

# News FOR YOU...

**Barron Electric Cooperative**  
July 2019  
Photo by Heidi Morneau

## Beneficial Electrification: Efficient, Smart, Green

**B**efore you wake up, electricity is part of your day. Was your phone charging overnight? What brews your morning cup of coffee? How do your eggs and milk stay cold? Electricity.

Given all the ways we depend on electricity, did you realize the power supplied by Barron Electric is becoming greener? About 20 percent of electricity generated in our region comes from renewable energy, and that number is growing. A greener grid, paired with energy efficiency, (which helps members save energy and money) is called beneficial electrification.

### **Beneficial Electrification**

Beneficial electrification means electric appliances, like clothes dryers and ovens, have the potential to become greener over time. Because large appliances have a typical lifespan of 15 to 20 years, members can benefit from renewable energy as Dairyland Power, Barron Electric's wholesale power provider, increases their investment in wind and solar. This would not be the case with gas appliances, which are limited to being fueled by natural gas or propane for their 15- to 20-year lifespan.

As electric utilities incorporate more renewable energy sources into their generation portfolios and make existing generation technologies cleaner, electricity uses less fossil fuels per kilowatt-hour (kWh) of energy produced. The average Barron Electric member uses 1,150

kWh monthly. Improved energy efficiency means members are making the most of every kWh of electricity used.

### **Electric Appliances**

Members should also look for the ENERGY STAR logo when purchasing electric appliances. ENERGY STAR is part of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and ensures each product that earns its label is independently certified to deliver quality, performance and energy savings. ENERGY STAR appliances are the most efficient available in the market. Check out our website at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) for rebates on ENERGY STAR appliances.

### **Electric Vehicles (EVs)**

In 2018, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) reported there are 45 EVs available for purchase on the market with the number expected to increase to 90 models by 2022. As of February 1, 2019, approximately 1.1 million electric vehicles have been sold in the United States.

An EV owner can save money throughout the life of the vehicle through reduced maintenance costs, as well as fuel savings. Based on Barron Electric's average of 10 cents per kWh, electricity is equivalent to gasoline priced at 83 cents/



*Barron Electric's Community Rays Project has produced over 600 megawatt hours since 2014.*

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# Fourth of July Safety Tips

As we celebrate the Independence Day holiday with fireworks, ReadyWisconsin offers the following tips to ensure you and your family have a safe and happy 4th of July.

- Adults igniting fireworks should always wear eye protection
- Make sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly
- Keep pets indoors to reduce the risk that they will be injured



## Win a \$50 Credit with Auto Pay

Auto Pay is a convenient way to pay your electric bill, saving you time and money. Members who sign up for Auto Pay will have their name entered into a drawing for a \$50 electric bill credit. Sign up for Auto Pay through SmartHub at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) or by contacting the billing department at 800-322-1008.

## Go Paperless

When signing up for SmartHub, click yes to turn off paper bills and then submit. Members who are already signed up for SmartHub can choose My Profile and Update My Printed Bill Settings to turn off printed bills.

# Employee Spotlight

## Working for our Members



Stephanie Kunesh started in 2018 as a receptionist. She handles all of the incoming phone calls, processes payments, and assists members. "I enjoy working with the members and employees of Barron Electric," remarked Stephanie. She graduated from Cameron High School and received a Degree in Sales and Marketing from WITC. She previously worked at Photography by Jane. She is a member of the Haugen Parent's Group and serves as treasurer. She also enjoys helping with her daughter's Girl Scout Troop and 4-H Club when needed.

## Join the 540 Members Enrolled in Outage Texting



Barron Electric member-consumers have the opportunity to text in their outage and receive a message when the outage is restored. If your mobile number is included on your account information, you can sign up for outage texting by visiting our website at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) and click on outage texting on the home page. If your mobile number is not listed on your account, please complete the form below or contact our billing department at 800-322-1008 to update your account information. Then, visit our website at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com).

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

Barron Electric Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

# Giving Back to the Community

**M**elanie Burdick believes in giving back to the community. She is our latest Megawatt Community Service Award winner. She has served on the Rice Lake Main Street Association's Board since 2012 and was named an Honorary Board Member in 2016. Their mission is to improve Rice Lake's quality of life and overall economy by strengthening the downtown. She helps with the Petunia Banquet and watering the petunia baskets on Main Street. She works with the Junior Achievement Program, which teaches elementary students about entrepreneurship. She also co-leads the Barron County Horse Project. The program teaches the learning principles of riding horses to 4-H kids.

## Win a \$50 Electric Bill Credit

Barron Electric is led by members like you who understand and listen to the community.

Nominate a member for the Megawatt Community Service Award. Each winner will receive a \$50 electric bill credit. Application forms can be found at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) in the community area or by contacting the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008 or [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com).



*Congratulations to Melanie Burdick, far right, on winning the Megawatt Community Service Award. She is pictured with husband, Chip, and daughter, Kylee.*

# Powered Smart: Efficient, Smart, Green

*Continued from Cover*

gallon, based on 25 mpg. But those aren't the only advantages to owning an EV. Even with a hybrid, gas mileage is higher than a comparable vehicle with an internal combustion engine. Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) allow a member to drive emissions free anytime the battery is in use.

Tax credits may be available for qualifying battery electric vehicles (BEV), but they will be phased out as EV manufacturers reach the 200,000 vehicles sold limit. Check with your local automobile dealer. Members considering the purchase of a PHEV or BEV should also talk to Barron Electric before purchasing an electric vehicle or hybrid to make sure the proper infrastructure is in-place to accommodate a home-charger. Barron Electric also offers a free charging station to members who purchase an EV.

Public charging stations are also increasing and can be found via [plugshare.com](http://plugshare.com) or other apps. Charging stations are also available at Barron Electric's office in Barron and Spooner.



*Test drive Barron Electric's All-Electric Chevy Bolt. Stop at the Barron office for more details!*

# Director Notes



Patricia Mandel represents District 6 on Barron Electric's Board of Directors which includes the townships of Clinton, Barron, Maple Grove, and Prairie Lake.



## Condensed Board Minutes April 24, 2019

- Director Helm gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Manager Sloan. A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #95966 thru #96106 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$387,783 and capital credit estate checks of \$7,242. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,555,728; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$470,375; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,633,335; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$183,780 and power bill paid 04/24/19 in the amount of \$2,175,010.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$40,690.88 was presented for approval, and included new services - (\$121.82) change jobs - \$0; miscellaneous - \$40,812.70 and 3 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

## News FOR YOU...

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Barron Electric is an equal  
opportunity provider.



## Monthly Photo Contest Summer Landscapes

E-mail your summer landscape photos for our photo contest. Winning photos will be used on the cover of the *News for You*, and winners will receive a \$50 credit on their electric bill. Criteria for the photos include:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape).
- Photos must be high resolution, at least 300 dpi.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) by July 5, 2019. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.

## Cook's Corner

Summer Delight Salad  
Diane Hesselgrave

2 cups broccoli florets  
1 cup fresh peapods cut into 1 inch pieces  
½ cup chopped red onion  
½ cup shredded carrot  
1 cup red and/or green grapes, halved  
1 cup mayonnaise or Miracle Whip  
¼ cup brown sugar  
1 T. cider vinegar or white vinegar  
Chopped cashews



Mix first 5 ingredients together. Stir next 3 ingredients together and mix with main ingredients. Serve with chopped cashews sprinkled on top or mixed in. Add or subtract ingredients to your own taste.

Win a cookbook if your recipe is published in the *News for You*. Send recipes to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) or mail to

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