

# THE PowerLines REPORT

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October 2018

## 5 REASONS WHY BEING A MEMBER MATTERS - *Jasen Bronec, CEO*

Much of my 22-year career has taken place in the cooperative world, first as an electrical engineer, then as a CEO, a roll I'm still honored to serve you in today. And, for most of those 22 years, I have struggled to find a way to explain what being a member of the co-op means to me. Because, you see, most of us don't remember what it was like to live without electricity; without modern conveniences.

What was once a scarce resource, limited only to the "big city," is now a given in all parts of America. I'll admit, that can make it hard to truly understand what's so great about being a member of a rural electric cooperative, like DMEA. So, I went straight to the experts for this one - your DMEA employees. Here's what they had to say.

My mother grew up in rural Oklahoma during the Great Depression and [...] she remembered how hard life was without electricity. It was only because the co-op came along that she was able to have power at the farm as a teenager. She would not consider living without electricity again! When I reflect on her thoughts and realize how blessed I am to enjoy the comforts and conveniences of electricity while being able to live in rural Western Colorado, I am so thankful for electric cooperatives - especially DMEA. The investor owned utilities have put profit at a higher priority than serving rural residents, so the cooperative approach takes service to a much higher level.

*Rod Geiger, DMEA Energy Services Specialist  
10 years of Service*

Anytime you have all members of a community working toward a common goal, you can't help but have a win-win situation. Co-ops are a sure way to unite the hearts and minds of people!

*Myrna Stilley, DMEA Accounting Clerk  
15 years of Service*

It's not just about the bottom line.

*Michelle Kehmeier, DMEA Accounting Clerk  
13 years of service*

DMEA isn't a big, for-profit corporation where I'm so removed from management that I cannot voice a complaint and have it heard by management. We're all working together to make our communities better.

*Mark Kurtz, Elevate Senior Business Project Manager  
11 years of service*

My favorite thing about the co-op is that it is member-owned: the fact that we have a voice that can be heard all the way up by those steering the co-op. For example, Elevate was created by DMEA because the members' voices were heard. We needed better bandwidth in our area. Another example would be the fact that we can help choose where our power comes from, like hydro, solar and other renewable sources rather than supporting a company that only produces power from coal.

*Dakota Cole, Elevate Network Engineer  
2 years of Service*

### OCTOBER IS NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH - COME SEE US!

Stop in and say "Hi," Oct. 1 - Nov. 6 and pick up your free LED light bulbs (limit 2 per household).

**Read Service Center**  
21191 H 75 Road  
Delta, CO  
Mon. & Wed.  
9AM - 4PM

**Montrose Office**  
11925 6300 Road  
Montrose, CO  
Mon.- Fri.  
8AM - 5PM

VA

# RETHINK THE HOME PHONE

Create the perfect package when you add home phone to your Elevate account.

**NO BUNDLING REQUIRED.  
WE GIVE THE BEST PRICE  
THE FIRST TIME.**

1st Line \$30/mo.  
2nd Line additional \$20/mo.

#### Free Premium Phone Features

- » Voicemail
- » Caller ID
- » Call waiting
- » Three-way calling
- » Call forwarding

Elevate not only offers the fastest internet in town (speeds up to 1 Gig), but they also offer home phone service with unbeatable reliability. Give us a call today at 877-687-3632 to add home phone to your Elevate account—our friendly, local team is standing by to get you connected.

- » **Quality**—cell phone service can be spotty and can go out from time to time. Phone service from Elevate is powered by same fiber that brings your Elevate internet to your home and will deliver a crystal-clear connection every time with no dropped calls.
- » **Emergencies**—phone service from Elevate is only \$30 per month and includes unlimited local and long-distance calling. You will be able to leave the house without worry—kids and babysitters will always have a way to connect with you. Even if power goes out, you will have service for approximately 6 hours.
- » **Features**—having a home phone through Elevate allows you to organize all calls in one place (think school calls, doctor, appointment reminders, etc.) With the Elevate home phone web portal—free of charge—you can organize all calls and voicemails and even forward via email. If you are not home, the system can also trigger to send the call to your cell phone. These features, plus more, are all free of charge.

Oh yeah, did we mention that there is no contract for phone? Give us a call today at 877-687-3632 to add home phone to your account today.

“

The most important thing for me is quality. We do not have cell phone service where we live, and I am a satellite employee. Having a phone line with a crystal-clear connection is necessary for me to join conferences and work from home. Overall, I am really happy with the service.  
— Paul, Elevate customer in Montrose

# FIND YOUR FUTURE



Washington D.C. Rural Electric Youth Tour  
**JUNE 13-20**

Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp  
**JULY 13-18**

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS**

# 2019

#### WASHINGTON D.C. YOUTH TOUR

Each year, DMEA sponsors one student to attend the Washington D.C. Rural Electric Youth Tour. The Youth Tour opens big doors for small-town kids. It provides an opportunity to see our government in action, shake hands with senators and members of congress, and have experiences that will be remembered for a lifetime. It's an opportunity to meet peers from other places in rural America and make new friends from across the country, while learning about history outside of a textbook.

#### COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP

Each year, DMEA sends a handful of students from our local high schools to attend the CEEI Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp. Camp is a great opportunity for high school students to learn about the cooperative business model, tour a generation facility, learn about government, and build their communication and leadership skills. While at camp, students set up a cooperative and learn how power is generated when visiting a mine and coal plant. They learn leadership skills and the importance of protecting the environment. They also float the Colorado River, hike to Fish Creek Falls, and ride the gondola to the top of Mt. Werner.

## APPLY NOW!

Complete the application at [www.dmea.com](http://www.dmea.com).  
Deadline to apply is **January, 18 2019**.

## STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

DELTA-MONTROSE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; by fax to (202) 690-7442; or by email to [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Follow DMEA and Elevate on social media to meet our crews, see our latest news, videos, photos, money saving tips, Wifi tips, and more!



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  
Brad Harding, District 3  
Chris Hauck, District 5  
Mark Eckhart, District 7  
Tony Prendergast, South

Kyle Martinez, District 2  
Ken Watson, District 4  
Damon Lockhart, 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.

## SMART HOME & ENERGY SAVINGS



with DIY home security.

Like to do things the DIY way? Us too. This month we wanted to talk about DIY security systems. Building your equipment package and installing on your own has a full host of benefits:

- » Save on upfront equipment costs
- » No installation fees
- » Low monthly monitoring fee or self-monitor for free
- » No contracts
- » Build a totally connected home by installing a system that has a hub to support other smart devices

An example of a DIY system that offers it all is the Ring Alarm Whole-Home Security system, that starts at just \$199 (on Amazon). This system comes with a base station, range extender, keypad, contact sensor, and motion detector. Additional contact sensors can be added for around \$19. You can then monitor the system yourself from any smart device or add professional monitoring for just \$10 per month, that also includes cellular backup service.

Learn more about DIY systems and the related costs by checking out the Consumer Reports article "DIY Home Security System Cost."

DMEA and Elevate Fiber, harnessing today's technology to help you manage your energy use.

## ROBO CALLS



are on the rise.

Per the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) unwanted calls are far and away the biggest consumer complaint with over 200,000 complaints each year. Types of scam-related robocalls can range from health insurance, interest rates, get rich quick, search listings, travel agencies, business loans, to home improvement related robocalls.

Answered a call, but worried that the person or company calling is not legitimate? Hang up the phone, search the company, and call the number on their formal website to verify. Also, if you answer and the recording/caller asks "can you hear me" or asks you to press a number to be connected to a representative, just hang up.

Tips to prevent illegal robocalls:

- Register your home and mobile number(s) at [donotcall.gov](http://donotcall.gov)
- Don't answer calls from unknown or blocked numbers or from numbers you don't recognize
- Download a call-blocking app on your smartphone like Nomorobo, Hiya, or YouMail

DMEA and Elevate;  
together we're looking out  
for your best interests.

## Home COOKING

### German Apple Pancakes

#### Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup (3, 3/4 ounces) all-purpose flour
- 5 tablespoons granulated sugar, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup yogurt
- 3 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 4 tablespoons (2 ounces) unsalted butter
- 1 pound, 12 ounces (4 to 5 medium) tart cooking apples, such as Granny Smith, peeled, cored, and sliced into 1/2-inch wedges
- Powdered sugar for dusting

#### Directions:

Adjust rack to upper middle position and preheat oven to 500°F. Whisk flour, 1 tablespoon sugar, and salt in medium bowl to combine. Whisk in milk, yogurt, eggs, and vanilla until just combined; set batter aside.

Stir remaining 4 tablespoons sugar with cinnamon in a small bowl. Heat butter in 10-inch non-stick oven-safe skillet over medium heat until melted. Increase heat to medium high and add apples and cinnamon-sugar to pan. Cook, stirring frequently, until apples have softened and are beginning to caramelize, 6 to 8 minutes.

Remove from heat, pour batter over apples and immediately place pan in oven. Reduce heat to 425°F and bake until pancake is puffed, just set in center, and golden around the edges, about 15 minutes.

Cool pan on wire rack for about 15 minutes, then carefully invert pancake onto serving plate. Dust with powdered sugar and serve.

[www.serious-eats.com](http://www.serious-eats.com)

