

Since 1940

# WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative*

February 2019

## NEWS



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## ALL ABOUT the Birkie

MUSEUM EXPLORES HISTORY  
OF RENOWNED SKI RACE

TAYLOR ELECTRIC

*Cooperative*



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner





## YOU'RE MORE THAN A CUSTOMER

Michael Schaefer,  
 President/CEO

Author Anthony J. D'Angelo observed that, "Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community."

To a large degree, this reflects Taylor Electric's philosophy toward our consumer-members and the broader service territory that we serve. As a cooperative, we have a different "bottom line." While our priority is always to provide reliable and safe energy, there is another equally important part of this equation. Your well-being and that of the larger community that we serve are of paramount concern.

**We are a cooperative that is constantly evolving to meet the needs of the communities we serve...**

To us, you are not just a customer; you are a member of our co-op and without you, we would not exist.

In 1936, Taylor Electric was founded to fulfill a vital need in our community that would not have otherwise been met. Concerned local leaders came together to build this co-op and bring electricity where there was none.

At that time, members of the community understood we were different because they likely knew someone who helped to create Taylor Electric. For most people, our founding and its circumstances have been long forgotten. Over time, folks in the community may have come to think of us as simply another energy provider. But we are not. We are a cooperative that is constantly evolving to meet the needs of the communities we serve, and we are able to do this because of members like you.

Since our inception, we have sought

feedback and engagement from you and that of the larger community to guide our long-term decisions. This is why we hold annual meetings and send monthly newsletters and the *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News*. We want to keep our members informed and obtain your feedback.

We strive to find new ways to help you use energy more efficiently. We're always looking to explore more options that will help you manage your energy use such as offering incentives for energy efficient appliances, lighting, etc. In short, we are always seeking to

keep pace with the changing energy environment, evolving technology, and shifting consumer expectations.

Taylor Electric members help guide important co-op decisions that improve and enrich the community. We value the perspective of our board members, who are members of the co-op and community—just like you.

While the times may have changed, our mission and outlook have not. We view our role as a catalyst for good. Working together, we can accomplish great things for our community now and in the future.

*Taylor Electric Cooperative*

# BRIGHT HORIZONS

**Invest in your future with Bright Horizons**

**Purchase a unit of solar and begin enjoying the benefits of the sun on your electric bill. Call now for 2019 pricing.**

**Call us today at 715-678-2411**



# ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 30

## Time for Director Elections

Taylor Electric Cooperative's 83rd annual meeting will be held at the Stetsonville Centennial Center in Stetsonville on Saturday, March 30, 2019. One of the most important duties of the members at this meeting will be to elect members to fill three seats on the board of directors.

The Bylaw provision for nominating a member to serve on the board is as follows:

*(Article V) Section 3. Nomination and Election of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint a nominating committee in time to allow the committee to meet at least forty-five (45) days before the date of the annual meeting of the members, at which directors are to be elected. The nominating committee shall consist of three members. The committee chairman shall present the committee's nominations at the annual meeting.*

*Nominations may also be made by petition signed by not less than 25 members delivered to the Cooperative's headquarters not less than 7 days prior to the annual meeting. Election shall be by majority vote for each director position. In the event no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for a position, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be dropped from nomination on each successive ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.*

The board has appointed the following to serve on the Nominating Committee for the 2019 annual meeting:

Darlene Peche (715-748-4692)

Carmen Thiede (715-218-8353)

Frank Bohte Jr. (715-678-2217)

Please contact any of these Nominating Committee members if you are interested in being nominated for a seat on the board by the end of January.

At the 2019 annual meeting, there will be elections for three board seats: the seats currently held by Ray Henrichs, JoAnn Smith, and Dennis Engel. Directors are eligible to serve up to five three-year terms. All three are eligible for re-election; however, Ray Henrichs has decided not to seek re-election due to personal reasons.



Ray Henrichs



JoAnn Smith



Dennis Engel

To be on the ballot for election to the board, a member needs to be nominated by the Nominating Committee, or be nominated by petition, which involves getting signatures of not less than 25 members and delivering that nomination petition to the co-op not less than seven days prior to the annual meeting (by March 23, 2019, for the upcoming annual meeting.)

Also, members interested in serving on the 2020 Nominating Committee will be sought during this year's annual meeting. This is a good way to become more involved with your cooperative.



SMART TIPS

## SPACE HEATER SAFETY

Space heaters can be a cost effective option when heating no more than one or two small areas.



Review and follow all manufacturer directions.

Place them out of high-traffic areas and on a hard, level floor surface.



Keep them at least 3 feet away from flammable items.

Plug them directly into outlets. Avoid using an extension cord.



Turn them off before you leave the room or go to sleep.

Learn more at:

Safe Electricity.org



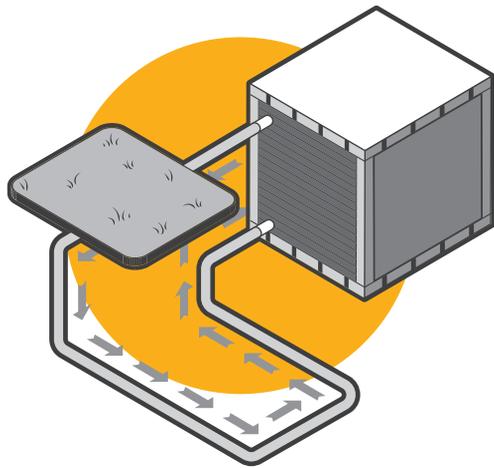
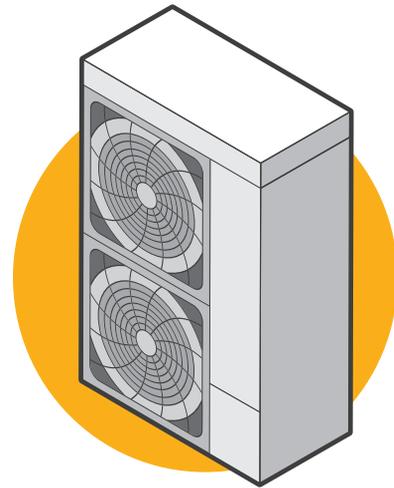
# Types of Heat Pumps

There are three main types of heat pump systems. Use the information below to determine the system that's best suited for your climate and home.

## Air-Source Heat Pumps

- Most commonly used heat pumps
- Moves heat rather than converting it from a fuel like combustion heating systems do
- Can reduce heating costs by about 50 percent when compared to baseboard heaters or electric furnaces
- Newer, more efficient systems now represent a legitimate space heating alternative in colder regions like the Northeast and Midwest.

**Note:** *If temperatures in your area drop below 10 to 25 F, you will need an auxiliary heating system (depending on the size of the system).*

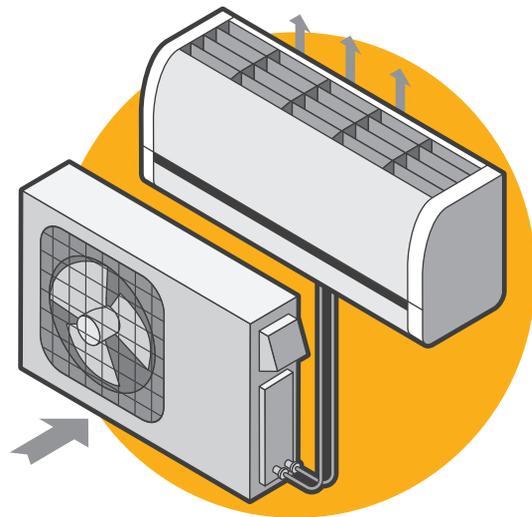


## Geothermal Heat Pumps

- More expensive to install but provide more energy savings for heating and cooling
- Move heat through pipes buried underground
- When compared to a conventional heating system, can reduce energy use by 25 to 50 percent
- Effective in extreme climates
- Not ideal for smaller lots and certain soil conditions

## Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pumps

- Easier to install, quiet, small in size
- Flexible for heating and cooling individual rooms and smaller spaces
- No energy loss through ductwork, which accounts for more than 30 percent of a home's energy use for space heating/cooling.
- Installation can be pricey, but federal incentives may be available



Heat pump systems should be installed by a licensed professional. Contact your local electric cooperative for more information about options and potential incentives.

Sources: Dept. of Energy and Consumer Reports

# Clean up your paper clutter this New Year!



Begin the New Year cleaning up your paper clutter by signing up for paperless billing through SmartHub. While you're there, check out the other great benefits SmartHub has to offer:

- Pay your bill online
- Check your usage
- Manage your account
- Set up recurring and stored payments
- Communicate directly with the co-op

Start the New Year off right and sign up for SmartHub online. It's Taylor Electric's FREE and mobile online payment system. Click on the signup link and follow the prompts to create your user name and password. Questions? Call, click or visit us at 715-678-2411 or [www.taylorelectric.org](http://www.taylorelectric.org).

**Michael Schaefer, President/CEO**  
N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451  
715-678-2411 • 800-862-2407  
email: [taylrec@taylorelectric.org](mailto:taylrec@taylorelectric.org)  
website: [www.taylorelectric.org](http://www.taylorelectric.org)  
**Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor**

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