

the Wheat Belt Connection

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 12

MAY 2019

2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



Danielle Higgins was selected to receive the \$1,000 Basin Scholarship. Danielle is the daughter of Robert and Lianne Higgins of Dalton. She will attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in nutrition, exercise and health sciences and minoring in business administration.

Ryan Blue will be attending Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne. He was selected to receive one of the \$500 Wheat Belt Scholarships. Ryan is the son of Chris Blue and Susan Coulter of Bridgeport. His major course of study will be in Cybersecurity.



Shelby Miller was selected to receive the second \$500 Wheat Belt Scholarship. Shelby is the daughter of Bryan and Jamie Miller of Sidney. She will be studying Mechanical Engineering at Arizona State University and will minor in automotive and basic engineering.

Scholarship winners will continue on Page 12-B. We congratulate the six winners from the Wheat Belt service territory and wish all graduates the best of luck in their future endeavors!

Wheat Belt Connection

Editor
Pam Wieser

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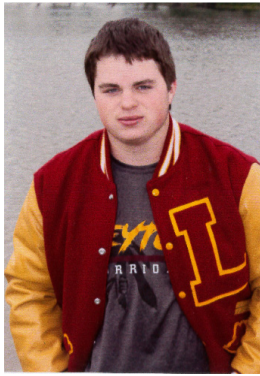
Drawing Winner

Yolanda Hruska

Our March "Lucky Winners" are Lowell and Mildred Swanson who have been Wheat Belt customers since 1969. The Swansons owned and operated the Dalton Telephone Company for over 30 years, retiring in 2000. Along with retirement, they enjoy watching Nebraska football.

For their prompt payment, they receive a \$50 credit. If you would like to be included in our next drawing, and avoid the \$5 delinquent fee, please send your payment before the 18th of the month.

For your convenience, we offer several options: Automatic Bank Draft, Automatic Credit Card or Pay Your Bill Online using our secure Auto-Pay system. We also accept payments over the phone. Please give us a call or visit wheatbelt.com and select the Customer Services menu.



2019 Scholarship Winners

Two area youths received scholarships sponsored by our power supplier, Tri-State G & T. They were Joshua Allen Kruse of Gurley (left) and Samantha Rae Schmid of Oshkosh (Lower Left). Josh is the son of Shawn and Janella Kruse, and will be attending Chadron State College majoring in Chemistry and minoring in foreign language.



Samantha is the daughter of Daniel and Michelle Schmid, and is a sophomore at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

Her major is in psychology with a minor in criminology.

Arbor Wealth Scholarship

The Arbor Wealth \$100 Scholarship was awarded to Janessa Kay Carley. Janessa is the daughter of Mark and Jackie Carley of Dalton. She will be attending Chadron State College, and plans to major in accounting.



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Quotes to Ponder

"April Showers bring may flowers, and a lot of allergies."

Unknown

"Be thankful and grateful for your health, until you experience poor health, you have no idea how little anything else matters!"

Unknown

"You will remove most of the stress from your life, if you accept and believe that there are some people you can not make happy, it is their choice."

Unknown

"This Memorial Day, make it about patriotism. Share the values that formed the Constitution, and honor those that have fought for it."

Unknown

"Everything is funny as long as it's happening to somebody else."

Will Rogers

"A true friend isn't afraid to laugh when you trip, but is reaching out a hand to help you at the same time!"

Unknown

"It's spring, take the time to smell the flowers!"

Unknown

Tim Lindahl
General Manager

Tim's Tidbits

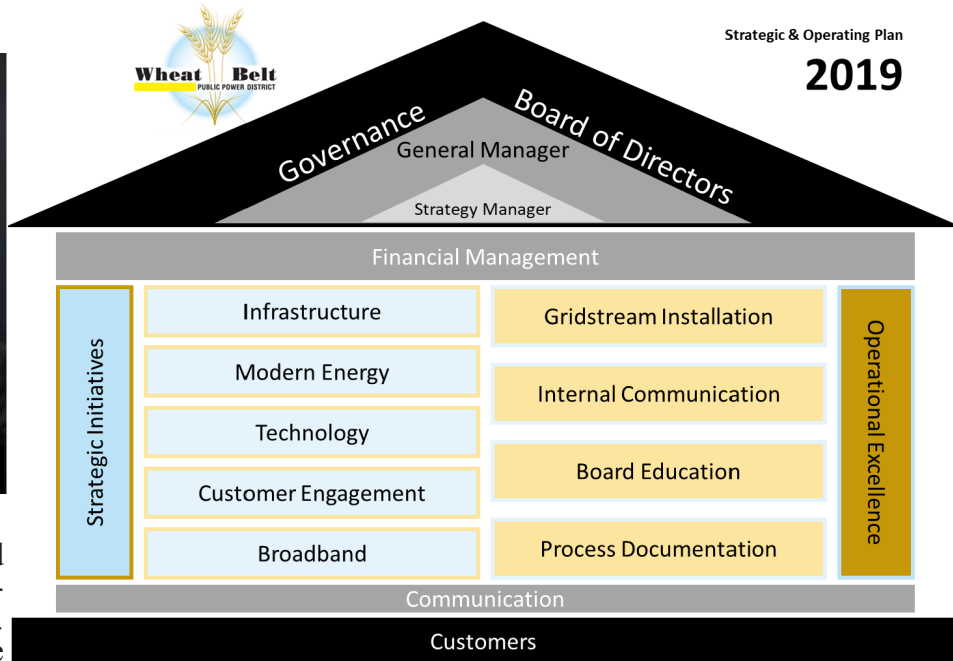
Strategic Update
Guest Editorial
Lacey Gulbranson



Lacey Gulbranson

Each January, the Board of Directors meet to discuss strategic planning. This year's session set the foundation for a fully revised three-year plan. Facilitated by our partners at CFC (Cooperative Finance Corporation), the Board and key staff identified six areas of strategic focus. These areas include: Infrastructure, Modern Energy, Technology, Customer Engagement, Broadband and Financial Management.

In addition to the strategic plan, our General



Manager has identified four areas of operating focus for 2019. Over the coming months, you can expect to learn more about each of these goals and how the organization is making progress to the strategic plan and improvements to operational efficiency. A visual has been included to show how you, our customers, are the foundation of Wheat Belt operations and strategy.

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BY PAM WIESER

2019 CUSTOMER MEETING



Pictured: Kim Christensean (Left) General Manager of the Nebraska Rural Electric Association and Sallie Atkins (Right), Ag Director for Adrian Smith's office. Gary Myers (Center), Tri-State G & T's Relationship Manager was in attendance with assorted displays and give-aways.

Wheat Belt held their second customer meeting in the new Headquarters Building on March 22. Following a luncheon served by Wheat Belt staff, customers were given the opportunity to voice concerns and were updated on the district by CEO, Tim Lindahl. Three speakers were invited to share the afternoon with customers: Kim Christiansen of NREA, Sallie Atkins, Adrian Smith's Ag Director and Jennifer Goss, Tri-State G & T's, Senior Vice President of Member Relations.

Prize drawings were held throughout the afternoon.



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