



**Improving Quality Of Life  
In Our Communities Since 1937**

Electricity and Telecommunication Services



## PSREC eNewsletter

**March 2017**

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## Manager's Message

**Dear Members:**

### Telecommunications—New Day Broadband Asset Acquisition

We are delighted to let our membership know that Plumas-Sierra acquired the assets of New Day Broadband in the area around Portola and for several communities in Mohawk Valley.

This system had been functionally abandoned for about two years. We were able to acquire it February 9. The system will be a data-only system designed to provide broadband internet access.

The system needs repairs and some new equipment. To speed up deployment in our existing coax system in Quincy, and to help us with the new system, we hired a professional coax design firm to help lay out the conversion from a cable TV system to a high-speed data system.

We are taking interest forms now. If you have already filled out a form, there is no need to duplicate your work.

Areas where we will be able to provide coverage include Portola, Delleker, Graeagle, Blairsden, Plumas Pines, Clio and Whitehawk.

We will have more information on deployment areas in the months ahead. As of this writing, we are analyzing known breaks in the system and will repair the system as fast as we can.

We would like to thank the Plumas County Sheriff's Office for its cooperation in getting this done, as well as Michael Vergara and Jason Canger, our excellent attorneys from Somach, Simmons and Dunn. It took some time, but the results are great.

PST's broadband services offer download speeds of up to 20Mbps and upload speeds of up to 10Mbps. With these speeds, you have the ability to stream videos on multiple devices at the same time without slowing down. You could even eliminate your TV bill with streaming services. For more information and to sign up for service, please call us at (800) 221-3474 or visit our website at [www.pst.coop](http://www.pst.coop).

### Energy Savings

Many members have reached out to us about increased energy use. As the saying goes, if you can't measure it, you can't improve it. Nowhere is this truer than with your energy consumption.

What we have observed is, while there are several other variables, the heating portion of most residential electric bills increases 3 percent for every degree the average daily temperature drops below 50F.

At PSREC, we work hard to empower our members to take charge of their energy consumption. Through our secure SmartHub link at [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop), we have tools you can use to access your historical energy use. This data can be graphically-compared to temperature data for your area.

An increased awareness of energy consumption habits allows you to choose when and how to save energy and, in turn, lower your bill.

Create an online profile to access this helpful information, if you don't already have one. To get started, click the SmartHub link at [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop), then select the "New User" option.

You will need your account number and some other identifying information for the primary account holder. If you have any difficulty, please give us a call. We are happy to assist you.

### Good Bye Winter

Spring is just around the corner and the weather is warming up. Trees, shrubs and flowers are beginning to bloom, and we are starting to make plans for the outdoor projects we put on our to-do list over the winter—those in the garage, around the house and in the yard.

While you are eager to get an early start, please don't ignore safety. Plan your work, then work your plan.

Check your surroundings both high and low. Be aware of overhead power lines when trimming trees or shrubs. If you are digging holes for new fence posts or planting trees or shrubs please take a minute to call 811.

It is important that you do not nick or cut underground power lines with a shovel or pick. Again, please take a minute to call 811, the underground notification center.

The process is quick and easy. When you call 811, you are connected to the one-call center closest to your area. The call center takes your information and notifies PSREC and other utilities in the area of your request. A qualified professional is dispatched from the co-op to locate and mark the location of underground power lines where you plan to dig.

To ensure that your job stays on schedule, please call a few days before you are ready to allow for processing. Remember, knowing what is below ground will protect you, your family and your neighbors.

Be aware of any overhead power lines in your area as well. Look up before moving irrigation pipes, using a ladder, installing a new antenna or flag pole, or moving large trucks, trailers or heavy equipment.

For indoor projects that involve wiring and electrical fixtures, make sure you turn the power off at the breaker panel to avoid being shocked.

As you make your plan, remember, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It just might save your life. Please take the proper precautions as you begin your springtime chores. You will be glad you did.

### **Scholarships**

Attending a college or university next fall? PSREC and PST will offer two \$1,000 scholarships. Full details and an application can be found on our website at [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop). The application deadline is Friday, March 10.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please call me at (800) 555-2207 ext. 6076, or email me at [bmarshall@psrec.coop](mailto:bmarshall@psrec.coop).

Sincerely,

Bob Marshall  
General Manager

## **Electric News**

### **Are You Interested In Community Shared Solar From PSREC?**

PSREC is excited to be breaking ground on a new community shared solar project this spring. We would like your assistance in assessing your interest in participating in our community shared solar program. Please help us by completing a short survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSRECSolar>.

### **Plumas-Sierra Offers Scholarships to Local Students**

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) and its telecommunications subsidiary will be offering two \$1,000 scholarships in a program designed to enhance the education and resulting careers of deserving rural students.

All interested students are invited and encouraged to apply. To qualify, the student or parent/guardian's primary residence in Plumas, Lassen, Sierra or Washoe counties must be supplied with either electric power through Plumas-Sierra REC or Internet service through Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications.

Applications can be downloaded from our website, [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop), and must be delivered to Plumas-Sierra REC, Member Services Department, Attn: Corby, 73233 State Route 70, Portola, CA 96122 by **March 10**.

If you have any questions on the scholarship program, please call Corby at (530) 832-4261 ext. 6034.

## Energy Services News

### Plumas-Sierra REC Winter Rate Assistance Program Encouraging Energy Conservation in Low-Income Households

There is still time to apply for the Winter Rate Assistance Program. PSREC is taking applications now.

Apply today, once approved, you can receive a discount on your kilowatt-hour rate during the heating season!

This program is available to PSREC income-qualified members for electric service at their permanent residence in Plumas, Sierra, Lassen and Washoe counties. Income qualifications and restrictions do apply.

For an application and program details, visit [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop) or call (530) 832-4261 ext. 6047.

WRAP Income Requirements	
Number in Household	Maximum Annual Income*
1-2	\$31,020
3	\$39,060
4	\$47,100
5	\$55,140
6	\$63,180

For each additional household member add \$8,040/yr.

\*Income levels are based upon 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and are subject to change each year. Proof of income must be current to within 6 weeks from the application date.

## Telecommunications Info

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## Quote of the Month

We will find only what we look for, nothing more and nothing less.

- Anonymous

## Upcoming Events

**March 3**, Artists' Opening Reception. [Plumas Arts Gallery, 525 Main St., Quincy](#). 5 to 7 p.m. Plumas Arts Gallery welcomes a new exhibition by Jaquie Cordova, and students Hillary Edwards, Anneke Meinhardt, Amy Rose Moore and Rebecca Wallis. Meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

**March 4**, A Taste of Beef, Sip of Wine. Susanville Elks Lodge, 400 Main St. 6 to 9 p.m. Hosted by Lassen County Cattlewomen and Cattlemen. For more information, please call (530) 257-4323.

**March 4 & 5**, Johnsville Ski Bowl Sledding Days. Plumas Eureka State Park. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lost Sierra Cafe open. Dogs on leashes only. Helmets highly recommended. For more information, visit [www.eprd.specialdistrict.org](http://www.eprd.specialdistrict.org), [www.skijohnsville.com](http://www.skijohnsville.com) and [www.plumasskiclub.org](http://www.plumasskiclub.org).

**March 17**, Owl Talk: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls. Location to be arranged. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Presented by: Paul Bannick and the [Plumas Audubon Society](#). For more information, call (530) 592-0672.

**March 17 & 18**, Star Follies. Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds, Quincy. The Quincy Star Follies is a family cabaret featuring folks from our town. When school kids and community members take to the stage to 'lip-sync' great songs and dance their hearts out they just sparkle - you have to see it to believe it! For more information, call (530) 283-9900, or email [lisa@quincystarfollies.com](mailto:lisa@quincystarfollies.com).

**March 17 & 18**, [Cowboy Poetry and Music Show](#). Sierra Valley Grange Hall, Vinton. Friday 7:30 p.m. show; Saturday 2 p.m. matinee, and 7:30 p.m. evening show. For more information, call (831) 345-9840.

**March 17 & 19**, Piano Fantasia. Assembly of God Church, Susanville, 473-465 Richmond Road. 7 p.m. Presented by the Susanville Symphony Society. For more information, call (530) 310-8111, or visit [www.susanvillesymphony.com](http://www.susanvillesymphony.com).

**March 18**, Honey Lake Chapter Ducks Unlimited Dinner. 5 to 10 p.m. Jensen Hall, Lassen County Fairgrounds. Dinner and auction. For more information, call (530) 227-1742.

**March 18**, 3rd Saturday Breakfast. Susanville Masonic Lodge, 84 N Lassen Street. 8 to 11 a.m. Hosted by Friends of the Lassen-Janesville Masonic Lodge #149. \$6. For more information, call (530) 310-6097.

**March 18 & 19**, Johnsville Ski Bowl Sledding Days. Plumas Eureka State Park. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lost Sierra Cafe open. Dogs on leashes only. Helmets highly recommended. For more information, visit [www.eprd.specialdistrict.org](http://www.eprd.specialdistrict.org), [www.skijohnsville.com](http://www.skijohnsville.com) and [www.plumasskiclub.org](http://www.plumasskiclub.org).

**March 19**, World Championship Longboard Race. Plumas-Eureka State Park, Johnsville Ski Hill. 10:30 a.m. Period costumes, music, food and fun. Groomed slopes, Indorf Lodge and Lost Sierra Cafe open. Dogs on leashes only. For more information, call (530) 832-4309 or visit [www.plumasskiclub.org](http://www.plumasskiclub.org).

**March 23**, Lassen County Chamber of Commerce Mixer. Eagle Lake Village, 2001 Paul Bunyan Road, Susanville. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (530) 257-4323.

**March 30**, Eilen Jewell in Concert. [Town Hall Theatre, 469 Main St. Quincy](http://www.townhalltheatre.com). 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Don't miss your chance to experience Eilen Jewell's pure, country-gospel, box-car soul, aching vocals in the small town intimacy of the Town Hall Theatre. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

**See a full list of events at our website, [www.psrec.coop](http://www.psrec.coop).**