

# THE PowerLines REPORT

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July 2016

## DMEA Hosts Annual Meeting, Welcomes New Board Member



Jasen Bronec, CEO

More than 1,000 members and guests came together last month on June 16 for the DMEA Annual Meeting of Members. The annual meeting is one of the cooperative's most important events of the year. It is a time to gather together with our membership, review our accomplishments, and talk about our goals for the future. But more than that, it also marks the conclusion of our annual board of director elections.

As a member-owned cooperative, DMEA is governed by a nine-member democratically elected board of directors. Those directors are elected by the membership, from the membership. Each year, three board seats are up for election. This year, you were asked to vote for your representatives in Districts 3, 4, and the South Region. The results of the 2016 Board of Directors Election are below:

### District 3

Olen Lund: 2380 votes

\*Brad Harding: 2792 votes

### District 4:

\*Jim Elder: 3929 votes

Walter von Helms: 1,148 votes

### South Region:

\*Tony Prendergast: 3586 votes

John Fleming: 1,540 votes

Please join me as I officially welcome Brad Harding to the DMEA Board of Directors and welcome back Jim Elder and Tony Prendergast. Serving on the board is no small task. It is a three-year commitment to the membership. Board members are tasked with making tough decisions about rates, policies, and the strategic direction of the co-op. I want to thank all of our 2016 candidates for being willing to serve their fellow co-op members.



# RISE ABOVE

1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) internet and quality voice services powered by fiber will take your communication to the next level. Are you ready?



Check out our plans and preregister at [join.elevatefiber.com](http://join.elevatefiber.com) to take advantage of the low **\$100 introductory installation fee.**

## RESIDENTIAL

### ► Internet

100 Mbps internet	<b>\$49<sup>95</sup></b>
1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) internet	<b>\$79<sup>95</sup></b>

### ► Internet + Voice

100 Mbps internet + unlimited voice	<b>\$79<sup>95</sup></b>
1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) internet + unlimited voice	<b>\$109<sup>95</sup></b>

## BUSINESS

### ► Internet

100 Mbps internet	<b>\$79<sup>95</sup></b>
1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) internet	<b>\$499<sup>95</sup></b>

### ► Internet + Voice

100 Mbps internet + unlimited voice	<b>\$129<sup>95</sup></b>
1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) internet + unlimited voice	<b>\$549<sup>95</sup></b>

Elevate Fiber is not yet available in all areas. Visit [join.elevatefiber.com](http://join.elevatefiber.com) to see if service is available at your location. \$100 installation fee is a limited time offer and is required. A 12-month contract with a minimum service level of \$49.95 per month is required. Elevate internet service is required for voice service.

Learn more and preregister at [join.elevatefiber.com](http://join.elevatefiber.com) / 

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# Haven House Fights Homelessness One Family at a Time

The Haven House looks nothing like a traditional home, but inside its apartment-like exterior it has all that matters: heart. More specifically, it has the three compassionate and dedicated hearts of Rose Verheul, Carolyn Carter, and Julie Harris. In an effort to help the trio continue providing safe temporary housing for area families, DMEA presented the Haven House with a \$2,000 donation from the co-op's Operation Round Up Charitable Trust last month.

The Haven House provides temporary long-term housing for families and individuals facing homelessness. It also provides training and a support network to help families establish healthy and self-sustaining lifestyles.

“People often come to us leaving domestic violence or substance abuse and just all around unhealthy situations. We help them make the changes so they don't have to be homeless anymore,” said Director of Operations, Rose Verheul.

The facility can host up to 17 families at a time. It includes a full commercial kitchen, laundry room, and even a children's playroom filled with donated toys, movies, and craft supplies. Residents are required to adhere to a strict code of ethics, which includes a background check and drug and alcohol screening. They are also required to complete a set number of volunteer hours, perform community chores, and comply with a curfew.

So much more than a homeless shelter, the Haven House provides its residents a path to success, including goal setting with incentives, life coaching, educational classes, counseling, job hunting assistance, and much more. For this reason, residents that succeed in completing their goals and securing housing are considered graduates.

“To hear and witness them solve their own problems. To see them use the tools we give them. That's what's really fulfilling,” explained case manager, Julie Harris.

The Haven House operates entirely on grants and the generosity of private donors. When families and individuals are initially accepted, they often have no means to provide basic food, clothing, and hygiene items. Donations, like the one from DMEA's Operation Round Up

program, help the Haven House provide initial support to families.

The Haven House accepts donations of all kinds, but is particularly in need of shoes, business clothes, and children's items. The center also recently launched a family sponsorship program, where community members can sponsor one family for just \$10 per month. Their goal is 500 families. To participate, call (970) 323-5280 or email [info@havenhousehomeless.org](mailto:info@havenhousehomeless.org). For more information about Haven House visit [havenhousehomeless.org](http://havenhousehomeless.org).

Operation Round Up is a charitable giving program funded by DMEA members. Participating members choose to round up their monthly electric bill. The rounded up portions from all participating members are deposited into a separate account and are used to grant donations to worthwhile organizations, projects, charities, and individuals. To learn more or sign up to participate visit [www.dmea.com/content/operation-roundup](http://www.dmea.com/content/operation-roundup).



Above: Haven House representatives accept a \$2,000 donation from DMEA's Operation Round Up Charitable Trust.



## Thank You for Supporting Bronson Satterly!

Thank you to the many community members who turned out for a charity softball game between DMEA and the Montrose Police Department. All proceeds from the event went to the Bronson Satterly Medical Fund. Bronson is the son of DMEA customer service representative Sara McCombs and Montrose Police Officer Robbie Satterly. He recently underwent open-heart surgery to repair a pulmonary valve.

If you'd like to make a donation visit [www.gofundme.com/bronsonsatterly](http://www.gofundme.com/bronsonsatterly).

# Stay Safe in Auto Accidents Involving Power Poles

Should you be involved in an automobile accident with a power pole, do the following:

- Stay in the car. Call 911 to have the utility notified.
- Do not leave the vehicle until utility professionals have de-energized the line and they advise you that it is safe to exit.
- If you must exit the vehicle because it is on fire, jump clear of it with your feet together and without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Keeping your feet together, “bunny hop” to safety. Doing this will ensure that you will not have different strengths of electric current running from one foot to another.
- Be aware that, after an accident with a pole, wires can fall at any time.
- Downed lines can sometimes show they are live by arcing and sparking with electricity, but this is not always the case. Treat all downed wires as though they are energized.
- Remember, most power lines are not insulated. The coating on the lines is for weatherproofing and will not offer any protection from the electrical current.
- The tires of the vehicle do not insulate it from electrical dangers. Follow the above safety precautions even if the car has rolled and is upside down or on its side. The vehicle is the path to ground for the electrical current. So while you remain in the car, you are safe. If you step out of the car, you are in danger of becoming the path to ground.
- If you witness an accident involving a vehicle and downed lines, stay back, and warn others to stay away. Make sure the occupants of the car stay inside the vehicle until the utility has arrived to de-energize the lines.

For more information on electrical safety, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).



Staying in your vehicle is the safest thing you can do if you're involved in a vehicle accident with a power pole. Contact 911 immediately and do not exit until utility professionals tell you it is safe. Source: [www.safeelectricity.org](http://www.safeelectricity.org)



## Home Cookin'

### Avocado Black Bean & Corn Salad

- Ken Causey, Cedaredge

#### Ingredients:

2 - 3 cups corn, roasted or frozen  
4 avocados, cubed  
1 jalapeño, diced  
1 can black beans, drained & rinsed  
12 cherry tomatoes, halved  
1/3 red onion, diced  
2 stalks celery, diced  
1/4 cup lime juice & 1/4 olive oil, mixed

#### Directions:

Gently fold all ingredients together and refrigerate. Salad is also very tasty without the black beans.

### Share the Love!

Share your favorite family recipe and share the love with all of our members. We are especially looking for recipes that feature all of the local goods and food we produce right here in Western Colorado: apples, sweet corn, peaches, beans, cheese, wine... the list goes on. Please send your recipes to

[phil.sanchez@dmea.com](mailto:phil.sanchez@dmea.com).



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

#### Montrose Office

11925 6300 Road  
Montrose, CO 81401  
M - F; 8:00am-5:00pm

#### Read Office

21191 H 75 Road  
Delta, CO 81416  
M & W; 9:00am-4:00pm

#### Contact Us:

1-877-687-3632 | [www.dmea.com](http://www.dmea.com)



#### Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, *District 1*  
Olen Lund, *District 3*  
Marshall Collins, *District 5*  
Mark Eckhart, *District 7*  
Tony Prendergast, *South*

Kyle Martinez, *District 2*  
Jim Elder, *District 4*  
Terry Brown, *District 6*  
John Gavan, *North*

DMEA board meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday monthly, beginning at 3pm with the public comment period at 5pm. Call (970) 240-1212 to confirm specific dates, times, and locations.

#### Recipes Info:

Submit recipes, including your name, address, and phone number to:

DMEA Newsletter  
PO Box 910  
Montrose, CO 81402

Or email your information to [communications@dmea.com](mailto:communications@dmea.com).

If your recipe is published, claim your prize by calling (970) 240-1273 within 60 days.