

# ROUGH RIDER NEWS

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NOVEMBER 2019



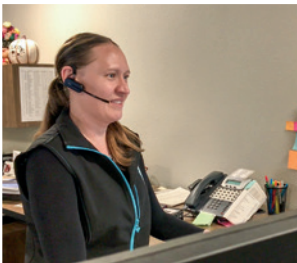
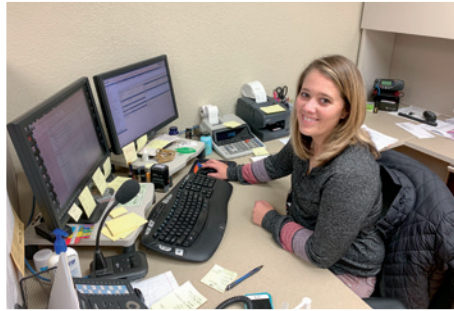
PHOTO BY DANIEL ARENS, HAZEN STAR EDITOR

## Heier 'a true ambassador' for the Hazen community

How many times in your life have you had the opportunity to ... wash an elephant? **Antoinette Heier**, the executive director of the Hazen Chamber of Commerce and CVB, did just that, along with fire department volunteers. At the end of June, Heier contracted with the Barnes and Carson Circus to bring two shows to Hazen. In the November local pages, meet Heier, who was nominated for a national #WhoPowersYou award, and learn how she is helping to advance area businesses by fostering cultural interests that contribute to a rewarding way of life. Congratulations on your nomination, Antoinette, and thank you for your commitment to community.

### What's inside:

- **Careers in Energy Week**
- **'I will' commit to safety**
- **Aiming at electrical equipment is never in season**
- **Meetings minutes, and more**



## Roughrider Electric celebrates Careers in Energy Week

The week of Oct. 14 to 18, Roughrider Electric Cooperative celebrated Careers in Energy Week. Roughrider Electric employs 45 people in Hazen and Dickinson who work a variety of jobs ranging from linemen and foremen to customer service representatives, bookkeepers, locators and more. Our extended co-op family, Innovative Energy Alliance Cooperative, provides a secondary layer of specialized employees who work as engineers and in human resources, information technology, safety and more.

Our goal at Roughrider Electric is to deliver safe, reliable and affordable energy to our members-owners — and also improve the quality of life across our service area, when possible. A cooperative is unique because we belong to the communities we serve. This gives us better insight into meeting member needs.

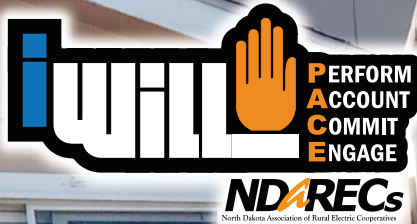
It takes a variety of skills to develop new technologies and infrastructure, keep the electric grid secure, and power the lives and economies of our local communities.

If you are considering a career in the energy industry, consider working for an electric cooperative! If you asked our employees why they chose to start and stay with Roughrider Electric, they might share some of these reasons:

- Local, community-focused organization
- Dynamic and exciting industry
- Competitive wages and benefits
- Challenging roles and fulfilling careers

They might also share that co-workers become family, and we are our brother's keeper.

Thank you, members, for supporting us and for helping us make progress possible in the energy industry. ■



“

**COMMIT to speaking up, and responding to reported hazards.**

— Roughrider Linemen *Tyler Schlosser and Ryan Block*

”

**PERFORM**

my job safely always

**ACCOUNT**

for my actions and those taken by my crew

**COMMIT**

to speaking up, and responding to reported hazards

**ENGAGE**

in job briefings, focus on the task at hand and take the time to do it safely, always!



JUNE 20 TO 26, 2020

HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS

# Win the Trip of a Lifetime!

## AN ALL-EXPENSE-PAID TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

- To enter the essay-writing contest, you must be a sophomore or junior in high school.
- You and your parents or guardian must be served by Roughrider Electric Cooperative.
- If you have a question, contact Brad Quenette, Roughrider Electric Cooperative, at 800-748-5533 during regular business hours.
- The deadline is Jan. 24, 2020. You can e-mail entries to Brad Quenette at [bquenette@roughriderelectric.com](mailto:bquenette@roughriderelectric.com) or mail a hard copy to: Youth Tour Essay Contest, Roughrider Electric Cooperative, 800 Highway Dr., Hazen, ND 58545-4737.

## ESSAY QUESTION:

*If chosen as a Youth Tour delegate, you will travel to Washington, D.C. to experience and learn about America's rich history. What moment in American history do you wish you had been a part of and what would you have contributed?*

CHECK OUT THE ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES AT  
[www.roughriderelectric.com/youth-tour](http://www.roughriderelectric.com/youth-tour)

## TOP 3 REASONS

### TO ENTER THE ESSAY-WRITING CONTEST

1. All-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., compliments of Roughrider Electric Cooperative
2. A whole week to visit unforgettable historic monuments, museums and the U.S. Capitol
3. A learning experience you'll never forget



## Report from **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** **SEPT. 27, 2019**

**When, where and who:** The Board of Directors met in Dickinson Sept. 27.

**Agenda:** The Board reviewed, added to and approved the meeting agenda.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the Aug. 30, 2019, meeting.

**Consent Agenda:** The Board reviewed, discussed and approved the Consent Agenda, including proposed membership applications, service connects and assignments, proposed cancellations of membership, and requests for retirement of capital credit accounts.

**Co-General Managers' report:** Don Franklund and Travis Kupper presented the Managers' report. Updates to various FERC filings and applications were given. The Co-General Managers would like Roughrider to be an intervening party so that it can be kept abreast of all activity taking place in these filings.

**2020 Capital Budget:** Mr. Kupper stated the Board received the information last month, so they had sufficient

time to review the budget. Mr. Franklund noted that most of the expenditures are in the Construction Work Plan. The Capital Budget identifies what will be needed for the projects scheduled for 2020. The board approved the 2020 Capital Budget.

**Upper Missouri Power Cooperative 2020 budget:** Mr. Kupper reviewed Upper Missouri's 2020 budget with the Board in detail. He reported that Upper Missouri is budgeting Roughrider's expense at approximately \$52 million, which is primarily direct power costs.

**Chief Financial Officer report:** Mr. Craigmille provided the Board with a summary of his written report.

**Upcoming meetings:** The next Board meeting was set for 10 a.m. CT on Oct. 25, 2019, at Roughrider's office in Hazen, North Dakota.

**Other business:** There being no other business, upon motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

## Roughrider Electric Cooperative offers members **CONSERVATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCIES INCENTIVES**

**R**oughrider Electric Cooperative is continuing the conservation and energy-efficiency program. The incentives help you, the member, become more energy efficient.

The program for 2019 will include ground-source heat pumps and air-source heat pumps.

Members must buy and install qualifying systems between Jan. 1, 2019 and Dec. 31, 2019. The program for the heat pumps is for new installation or for replacement of a conventional heating system.

Roughrider Electric Cooperative personnel will check the

installation, and get the appropriate documentation and receipts. Once completed and approved, Roughrider Electric Cooperative will send a check directly to the member to help cover the purchase cost.

A maximum dollar amount has been set aside for the incentive program. The program will close when we meet this amount. Roughrider Electric reserves the right to cancel the program without further notice. One rebate allowed per member.

For more information, please contact Brad Quenette, director of member services, at 800-748-5533 or email [bquenette@roughriderelectric.com](mailto:bquenette@roughriderelectric.com).

**Ground-Source Heat Pumps:**  
Required minimum efficiency

**\$150 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$600**  
CLOSED LOOP: EER >= 14.1 COP >= 3.3  
OPEN LOOP: EER >= 16.2 COP >= 3.6

**Air-Source Heat Pumps:**  
Required minimum efficiency

**\$100 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$400**  
HSPF >= 8.2 EER >= 12 SEER >= 14.5



PHOTO BY DANIEL ARENS, HAZEN STAR EDITOR

The Barnes and Carson Circus marketing department from Oklahoma contacted the Hazen Chamber of Commerce to see if they would host a local event. Antoinette Heier pitched the idea to the board of directors and they approved. The circus was held June 30 at Hazen Middle School. Heier says the acts were "simply amazing" and the reactions of those who attended were priceless. In all, the circus provided concessions, inflatables, a petting zoo, and rides on the elephants. "We plan on having them back again in the future!" she says. Shown here from left are: **Jesse Buck, Hailey Banister, Matt Goodwin, Dustin Wiedrich, Antoinette Heier and Savannah Winkler.**



COURTESY PHOTO

## Antoinette Heier powers Hazen community

Antoinette Heier, executive director of Hazen Chamber of Commerce and CVB, was a nominee in the fourth-annual #WhoPowersYou contest. It honors people who inspire and power our local communities.

In partnership with the national brand alliance Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives, Roughrider Electric Cooperative supports the #WhoPowersYou contest to highlight some of the folks who are working hard and doing good deeds in our service area. Nominations were made Aug. 5 through Sept. 6 online at [www.whopowersyou.com](http://www.whopowersyou.com).

Judges reviewed the nominations and chose the winners based on creativity and impact on

the community. The winners (\$5,000 grand prize; \$2,000 second prize; \$1,500 third prize; \$500 honorable mention) were announced mid-October.

Across the United States, 200 people were nominated for this year's contest. Three nominees are doing amazing things right here in North Dakota. Heier is the only nominee from the Roughrider service area.

While she didn't place in the top four and earn a monetary prize for her nomination, Antoinette Heier is certainly a winner in our book. Roughrider applauds her role in teaching, "businesses to be better businesses and people to be better people." Her letter of nomination is on the next page.

# Antoinette Heier is ‘a constant reminder of what makes small-town living amazing’

BY KRISTI PFLIGER-KELLER

Passionate. Dedicated. Engaged. Those are only a few words that describe the bubbly persona of Antoinette Heier.

Our community of Hazen, North Dakota, has been fortunate to have Heier serving as executive director of the Hazen Chamber of Commerce and CVB. In her short time in the role, Heier has spurred a creative

approach to community engagement, grown the chamber membership, and ignited a spark for residents to once again recognize the gifts in our community.

From bringing a traveling circus to town and hosting Weiner dog races, to recognizing veterans with special banners displayed throughout town, she is always seeking new activities to

positively impact residents of all ages and backgrounds.

Antoinette is a constant reminder of what makes small-town living amazing. She makes a lasting impression on everyone she meets, and is a true ambassador for our community. I am proud to call Hazen home and to recognize her efforts in making that possible.

## Meet the ‘force’

BY CARMEN DEVNEY

A former teacher for 18 years, Antoinette Heier was hired as executive director of the Hazen Chamber of Commerce and CVB in 2017. With degrees in physical education, family consumer science and English learners, she is now teaching residents and businesses to have enthusiasm and passion for their community.

“Once a teacher, always a teacher. They are compassionate,” she says. “I feel that has followed me to this new adventure.”

Antoinette and her husband, Brad, have lived in the Hazen area for about five years. When the position opened, she felt her heart calling her to “do more.”

In her role, she promotes and helps advance area businesses, and fosters cultural interests that contribute to a more fulfilling and rewarding way of life for residents and visitors.

Antoinette and Kristi Pfliger-Keller met about five years ago through their children’s activities, and connected through shared trials and tribulations of parenthood.

Kristi says she quickly discovered Antoinette’s passion for community and people.

“When she stepped into the role as executive director, she came with a desire to escalate Hazen’s presence within the state. She quickly engaged main street businesses and united like-minded people to implement new activities and initiatives,” she says.

Kristi says she admires Antoinette’s energy and ability to reignite people’s passions for their hometown.

“The last couple of years we have experienced a downturn in the economy and loss of jobs in the energy industry. We needed an advocate to promote the many benefits small-town living can provide to families — and Antoinette is a force. She revived some longtime traditional events and a plethora of new initiatives. Residents of all ages have benefited from her push to revitalize our sense of community and pride,” she says.

Antoinette says she is humbled

Kristi nominated her for the #WhoPowersYou award, and Kristi says she is proud to call her a friend and be part of their community journey. ■

### Welcome to Hazen!

Hazen’s open spaces, parks and walking trails provide natural beauty, says Antoinette Heier, executive director of the Hazen Chamber of Commerce and CVB. “It’s a great community, and there is always something to do,” she says.

On Nov. 30, the Chamber is hosting Small Business Saturday.

On Dec. 5, plan to attend Hazen Holiday Walk-Around. The event includes lighting Pocket Park, hot chocolate, bingo for kids and business open houses.

On Dec. 7, the Chamber is hosting Fun Keys Dueling Pianos at City Hall.



## Aiming at electrical equipment is never in season!

Insulators, conductors and electrical equipment are not targets. Never shoot near power lines, poles and substations. A stray bullet can damage equipment, interrupt electric service or hurt someone. Practice safe hunting and enjoy the great outdoors — and please treat our infrastructure with respect. Thank you, Lineman Steier, for sharing this important message.

### Hunting safety tips:

- Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.
- Familiarize yourself with the location of power lines and equipment on land where you shoot.
- Damage to the conductor can happen, possibly dropping a phase on the ground. If it's dry and the electricity goes to ground, there is the possibility of electrocution and fire.
- Do not place deer stands on utility poles or climb poles. Energized lines and equipment on the poles can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them, causing shock or electrocution.
- Do not shoot at, or near, birds perching on utility lines. Do not place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Anything attached to a pole besides utility equipment can pose an obstruction – and a serious hazard – to electric cooperative employees as they perform utility operations.

# Holiday Closings

Roughrider Electric Cooperative's offices will be closed Monday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day, and Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 and 29, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

*Line crews will be available in the case of an emergency power outage.*

**ROUGH RIDER**  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

[www.roughriderelectric.com](http://www.roughriderelectric.com)

**HAZEN OFFICE**  
701-748-2293 or 800-748-5533  
800 Highway Dr., Hazen, ND 58545  
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box by Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Krause's Super Valu in Hazen or Bronson's Super Valu in Beulah.

**DICKINSON OFFICE**  
701-483-5111 or 800-627-8470  
P.O. Box 1038, 2156 4th Ave. E.  
Dickinson, ND 58602  
7 a.m. – 4 p.m. MST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box west of Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Dickinson City Hall, or the west and south locations of Family Fare supermarkets.

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Roger Kudrna, President; Dickinson	483-8377
Darell Herman, Vice President; Beulah	873-4371
Troy Sailer, Secretary; Golden Valley	948-2427
Bruce Darcy, Treasurer; Golden Valley	983-4222
William Retterath; Center	794-8729
Arnold Kainz; Dickinson	483-8207
Dan Price; Hensler	794-3779
Greg Steckler; Dunn Center	548-8122
Callen Schoch; New England	290-3836

**MANAGEMENT**

Don Franklund	Co-GM/CEO
Travis Kupper	Co-GM/CEO

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