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CEO

Ryan J. Redmond

rredmond@bentonrea.org

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CLOSED 7/4
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Ryan J. Redmond Joins Benton REA as New CEO

Benton REA has a new CEO, Ryan J. Redmond!

Ryan's first day was June 19. He started the day by greeting employees at the door as they arrived to work beginning at 6:30 a.m.

With over fifteen years of experience in the utility industry and over 20 years in leadership roles under his belt, Ryan is ready. He has a proven track record of leading effective, high performing teams, executing long-term strategic business policies and contracts, and successfully leading teams through extreme change.

"It's an amazing time to be in the utility and energy business. I'm excited to take the helm now and work with Benton REA's fantastic team to build a better tomorrow for our membership," says Redmond.

In December of 2022 Benton REA's Board

of Trustees and hiring firm GreatCo-Ops started the process of searching for a new CEO. After consideration of all applicants and a thorough interview process, the Board of Trustees announced their decision on April 20, 2023.

Redmond earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Washington State University and a Juris Doctorate from Gonzaga School of Law. He has worked for Puget Sound Energy, Bonneville Power Administration and most recently was the Chief Resources Officer at Peninsula Light Company in Gig Harbor, Washington.

Redmond and his wife have three children. As a family, they love spending time outdoors hiking, backpacking and camping. In his free time Ryan finds joy in writing and playing music. ■

Congratulations to our

2023 Scholarship Recipients

			
Aida Roy PROSSER HIGH SCHOOL \$8,000 Academic Scholarship	Aleah Wolfert HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL \$8,000 Academic Scholarship	Bryn Neal RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL \$8,000 Academic Scholarship	Jared Sheehan SUNNYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL \$8,000 Academic Scholarship
			
Julianna Phillips PROSSER HIGH SCHOOL \$8,000 Academic Scholarship	Joseph Hummer HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL \$4,000 Trade & Tech Scholarship	Logan Shultz PROSSER HIGH SCHOOL \$4,000 Trade & Tech Scholarship	

Free Health Fair at the Annual Meeting

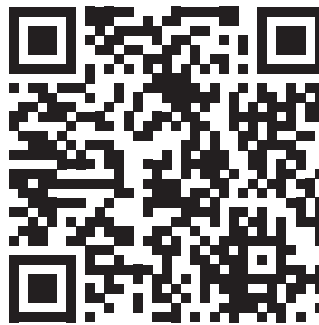
Register today!



Prosser Memorial Health will be at the 86th Annual Meeting to conduct a free health fair.

Members are eligible to receive a simple pulmonary function test, lipid panel, bone density screening, blood sugar test and blood pressure screening.

To register for your health screening scan the QR code or call 509-786-6601.



**Benton REA offices
will be CLOSED
Tuesday, July 4**

***Have a happy and safe
4th of July!***



IS YOUR POWER OUT?

If your electricity is out for more than a few minutes:

- Check your breaker box to see if a circuit breaker has tripped.
- Check to see if your neighbors have power.
- Report Benton REA outages by calling 800-221-6987 or 509-786-1626 or use the SmartHub app.

COOPERATIVE INFORMATION

BENTON RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Prosser Office
402 7th St. | P.O. Box 1150
Prosser, WA 99350
509-786-2913

West Richland Office
6095 W. Van Giesen St.
West Richland, WA 99353
509-967-2921

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAY

Toll Free: 800-221-6987
www.BentonREA.org
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

MEMBER SERVICES

This newsletter is produced by the Benton REA Member Services Department:
Stacey Azure, Communications Specialist
Troy Berglund, VP of Member Services
Shannon Olsen, Assistant Member Services Manager
Ron Mitchell, Electrical Advisor
Chad Smith, Energy Efficiency Advisor
Leandra Chavez, Administrative Assistant

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know ceiling fans can make a room feel 4 degrees cooler? To save energy through ceiling fan use, remember to raise your thermostat a few degrees while fans are turned on. Ceiling fans can help improve comfort year-round. In the summer, operate ceiling fans in a counterclockwise direction. Reverse the direction to clockwise during winter months and set fans on a low speed so warm air can circulate from the ceiling to the lower levels of the room. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not spaces. Be sure to turn them off when you leave the room.

Source: Dept. of Energy



See You at the Annual Meeting!

8:30 a.m. to noon

- Trucks on display: utility, fire, ambulance and police.
- High-voltage safety demonstrations.
- Kids activities, prizes.
- Face painting.
- Electric vehicle showcase.
- Energy savings information.
- PowerNET internet information.
- Hydropower activities, education.
- Tree planting tips.
- Fire safety and preparedness.
- Kids' safety poster contest entries.



8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

- Bingo with prizes.
- Tethered hot air balloon rides.
- Breakfast pastries and drinks.

10:30 a.m. to noon

Lunch catered by Neighbor's BBQ: pulled pork, sliced smoked chicken breast, baked beans, creamy coleslaw, rolls, soda and water.

Noon

- 86th Annual Membership Meeting
- Districts four, five and six election results.
- Prizes, and \$100 and \$500 electric bill credits awarded during the meeting.
- Color guard.
- Free child care.



July 15

Prosser High School
1500 Paterson Rd, Prosser

Huard Substation Now Energized

Benton Rural Electric Association (REA) celebrated the completion of a new substation located in Prosser, WA.

Huard substation, located at 24835 N Hinzerling Road, was built on land purchased several years ago for future expansion. The project was completed in phases beginning in 2022. The addition of Benton REA's 20th substation was needed to improve reliability of electricity served to its members.

"Huard substation will not only allow us to provide redundancy, but also increases the capacity for growth in the surrounding areas," says Derek Miller, Engineering Manager. "It was also designed with space for further expansion in future years as our service territory sees more growth."

Huard substation underwent testing in the month of April and was connected to Bonneville Power Association 115kV line. It was fully energized and brought online in May. ■



Benton REA staff pictured from left: Troy Berglund, VP of Member Services, Joel Mietzner, System Engineer, Nick Pryor, Distribution Engineer, Derek Miller, Engineering Manager, Shannon Olsen, Member Services Assistant Manager and Larry Hall, Meter Foreman and Journeyman Lineworker

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\$8,000 Academic Scholarship



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