

UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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IMPORTANT DATES

- JULY 15-20 Youth Leadership Camp
Steamboat Springs, Colo.
- SEPT 4 Labor Day
Offices Closed



Youth Opportunities

Leadership Training for Local High School Students

Three local high school students traveled to Washington, D.C. in June where they represented United Power on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. The Youth Tour and upcoming Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp are opportunities for high school students to build relationships with other leaders among their peers and develop important leadership skills they can model in their communities and schools. It is also a great addition to any college resume.

Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Washington, D.C.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has a proud history dating back to the National

Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s (NRECA) annual meeting in 1957. The keynote speaker, Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson, suggested sending youth to the nation’s capital to “see what the flag stands for and represents.”

During the summer Youth Tour, cooperatives from across the country send more than 1,300 students to Washington. The week-long “tour” includes meetings with locally elected officials in Congress and tours of historical monuments in and around the capital. Students also learn the value of the cooperatives they represent. This year, United Power sponsored three ambitious and exemplary high school students to participate on the Youth Tour – **Gisell Mora**, Weld Central High School, **Sydney Dawson**, Eagle Ridge Academy, and **Johanni Delgado**, The Academy of Charters.

Before departing for Washington, students from Colorado and Wyoming toured the state capitol in Denver, participated in a high-voltage safety demonstration at United Power’s headquarters in Brighton, and heard presentations about cooperative career paths.

“This was a fantastic opportunity, and I am so grateful to United Power for providing it,” said Dawson. “Being able to see the capital and

meet all my representatives in Congress was a surreal experience. I would highly recommend it to anyone and everyone.”

At the conclusion of Youth Tour, peers elect one student to represent their state on the Youth Leadership Council. The student selected as delegate participates in the NRECA annual meeting the following March with other delegates from across the country. Last year, United Power’s Youth Tour representative Elizabeth Clement was selected as the Colorado delegate on the 2022 Youth Leadership Council.

“I could not recommend this trip more because you get to see so many things in such a short amount of time and you learn so much,” Clement said. “I did not even realize how much I was learning until the last day. I grew as a person on this trip.”

Youth Leadership Camp Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Students depart for the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in mid-July. While camp takes place in the mountains outside Steamboat Springs, it is not a camp in the traditional sense. There are cabins and catered meals instead of tents and fires. Students



www.unitedpower.com

Report an Outage 303-637-1350
Customer Service 303-637-1300

Along These Lines

A Message from United Power's President & CEO



Mark A. Gabriel
President & Chief Executive Officer

Have Feedback For Us?

Submit your questions, comments, concerns, or general feedback at www.unitedpower.com/CEO.

Our Cooperative Roadmap

Our Cooperative Roadmap contains the cooperative's long-term action plan and key priorities to maintain its strength and competitiveness in the evolving electric industry.

Read Our Cooperative Roadmap at www.unitedpower.com/roadmap.

These are interesting – and exciting – times in the electricity industry. At United Power, we are fortunate to be at the forefront of these changes, and we welcome the opportunities they bring our members and our communities.

As technology advances and the needs of our members change, it is important that we keep in mind the four guiding principles laid out in Our Cooperative Roadmap: Reliability, Affordability, Flexibility, and Responsibility. The Roadmap's framework allows us to focus on key objectives as we operate a forward-thinking distribution utility.

United Power is one of the fastest growing utilities of any kind in the nation. Our residential membership continues to expand rapidly. Large commercial and industrial businesses are finding a home in our service territory, such as a recently announced solar manufacturing facility – coming in 2024 – and a planned battery manufacturer in Brighton. Dozens of similar facilities have sprung up in just the last two years. The landscape of our service territory has shifted considerably.

Meeting the needs of our residential, commercial, and industrial members will require a combination of operational excellence, the deployment of new technologies, and joining a power market. As more members equip their homes and businesses with solar panels and batteries or drive electric vehicles, it will require United Power to think in new ways and adjust how we manage the cooperative. I am proud of the women and men who work diligently every day to make this happen.

During the next several months, we will select new power suppliers to ensure our members receive lower cost energy from a diverse and carbon-reduced portfolio. Instead of relying on a single power supplier with huge overhead expenses and limited choices, our goal is to have multiple alternatives and increased flexibility. We want to ensure United Power has robust resources and sufficient power supply to meet current and growing demand.

In June, we signed an agreement to work with TEA Solutions, a sister company of The Energy Authority (TEA). TEA Solutions is a not-for-profit marketing organization that provides support for cooperatives like United Power in obtaining electric resources. The organization has decades of experience across the United States, which will be a critical advantage as we make the transition to new power suppliers and energy sources.

We continue to support our oil and gas members, who are trying to meet emissions-reduction requirements. These industries account for 30% of United Power revenue and many of our communities rely on them for jobs and tax revenue. Electrifying oil fields connects them to the cooperative's distribution system, alleviating on-site emissions production. However, this requires close coordination and planning between these members, United Power, and the State of Colorado. We are committed to working together to facilitate this transition.

Meeting the opportunities presented by our growth and the change in technology requires a different way of thinking, planning, and operating. At United Power, we are continually working to improve our processes and embrace new technologies. By every measure, we have been successful – reliability is at a record high and resiliency is improving across the system. The women and men of United Power, who have support from the Board of Directors, have been doing this for many years. I am honored to work for every one of them.

The electric industry is not standing still, and neither is United Power. We are blessed every day with the opportunity to embrace change in the nation's most critical infrastructure.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me or anyone else on the executive leadership team with your questions, comments, or concerns.

2023 Youth Leadership Camp Coming in July

representing co-ops in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Kansas, and Oklahoma spend a week managing their own cooperative, including the election of directors, to learn the value of the principles that guide co-op business practices and decisions.

Days are filled with cooperative-focused activities, leadership training seminars, and collaborative group projects. However, being a part of a cooperative is not all business. In between activities, campers enjoy some Colorado fun, like rafting down the Colorado River or exploring Fish Creek Falls in Steamboat Springs.

This year, three local students will represent United Power at the Youth Leadership Camp – **Natalie & Sylvia Ingegneri**, Niwot High School, and **Rachael Schmidt**, Frederick High School.

Applications for youth opportunities,



United Power Youth Leadership Camp representatives are Rachael Schmidt (center) and sisters Natalie & Sylvia Ingegneri.

including scholarships and representation at next year's Youth Tour or Youth Camp, will be available in early December. Follow us on social media for updates on all of our youth programs.

Powering Your Night at the Fair

The Adams County Fair, Aug. 2-6, will be packed with family-friendly entertainment, and as the presenting sponsor, United Power is giving away ticket packages to some lucky members.

Aug. 2-6, 2023

Tickets for the various United Power Grandstand Events at the Adams County Fair are on sale now. Buy your tickets at www.adamscountyfair.com.

Paid parking and shuttle rides are available. Fair admission is free.

Special Days:

Thursday, Aug. 3 – Senior Day
Friday, Aug. 4 – 9News Kids Day

Riverdale Regional Park
9755 Henderson Road
Brighton, CO 80601

Prize Packages:

Demolition Derby (x2)

Friday, Aug. 4 | 7 p.m.
4 tickets
2 unlimited carnival arm bands
\$25 concessions gift card

NSPA Truck Pull

Saturday, Aug. 5 | 7 p.m.
4 tickets
2 unlimited carnival arm bands
\$25 concessions gift card

Charreada

Sunday, Aug. 6 | 5 p.m.
4 tickets
2 unlimited carnival arm bands
\$25 concessions gift card



RECIPES



Mexican Street Corn Salad

- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 4 ears fresh corn, shucked
- 2 oz feta or Cotija cheese, crumbled
- 1/2 cup scallions, finely diced
- 1/2 cup cilantro leaves, chopped
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and chopped
- 1-2 medium garlic cloves, pressed or minced
- 2 Tbsp mayonnaise
- 1 Tbsp fresh lime juice
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Chile powder or flakes, to taste

Heat oil over high heat in large nonstick skillet or wok. Add corn kernels and season to taste with salt. Cook without moving until charred on one side, about two minutes. Toss corn, stir, and repeat until charred all over, about 10 minutes total. Transfer to large bowl.

Add cheese, scallions, cilantro, jalapeno, garlic, mayonnaise, lime juice, and chile powder. Toss to combine. Taste and adjust seasoning with salt and more chile powder to taste.

Source: *Serious Eats*

How to Enter:

Enter to win one of four prize packages (listed above) by completing an entry form at www.unitedpower.com/fair-giveaway. Or enter by mail by sending a postcard with your name, address, and phone number to:

United Power
Attn: Adams County Fair Ticket Package Giveaway
500 Cooperative Way
Brighton, CO 80603

Entries must be received by July 24, 2023 to be eligible. United Power is not responsible for lost or misdirected mail.



Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

ONLINE: www.unitedpower.com
MAIL: United Power Recipes
500 Cooperative Way
Brighton, CO 80603

Safety Around Pad-Mounted Transformers

Pad-mounted transformers lower high voltage electricity to the standard household voltage used to power electronics, appliances, and lighting. They are mounted on slabs of concrete near many homes and businesses. This equipment sits on an easement that allows United Power to perform necessary maintenance work.

Crews also need access to restore service during a power outage.

GIVE THEM SPACE

United Power lineworkers need a clearance of 10 ft. in front of a pad-mounted transformer to safely work on high-voltage power.



10 ft. clearance

It may be tempting to "camouflage" transformers with landscaping, fences, shrubs, or trees. But objects that are located too close to transformers can slow restoration work during an outage, create a serious safety hazard, and may need to be removed when lineworkers need to gain access.

SAFE SPACE GUIDELINES

- Provide 10 ft. of clearance in front of a transformer so crews can open the door and work with their safety tools.
- Allow at least 4 ft. of clearance on all other sides to ensure crews have the ability to move about safely.

By keeping the area around a pad-mounted transformer clear from debris, vegetation, fencing, and building structures, you can help avoid outages, aid in the quick return of service in emergency situations, and avoid unnecessary costs.



LEAVE SPACE AROUND TRANSFORMERS



Do not plant shrubs or trees around transformers. United Power will cut back any vegetation in an emergency.



Objects in front of transformers restricts access. United Power must remove this fence in an emergency.



Never dig near a pad-mounted transformer. High-voltage cables run underground near this equipment.

READER REWARDS

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Three Winners Every Month!
1st place: \$100 Bill Credit
2nd place: \$50 Bill Credit (two winners)

Submit Reader Rewards Online

www.unitedpower.com



Visit www.unitedpower.com and click on 'News & Community' to enter Reader Rewards online. Answer the question below with your online entry:

How many students did United Power send to D.C.?

By submitting this entry, I agree to allow United Power to publish my name in subsequent issues of United Newsline if I am selected as a winner. For complete contest rules, visit www.unitedpower.com/newsline.

Members may also enter by mailing the following entry form to:
United Power - Reader Rewards
500 Cooperative Way - Brighton, CO 80603

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

UNITED POWER PRIDE



Lisa Hillman, Thornton, traveled to Washington, D.C. with a group of 60 middle school students in March. United Power in June also sent three local high school students to the nation's capital as part of the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the United Newsline and you'll receive a \$100 bill credit if we print it. Submit your photo along with your name, address, email, and a description of the photo online at www.unitedpower.com/unitedpowerpride.

United Power Communications Team Receives Five 2023 Spotlight on Excellence Awards

Effective communication and engagement with United Power members is one of the four pillars of Our Cooperative Roadmap. The communications team at the co-op dedicates its resources to ensure it reaches as many members as possible.

Each year, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association recognizes the best and most innovative communications programs through its Spotlight on Excellence awards. The United Power communications team was selected to receive five Spotlight awards at this year's Connect Conference:

- GOLD:** Best Annual Report to Members
- GOLD:** Best Special Publication, United EV Program Guide
- GOLD:** Best Video, Power Supply
- SILVER:** Best Wild Card, Fire Mitigation
- SILVER:** Best Communications Program, Our Cooperative Roadmap



Communication Specialist Zach Kinder collects his team's Spotlight Awards at the Connect Conference in May.



Summer Event Calendar

July 14-16

Gilpin County Fair
Gilpin County Fairgrounds
230 Norton Drive, Black Hawk

July 19-22

Chainsaws & Chuckwagons
Centennial Park
630 Eighth St., Frederick

Aug. 2-6

Adams County Fair
Riverdale Regional Park
9755 Henderson Road, Brighton

Saturday, Aug. 5

Brighton Camp Out 2023
Barr Lake State Park
13401 Picadilly Road, Brighton

Saturday, Aug. 5

Dacono Music & Spirits Festival
Centennial Field
123 Forest Ave., Dacono

Aug. 10-13

SE Weld County Fair
SE Weld County Fairgrounds
7758 County Road 59, Keenesburg

Saturday, Aug. 12

MountainFest
Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Assoc.
31528 Hwy 72, Golden

Saturday, Sept. 9

Trapper Days
Downtown Fort Lupton
130 S. McKinley Ave., Fort Lupton

Saturday, Sept. 16

Lochbuie Fall Festival
Bonanza Blvd., Lochbuie

Saturday, Sept. 16

Miners Day
Centennial Park
630 Eighth St., Frederick

Member Exclusive Discount Discounted Colorado National Speedway Tickets with Coupon

United Power has partnered with the Colorado National Speedway to offer members the exclusive opportunity to experience NASCAR racing at a discounted rate during the 2023 season.

Colorado National Speedway is the state's premier NASCAR track, centrally located in Carbon Valley just off Interstate 25 between exits 232 & 235.

United Power members save \$5 on any adult admission with this coupon.

Where: Colorado National Speedway
4281 Speedway Blvd., Dacono, CO

When: July 8 & 15
Aug. 5 & 19
Sept. 9 & 16



Exclusive Member Coupon

Save \$5

on Any Adult Ticket Purchase



Colorado National Speedway

4281 Speedway Blvd, Dacono, Colo.
www.coloradospeedway.com | 303-828-0116

Colorado National Speedway is Colorado's premier NASCAR track.

Experience affordable family fun this season with this exclusive United Power member coupon. Coupon applies to races occurring on the following dates during the 2023 season:

July 8th & 15th
Aug. 5th & 19th
Sept. 9th & 16th

Adult admission is \$12 **with** coupon
Children's tickets are \$8 (ages 5-12)

Paper coupon required.

Coupon applies to in-person ticket purchases ONLY.



Co-op Website & Account Portal Get Refresh

New Look Prioritizes User Experience and Easier Page Navigation

Members who have visited the United Power website or logged into the online account portal recently may have noticed a few changes. In June, the cooperative debuted a refresh to both its public and account management websites.

The new-look website is not a complete redesign. Instead, the refresh focused on eliminating clutter, toning down noise, and improving navigation to create a more natural and enjoyable user experience.

Page data and user analytics guided navigation improvements. Users who have visited the site regularly over the past few

years will not notice a significant change. However, frequently visited pages are now highlighted in a Quick Links menu while pages that receive fewer daily or weekly page visits were moved to less prominent positions on the menu bar. This simplified structure means users will be able to quickly navigate to their desired location in fewer clicks, while an updated page layout will make finding information easier.

“We began the process of updating our website by researching web design best practices used by some of the largest investor-owned utilities and electric cooperatives in

the country,” said Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer Trista Fugate. “We were thoughtful about how we incorporated our ideas to improve user experience and considered all available data to determine our approach. I am confident the final product will exceed our members’ expectations.”

United Power also rolled out an update for its online account portal, SmartHub, which improves functionality and also enhances user experience. Members who do not have an online account can sign up for free at www.unitedpower.com/smarthub.

SOLAR MYTHS

United Power is a strong supporter of our members who choose solar, so we wanted to dispel some common myths regarding rooftop solar.

DID YOU KNOW?



MYTH: UNITED POWER SELLS SOLAR

FACT: United Power does NOT have any contracts to work with rooftop solar installers, and we do NOT sell solar products.



MYTH: THE LAW REQUIRES SOLAR

FACT: You do not have to own solar in Colorado. Recent laws regarding solar do NOT apply to existing households.



MYTH: NO MORE ELECTRIC BILL

FACT: You will still receive a bill for the electricity you consume when the sun isn't shining, and your home is utilizing services from the grid.

United Power has resources to help you decide if solar is right for you, to help you choose a reputable contractor, and to help you get the most out of your solar investment. www.unitedpower.com/going-solar



SCAN ME

Outdoor Power Rebate Info

Scan QR code with your cell phone camera or visit www.unitedpower.com/outdoor-rebate

Rebates on Outdoor Power Equipment

Members Qualify for New Purchase Rebates on Select Electric Outdoor Power Equipment

Take advantage of member-exclusive rebates on select outdoor power equipment to beautify, and electrify, your outdoor spaces this summer.

Your new electric lawn equipment will provide a host of benefits to make your outdoor projects more simple and peaceful. Electric equipment does not require as much maintenance due to fewer moving parts, and operates at a fraction of the cost compared to gas-powered equipment. It also runs more quietly, giving you less headache during long days outside.

To be eligible for these rebates, you must be a member and receive permanent electric service from the cooperative. The rebates are applicable for new equipment purchases

only. Approved rebates will be applied as a bill credit on your billing statement. It may take up to eight weeks for rebate processing before it appears on your statement.

United Power must receive applications, along with proof of purchase, within 90 days of purchase.

The cooperative offers members several other exclusive rebate opportunities for energy efficiency products. For more information on United Power rebates, including additional details about the outdoor power equipment rebate, visit www.unitedpower.com/rebates.

REBATE DETAILS

Rebate Offers

All rebates are 25% of cost, up to the max rebate amount (shown below).

- Electric Lawn Mowers, up to \$150
- Electric Snow Blowers, up to \$150
- Electric Chainsaws, up to \$100
- Electric Trimmers & Pruners, up to \$50
- Electric Leaf Blowers, up to \$50
- Electric Power Washers, up to \$50

Product Requirements

- Battery or corded equipment only.
- Minimum purchase price of \$50.
- Maximum rebate of \$300 per membership.
- Rebate is on final purchase price after any coupons or instant rebates.
- Attach receipt with application.

Keeping Bills Low As Summer Heat Rises

Mild June Weather Gives Way to Warmer July

United Power members may have enjoyed the mild weather that June brought us, but hot summer months could lead to increased energy use. Prepare now to save where possible.

The National Weather Service in Boulder reported June as one of the mildest spring months in Colorado history. Weather data has been recorded since 1872, and this June was the first on record without an 80-degree day through the month's first three weeks. Despite frequent thunderstorms and above average rainfall, however, temperatures have started to climb back toward the average for this time of the year.

As temperatures rise, members will begin reaching for those thermostats to stay cool and comfortable. Air conditioning is one of your most demand-intensive appliances,

accounting for more than 15% of your total energy use. This means members could also see a corresponding rise in their demand charge with more frequent A/C use.

To keep cool without the cost, practice energy saving behaviors like:

- **Turning up the A/C a few degrees.** A couple degrees can result in noticeable savings without making you uncomfortable.
- **Pairing A/C with a fan.** Fans circulate air creating a "wind chill" effect that makes you feel cooler. Fans do not actually cool the air, so remember to turn them off in an empty room.
- **Install a smart thermostat.** Smart thermostats can learn your routines and be adjusted remotely to save energy.

Members can also enroll in Smart Rewards to save an additional \$25 each cooling season. (About this program: www.unitedpower.com/smart-rewards)

- **Monitor your demand and use with Power Portal.** Enroll in Power Portal to see energy use data in 15-minute segments and determine what drives your demand. (More information and how to enroll at: www.unitedpower.com/powerportal)
- **Avoid stacking appliances.** One of the habits that drives demand is stacking appliances, or using multiple major appliances at once. For example, try staggering cooking dinner and doing laundry.

You can find additional tips on our website at www.unitedpower.com/energy-tips.

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Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Adams County Fair Giveaway

Win one of several Adams County Fair ticket packages from United Power.

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Pad-Mounted Transformers

Keep the area surrounding pad-mounted transformers clear for line crews.

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Member Discount Coupon

Receive \$5 adult admission at the Colorado Speedway. Coupon Inside.

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New Website & SmartHub

United Power launched a new look to its website and account portal in June.

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STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR CO-OP

email.....UnitedNewsline@UnitedPower.com

online.....www.unitedpower.com

f.....facebook.com/UnitedPower

t.....twitter.com/UnitedPowerCoop

Member Services..... 303-637-1300

Outage Line..... 303-637-1350

CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

1st Place: Aaron Riemer, Keenesburg

2nd Place: Santa Patafio, Thornton
Andre Sodbinow, Erie

See your name? Call 303-637-1325 within two (2) months of the issue date to claim your Reader Rewards.

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UNITED NEWSLINE

500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO 80603

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

