

# MICHIGAN *Country Lines*

For the

## Birds

*Watching*

*Protecting*

*Feeding*

*"Shooting"*



4 A Better, Stronger Co-op

5 Neighbors Helping Neighbors

29 Dear Grandson



## Getting Better, Growing Stronger

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### ADDRESS

P.O. Box 298, Grawn, MI 49637

[www.cherrylandelectric.com](http://www.cherrylandelectric.com)

### TO SUBMIT A METER READING:

- 1) Call or use our 24-hour touch tone voice-mail hotline, ext. 207
- 2) E-mail your meter reading at:  
[CEC@cherrylandelectric.com](mailto:CEC@cherrylandelectric.com)
- 3) Fax your meter reading at: 231-486-9404

### PAY STATIONS:

Lake Ann Grocery  
Cherryland Electric office

**E**ACH YEAR, Cherryland looks at projects that need to be completed in order to make your electric delivery system better and stronger than it was the previous year. Our “storefront” is almost 3,000 miles of line stretched over 1,400 square miles of service territory. After more than 60 years in business, it is our responsibility to replace and/or upgrade different areas as determined in a long-range engineering study. Below, you will find a brief summary of our marching orders for 2007 that are part of 23 miles of improvements and \$1.9 million in capital costs.

• **South Airport Substation to Secor Sub Tie Line:** These two substations are miles apart but only a short distance from being connected together on our grid. We plan to install underground 3-phase wire from approximately Cass Road to Barlow Street along South Airport Road. This will require us to bore under the Boardman River. Currently, those two substations stand alone and members are out of power if either one goes down. This new section of line will connect the two and give us a backup source of power for both areas.

• **Karlin Sub, phase 1 and 2:** This substation sits on Schell Road in southern Grand Traverse County.

Phase 1 is a continuation of a 5-mile project started in 2006 that results in upgrading very old line while moving it out of farm fields and near the road. This will go from the sub to Jewell Road and is part of a long term goal of tying the Karlin and Thompsonville subs together for yet another area with backup energy readily available.

Phase 2 will take us 7.3 miles between Jewel Road and Faylor Road. We have had frequent outages in this section and some major destruction in the July wind storm. Part of this will also connect to the Copemish area, which will one day lead to having a third source of backup power in this area.

• **Thompsonville Sub – Lindy Road Reconstruction:** This project will cover our line along Lindy Road to Nessen City.



By Tony Anderson  
General Manager

This will go through the area that locals call the “Thompsonville Swamp,” as it is another area of very old line that basically got “blown up” in July. This is also another piece to the future link between substations at Copemish, Karlin and Thompsonville. If you were out of power but your neighbor was not, wouldn't it be nice to run a cord from the neighbor's house?

That is essentially what tying

substations together can do for us.

• **Lake Ann, 3-phase Upgrade:** This project will upgrade an old and often overloaded 7 mile section of single-phase line and convert it to 3-phase. This means that we will have three different circuits to spread the homes in that area over, rather than one. Imagine you and several hundred neighbors clinging to one rope over a gorge. Now, add two more ropes and you can see how much less stress is on the single rope and how traffic over the gorge flows much more smoothly. Electrons also appreciate the space and increased flow as they go down the wire.

• **Other Substation Upgrades:** Due to the age of the equipment and growth in the number of houses, our power supplier, Wolverine Power Cooperative, will be upgrading the capacity at the Lake Leelanau and Lake Ann substations in 2007. The best analogy I can think of here is a school bus. In the early life of these two substations there were just a few passengers, then gradually over the years they filled up to the point people were hanging out the windows and it was time to get a new, much-larger bus. Creating a larger bus that will hold the membership several years into the future is the goal of these two projects.

• **Summary:** There are a few other assorted projects spread around the remainder of our area. All are designed to make the system operate in a more reliable and efficient manner.

Getting better and growing stronger is a never-ending effort that is also tied to our fiscal responsibility of maintaining control on our rates as we continue to serve all of our members.

# Neighbors Helping Neighbors

This home-grown program helps many retired folks keep their independence. **Al Parker**

**W**HAT BEGAN as a casual conversation 15 years ago among three energetic women has grown into a multifaceted program that now serves the needs of many local senior citizens.

ShareCare of Leelanau is a unique service that provides convenient access to all types of programs, education and services that help aging members remain in their own homes and living as independently as possible.

With over 350-plus retired members, the program works on the philosophy that retirees want to remain self-reliant. But realistically, there are times when seniors can use some help. Help might mean a ride to the doctor, maintaining a yard, shoveling snow, fixing a plumbing leak, or maybe just a friendly visit from a neighbor to share a laugh. It's friends-helping-friends and community members reaching out to their neighbors.

And, it all began in 1991 when three friends—Cherryland Electric Co-op members Pat Bailey and Barb Coye, along with Virginia Willard—had a conversation about their upcoming retirement years.

"As we neared retirement, we all wondered about what services were available," recalls Coye. "So we planned a dinner party to share our questions with our husbands."

That casual dinner led to monthly meetings for the next year as the group researched local sources of assistance. "We saw problems with many of the services that were available for retirees," says Coye. "We'd have dinner and talk about these things. Everybody went out and got answers and we'd meet to discuss them."

After two years of work by 20 members, ShareCare of Leelanau, Inc., became a nonprofit organization in 1994. Following a number of county-wide presentations, its initial charter membership goal of 200 almost doubled. In its first 12 years of service, ShareCare has served over 800 Leelanau County residents and families.

## A Phone Call Away

Through a single phone call, ShareCare members enjoy easy access to a broad range of services delivered by experienced caregivers, local independent contractors,

and a network of caring volunteers who live right in the neighborhood.

For health care issues, ShareCare employs a full-time registered nurse, Anne Kelly, as care coordinator. She works closely with each member's physician and the health care providers they have chosen. Kelly also visits the member's home to help the family with care planning and can offer personal health care recommendations to meet individual needs. A registered nurse is available 24-hours-a-day to respond to requests for basic medical advice.

ShareCare also has an inventory of medical equipment that is loaned to members free of charge. Items include electric wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walkers, and bedside commodes.

Many ShareCare members also belong to Cherryland Electric Cooperative, so when there's a power outage, they work together to service their members.

"As a ShareCare co-captain for the Suttons Bay/Bingham area and as a Cherryland member, I know I can receive accurate and up-to-date information (power outage) about repair progress if I need it to respond to a member's situation," says Coye. "In a sense, I guess one might say ShareCare and Cherryland are 'partners,' as we are both concerned with the well-being of the members we share. During the December 'big snow,' our at-risk members were urged not to venture out but to stay snug at home and call ShareCare if they had a problem."

## Bringing People Together

Some of ShareCare's most important efforts involve bringing members together throughout the year. These are luncheons at which local professionals lead discussions about late-life issues. Other social functions include an annual dinner, a

luncheon to honor volunteers, and a craft fair that allows members to display their artistic creations.

At the program's heart are the volunteers who help transport members, run errands, help with handyman chores, gardening, providing hot meals, and a myriad of other



ShareCare volunteers gathered to do yard cleanup last fall.

thoughtful services to their neighbors.

"Volunteering is extremely rewarding," says Jay Littell, a ShareCare board member. "It's a real benefit, but not required of our members."

## Who's Eligible

ShareCare membership is limited to Leelanau County residents, who pay an initial tax-deductible membership fee and annual dues. In most circumstances, all adult members of a household are expected to join, but family discounts do apply. The earlier a member joins, the lower the enrollment cost and dues.

For example, for members under age 60, the membership fee is \$100 and annual dues are \$100. For ages 60 to 75, the fee is \$300 and annual dues are \$150. For full membership details, call 231-386-2273 or go to [www.sharecareleelanau.org](http://www.sharecareleelanau.org).

All volunteer and care coordinator services and neighborhood activities are included in the membership fee.

"The real beauty of this program is that it's all homegrown," emphasizes Coye. "It's neighbors helping neighbors."

# Cherryland Bulletin Board

## Community Caring Board Makes Awards

CHERRYLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S Community Caring Board made two awards at its December meeting.

The board gave two individuals a combined \$1,552 toward their bills.

The Community Caring Board takes money from Operation Roundup and gives 100 percent of the funds to needy individuals and organizations in northern Michigan.

Cherryland members "opt in" to Operation Roundup and then round up their bill each month to the nearest dollar. That money is then distributed by the Community Caring Board on a monthly basis.

To join Operation Roundup and help those in need, call Brenda Burrows at Cherryland Electric at 486-9266.

## Cherryland Schedules Blood Drives

THREE BLOOD DRIVES will take place at Cherryland Electric Cooperative in 2007.

The first is scheduled for Friday, April 13 from noon to 4 p.m. The second will be held on the day of Cherryland's Annual Meeting, Thursday, June 14 from 3 to 7 p.m.

The third is slated for Friday, Sept. 21 from noon to 4 p.m.

Any questions about the blood drives can be directed to Chris Holmes at Cherryland, who oversees them. Her work number is 486-9269.

## \$2,400 College Scholarship Will Be Awarded

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, whose parents or guardians receive monthly electric service from Cherryland and live in the cooperative's service area, may apply for a \$2,400 college scholarship (\$600 a year for four years).

Selection is based on extracurricular activities, community involvement, after-school employment and grade point average.

Applications are due by Friday, April 6, 2007. See page 28 for more details, application request, and contact information.

## Cherryland Electric Offers Adult Scholarship

CHERRYLAND ELECTRIC is offering a \$250 Adult Education Scholarship to one of its members.

The scholarship goes toward covering the cost of a course or courses taken in an academic year.

The scholarship will be awarded based on need, grades and community service. It is a one-time scholarship award.

Members may request an adult scholarship application by e-mailing Nick Edson with their name and address at [nicke@cecelec.com](mailto:nicke@cecelec.com), calling him at 486-9222 or writing him at Cherryland, 5930 U.S.-31 South, Grawn, MI 49637.



## You Can Serve On Cherryland's Board

ANY QUALIFIED CHERRYLAND Electric Cooperative member can be elected to serve on the cooperative's board of directors.

To be nominated in 2007, candidates should file a petition with the cooperative between March 1 and March 30, 2007.

No less than 25 active members of the co-op must sign the nominating petition, and all signatures must be obtained within 60 days prior to the date the petition is filed. Petitions must specify the geographic service area for the candidate.

The term of the office is three years and three directors are elected at each annual meeting. In 2007, three directors will be elected. One will represent Benzie, Manistee and Wexford counties. The other two will be at-large. Potential nominees must meet the qualifications for the office of directors as set forth in the bylaws under Section 2 of Article III.

Interested members are invited to visit the cooperative's office and learn about the duties performed by the directors.

## Teens Can Win Free Trip To D.C.



TEENS WHOSE PARENTS or guardians are Cherryland Electric Cooperative members are eligible to win a trip to Washington, D.C., this summer.

Four Cherryland teens will be selected to attend Teen Days in Cadillac in April, where they will learn about electric co-ops and mix with teens from other Michigan co-ops.

To be eligible, teens must be in 10th or 11th grade.

Two of the four teens will then be picked for a week-long, all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C., in June.

To receive an application, call Leah Olson at 231-486-9254 or write to her at Cherryland Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 298, Grawn, MI 49637. Also, see page 28 for more details.

# Do You Have An Emergency Plan?

Preparation enables us to minimize fear and loss of control to make sound judgments at a crucial time.

**T**HE NEW YEAR is here and we have all thought about ways we want to be better in 2007. We have probably already broken the resolutions we were so dedicated to a few weeks ago. There is, however, time to prepare for the yet unseen in 2007. It seems that daily we read about fires, tornados, hurricanes and other emergencies.

Yet, most of us still think it will never happen to us. Of course, the victims you read about thought the exact same thing; and they were wrong. So what happens if you turn out to be wrong? What if tomorrow's headlines are about you, your company or your community?

For example, what if a gas leak, fire or a tanker accident forced an evacuation of your neighborhood before you got home from work? Would you know where to find your family? Do you know the emergency plans of your children's school? Do you and your family have a plan?

Emergencies cause us to feel fear and a loss of control. Preparation for an emergency enables us to minimize those emotions and make sounder judgments at the crucial time. Evacuating a home or workplace during a fire is always going to be a terrifying experience. But if you've practiced evacuation and "know the drill," you're that much more likely to come through it with your body and mind in one piece.

Here are some tips that we as individuals can take to prepare ourselves to face an emergency at home:

**1.** Pack a disaster kit—twice. Keep one kit in the home and a miniature version in your car.

**2.** Create an evacuation plan of your home. Review it with your family and practice it at least once a year.

**3.** Designate an out-of-the-area relative or friend to be a contact—the family point person. If family members are separated during an emergency, they can call the point person and leave or retrieve messages.

**4.** Pick two meetings places—one in your neighborhood and one far from home in case the neighborhood is evacuated.

**5.** Talk to your children's schools about emergency plans. Make sure they have your contact information and know who is authorized to pick up your child if you can't get there yourself.

**6.** Coordinate with your neighbors. Learn who has technical or medical skills and who has special needs.

**7.** Teach everyone in the family:

- How to turn off the home's electricity, water and gas;
- How to use the fire extinguisher;
- How to get out in an emergency; and

■ Where to find the disaster kit.

Advance preparation can not only reduce the stress experienced during an emergency, it can also make you and your family members feel more in control of their safety. And during times of chaos, confidence and control often spell the difference between life and death.



*Tim Keenan is assistant safety director for Cherryland Electric Co-op*

## Geothermal Heat Pumps

**I**F YOU ARE PLANNING to build a house, or replace your heating and cooling system, you may want to consider a geothermal heat pump (GHP) system.

While residential GHP systems are usually more expensive initially to install than other heating and cooling systems, their greater efficiency means the investment can be recouped in two to ten years. After that, energy and maintenance costs are much less than conventional heating and air-conditioning systems.

Geothermal heat pumps system consists of indoor equipment, a ground loop, and a flow center to connect to the indoor and outdoor equipment. The heat pump equipment works like a reversible refrigerator by removing heat from one location and depositing it in another location.

The ground loop, which is invisible after installation, allows the exchange of heat between the earth and heat pump. The closed-loop systems use a water and anti-freeze solution, circulated in a ground loop of pipe to extract heat from the earth.

Water source heat pumps have been around since the 40s but in northern Michigan they started showing up in last 20 years or so.

Geothermal heat pumps (GHPs) use the constant temperature of the earth as the exchange medium instead of outside air

temperature. This allows the system to reach fairly high efficiencies (300-500%) on the coldest of winter nights.

As with any heat pump, geothermal and water-source heat pumps are able to heat, cool, and, if so equipped, supply the house with hot water. The ground heat exchanger in a GHP system is made up of a closed or open loop pipe system. The closed loop which contains high density polyethylene pipe is buried horizontally at 4-6 feet deep.

These pipes are filled with an environmentally friendly anti freeze/water solution that acts as a heat exchanger. In the winter, the fluid in the pipes extract heat from the earth and carries it into the building. In the summer, the system reverses and takes heat from the building and deposits it to the cooler ground.

The air delivery ductwork distributes the heated or cooled air through the houses systems. The box that contains the indoor coil and fan is sometimes called the air handler because it moves house air through the heat pump for heating or cooling. The air handler contains a large blower and a filter just like a conventional furnace.

By getting on Cherryland's interruptible dual fuel heat rate you could even save more.

Call me, Bill Garey, for more information at 231-486-9251.

*Bill Garey is Cherryland's energy use advisor.*



# Cherryland Offers Adult Scholarship

CHERRYLAND ELECTRIC Cooperative is offering a \$250 Adult Education Scholarship to one of its members.

The scholarship goes toward covering the cost of a course or courses taken in a calendar year.

The scholarship will be awarded based on need, grades and community service. It is a one-time scholarship award.

Members may request an adult scholarship application by e-mailing Nick Edson with their name and address at [nicke@cecelec.com](mailto:nicke@cecelec.com), calling him at 486-9222 or writing him at Cherryland, 5930 U.S.-31 South, Grawn, MI 49637.

# Student Scholarship

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS whose parents or guardians currently receive monthly electric service from Cherryland and live in our service area, may apply for a \$2,400 college scholarship (\$600 for each of four years).

Selection is based on extracurricular activities, community involvement and/or after school employment. A minimum required GPA is 2.75 on a four-point system. To continue receiving the scholarship, a student must maintain a minimum college course load of 12 credits per term or semester and receive a 2.5 grade point average.

Applications are due by Friday, April 6, 2007. Students may apply in three ways:

1. Complete the form below; or,
2. Contact your high school guidance counselor; or,
3. Call Nick Edson, coordinator of public/member information at Cherryland Electric, 231-486-9222, Ext. 222, or e-mail [nicke@cecelec.com](mailto:nicke@cecelec.com).

**Send to:** CEC Student Scholarship  
5930 U.S.-31 South  
P.O. Box 298, Grawn, MI 49637

## 2007 Student Scholarship Application Request

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cherryland Account # \_\_\_\_\_

# What Are "Teen Days" and "Youth Tour"?

THEY COME FROM all over Michigan to participate—sometimes willingly, but mostly encouraged by teachers, parents or grandparents—and they all end up having a better time than they expected. Always. Ask any past participant from your co-op. High school students who attend Michigan Electric Co-op Teen Days and the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., always declare they'd do it again if given the chance.

Participating Michigan electric co-ops, including Cherryland Electric, pay all expenses to participate in these programs. It is their way of teaching a new generation how a co-op business works, along with the importance of staying informed and safe around electricity, and learning more about our government.

● **Teen Days**, set for April 18-20, 2007, takes place at the beautiful Kettunen 4-H Conference Center near Cadillac. Activities include learning what lineworkers do, trying on their gear and climbing a utility pole (or trying to); touring Wolverine Power Cooperative to see how electric transmission is controlled electronically; watching a live TV 9&10 newscast; forming a mock board of directors; learning about co-op career opportunities; and plenty of time to socialize, play games, go hiking on wooded trails, eat great food, and have a lot of fun with new friends.

● Students chosen to attend Teen Days will automatically be considered to win a trip with the Rural Electric **Youth Tour** to Washington, D.C., June 9-14, 2007. With more than 1,400 students from electric co-ops nationwide, participants will see the sights and learn more about the history of the United States and electric co-ops.

Tours include the Smithsonian museums, the National Cathedral, Arlington Cemetery, a river boat cruise on the Potomac, the war memorials, and a visit to Capitol Hill to meet Michigan members of Congress and their staff.

Learn more about Teen Days and Youth Tour at [www.countrylines.com](http://www.countrylines.com). Click on "Youth."



Students gathered from across Michigan to participate in 2006 Teen Days.



The 2004 Youth Tour group poses on the steps of the U.S. Capitol.

Tyler Zubke climbs a pole in lineworker gear at Teen Days.



Marty Mugerian, Brittney Benjamin and Victoria Kowalczyk on "The Mall" in D.C.



## How to Apply

Request an application and return it to Cherryland Electric by April 6, 2007. You will be asked to submit a typed or printed letter with the following information: parents' or guardians' names; your grade level and age; activities you participate in such as sports, drama, band, clubs, etc.; your grade point average; any awards or honors you have received; and a brief explanation of why you wish to attend Teen Days.

For more information, call or write:

**Nick Edson**  
P.O. Box 298, Grawn, MI 49637  
231-486-9222  
E-mail: [nicke@cecelec.com](mailto:nicke@cecelec.com)



Nick Edson

## “Dear Grandson”

*A note to our readers:* Like many first-time grandparents, my wife and I are anxious about the birth of our first grandchild. This is a letter to our unborn grandson that we hope he will read someday.

**D**EAR GRANDSON,  
Of all the things I want you to know, this is the most important. You are loved by so many people.

Your mom and dad were thrilled the day they found out you were coming. In the months that followed, they fixed up a room for you and put everything in it you could ask for.

Actually, it was more than you could ask for because babies don't really need very much. They need someone to hold them, to change their diapers, to feed them and to put them to bed. In essence, they just need someone to love them.

That's where we are very much alike, grandson. The older you and I get, the more we realize that it just boils down to someone loving us. When your mom was born, I didn't know I could love someone as much as I did her. She made a good life a joyful life.

She made getting up in the middle of the night bearable. She made money seem unimportant. I lived for her smile and the first time she said, “Daddy.”

I loved the moments we shared together: Holding her hand and walking across the street. Pulling her in a red wagon while we went down to the corner store. Walking with her down the aisle when she married your dad.

I loved her when she won two events at the All-City Track Meet. I was even more proud of her when she took those medals and gave them to her best friend's

mother, who was dying of cancer.

I love your dad because he is a good, hardworking man who loves your mother with all of his heart. He is fun to be around, too. He and your mom are a good mix of hard work and humor.

You will be that way, too, Grandson. We tend to be like our parents. Some people might not think that's good, but in your case, I hope you are lucky enough for that to happen.

I pray for you to have a wonderful life. By that, I don't mean a perfect life. I know that isn't possible. But I also know we learn some of our greatest lessons when we get up after being knocked down. That's where your loving and supportive family comes in. No matter what you do, they will be there for you.

Your mom and dad learned that a long time ago. You will, too.

I also hope you learn to love God. He teaches us the basics in life, like how to treat people and where to turn to in times of need. He will always be there for you.

Your grandmother and I can't wait to see you smile and listen to you laugh.

We both agree that laughter is the sweetest sound that can fill a room.

So as we await your arrival, we pray that you are healthy. Then as you grow, we'll pray that you are happy.

You will be precious to all of us in so many ways.

We'll love you forever.

*Love,*

*Grandpa Edson*

## What Do You Get For \$1.91 a Day?

**I**F YOU'RE A TYPICAL Cherryland customer, you use about 700 kilowatt-hours of electricity each month, which works out to \$1.91 a day.

What else can you spend \$1.91 on to get so much work done? And at the same time, enjoy comfort and entertainment? Electricity works quietly for you 24 hours a day—so quietly you often forget its many services. Here's a reminder from a typical household's schedule:

**6:00 a.m.** Wake to soft music from your alarm clock/radio.

**6:15 a.m.** Relax in a hot shower.

**6:30 a.m.** Enjoy some hot coffee while you catch the weather on TV.

**6:45 a.m.** Use a hair dryer to make yourself look great.

**7:00 a.m.** Use the garage door opener and head to work.

**3:30 p.m.** Your kids get home from school, take a cold juice box from the refrigerator and microwave a bag of popcorn.

**4:00 p.m.** One turns on the TV, while the other uses the computer to send instant messages to her friends.

**5:30 p.m.** Come home, turn the oven on, and prepare vegetables to steam in the microwave.

**6:30 p.m.** The dishes are drying and you've put another load in the clothes washer. Turn on the lamp to read your mail.

**8:00 p.m.** Your turn to control the TV, with its satellite receiver and TiVo—what program will you watch while your other favorite is recording?

**11:15 p.m.** The weather reporter wraps up the forecast, so you go to bed, setting your clock for another wakeup call.

### You Can Contribute

By asking us to “round up” your electric bill each month to the next dollar, you give to the Community Caring Fund. It amounts to about 50¢ a month and, combined with all who contribute, gives \$\$-thousands to the community. Call 486-9266 to sign up.





# \$200 REBATE!

FOR CHERRYLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBERS ONLY. ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES ARE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFYING NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION.

## THE LAST WATER HEATER YOU WILL EVER NEED

Marathon is recognized as the leader in water heaters. Here's why:

- It can't rust or corrode because of its non-metallic inner tank
- It's guaranteed for the life of your house
- Heat loss is reduced with energy saving pipe wrap kit
- It has unmatched strength because of filament-wound fiberglass tank

*For peace of mind and unmatched quality, Marathon goes the distance.*



# Marathon®

WATER HEATERS



**Offer these features:**

### Plastic Tank

- Can't rust or corrode
- No smelly anode rod

### Lifetime Warranty

- Warranted not to leak, "for as long as you own your home"

### Envirofoam Insulation

- The most energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly electric water heater on the market!



**Cherryland Electric Cooperative** has teamed with **MENARDS** of Traverse City to pass on greater savings to our members!

For more information about the \$200 rebate, ask a Menard's team member, or call a Cherryland Electric member service representative at **1-800-442-8616**.