

Sun River Electric Cooperative

Ripples



Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Phone Numbers: 406-467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516

Website: www.sunriverelectric.coop

After Hours & Weekend Dispatch:
406-467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516

If calling from a local number or cell phone –
please use: 406-467-2526 or 406-467-2527

Be sure to check your breakers before reporting outages.

JUNE 2022

Retirements have brought changes

The last year or so has shown a lot of changes when it comes to Sun River Electric Cooperative employees.

We had five employees retire, resulting in position changes and hiring new employees. The Member Services and Engineering Department was affected by these changes. This department consists of four people. While Sun River Electric adjusted to these changes, only one person in this department remained unchanged. That was our meter technician Mike Faith. The changes to our department went as follows: I had been the staking engineer and was promoted to manager of the department, filling the spot left by Brad Bauman, who was appointed the new CEO/general manager. John Schwenke moved from the Fairfield line foreman into the role of the staking engineer.

MESSAGE


FROM MEMBER SERVICES

COLUMN BY **CHRIS CHRISTENSEN**

Ross Oveson decided to retire after 30 plus years, which left one spot to fill to make the department whole. The management team needed to decide what roles this position should entail. The position that Ross vacated covered consumer relations,

communications, newsletter, scholarships, locating utilities, rubber-goods testing and many more odds and ends. We wanted to start incorporating IT, cybersecurity and GIS mapping into the position. At the end of March, we were able to find and hire someone that would fill this position. Randy Gaa is our new IT guy. He has only been in Montana for about a year, spending the last 15 years being a network engineer in Nevada. We are happy to have him and his wife Kimberly as new members of the Sun River Electric family.

Sun River Electric has 22 employees, which means a few people are responsible for doing many things. With almost a quarter of our workforce retiring, this does disrupt things a little.

Our employees have done a wonderful job of stepping up and filling in as we went through this transition. Leanne Hall took on the duties of communications, scholarships, newsletter and other consumer-related tasks. Mike Faith took on the duties of locates and rubber-goods testing. I am very thankful to these two individuals who have helped make these new transitions run smooth. We have new faces in new positions, but we are still focused on serving our consumers to the best of our abilities. Please do not hesitate to contact our office with any questions that you might have. 

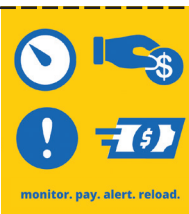


John Schwenke, Randy Gaa and Chris Christensen.

REMINDER:

Bills not paid by the 10th of the month will be charged a \$10 late fee.

Pay as you go with
prePAY
electricity from SREC. It is easy!
Call SREC to get started.



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

SREC would like to congratulate all the winning students

Sun River Electric Cooperative believes in educating today's youth. Over the past 28 years, Sun River Electric has awarded more than \$285,000 in scholarships.

SUN RIVER ELECTRIC \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

CONRAD	NATALIE BARTSCH TATYANA ROHRER LYDIA VERMULM
DUTTON	KELLAN DOHENY
FAIRFIELD	ALEXA JOHNSON BROOKE MCWILLIAMS
HIGHWOOD	SEAN MCGOWAN
POWER	AMARA BODKINS BRAYDEN CARLSSON SAMANTHA ROOS
SIMMS	LILLY LARSON WOODHOUSE DAYNE SULLIVAN
VALIER	KYLEIGH BROCKIE

SREC \$1,000 LINEMAN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

CHOTEAU	JEFFERY COLESWORTHY CARSON CRARY
CONRAD	BRADY BOKMA

BASIN ELECTRIC \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

FAIRFIELD	JUSTIN FORSETH
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SREC CONTINUING EDUCATION \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

AUGUSTA	BRADI HILL NICOLE RAY KRONE ASHLYN MCCOY KOLTON CLAY SCHERRER
CHOTEAU	HANNA ANTONSEN KATIE BIELER ABBY MCCOLLOM
CONRAD	BLAKE VANDENACRE GRACE WEBER
FAIRFIELD	JUSTIN FORSETH HANNAH KONEN NICHOLAS KONEN MADELINE KONEN GAVIN MILLS LUKE OSTBERG DAWSON PETERMAN HANNA PETERMAN HUNTER RAPP CHESNEY ROGERS EMILY EVANS
HIGHWOOD	BRYCE BIRGENHEIER
SIMMS	MIKAYLA HART

MONTANA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES' ASSOCIATION \$500 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

POWER	AMARA BODKINS
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ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

WE WISH ALL OF OUR WINNERS THE BEST OF
LUCK IN THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVORS!

RETURNED CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS

In March of 2022, Sun River Electric retired capital credits for the years 1999, 2000 and 2001. Checks were sent out after the Annual Meeting on March 25th. Some checks have been returned due to insufficient addresses. If you know anyone on this list, please have them contact Leanne at 406-467-2526.

Akelstad, Jim	Dear, Curt	Gustafson, Erik	Larson, Jim	Murphy, Michael B	Russell Country
Anderson, Lloyd	Della Rossa Family	Hackman, Steve	Larson, Karen	Murray, Jael	Realty
Arambarri, Ron	Cabin	Halcro, Dixie	Leach, Gene	Naatjes, Michael	Schilla, John
Armstrong, Walter	Donnelly, Vicki	Hill, Sherman	Lebret, Ginger	Naughton, Maureen	Schram, Charlene
Ayers, Mike	Dupuyer Trading	Hoiland, Patricia	Lewis, Jerry	Neal, Dick	Schroeder, Margaret
Baker, April	Post	Holland-Yohe, Ginger	Lincoln, Anita	Nelson, Aaron	Schuler, Dick
Balzarini, Jean	Dwyer, Lynne	Hopkins, Hillier	Linderman, Bill	Nicholas, Brian	Schulke, Daniel
Bedecs, Martin	Eastwood, Medwin	Horne, James	Manzanares, Frederick	Nist, Leo	Schulke, Sherry
Beer, Don	Era American	House, Michael G	Mateka, Terry	213274	Sekich, William
Berrinjur, Rich	Horizon Realty	Hughes, Robert	McCurdy, Owen	Onstad Grain Co	Semenza, Nancy
Bickle, Larry	Ertl, Kevin	Icenogle, Jennie	McGowan, Izeta	Oster, Alan	Shaver, Doris
Black Sabre Furs	Feeler, James	Ingebrigtsen, Terry	McKinley, Tim	Patrin, Ronald	Shaw, Susan
Branch, Thomas	Fisher Radio	Jacobsen, Tom	Metropolitan	Phifer, Richard	Shepherd, Cecilia
Brandenburg, Jim	Regional Group	Jenkins, Joyce	Mortgage	Phillips, Dave	Simms Service
Brogger, James	Fleet Mortgage	Johnke, Bruce	Mishler, Doc	Phillips, Pamela	Skinner, Robert
Brown, Baxter	Fookes, Patricia	Jones, William	Mitchell, Brenda	Pittman, Richard	Smith, Francis
Bryce, WM L	Frey, Dennis	Kalista, Gordon	Moore, Mayra	Popham, Jamie	Snodgrass, Robert
Case, Marston	Frohberg, Gina	KCS Mountain	Moorehead, Ray	Powell, David	Stevenson, Tim
Chaffin, Richard	Gebhart, Kristi	Resources	Mora, Dean	Rafferty, Terry	Stewart, John
Clough, Jean	Gneiting, Joe	Kemph, Janette	Morello, David	Rasmussen, Kevin	Stone, Timothy
Cogswell Real Estate	Godfrey, Duane	Kinyon, Richard	Morgan, Elaine	Reifer, Rickey	Thurston, Daniel
Copperwheat, Mandy	Gollehon, Michael	Kitchin, Keith	Morris, Ecole	Riddle, Deborah	Watson, Joan
Darby, Daniel	Griffiths, Mark	Kloss, Alice	Muir, Netelia	Rigsby, Tom	Willard, Jack
	Gumenberg, Derek	La Pier, Albert	Murphy, Michael	Robinson Farms INC	Zander, Jim
	Gunter, Edward	Lambert, Todd		Robinson, Gregory B	

FREE children's books in the SREC service area

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a 60-volume set of books. Each month a new book will be mailed in your child's name directly to your home.

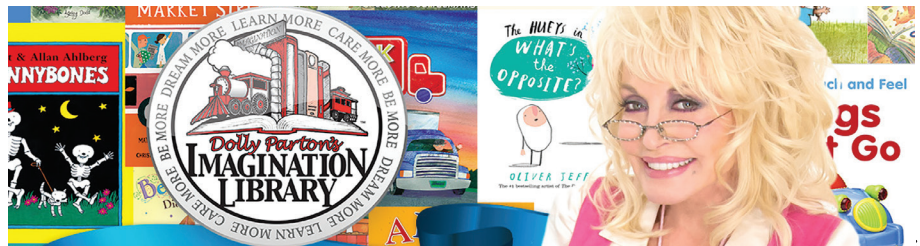
- Preschool children ages birth to 5, who are residents of Sun River Electric Cooperative's service area, are eligible. (You don't have to be a member, just live in SREC's service area.)

- Register one of two ways:

1. Online at <http://imaginationlibrary.com/>

2. Fill out the registration form to the right, and send to SREC, Attention: Leanne Hall, PO Box 309, Fairfield MT 59436 or contact Leanne at SREC at 406-467-2526.

- Eight to 10 weeks after registration, your first book will arrive at your home and will continue until your child turns 5, or you move out of the SREC service area.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Official Registration Form

1st Preschool Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ Sex: M F Phone _____

2nd Preschool Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ Sex: M F Phone _____

Authorized Adult Name _____

Child's Mailing Address _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Email Address _____

I hereby explicitly consent to allow the Dollywood Foundation, Inc. to use the information provided herein for the purposes of participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library book gifting program. To measure the benefits of this program we may create datasets with the information provided herein and share them with research and educational advancement partners. You agree to review our full Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy by visiting imaginationlibrary.com. By signing and submitting this form you expressly consent to the terms set forth herein.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED ADULT _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Group Code: _____

MEMBER spotlight Nikki Gulick

CREATING amazing metal signs, wall decorations, and adding a special touch to antique metal items comes naturally to Nikki Gulick. She has always had a love of art. She grew up on her family farm west of Fairfield. Her parents have been members of Sun River Electric Cooperative since 1981.

When Nikki decided she wanted to farm with her parents and be a stay-at-home mom for her two sons, she decided to start her own business – Iron Horse Metal Art. It all began with her dad's plasma cutter and her natural artist talent. Everything she makes is an original creation.

She also takes old metal pieces such as milk cans, buckets, shovels and wheelbarrows that were just sitting in a shed and makes them into pieces of art that are now sitting in someone's home or on their deck. When a customer contacts her with an idea, she draws up a freehand design proof and once they approve it, the cutting begins.

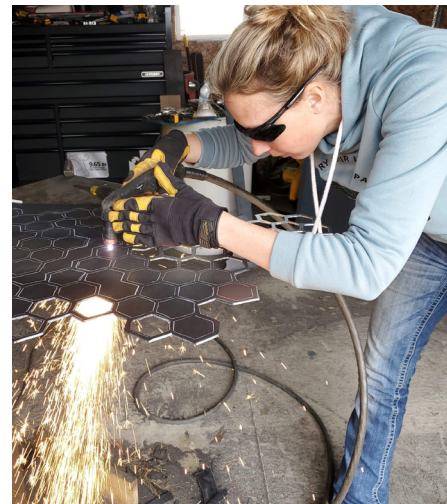
Her very first design was the Gulick sign (pictured on this page) for her mom and dad, which is still on display by their farm. Now there are many signs and custom pieces displayed on farms and ranches in the area.

In addition to chasing her boys



and farming, the business keeps her busy traveling to art and craft shows around the state.

Check out her Facebook page – Iron Horse Metal Art or give her a call at 406-799-5375 to place orders. RM



HIDDEN NUMBER

If you find your account number hidden in this issue, it is worth a \$50 credit on your next statement. There is one number hidden in every issue. Give us a call if you are the lucky consumer.

**406-467-2527 or
1-800-452-7516**

ALWAYS **CALL** | BEFORE YOU **DIG**



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Chris Music 406-600-8375
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