This year, Mason PUD 3 marks 80 years of service to Mason County. As part of the celebration, PUD 3 hosted a customer appreciation barbecue, documented decades of history for a book, and will celebrate public power week October 6-12.

The 80th anniversary is considered the “Oak Anniversary.” Just like the mighty oak, Mason PUD sprung like an acorn from the fertile minds of the leaders of the Washington State Grange. They knew that rural Washington State would be left in the dark, literally, if electricity was not available to people living outside the big cities.

In 1929, the Washington State Grange collected more than 60,000 signatures – twice the number necessary - to send Initiative No. 1 to the Legislature, allowing rural communities to form publicly owned utilities. When the Legislature failed to act, the measure went to a statewide election, where it passed in 1930 with 54 percent of the vote.

Electricity - for those who could afford it – used to be a luxury. Those who lived in rural areas of much of the country lived “off the grid” and lived hard lives. You needed a strong back to chop wood for cooking and heating, hand wash clothes, pump water, or do just about anything else.

In 1934 supporters of Mason PUD 3 filed a petition with the county Auditor to form a countywide PUD. Despite strong opposition from private power interests, local voters approved the measure. Even so, PUD 3 had to take its case all the way to the Washington State Supreme Court, where in 1939 it won the right to begin local operations.

Mason County PUD No. 3
Utility Fuel Mix Report

Legislation passed in 2000 directed electric utilities in Washington to report their fuel mix to customers each year. The 2017 fuel mix for PUD 3 (reported in 2018) listed as a percentage of the total is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coal</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydroelectric</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clean Audit from Washington State Auditor’s Office for 40 Straight Years

PUD 3 received its 40th consecutive clean report from the Washington State Auditor’s Office on the PUD’s financial management, operations, and compliance with state laws and regulations.

The Washington State Auditor’s Office focused on financial and accountability audits in its recent review of PUD 3. Financial audits ensure the PUD accounts for public funds, and certifies units of state and local government adhere to required laws and regulations relating to financial matters such as bidding and contracts.

The PUD also received a clean audit for its efforts to meet requirements of the Washington state Energy Independence Act. The utility is one of 12 in the state that must obtain a certain percentage of its power from qualified renewable energy sources and cost-effective conservation.

PUD 3 has received fourteen consecutive Certificates of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the International Government Finance Officers Association of U.S. & Canada.

All year long, PUD 3 employees volunteer their time and donate money to many local organizations. Through the PUD’s volunteer employee association (PUDEA), employees participate in the school supply drive for Mason County children in foster care with the Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS). Employees can donate money, backpacks and/or school supplies, or sponsor a specific child and fill a backpack with all the items from their school supply list. Supply lists are provided by DSHS and picked up prior to the first day of school.

This year, a small group of operation/field employees donated $175 to the PUDEA to support the backpack program. Their generous donation alone sponsored three foster children. In all, a total of 15 foster children were provided with all the supplies they need to start a new school year.

This is just one way our employees serve their neighbors, families, and friends to strengthen and connect our community. We believe our partnerships with local agencies have a lasting impact on our community. PUD 3 is proud to be community-powered.

PUD 3 works hard to serve its customers with safe, reliable and cost-based service.

The PUD has received consistent recognition of the excellence of its financial management, independent certification of the excellence of operational reliability, and its community outreach. The PUD is pleased with the positive reflection on all its employees who strive every day to protect the investment the community has made in the utility for the last 80 years...and the many years to come.

Read the online book “The Power Behind Our Community, Mason County PUD 3’s First 80 Years” www.pud3.org/book.

(continued from front cover)

In May of 1939, PUD 3 started providing electricity to eight customers. PUD 3 now provides service to nearly 34,000 customers. The PUD has almost 1,800 miles of overhead and underground lines to serve its customers. PUD 3 also operates a wholesale fiber optic telecommunications network, which supports the operation of its electric distribution services.

Sign up for Paperless Billing. WIN an iPad. It’s as Easy as 1-2-3!

From your smart phone - Login to your PUD 3 SmartHub App

1. Select the ‘Settings’ icon.
2. Choose ‘Paperless Bill Settings’.
3. Switch your paperless setting to ‘On’. You’re all set!

Sign up for Paperless Billing by October 15 to be in the drawing. Already on Paperless Billing? Great! You’re automatically entered! pud3.org/paperless
Public Power Week celebrates affordable electricity for nearly 34,000 PUD 3 customers. The week-long observation also honors the democratic tradition of community decision-making that led to the founding of the PUD in the 1934 general election. PUD 3 staff will be hosting hundreds of Mason County fifth graders during the week. The students will learn about where their electricity comes from, the importance of hydropower for continued reliable service, other renewable energy sources, and what the PUD does to improve the lives of all its customers. This October, PUD 3 joins with more than 2,000 other electric utilities that provide their citizens electricity services on a not-for-profit basis. Public power’s distinct characteristics help PUD 3 customers become more powerful every day while they are working, playing or enjoying the comforts of home.

Public Power Week is celebrated in conjunction with the American Public Power Association (APPA) in Washington, D.C. APPA is a national service organization for community and state-owned electric utilities.

Don’t Get Caught with a High Bill for an Empty House

Some customers go away on vacation expecting a smaller energy bill on their return, only to find the bill was pretty much the same as when they’re home. A home’s electrical devices are consuming energy all the time, whether the house is occupied or not. This is why it’s important to take the proper steps to prepare a home to be empty when it won’t be used for a long period of time.

Here are a few steps you can take to lower bills while you’re away:

- Turn off your water heater.
- Turn down your thermostat
- Unplug your refrigerator
- Unplug electronics
- Close your curtains
- Use timers and sensors on security lights

For more tips including a vacation checklist: www.pud3.org/emptyhome

While You’re Away...

Shuck & Share 5K Run/Walk
Sunday, October 6, 2019 Start time: 8AM
Race starts and ends at: Huff-n-Puff Trail
3600 Shelton Springs Rd. Shelton, WA 98584

PACKET PICKUP:
Mason PUD 3, 2621 E. Johns Prairie Rd.
Friday, October 4th (8AM - 5PM) OR
On race day: 6:30AM at registration tent

More Information & Online Registration:
www.pud3.org/run

All profits support Project Share, an assistance program helping low-income families with their electric bills.

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST
THEME: PUD 3 In Your Community
ENTRIES DUE: Thursday, September 26, 2019

We’d like to see what “PUD 3 in Your Community” looks like to you through your artistic creativity.

Eligibility
All PUD 3 customers are eligible to enter.

Contest Rules
- Only one submission per entrant.
- Must be an original design and created by you.
- Any medium (2 dimensional) is accepted.
- Artwork or photography must fit into an 8” x 10” frame.
- Attach a registration form to the back of your artwork.

Visit our website for registration forms and contest details: www.pud3.org/art
This truck is a promise from the Mason PUD 3 Commissioners to the 63,000 folks who call Mason County home. From Matlock to Kamilche, from Tahuya to Lake Cushman, and all points in between. This truck is our promise to deliver dependable power and excellent customer service to Mason County.

It’s a promise we make to 34,000 homes and offices in PUD 3’s service territory, and it’s a promise we keep over a million times a day.

When you hit the switch, the lights come on. When you turn up the thermostat, the heat is there. This truck is a promise kept as clean power generated from the Bonneville Power Administration’s Hydroelectric Dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers enter our county through high voltage transmission lines to each of our substations. These state-of-the-art facilities step down the electricity to safely deliver power over 1,800 miles of overhead and underground lines throughout Mason County.

PUD 3’s promise to Mason County is bigger than power.

This truck represents a promise to explore clean sources of energy to protect our environment. Projects like wind farms, including White Creek and Nine Canyon; or solar energy from our community solar array at the Johns Prairie Operations Center. In fact, wind and hydroelectric power have positioned PUD 3 to run on nearly 100% renewable resources year over year.

This truck is also a promise to expand high speed fiber optic infrastructure to rural areas of Mason County. We understand the necessity for broadband services to support things like education, economic development, and just plain living in the 21st century. We’ve received grants to help fund our work to reach unserved and underserved areas of our county.

We won’t quit until everyone has equal access to this essential utility.

Finally, this truck is our promise to support our community. PUD 3 employees donate thousands of dollars and hours of service to Mason County organizations like United Way. They’ve collected countless items and sponsored foster kids for back to school backpacks and Christmas gift programs. The PUD’s student employee program provides opportunities for students in PUD 3’s service territory to get real working experience and learn the value of a community owned utility.

We make these promises because we are your neighbors.

We live here. We’re proud of it and we’re committed to it. So, the next time you see one of our trucks, remember it’s our promise to you. A promise we made to our neighbors and friends, and a promise we’ve kept for over 80 years. That’s the power of community.

#PUD3Promise

Watch the video: www.pud3.org/promise