

SEPTEMBER
2017

UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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United Power Board Seeks Applicants for Open Seat in South District

The United Power Board is soliciting applications from members interested in being considered to fill an open seat in the cooperative's South District. When seats are vacated mid-term the Board has the option of appointing a member to serve the remainder of the term, and they decided at their August board meeting to proceed with this process.

"While it's rare that the Board needs to make an appointment, there is some precedent for this situation - whether by resignation or through a death or illness of the board member," stated James Vigesaa, United Power Board President. "With more than two years remaining on the term for this seat, the Board has decided that an appointment would be the best way to seat a qualified candidate and make certain our board continues to be representative of our membership."

Members who would like to be considered for this opening must reside in the South District, which covers United Power's territory in most of original Brighton, and some of Thornton, Henderson and Commerce City. Members can easily determine their director district by locating it in the upper right hand corner of their monthly electric statement, or contacting our Member Services department at 303-637-1300. As for any candidate for the Board in a regular election, interested members must meet the basic requirements for eligibility, outlined in the box to the right. Candidates will be vying to fill the remainder of this seat's term, which was vacated by Bob Grant earlier this year. Grant's term began in April of 2016, so whoever fills this seat would serve until April, 2019, when they could opt to run in the annual election to retain the seat.

"United Power is one of the nation's fastest growing cooperatives, and we need strong and knowledgeable leadership to help guide us in the coming years," stated Vigesaa. "With all the changes and challenges in the energy industry, it's an exciting time to serve in this role."

Interested members can pick up a packet to apply for the seat from the Executive Department at United Power's headquarters, located at 500 Cooperative Way in Brighton. Completed applications are due to United

OCTOBER 11

Candidate Application
Packets Due by 4:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES

Power's office by 4 p.m. on October 11, 2017. The Board will then consider the applications and arrange for in-person interviews of qualified applicants.

Eligible Director Candidates Must

- have the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts
- not have been previously removed as a Director
- be a United Power member for at least two years immediately before becoming a Director
- receive electric service from the Cooperative at his or her primary residence which is located in the district he or she is to represent
- be able to actively participate in the management of business and affairs of the Cooperative
- not be employed by, financially interested in, or representing the interests of an enterprise competing or in conflict with the Cooperative or a business selling electric energy to the Cooperative other than by permitted production or cogeneration
- while a Director and the three years immediately before becoming a Director, not have been an employee of the Cooperative, or an entity controlled by the Cooperative or in which the Cooperative has a majority interest
- while a Director and during the three years immediately before becoming a Director, not receive or have a close relative who received more than ten percent of annual gross income, other than insurance or Director compensation income, directly or indirectly from the Cooperative or Cooperative Subsidiary/Affiliate
- while a Director, not be a close relative of a Cooperative Officer, Director or employee
- not have had a judgment of conviction entered against such Person, or plead guilty to a crime



www.unitedpower.com

Main Switchboard 303-659-0551
 Report an Outage 303-637-1350
 Customer Service 303-637-1300

September is National Preparedness Month

Are You Ready?

September 2017 marks the 14th Annual National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA. Through its *Ready* Campaign, FEMA educates and empowers Americans to take simple steps to prepare for and respond to potential emergencies that could affect us where we live, work and also visit.



This year's theme, *Disasters Don't Plan Ahead. You Can*, focuses on encouraging people to take action and prepare. The campaign goal is to increase the overall number of individuals, families and communities that engage in preparedness actions at home, work, businesses, schools and places of worship.

It's important to think about an emergency communication plan focusing on how your family will get emergency alerts and warnings, how your family will get to safe locations, how your family will get in touch if cell phones, internet and land lines don't work and how families

will get to a meeting place after the emergency. It's important to also keep in mind any unique needs of family members, friends and neighbors.

Along with a communication plan, it's also important to have a basic emergency kit and to be prepared throughout the year for various weather hazards during winter, spring, fall and summer. Individuals and families are encouraged to build disaster supply kits filled with basic items like water, food, batteries, flashlights and a first aid kit.

Individuals and families should also make a family emergency plan and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses. For more information on National Preparedness Month, visit www.ready.gov.

Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Kit:

- Water: one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food: at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA weather radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps

Have a Plan If You Use Medical Equipment That Requires Electricity

United Power members who use life-sustaining medical equipment, such as an oxygen generator that depends on 24/7 electricity for operation, can request that we 'flag' their accounts with a Medical Alert priority. A Medical Alert flag on your account indicates to our employees that someone in your home has special medical needs. A Medical Alert designation does not guarantee against power interruptions, but be assured that in the event of a power outage, our crews are working to restore service as quickly as possible.

To set up a Medical Alert designation on your account, members must notify United Power. It is also important that you keep us updated regarding the status of this medical alert.

Most importantly, United Power members should have a plan in place for what to do in the event of a power outage if the loss of utility service would be harmful to members in your household who use medically necessary equipment. Please consider protecting your family members by arranging for battery back-up, use of a standby generator or a plan for evacuation to another location in the event of a prolonged power outage. If your plan includes the use of a back-up generator, please inform United Power. Generators have the potential to harm our crews that may be working on the electric system.

If you have additional questions about your Medical Alert status or your electric service, please contact United Power's Member Services Department at 303-637-1300.



A medical alert priority is not a guarantee of continuous power. It is important to protect your family with a back-up plan.



United Power Board President James Vigesaa officially announced the promotion of John Parker to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the cooperative on July 27, 2017.

Parker has served as United Power's Chief Financial Officer since 2006, and has been serving as interim CEO since the resignation of Darryl Schriver on June 8, 2017.

"On behalf of the entire United Power board, we are pleased to announce the promotion of John Parker to CEO," Vigesaa said. "John's many years of service to United Power, coupled with his extensive experience in the cooperative industry is a great leadership match for this utility."

Parker's cooperative experience extends back to 1983, and includes experience at Matanuska Electric in Alaska, Cap Rock Electric Cooperative in Texas, and Columbia REA in Washington. Parker earned a Bachelor's degree in Business with a concentration in Public Accounting Finance from Gonzaga University. Active in the community, he serves as a director on the Community Reach Foundation and is a member of the Brighton Rotary Club.

"I am honored to be selected for this important leadership position, and I am excited to lead our extraordinary team of employees into the future," Parker said. "United Power is a well situated cooperative in terms of growth and finances, and I look forward to helping the cooperative move forward with the many innovative projects under development."

Save Trees With Paperless Billing

United Power members who no longer wish to receive a printed bill in the mail can now sign up for Paperless Billing.

To sign up for Paperless Billing, call our Member Services department at 303-637-1300 or click on SmartHub on our home page at www.unitedpower.com. If you are not currently a SmartHub user, the registration process is simple and allows you immediate access to view your account details, make payments online, make account updates and sign up for services like Paperless Billing—all with the click of a mouse.

Sign Up for Paperless Billing:

- From SmartHub, select **My Profile** from the menu options on the top
- Select **Update My Bill Settings** from the options
- Click on **Turn Off Printed Bills** for the accounts you would like to convert to Paperless
- Click **Yes** to confirm

Once you are enrolled in Paperless Billing, a paper bill will no longer be mailed to you. You will receive an email notification when your statement is available and you can pay by the method most convenient for you: online, by phone, in person or you can sign up for Auto Pay to have your payment automatically deducted each month.

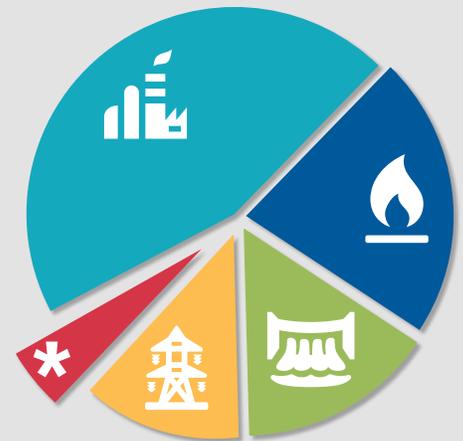
For more information, call our Member Services Department at 303-637-1300.



POWER MIX

Wholesale power is purchased from Tri-State Generation & Transmission. Tri-State's portfolio of electric energy is derived from base load-serving coal generating units, intermediate load-serving natural gas, combined-cycle generating units and peak load-serving natural gas and oil combustion turbines, and renewable resources, including hydropower, wind and solar.

45%	Coal
22%	Natural Gas
15%	WAPA/Hydro Renewables
13%	Open Market Contracts
5%	Locally Generated Renewables*



LOCALLY GENERATED RENEWABLES

Locally generated renewable sources include utility-scale solar projects, individually owned rooftop solar, a methane landfill capture system and small wind generation.

47,541 kW	Solar
2 kW	Wind
3,200 kW	Methane



Third Large Scale Solar Farm to be Complete by November

By November, a third large scale solar field will be energized in United Power's territory— the Platteville Solar Farm. This 16 megawatt (MWAC) solar project is now the largest cooperative solar farm in Colorado— surpassing our own 13 megawatt Fort Lupton Solar Farm, energized in June 2016.

Silicon Ranch Corporation, a leading developer, owner, and operator of solar energy plants, will own and operate the solar field, while United Power will purchase the energy produced over the next 20 years.

The 175-acre farm is located at 19028 County Road 28, just east of Platteville. The farm features technology that allows more than 185,000 solar panels to track the sun from east to west and will produce enough low-cost, renewable power to serve 3,000 United Power members annually. Combined with the Fort Lupton Solar Farm and the Mavericks Solar Farm, a 6.5 megawatt solar farm in Mead energized in December 2016, more than 6,700 homes and businesses in United Power's territory will be powered by solar energy once the Platteville Solar Farm is energized.



Once energized, the 16 megawatt Platteville Solar Farm will be the largest cooperative solar farm in Colorado.

Construction continues on the Platteville Solar Farm just east of Platteville. The 175-acre solar farm will serve 3,000 United Power members.



United Power continues to be a leader in renewable energy integration. Since 2009 when United Power energized Colorado's first community solar farm, the cooperative continues to look for new and unique ways to integrate renewable sources. United Power recognizes that the future of electrical generation will be an "all of the above" strategy of investing in a variety of generation sources, and responding to the wants and needs of our membership.

READER REWARDS

September
2017



Three Winners Every Month!

1st place: \$150 Lowe's Gift Card
2nd place: \$50 Lowe's Gift Card (two winners)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mail entry form to: United Power • Reader Rewards
PO Box 929 • Brighton, CO 80601

Reader Rewards Online

www.unitedpower.com



Save a stamp! Visit www.unitedpower.com and click on 'Co-op & Community' to enter Reader Rewards online. Answer the question below with your online entry:

What is this year's National Preparedness Month theme?

By submitting this entry I agree to allow United Power to publish my name in subsequent issues of United Newslines if I am selected as a winner.

UNITED POWER PRIDE



"My husband (Donald) and I took a trip to Cuba to volunteer and learn about the Cuban people and culture. This picture was taken in Vinyales Valley National Park. Vinyales is to tobacco what Palisade is to peaches: the perfect microclimate."

Brittany Kammerzell, Mead

United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the *United Newslines* and we'll send you a gift if we print it. Send your name, address, phone number, and a description of the photo to:

E-MAIL: unitednewslines@unitedpower.com

MAIL: United Power—Attn: United Newslines
PO Box 929, Brighton CO 80601

IN A CO-OP, EVERY MEMBER GETS A PIECE OF THE PIE



Capital credit refunds were dispersed to members beginning in August. A total of \$5 million in capital credits was returned this year and amounts are based on the electricity used and the number of years as a United Power member. Members who are receiving \$10 or more are issued a check, and refunds under \$10 will be applied to bills as a credit in either August or September.

Capital credits represent each member's ownership of the cooperative, and are one of the many benefits of being a member of a not-for-profit electric cooperative. United Power exists to

provide its members with reliable and affordable electric service, and not to boost profits for shareholders.

At the end of each year, the board of directors reviews the cooperative's financial health. If the financial strength of the cooperative allows, excess margins go back to the members in the form of a capital credit retirement, or refund.

CAPITAL CREDIT REFUND CHECKS HAVE AN EXPIRATION DATE, SO PLEASE BE SURE TO PROCESS CHECKS PROMPTLY.

RECIPES



Golden Grahams S'mores

- 3/4 cup light corn oil
- 3 Tbs. margarine or butter
- 1 package Nestle milk chocolate chips
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 12 ounce box Golden Grahams cereal
- 3 cups miniature marshmallows

Grease rectangular 13x9x2-inch pan. Heat syrup, margarine and chips to a boil, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Pour over cereal in bowl and toss. Fold in marshmallows one cup at time. Use the back of a spoon to press solidly in pan. Let stand for one hour. Cut into two-inch squares. Store loosely covered at room temperature. Makes 24 squares.

Lynda Dawson, Pinecliffe

How Will You Spend Your Capital Credit Refund?

#mycapitalcredits



Tell us the fun, creative or unique ways you will spend your capital credit refund and we'll enter you into a drawing for one of three \$100 bill credits. We'll select a few of our favorite ideas to feature in our October *United Newslines*.

Submit your story for a chance to win!

Email unitednewslines@unitedpower.com or share on social media at [Facebook.com/UnitedPower](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedPower) or [Twitter.com/UnitedPowerCoop](https://twitter.com/UnitedPowerCoop) with the tag [#mycapitalcredits](https://twitter.com/mycapitalcredits).

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Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

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Brighton, CO 80601



Students Learn Value of Leadership at Youth Camp

In July, nearly 100 students from Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming and Oklahoma filled the cabins at Glen Eden Resort for the 2016 Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, just outside of Steamboat Springs. The students were in for a week of learning the value of cooperatives and developing leadership skills, as well as creating new friendships with their fellow campers.

United Power was represented by Jackson Curdo, Brekken Billman and Cameron Anderson. The delegates were selected based on academic performance, extra-curricular activities and volunteer efforts. The camp strives to help develop leadership skills that will assist students with the challenges they will face in the future. To achieve this goal, the week is packed with various activities ranging from cooperative-focused projects to a motivation and leadership seminar.

Campers also create and dissolve a cooperative. To create the co-op, each student contributed a 50-cent buy-in and the funds were used to establish a canteen selling concessions at various camp activities. The students nominated a 10-member Board of Directors who interviewed and hired a general manager, who helped run daily activities.

Campers also learned about electricity safety by watching an electrical safety demonstration and had a visit from representatives from HawkQuest, who spoke about the

importance of avian protection and the roles co-ops have to keep birds safe around power lines.

The week also included a tour of Craig Power Plant and Trapper Mine, just southwest of Craig. During the mine tour, students got up close to mining equipment, including a retired mining dredge.

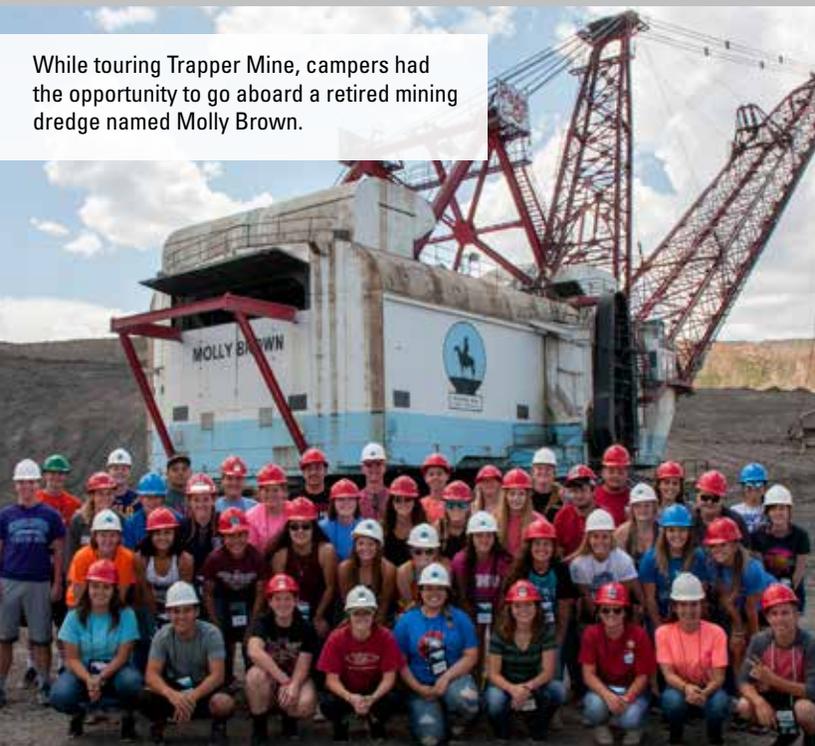
“The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp is a unique opportunity for local students to learn how our electric cooperatives work and to see first-hand how co-ops and their employees are dedicated to supporting the communities they serve,” said Julie Stewart, camp director and Community Outreach Specialist at United Power.

But the camp wasn’t all business for the teens. Rafting, dances, a gondola ride up to Mount Werner and shopping in Steamboat Springs rounded out the week.

“Campers leave camp with a new sense of leadership and memories that will last a lifetime,” Stewart said. “I am very proud that United Power chooses to support not only this camp, but many other opportunities for students in our service territory.”

Applications for the 2018 Leadership Camp will be available at the end of 2017. Visit www.unitedpower.com to learn more.

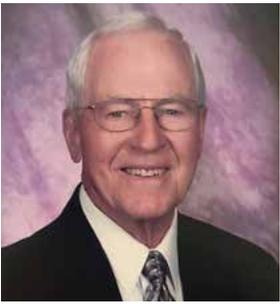
While touring Trapper Mine, campers had the opportunity to go aboard a retired mining dredge named Molly Brown.



Representing United Power, from left, Jackson Curdo, Brekken Billman and Cameron Anderson stop for a photo during their tour of the Craig Power Plant.



Campers learned the dangers of electricity during an electrical safety demonstration during their week in Steamboat Springs.



Former Union REA General Manager Richard Lee Arnold, who passed away on May 11, 2017, is remembered as a dedicated, hard worker during his time at the cooperative now known as United Power. Irene Pfannenstiel, his secretary at the time, not only describes her former boss as having “integrity-plus” but also as being highly involved in the Brighton community and his church.

“He was so dedicated to his job at Union REA. He didn’t leave the office until his work was done,” Pfannenstiel said. “He was just a good boss and treated everyone the same and fairly.”

Arnold moved to Brighton in 1956 with his wife to start a family. He became the General Manager of what was known at that time as Union REA in 1960. He held that position for 26 years. While

living in Brighton, Arnold was also active in his First Presbyterian Church community, was president of his Rotary Club, served on the hospital board and was named Outstanding Citizen for his contributions to the Brighton community.

After leaving United Power, Arnold continued his career in the electrical industry by serving in various executive positions in other rural electric generation/transmission companies in both Iowa and Missouri before retiring in 1996— after a successful 42-year career.

Arnold enjoyed his retirement years in Sun City, AZ, staying active in the Desert Palms Presbyterian Church as an Elder and Property Chair and working in the Men of the Church Program and Stephen Ministry. He also enjoyed many cruises and traveling the United States with his wife, Donna.

Eclipse Slows Down Solar Production

As people across the United States watched the solar eclipse on August 21, employees at United Power also had their eyes on how the eclipse affected two of our solar farms. As the moon passed between the sun and the earth, blocking the sunlight, the Fort Lupton Solar Farm and the Mavericks Solar Farm in Mead, both experienced a loss in energy production.

For about 10 minutes, the Fort Lupton Solar Farm’s solar production dropped from 13 megawatts to 1 megawatt and the Mavericks Solar Farm’s solar production dropped from 7 megawatts to .5 megawatts. Production started decreasing around 10:40 a.m. before hitting the low point at 11:47 a.m., just as the maximum eclipse was viewed in Colorado, before slowing rising again in energy production.



From left, United Power engineers Kevin Barnes and Tyler Bain analyze solar production data during the solar eclipse on August 21.

2017

Summer Festivals

Around Your Cooperative

SEPTEMBER

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|--|
| 15 | Peddle the Plains | S.E. Weld County Fairgrounds, Keenesburg |
| 16 | Lochbuie Fall Festival | Lochbuie |
| 30 | Celtic Fest | St. Brigit Episcopal Church Grounds, Frederick |

Want to see an event listed? Email the details of community events to unitednewsline@unitedpower.com. The Summer Events Calendar is printed in the *United Newslines* in June, July, August and September. If the date of the event makes our press deadlines, we'll gladly include it on this list.

Inside This Issue

September 2017



Capital Credit Refunds Mailed

As a co-op member, you are more than just a customer. You're an owner with a vested interest in the margins. United Power's 2017 capital credit refunds have been mailed. Be sure to process your refund payments promptly—checks expire after 120 days.

MY CAPITAL CREDITS

Tell us how you're going to spend your capital credit refund for a chance to win one of three \$100 bill credits! #mycapitalcredits

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Board Seeks Applicants

The United Power Board of Directors is seeking applicants to fill an open seat in the South District.

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John Parker Promoted to CEO

John Parker, former United Power CFO, promoted to Chief Executive Officer by Board of Directors.

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STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR CO-OP

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

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

CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

- 1st Place:** Margie Jordan, Erie
- 2nd Place:** J.C. Kopecky, Commerce City
Linda Trotta, Johnstown

See your name listed as a winner? Call 303-637-1325 to claim your Reader Rewards.



- Board of Directors**
- James Vigasaa *President*
- Susan Petrocco *Vice-President*
- Beth Martin *Secretary/Treasurer*
- Ursula J. Morgan *Asst. Sec./Treasurer*
- Ginny Buzek
- Tim Erickson
- Brian McCormick
- Richard Newman
- Dave Rose
- Tamra Waltemath
- Chief Executive Officer**
- John Parker
- Public Affairs Officer**
- Troy Whitmore
- Editors**
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- Laurel Eller
- Ashley Reimers

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.
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UNITED NEWSLINE

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