

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* NEWS

July 2026

TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

FOREFRONT OF FUSION

HOW TO HELP
DURING PEAK DEMAND

READER RECIPE CONTEST

KIDS AND CRITTERS



SHIFT TIMING, SHIFT SAVINGS

Kenneth Ceaglske, President/CEO



As we settle into the heat of July, our homes naturally use more electricity. Air conditioners run longer, refrigerators work harder, and daily routines—from cooking dinner to doing laundry—often overlap during the warmest parts of the day. That's also when the demand for electricity across our community is at its highest.

At Taylor Electric Cooperative, our top priority is delivering safe, reliable, and affordable power whenever you need it. But during peak energy hours—1:00 pm – 7:00 pm—there's added pressure on the grid as homes and businesses require larger amounts of electricity, all at the same time. On the hottest days, that strain can be significant.

The good news is that small changes at home can make a meaningful difference.

Think of our electric grid like a highway system. During rush hour, traffic is heavy, congestion builds and everything slows down. But when drivers adjust their schedules, even slightly, it helps ease the bottleneck. The same principle applies to energy use.

By shifting some of your high-energy activities to off-peak hours—like doing laundry later in the evening, running the dishwasher before you go to bed or cooking meals earlier in the day—you're helping spread out demand. That reduces pressure on the grid during those critical peak hours. Taylor Electric offers time-of-day rates which mean the price of electricity changes depending on when you use it during the day. Instead of paying one flat price all day, higher prices are charged during periods of high demand and lower prices when demand is lower.

Here are a few other simple steps you can take to lower energy use during peak hours.

Smart technology can be a

valuable partner in saving energy. A programmable or smart thermostat can automatically adjust your home's temperature when demand is highest, helping you stay comfortable while

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using energy more efficiently. Even a small adjustment of a few degrees during peak hours can make a difference.

In the kitchen, simple swaps can help, too. Using a slow cooker, air fryer or outdoor grill instead of the oven keeps your home more comfortable and reduces the need for additional cooling during the warmer parts of the day. And when it comes to laundry, air-drying clothes or spacing out loads can cut

down on both energy use and indoor heat.

Don't overlook the power of ceiling fans, either. They can help you feel several degrees cooler, allowing you to raise your thermostat setting without sacrificing comfort.

These actions may seem small on their own, but together, they add up. When many members make mindful choices about when and how they use electricity, it helps reduce peak demand, eases strain on the grid and supports more stable energy costs for our local communities.

That's the cooperative difference. As a member, you're not just a customer—you're part of a community working together to power our future. Every effort you make contributes to a stronger, more resilient system.

This summer, I encourage you to take a closer look at your daily routines. A few simple shifts can go a long way in keeping your home comfortable, your energy use efficient and our grid running smoothly—no matter how high the temperatures climb.

Same Energy. Different Impact.

The demand for electricity is typically highest in the late afternoon during peak energy hours. You can help lower demand by shifting when energy-intensive activities happen.



Shift appliance use to off-peak hours.

- Run the dishwasher before you go to bed.
- Use the oven earlier or later (during off-peak hours.)
- Space out use of major appliances.



Use a programmable or smart thermostat.

- Automatically adjust the temp setting during peak hours.
- Schedule home cooling cycles for efficiency.



Opt for low-energy alternatives during peak hours.

- Use small appliances like slow cookers or air fryers—or fire up the grill—instead of the oven.
- Air-dry clothes instead of using the dryer.
- Use ceiling fans for additional cooling.

FROM COOPERATIVE ROOTS TO NAVAL COMMAND: COMMANDER CRYSTAL SCHAEFER RETURNS TO TAYLOR ELECTRIC



On Tuesday, May 5, CEO Kenny Ceaglske and Vice Chairman Chuck Zenner had the opportunity to meet with Medford native and U.S. Navy Commander Crystal Schaefer through the Navy's Executive Engagement Program. This program is designed to connect senior Navy leaders with communities across the country.

During the visit, Commander Schaefer shared information about her background in nuclear propulsion aboard several different ships. She has served as the 78th Commanding Officer of the USS Constitution since June 2024 and more recently, was promoted to captain. This ship is the oldest in the U.S. Navy fleet and is wind-powered. Schaefer also engaged in discussions on nuclear energy, safety, and its future role in utilities.

Additional conversation topics included her career journey, community outreach opportunities, and her memories of growing up around the Taylor Electric office—where her dad, Mike Schaefer, previously served as CEO for nearly 38 years prior to Ceaglske. Commander Schaefer has also been a member of Taylor Electric Cooperative since 2018.

We were honored to welcome her to our office, especially as we celebrate America's 250th birthday.



Left to right: Taylor Electric CEO Kenny Ceaglske, U.S. Navy Commander Crystal Schaefer, and Taylor Electric Vice Chairman Chuck Zenner.

HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY AMERICA!

The tradition of lighting fireworks began on the first anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This year, 250 years later, that tradition is going strong and we want you and your family to stay safe with these tips:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks, including sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Keep a bucket of water or a hose nearby, in case of fire or other emergency.
- Never light fireworks while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully. Throw them in a pail of water and let soak for about ½ hour before throwing them away.
- Keep your pets safe by putting them indoors and closing the windows. Most pets are extremely frightened by fireworks.



CONGRATULATIONS

2026 Scholarship Recipients

\$1,000 Dairyland Power Scholarship



OWEN HIGH SCHOOL

Madilyn Mueller is the daughter of Geoff and Morgan Mueller, Medford. She will be attending Chippewa Valley Technical College to pursue a career as a dental hygienist. In her free time, she enjoys hunting, fishing, going for walks and spending time outside. She also enjoys tanning and being with her family and friends.

\$500 Taylor Electric Scholarship



ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL

Eli Paul is the son of Richard and Sara Paul, Athens. He will be attending NTC in Wausau to study civil engineering technology. He enjoys running, playing the French horn and fishing.



MEDFORD SENIOR HIGH

Ashton Behling is the son of Donald and Jodi Behling, Medford. He will attend NTC to study mechanical design engineering technology. Ashton enjoys hunting, fishing, playing sports and hanging out with family and friends.



MEDFORD SENIOR HIGH

Evan Czarnezki is the son of Ryan and Amber Czarnezki, Medford. He plans to attend NTC to study mechanical design engineering technology. His favorite hobbies include hanging out with friends and family, playing tennis and pickleball, watching football, and camping.



MEDFORD SENIOR HIGH

Max Klussendorf is the son of Ryan and Cheri Klussendorf, Medford. Max plans to attend South Dakota State University, majoring in agricultural business with a minor in political science. He owns HHF show cattle and exhibits registered Hereford and Shorthorn cattle across the U.S. Max notes he has enjoyed representing Taylor Electric as a

Youth Leadership Conference board member. He attended WECA's annual meeting and Education and Lobby Days where he learned about advocating for the electric industry.



MEDFORD SENIOR HIGH

Laura Wegerer is the daughter of Jamie and Karen Wegerer, Medford. She will be attending Winona State University this fall majoring in nursing with a minor in business. She enjoys spending time outside playing pickleball, golfing, and hanging out at the lake.



RIB LAKE HIGH SCHOOL

Talon Scheithauer is the son of Ryan and Shanna Scheithauer, Rib Lake. He will attend UW-River Falls to study health sciences with a pre-chiropractic focus. He hopes to play baseball while at UW-RF. After completion of his undergraduate studies, Talon will continue his education at Palmer College of Chiropractic to earn his doctorate. He

enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time at his family's cabin where they have campfires, cookouts and go four-wheeling with family and friends. He plans to play baseball this summer for the Interwald Woodticks in the Dairyland League.



CAN YOU HELP US FIND THESE PEOPLE?



Taylor Electric Cooperative has capital credits for the following people, who we are unable to locate. If you know the current address of someone listed here, please contact our office at 715-678-2411 or 800-862-2407. In cases where the person is deceased, please contact us with information regarding a relative or benefactor. Any unclaimed checks will revert to the Wisconsin Federated Youth Foundation, Inc., a charitable tax-exempt trust established by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association for educational purposes. Claims may be made at the cooperative office by the rightful owners by August 1, 2026.

Aabel, Judith
Acor Deceased, Helen
Adams, Dale
Adumat, John P
Albert Deceased, Ed
All Season Storage
Allison, RD
Anderson, Michael J
Anderson, Rodney
Andreassen, Toni
Angelich Deceased, Lorna
AT&T Services Inc
Barber, Audy
Barker, Lloyd
Barnes, Bradley & Cheryl
Barnes, Henry Jr
Bauman, Charles L & Kathleen
Beart, Thomas
Becker, Roman H
Behrens, Richard & Sharon
Benson, John
Berger Deceased, Robert
Bergeson, Paul & Tammy
Bernitt Deceased, William Jr
Blair, Anthony W
Bloss, June
Bolz Deceased, Josephine A
Bryan Revocable Trust,
William J
Burch, John
Busch, Rick & Mary
Campbell, Steve & Leslie
Carr, Shawn
Carroll Deceased, Edna
Central Sand & Gravel Inc
Chappell, Dean W
Christianson Deceased,
Rodney
Clarkson Deceased, Ervin
Cleveland, Wesley
Cushing, David & Dixie
Department Of The Air Force
Deschler, Laura
Devries, David & Areta
Dygart Deceased, Florence
Ebeltoft Deceased, James C
Edelburg Deceased, Clifford
Edens, Dave
Edminster, Peggy J

Emens, David
Engstrom Deceased, Priscilla
Enlow Dairy
Erickson, Robert & Beverly
Erickson, Peggy
Fanson, Gary
Fischer Deceased, Otto
Fisher, Theresa/Bernard
Fleischmann Deceased,
Arlene
Folkman, Bradley
Fox, Daniel & Dawn
Frelichowski, Larry
Frenzel Deceased, Lester E
Furseth, Andrew
Gehrke, Mary
Geiger, Matthew
Gillett, Daniel & Nicole
Glenzer, David
Graham Deceased, Corinne
Graham, Audrey
Grauman, Michael & Jill
Gregg, Jerry & Gloria
Grining, Jane
GTE Telephone Operations
Gugliuzza, Richard/Sharon
Gustum, Kirk
Hamelund, Patricia
Hammel Hunt & Holding LLC
Hanson, Nancy
Heaton, J. Scott
Heier, Neal
Heier's Meat Processing
Helmbrecht, Peter E
Herbig, Joseph & Alice
Herrman Deceased, Andrew
Herrick Aviation Co
Hildebrand, Charles M
Hobl, Jennifer
Hoff, Debbie A
Hoffman Deceased, Helena
Holtz, Steve J & Robin D
Horkheimer, Ronald
Hoveland Deceased,
Dorothy A
Jackson, Greg
Jicinsky, Jeff
Johnson Deceased, Darrell
Johnson Deceased, Leonard

Johnson, Ernest
Johnson, William & Dian
Jones, Michael A & Sharon L
Kasak, Ann
Kenny, Tom & Kristl
Konecny, Daniel
Koshak, Jennie L
Kostecki, James L
Kraegenbrink Deceased,
Wayne
Krawczyk, Francis
Krieger, Jeannette
Krueger Deceased, Robert W
Larson Deceased, Hilda
Larson Deceased, Kay M
Lekie Deceased, Martha B
Lekie, Steve & Patty
Lemke, Louise
Lind, Joshua E
Lissner, Jessica c/o Lissner,
Paul & Lynn
Literski, Peter
Loeffler, Josephine E
Lubahn, James R
Ludwig, Scott
Ludwig, Shane
Lukaszewicz Deceased, Anna
Lynch, Michael & Barbara
Mabie Deceased, Jacqueline
Mackie, Helen
Mahl, Katie
Malchow, Adam
Marx, Joseph P
Mds Acres Partnership
Meeter Deceased, Urquhart
Mertens, Becky
Metzner Deceased, Linda
Mezich Deceased, Valerie
Miles, Tana
Miller, Sandra K
Mims, William
Moen, James
Moffett, Stephanie
Molitor Deceased, Clarence
Molitor, James E & Beverly B
Monheim Deceased, William
Moretz Deceased, Sandra
Nelson Deceased, Evamae
Nolan (Carr), Nancy

Northern National Lease
Olson, Rose
Palmer, Ray & Angie
Panzer, Dean
Parson, Mark & Joan
Paulson, Sara & Justin Mallo
Pautz Deceased, Arlyn
Peché Deceased, Ray
Peel, Della A
Peneau, Leon & Nancy
Petersen, Carol
Peterson Deceased, John G
Peterson, Talee
Phelps, Marion & Audrey
Pilbeam, Clinton E
Porter, Bruce W
Pozorski, David
Puckhaber, Eugene Z
Radke, John & Arlene
Rasmussen, Catherine
Rasner, Richard A & Shelia
Recore Deceased, Ellen
Reilly, Ann C
Reinhart, Shane & Andrea
Renly, Dave
Reuter, Doug
Rice, Sandra
Ricker, Harvey & Cindy
Robertsen, Earl/Carol
Rohland, Mike
Rossiter, Loleta
Rydberg, Douglas & Kaye
Salzgeber Deceased, Esther
Sauter, Carla
Schmitz Deceased, Barbara E
Schuhmacher, Bill & Cathy
Schultz, Todd & Dawn

Coleman
Schwarz Deceased, Gilbert
Schwarz, Denise
Schwenke Deceased, Adres
Scott, Kendall J
Seabul, Ricky L
Shannon, Steve
Shrewsbury, Mike/Candy
Sime, Timothy & Kristen
Simmons, Roger
Skerhutt, Steve
Smith, Jeffrey A & Barbara A
Smith, Randall W
Snell, Gregory A & Debbie
Sossong, James
Spren, Bryan W
Stahnke, Nancy S
Sterling, Amy
Stollfus, George & Amber
Sturz, Leslie
Sukow, Derrick J
Tallman Deceased, Ray Sr
Thomas Deceased, Terry
Thomas, Everett
Thomas, Frank
Tomaszewski Deceased, John
Ventrelli, Kathi L
Voss, Robert W
Wald, Karen
Wallace, Terence M
Wavrunek, Mike
Wenger, Earl & Sadie
White, Kathy
Wild Deceased, John
Zelinski, Lester & Viola
Zinkowich Deceased, Allen



Kenneth Ceaglske, President/CEO

N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451

715-678-2411 • 800-862-2407

email: taylrec@tayloelectric.org

website: www.tayloelectric.org

Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor

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