

THE

PowerLines

REPORT



1 | Lineworker Appreciation

2 | Get Current: Electric Bikes

3 | ElevateIO

4 | Arbol Farmers Market

APRIL 2023

Celebrating our Lineworkers



Jack Johnston, CEO

Every year on April 18, we celebrate National Lineworker Appreciation Day, honoring the men and women across the country who build, maintain, and repair our nation's power lines. At DMEA, we proudly depend on 17 journeyman and 4 apprentice lineworkers to ensure we deliver safe and reliable power to our members.

I could write pages recognizing the work and dedication of our line crew members. They respond to emergency outages at all hours of the day, regardless of the weather conditions. Line work is essential to grid reliability – regular maintenance on our poles, substations, and equipment prevents outages from occurring. Their work is unforgiving and high-risk, so safety is their priority. But my words can't express the importance of line work nearly as well as those of an actual lineworker.

So, please allow me to introduce you to Marty Elliot, DMEA's longest-tenured lineworker. Marty has been with us for 35 years and is stationed out of our Delta area office.

Q. Why did you choose a career in line work?

I knew some people my dad worked with and was just drawn to it. The electricity seemed mysterious, and I wanted to know more about it.

Q. What is the most fulfilling part of your work?

Every day is different and a new 'office' setting. The people you meet and get to help is rewarding. The team of people I work with is like a family.

Q. What three tips would you give someone just starting out in the trade?

First, you have to love it. If not, it will get you; you can't just do it for the money. Second, never say there is only one way to do something. Be open to ideas whether they come from someone old or young. I've learned valuable things from all age groups. Third, leave your problems at home and always bring a smile and good attitude to work. And bonus tip, always look out for your fellow lineworker!



Marty Elliot, Journeyman Lineworker



Calling all members

HELP DISTRIBUTE OPERATION ROUND UP

DMEA is seeking to fill vacancies on its Operation Round Up Charitable Trust board. Positions are now open for District 2 (North Montrose, Olathe), District 5 (West Montrose), District 6 (Delta area), and South Region.

Operation Round Up is a charitable giving program funded directly by DMEA members. Become a trustee and help us grant donations across the service territory. You'll meet monthly to review applications and grant donations to families in need and worthwhile organizations during a three-year term. To submit your name for consideration complete the online form at: dmea.com/operation-round.

GET C RRENT

Keeping you plugged in to everything electric.

E-BIKES & SCOOTERS

Electric bikes and scooters have taken the world by storm, revolutionizing the way people commute and travel. These eco-friendly vehicles have gained immense popularity over the past few years, and for good reason, they're fun and easy to ride.

E-bikes let you breeze past traffic, tackle hills with ease, and enjoy the ride without breaking a sweat. They're perfect for commuting, leisurely rides, or even off-road adventures. Meanwhile, electric scooters are a sleek and speedy way to zip around town, whether you're heading to work, exploring a new city, or just running errands.

With zero emissions, minimal maintenance, and plenty of style, e-bikes and scooters are the way to go for anyone who wants to reduce their carbon footprint and have some fun while doing it.

Where to buy: Local bike shops & sporting goods stores

Who it's for: Urban commuters & adventure seekers

Extras: City street & trail options available



- ✓ Fun & Easy to Ride
- ✓ Low Maintenance
- ✓ Long Range
- ✓ Quiet

2023 DMEA CANDIDATE FORUMS

Meet the candidates for DMEA's 2023 Board of Directors Election before you vote!

Montrose

Facilitated by The Forum, Montrose
Wednesday, May 10
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
CMU-Montrose, Cascade Hall
(corner of S. 3rd & Cascade, Montrose)

Delta

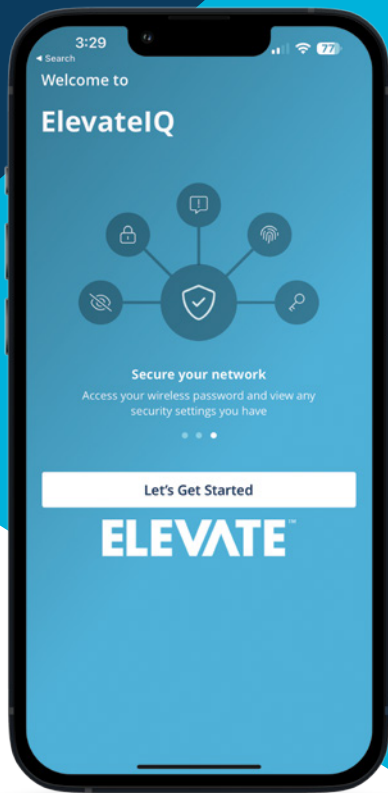
Facilitated by the League of Women Voters
Wednesday, May 10
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Grand Mesa Arts & Events Center
195 W. Main Street, Cedardge

Can't make it? Watch online:

[Youtube.com/user/MontroseCityGov](https://www.youtube.com/user/MontroseCityGov)
or at 4:00 p.m. on
community access channel
191 or 970.



The ultimate Wi-Fi experience is here



with the **ELEVATEIQ** Wi-Fi app.



Control your information: Easily change your network name and password and share your Wi-Fi with visitors.



Monitor your network: Keep tabs on the devices and people using your home Wi-Fi and kick off the ones that shouldn't be there.



Test your speed: Run the most reliable speed test and rest easy knowing Elevate is delivering the speed you need.



ELEVATE®

FAST INTERNET ▶ (for real)



FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Elevate Internet Youth Grant

Six grants for \$10,000 each will be awarded to non-profit organizations and agencies based in DMEA territory that positively impact the quality of life for children 18 and under within our communities. We fund:

- ▶ Programs
- ▶ Services
- ▶ Small-scale capital facility improvements
- ▶ Resources for youth

Selection Criteria:

Applications can focus on the arts, science, other areas of education, health/wellness, or meeting basic needs, but we will prioritize the use of technology to create lasting benefit for multiple children.

Application deadline is June 30, 2023

Awards announced on International Youth Day, August 12

Find more information and apply at elevateinternet.com/youth-grant.

CONCERN FOR *Community*

COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLE #7



ARBOL FARMERS MARKET

Access for all to fresh local produce

Serving the North Fork Valley, Arbol Farmers Market features local products ranging from fresh produce and flowers to baked goods and artisan wares. Not only does the weekly market connect local food to local people, but it also supports the region's economy by drawing in visitors and provides an essential source of income for Delta County ag producers right here at home. In addition, the market works to ensure accessibility for community members who may be struggling financially. SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks are accepted, and the market provides community meals based on a gift model for its most vulnerable citizens.



How we helped

DMEA is a proud sponsor of the Arbol Farmers Market, contributing \$500 for the upcoming 2023 season. The Arbol Farmers Market will return to Paonia Town Park every Tuesday, starting May 16 through October 17.

“

[DMEA's] sponsorship of our local farmers market will help provide food security to our community and support our organic farmers and food producers in Delta County.

”

Alicia Michelsen
Executive Director

How you can help

GET INVOLVED OR DONATE

Local businesses or organizations interested in supporting Arbol Farmers Market can contact arbolfarmersmarket@thelearningcouncil.org about sponsorship opportunities. Local producers and artisans can apply online to participate as a vendor at thelearningcouncil.org/arbol-farmers-market.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Montrose Office
11925 6300 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
M, W, F; 8:00am-5:00pm
T & Th; 8:00am-6:00pm

Read Office
21191 H 75 Road
Delta, CO 81416
W; 8:00am-5:00pm

Contact Us:
877-687-3632 | dmea.com |    

Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, District 1
Jacob Gray, District 3
Kevin Williams, District 5
Enno Heuscher, District 7
Jock Fleming, South
Kyle Martinez, District 2
Open Position, District 4
Damon Lockhart, District 6
Stacia Cannon, North

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.instate@usda.gov.



Nothing is a bigger **TURN-OFF** than a power outage.

But don't worry. We won't leave you in the dark. Sign up today for automatic outage alerts through your DMEA SmartHub account. Get notified when the power goes, and stay up-to-date while we work to get you turned back on!

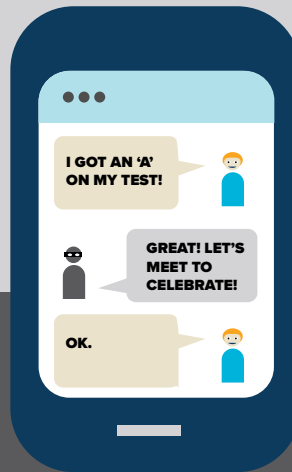
TO SIGN UP:

- 1 Login to SmartHub by visiting dmea.smarthub.coop on your desktop.
- 2 Select the **Notifications** tab located on the top of the Home Page on desktop.
- 3 Select **Manage Contacts** and add or update your email or mobile number.
- 4 Select **Manage Notifications** and then the **Services** tab.
- 5 Select the Power Outage Notifications you want. These include:
 - ▶ Planned Power Outage
 - ▶ Power Outage
 - ▶ Power Restored Report
 - ▶ Power Outage Update
- 6 Once you have made your choices, select **Save Settings**.

Get started at
dmea.smarthub.coop

Cyber Safety

BE AWARE:
Don't fall victim to
cyber scams



ONLINE PREDATORS

We all know that not everyone is who they claim to be on the internet, but the most horrifying of these criminals are online predators. These predators target children through social media networks, gaming platforms, and messenger apps. After establishing a relationship with a child online, predators will push

the child to engage in increasingly risky behavior, from sending selfies to an in-person meet-up.

Talk to your children about online predators. Make it clear that men and women, from teens to adults, can pretend to be kids online and befriend your child. Talk about risky online behavior, including sending inappropriate photos, joining in on a viral challenge, keeping an online relationship or behavior secret, and chatting privately with strangers.

Like all predators, online criminals will groom their victims by progressing their conversations from kid appropriate to sexually explicit requests. Make it clear to your child to come to you with any questions or worries; if they do, don't get mad. Help them understand what behavior is acceptable online and what isn't by talking with them. Here are a few resources to help you get the conversation started:

- ▶ InternetSafety101.org
- ▶ www.Bark.us
- ▶ ChildRescueCoalition.org

Read more at elevateinternet.com/national-cybersecurity-awareness-month