Waldport City Councilor Dann Cutter loves his all-electric Chevrolet Bolt, which goes 230 miles on a single charge.

**Time to Drive Electric?**

In just seven years, one in every six cars sold in the world will be electric, reports *Bloomberg Technology*. Electric cars can be found in Central Lincoln’s service area from North Bend to Lincoln Beach, from elegant Teslas, to Nissan Leafs, Kia Souls, and the new Chevy Bolt, named MotorTrends’ 2017 Car of the Year. And Dann Cutter, who just leased a Bolt, thinks he knows why:

“The Bolt has the mileage of the Tesla without waiting for years (for delivery)... no more gas stations for me! After the state rebate, my lease payments over three years will be about $250/month. Subtract the six tanks of gas I was averaging a month, and I figure I am ‘making’ $18 a month to drive a new car.”

As part of our 75 anniversary celebrations, Central Lincoln is launching an electric car initiative aimed at increasing the number of electric cars in our service area: “We believe mid-priced electric cars may help our customers save money—cutting their fuel and maintenance costs by as much as 50%,” says General Manager Debra Smith. “Much of the United States’ electricity is generated here, supporting American jobs, not only in generation but at utilities such as Central Lincoln. And, since nearly all of the electricity we sell is carbon-free, driving electric helps to keep Oregon’s air clean.”

This year, not only will Central Lincoln be sponsoring our popular electric car entries in nine parades up and down the Central Coast, we’ll be sponsoring electric car drive-or-rides, adding an electric car section on our clpud.org website, and offering other chances to learn about or experience electric cars. We hope you’ll consider coming along for an electric ride.

**FUN FACTS:**

- 80% of electric car charging is done at home, and nearly all of today’s electric cars come with 20-25 feet long charging cords that plug into any standard 120V outlet.
- The average Central Lincoln customer who drives an electric vehicle spends about $20 a month to charge at home.
- Mid-priced electric cars such as the Chevy Bolt and Tesla 3, both base-priced at $35,000, have a range of 230 miles. (The average cost of a new gas-powered vehicle is $35,309, according to *Forbes*.) The average American drives about 40 miles a day.
- A federal tax credit of $7,500 to buy an electric car is available (get details from IRS.gov or an accountant) and a state rebate of $2,500 to lease or buy an electric vehicle is expected to be available later this year.
- A state program to help low-income Oregonians buy a used electric car, or lease one, is planned for later this year.
- The number of public charging stations on the Central Coast is growing. See plugshare.com for a complete map of stations here, in Oregon, and across the U.S.
- Today’s electric vehicles are fast—and quiet.
“Credit for Clunkers” Ends, Other Rebates Reduced March 30

- Fridges and freezers manufactured before 1993 usually eat A LOT of electricity. If you have an old ‘clunker’ that qualifies for the program, and you want to get rid of it, we’ll pay to haul it away from your curb, have the parts recycled, and put a $25 rebate on your bill.
- Heat pump water heaters: Our rebates on heat pump water heaters will be reduced the end of March: From $500 to $300 for Tier 1 models, and from $1,000 to $500 for Tier 2-3 models.
- Ductless heat pumps: Currently, this rebate is up to $1,000 for a ductless heat pump. After March 30? Up to $750

For more details, please call 888-883-9879, or see rebate details at clpud.org under “Energy Efficiency & Programs.”

Congratulations, Florence!

Out of nearly 2,000 nominees, Florence has been chosen as a top ten competitor for “Small Business Revolution,” an online TV show. The winner of the competition will receive $500,000 in consulting and other assistance for small businesses in that community. The five finalist communities will be announced February 13. If Florence makes the cut (and we’re really hoping it does!) your vote will be needed immediately, as online voting will determine the winner by the end of February. For updates, go to our Facebook and Twitter sites @clpud.