

The Spotlight

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December 2020

DIRECTOR ELECTION RESULTS

PIE&G held its 83rd annual membership meeting virtually on Friday, October 23. The meeting was live streamed from the co-op in Onaway via Zoom video conference. Members gave the online event high marks in a follow-up survey. The following candidates were elected to three-year terms (2020-2023): **Allan Berg** (incumbent, Presque Isle District), **John Brown** (incumbent, Cheboygan District) and **Charles Arbour** (incumbent, Montmorency District). The number of votes that each candidate received is listed below.



John Brown



Charles Arbour



Allan Berg

Immediately following the meeting, the board of directors held their election of officers and the results are: **Chair – Allan Berg; Vice Chair – John Brown; Secretary – Sandy Borowicz; and Treasurer – Charles Arbour.**

There were twenty-five members drawn by raffle to win a \$50 bill credit for voting by mail. Winners will receive the credit on their next billing. Members also heard reports from the cooperative's auditor and Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Soback.

Cheboygan District:

(One Vacancy)

John Brown	840
Peter Redmond	511
Ned Taylor	234

Montmorency District:

(One Vacancy)

Charles Arbour	763
Donald Edwards	542
Chris Paffi	302

Presque Isle District:

(One Vacancy)

Allan Berg	1,018
Warren Kowalewsky	651

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

Applications due March 1, 2021



The PIE&G Communities First Fund has been awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors since 1999. The scholarship program includes all accredited colleges or universities located in Michigan. The award is \$1,000 and payable upon successful completion of the first semester. The A. Barkley Travis Memorial scholarship (\$500) is also available.

Eligibility requirements and applications are available on-line at pieg.com or by contacting PIE&G at 1-800-423-6634 and select extension 1011. Completed applications with all supporting documentation must be received at PIE&G by close of business on Monday, March 1, 2021. Scholarships will be awarded by June 1st.

Happy Holidays!



From all of us at PIE&G to all of you, we wish you health and happiness this holiday season and in the New Year.

We will be closed for Christmas Thursday, December 24th, Friday, December 25th and New Year's Day, Friday, January 1st.

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Owned By Those We Serve . . . Locally Controlled . . . Committed to Community . . . Not For Profit

HOME HEATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR THE 2020-2021 SEASON

The Winter Protection Plan (WPP) protects enrolled seniors and low-income members from service shut-offs and high utility bill payments during winter months. If you are eligible and you sign an agreement with us, your utility service will remain on (or restored with the WPP) from November 1 through March 31, as long as you:

- Pay at least 7% of your estimated annual bill each month, **and**
- Make equal monthly payments between the date you apply and the start of the next heating season on any past due bills.

When the protection period ends (March 31), you must begin to pay the full monthly bill, plus part of the amount you owe from the winter months when you did not pay the full bill. **Participation does not relieve customers from the responsibility of paying for electricity and natural gas usage, but does prevent shut-off during winter months as long as the scheduled payments are received by the due date.** You qualify for the plan if you meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Age 65 or older,
- Receive Department of Human Services cash assistance, including SSI,
- Receive Food Assistance,
- Receive Medicaid, or
- Household income is at or below the 150% of poverty level*.

Senior citizen members (65 or older) who enroll in the WPP are not required to make specific payments between Nov. 1 and March 31. Service for seniors can be restored without any payments.

Note: All members 65+ are eligible regardless of income. Members are responsible for all electricity and natural gas used. At the end of the protection period, participants must make arrangements with PIE&G to pay off any money owed before the next heating season. Seniors are encouraged to pay what they can over the winter to avoid large, unmanageable bills and shut off when the protection period ends.

*See page 18 of your Nov-Dec *Country Lines* for details and call PIE&G to enroll.

CALL 2-1-1 FOR HEATING, HUMAN SERVICES HELP



Thanks to 2-1-1, a free community health and human services information and referral service, help is available to people in need. By simply dialing 2-1-1 (available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year), callers will be connected with a trained, caring professional who will confidentially assess their situation, identify their needs and refer them to local resources for help. The 2-1-1 program provides information and referral for:

- **Basic Human Needs:** food, clothing, shelter, utility assistance, etc.
- **Physical and Mental Health:** medical information, crisis intervention services, support groups and counseling, etc.
- **Support for Older Americans and People with Disabilities:** home health care, adult day care, independent living, workforce training, Meals on Wheels, etc.
- **Support for Children, Youth and Families:** quality childcare, early childhood programs, after-school programs, summer camps, mentoring, tutoring, etc.
- **Crisis Calls:** suicidal thoughts, domestic violence, Public Health Emergencies, etc.

For more information about services in Michigan, visit uwmich.org/mi211; nationwide visit 211us.org; or simply dial 2-1-1 from your cell phone or land line. You can also dial 1-844-875-9211 to reach Michigan 2-1-1 directly, anywhere in the state.

Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

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GAS EMERGENCY ONLY 1-800-655-8565

We will gladly accept your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. No additional charge for using your credit card.

