

# LIVEWIRE

Sheridan Electric Cooperative - Medicine Lake, Mont.  
406-789-2231



## Mosser cross receives makeover

The Mosser cross, a highly visible and anticipated part of the area, received a makeover in March 2016. This cross, dedicated by Jim Mosser to the area of Fortuna, was seeing some degrading of the lighting that was originally installed. In 2003, the Mossers set aside a bank account, administered by Sheridan

Electric, for maintenance of the project. This makeover consisted of the removal of the lights and the installation of LED lights. Not only will these last much longer, they will also be much brighter. This cross is a donation to the area of Fortuna and a welcomed part of the scenery. ■

## Sheridan Electric launches new website

Sheridan Electric Cooperative has launched a new website. Not only does this website have some up-to-date technology, it also links important functions that can assist our members when they have a need.

This website will include many of the same functions the old site contained, and supplies some of the same information, but it has a whole new look, and is more user friendly.

Tasked with this project were Jamie Ator, an employee of Sheridan Electric, who put the site together with the help of Touchstone Energy®.

Jamie not only did an outstanding job of creation, she also did a very good job presenting the information to the team so they could understand and explain to members if asked.

In addition to this site, Jamie has added a link to the cooperative's new Facebook page which was created late last year.

The Facebook site keeps information in front of the membership when they use the page. This is not only updates, but outage information and weather information. Check it out and like us on Facebook.

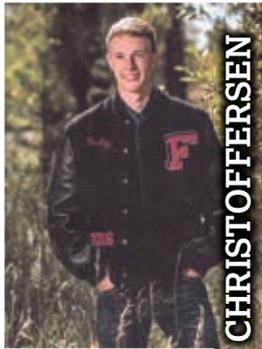
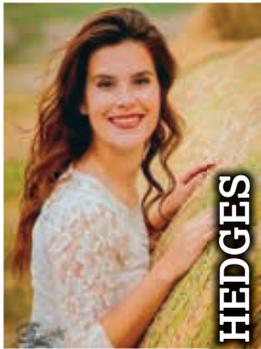
As always, Sheridan Electric is



here to serve its membership in the best possible way.

Please take the time to look the new site over to provide us some feedback. ■

# Scholarship recipients



continuation of the new program designed to train lineworkers and electricians through a scholarship designed to fully pay for tuition, books and tools for the duration of the two-year course. This particular scholarship does not have the stipulation that you have to be a member, but does look to support the young people within the service territory.

This scholarship is designed to combat the current shortages of lineworkers and electricians.

This year's Sheridan Electric scholarship recipients are:

## Nicole Kirby – Dagmar

Nicole has already earned her associate of art degree in Miles City and has recently transferred to Dickinson State University to obtain her bachelor's of science degree in elementary education. Nicole's goals are to finish school and return to northeastern Montana and obtain a teaching position within the area.

Good luck, Nicole.

It is that exciting time of year again when Sheridan Electric Cooperative awards scholarships to outstanding young people to further their education.

On March 22, the board of

directors approved \$1,000 scholarships to be awarded to the top six applicants. This year, the cooperative had 26 applicants for this scholarship.

The board also approved the

## Nominating Committees to meet in July

Each year, Sheridan Electric Cooperative holds Nominating Committee meetings in three alternating districts. This year, the seats up for election are in Districts 2, 3 and 5.

It is the membership's responsibility to contact the committee members if they have a nomination they would like to see on the ballot.

The current director for District 2 is Warren Overgaard. This district includes the area in and around Westby. The committee members for District 2 are Terry Ruggles (406-385-2327) and Russell Samuelson

(406-385-2636).

The current director for District 3 is Robert Rust. This district serves the areas in North Dakota. The committee members for District 3 are Ron Dahle (701-834-2426) and Roger Bloom (701-834-2404).

The current director for District 5 is Rick Hansen. This district covers the area from Culbertson to Bainville north to the Sheridan County line. The committee members for District 5 are Rick Davidson (406-963-2582) and Dave Clark (406-963-2523).

If you have questions pertaining to the district in which you or a possible candidate might live, please contact

Sheridan Electric at 406-789-2231.

Being nominated by the committee is one of two ways to get on the printed ballot. If the committees have already met and you would like to get on the printed ballot, then you will have to go through the petition process. A petition must be signed by at least 15 members, and delivered to the co-op five days before the annual meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the meeting. Please contact Sheridan Electric if you need more information or need assistance with a nomination. ■

### **Bailey Christoffersen – Froid**

Bailey has a goal to attend Montana State University (Bozeman) to pursue an education in bio-technology. This field targets fixing small problems that have large consequences.

Solving problems in famine-stricken countries or researching why bees are dying are a couple of the fields in this course of study.

Good luck, Bailey.

### **Mollie Simonson – Plentywood**

Mollie is looking to attend the University of Colorado (Boulder) and pursue a field of neuroscience and neurophysiology. She also goes on to describe a debilitating disease of Alzheimer's, which she has seen in family members. This is a noble course of action and we wish her all the best.

### **Rachel Juel – Scobey**

Rachel is currently attending

Montana State University majoring in biochemistry and minoring in astrobiology. She seems like a curious individual who will stop at nothing to understand and help mankind.

Keep up the good work Rachel, and good luck.

### **Victoria Obergefell – Plentywood**

Victoria is planning on attending Montana State University (Billings) to pursue her education in elementary education. She also states that she has had a great role model as her mother is also a teacher in the Plentywood school system. It is her plan to acquire her education and move back into the area and teach at the same school from which she graduated. Good luck, Victoria.

### **Risa Hedges – Antelope**

Risa's plans are to attend Montana State University (Bozeman) to pursue an education in optometry. Her bio is full of topics, interests and goals that

make up this outstanding young lady who will not accept failure or second best. We wish Risa the best of luck in her quest for securing her future.

### **Lineworker and electrician scholarships**

This was an exciting year for Sheridan Electric as we had four individuals apply for these two scholarships presented by your cooperative. Although only one from each category could be selected, all applicants showed a great performance when interviewed.

This year the electrician scholarship was presented to Adam Buxbaum of Culbertson.

This year the lineworker scholarship was presented to Keith Nordland of Froid. ■

## **Wanted, members to do some traveling**

Every year, Sheridan Electric Cooperative takes a couple of members, or employees, to the Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA) annual meeting in Great Falls. This is a great opportunity to participate in the Today's Members program designed for members or employees to learn more about the electric cooperative business and why it's so important for members to be involved. This program has been in existence for many years, teaching, showing and empowering members to be involved in their cooperative.

Are you the next member to take a few days and learn more about your cooperative? Board members and employees you know will be there so you will not be alone during this time. Yes, we do have some meetings that we want you to attend, but the rest of the time will be spent as you please.

The cooperative hopes that we have volunteers from the cooperative family to get involved in this paid trip to Great Falls to learn more about what really goes on within your cooperative in regards to education, power purchasing, legislative issues,

board decisions and overall performance of cooperatives.

Guest speakers in the Today's Members program, may include someone who you know from your cooperative already presenting informative material that you may have wanted to learn more about.

This year's MECA annual meeting will be held the Sept. 26-29. If interested in going to the meeting, please contact Sheridan Electric Cooperative and let us know. ■

# Lighting to be given away

In the spirit of efficiency, Sheridan Electric Cooperative is giving away compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) each month. Each month's winner will receive 24 new CFL bulbs. A CFL produces the same amount of light for less than half the cost. The bulbs also produce about 75 percent less heat, so they are safer to operate. They can also last up to 10 times longer than the standard incandescent bulb. You could save \$80 a year by switching to CFLs throughout your home!

So this month, take a moment to complete and mail the coupon. Maybe you'll be this month's lucky winner and save on your energy costs. Good luck! ■

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Account number: \_\_\_\_\_

*Congratulations to **Lawrence Damm** for winning this month's light giveaway.*

## Sheridan Electric Cooperative statistical report



	March 2015	March 2016
Total miles of line	2,849	2,833
Consumers billed	3,912	3,057
Kilowatt-hours purchased	11,570,500	11,253,163
Kilowatt-hours sold	11,724,932	10,564,829
Average KWH per residential consumer	1,457	1,240
Average bill per residential consumer	\$125.32	\$118.25
Cost of purchased power	\$528,303	\$411,202
Margins year to date	\$947,744	\$1,564,311

### LINE DEPARTMENT STATS

	March 2015	March 2016
Weather	4	2
Age or deterioration	0	2
Animals and public	1	2
Power supplier	0	0
Equipment	7	0

### SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED

	March 2015	March 2016	Year to date
Pole installations	13	20	53
New construction	2,759 ft.	19,924 ft.	22,116 ft.
Miles driven	22,592	22,761	67,628
New accounts	5	7	15
Accounts retired	0	4	10

### SHERIDAN ELECTRIC CO-OP

Medicine Lake, Mont. 59247  
406-789-2231

#### TRUSTEES

Wayne Deubner, President..... Brockton, Mont.  
 Rod Smith V. President..... Dagmar, Mont.  
 Rob Rust, Sec. .... Alkabo, N.D.  
 Kerrey Heppner, Treas..... Plentywood, Mont.  
 Alan Danelson, Trustee ..... Scobey, Mont.  
 Andrew Dethman, Trustee ..... Brockton, Mont.  
 Rick A. Hansen Trustee ..... Froid, Mont.  
 Warren Overgaard Trustee..... Westby, Mont.  
 Harlan Skillingberg ..... Plentywood, Mont.

#### EMPLOYEES

Rick Knick ..... Manager  
 Riley Tommerup ..... Office Mgr./Accountant  
 Scott Westlund ..... Marketing/Member Service Manager  
 Pam Lund ..... Billing Supervisor  
 Doris Wivholm ..... Bookkeeper/Billing Specialist  
 Jamie Ator ..... Accountant  
 Lisa Salveold ..... Office Assistant  
 Casey Brunsvold ..... Cashier/Receptionist  
 Torie Waller..... Work Order Clerk  
 Max Beach ..... Line Superintendent  
 Kory Opp..... Staking Engineer  
 Nick Oelkers..... Staking Tech  
 Tim Ereth..... Operator/Utilityman  
 Josh Johnson..... Electrical General Foreman  
 Tom Hinds ..... Electrical Foreman  
 Travis Benton ..... Apprentice Electrician  
 Tristen Ereth..... Apprentice Electrician  
 Will Monzingo..... Line Foreman  
 Ronnie Gillett..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Dan Roeder ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Shawn Sansaver..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Josh Marottek..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Bill Baillie..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Josh Ming..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Jim Bakken..... Material Specialist  
 Vicky Haddix..... Custodian

**OUTAGES • CALL 24 HOURS A DAY**  
406-789-2231

**OFFICE HOURS: 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**  
Monday through Friday

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative