEL, LEONARD U GITCHEL, WILLIAM OR BARBARA GLANZ, JERRY GLASSBURN, REBECCA GLEASON, BILL GLENN, KRISTEN

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HANSON, MATT

HANSEN, JOHN

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GLENN, TIM

FORSYTHE, PEGGY