

# THE NEWSBOY

News for Members of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative



## *Seasons Greetings!*

It is with great pleasure and pride that San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative reaches out to the community over the course of each year to foster our relationships and provide support. 2014 has been no different. The cooperative has sponsored school, sporting and community activities. These contributions help in many different ways to help sustain programs that are a necessary part of our communities. SLVREC has also made many donations throughout the Valley to help with safety programs, after school events and charitable causes.

The dedicated staff of the REC volunteer time for elementary school safety programs and a highway clean up program. With the help of Tri-State G&T and Touchstone, SLVREC participated in the 2014 Spud Bowl at ASU. Not only does San Luis Valley Rural Electric Coop provide outstanding utility service to its communities, but we live and thrive here too.

SLVREC has been working in conjunction with La Puente to provide weatherization help and information for families in need. For additional information on this program please visit our website at [www.slvrec.com](http://www.slvrec.com) or contact our local office at 719-853-3538

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## Welcome Chere Plane!



The SLVREC family is pleased to welcome Chere Plane as a shining addition to our great customer service team! Chere comes to us from an illustrious 22-year career in banking. She is already very well versed in customer service with a history in agricultural lending. Chere has a Bachelor of Science in Ag Business from CSU and had plans to attend law school at DU. The call of the Valley heralded her and her husband, Troy, back here to their home.

When asked “Why SLVREC?” Chere said she was ready for a new chapter and ready for more time with her new precious 3-month-old daughter Quinn and son Mitchell, who is 8. A charming young man, might I add. She feels SLVREC is a solid, respected organization within the Valley.

Chere is excited to be part of the Ciello project and her goal is to provide world-class customer service true to San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative roots.

Please feel free to come by say hi and welcome Chere Plane to the SLVREC family!



The SLVREC family of employees are pleased to announce that Jeff Henderhan has been promoted to Monte Vista Area Serviceman. Jeff will join Shawn McKibbon in the Monte Vista area to keep the lights on and assist with Ciello Broadband installations. Jeff has worked at the SLVREC for 8 years. He states, “I really like learning new things and am glad to work at a place that allows me to do it.”



## LOREN HOWARD

### San Luis Valley Success

It seems like I have been writing about the economic vitality of our area a lot in the past months. Living in Monte Vista and watching one store after another close is a bit disheartening. The traditional economic drivers of farming and ranching are continually challenged with access to water. Business in general hardly seems robust. It is up to each of us to be active in promoting our part of Colorado. So, how can we all become business ambassadors for the Valley?

One way we can achieve economic development is to support the organizations working to bring businesses and jobs to the Valley. The San Luis Valley Development Resources Group has been working diligently to do just that. The Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council is actively working to hire a person to pursue economic development, bringing businesses and jobs we need. Efforts by the local chambers of commerce, city administration and other business organizations like CPAC are important if we are to succeed. There also needs to be excellent collaboration between all the efforts, ensuring the message delivered to potential businesses is consistent and relevant. As we all work to improve our economic success, we need to support existing efforts.

I recently read in local paper that various groups are planning on challenging the Wolf Creek Village project after the U.S. Forest Service approved the land swap with the project developers. While no one I know is looking to make the San Luis Valley the next mega-metropolis, projects like the Wolf Creek Village will bring business and jobs. Tourism is a part of our business

climate and we need to take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

While it is vital to actively promote our communities, it is also vital to invest in them. November 20th was the official launch of SLVREC's new telecommunications services under the brand of Cielo. This is one way we are investing in our locale, adding a critical piece of infrastructure – world class telecommunications. This is but one piece of the infrastructure needed to be successful in attracting jobs. Our education systems, our health care systems, local government and current business leaders are all needed if we are going to succeed.



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## COMPANY NEWS

### Seasons Greetings Cont.

In the spirit of giving, the REC will be conducting a coat and canned food drive from December through January. Donations of canned goods and gently used coats will be accepted at our office located at 3625 US HWY 160 W, Monte Vista CO. We will distribute these items to organizations that help serve the needs in our local communities.

SLVREC will also be sponsoring two families for the Adopt A Family program this year. If you would like additional information about this program please contact San Luis Valley BOCES at 710-587-5422.

May your holiday season be bright and blessed, from the SLVREC Family to yours!



## CONSERVATION CORNER

SLVREC has great news for energy saving rebates! Contact Raleigh Burt at 719-852-3538 for additional information.

Below is the basic info on our largest rebate categories. All rebates must be submitted within 6 months of purchase. All submissions must be accompanied by proof of purchase, equipment specifications sheets, and a SLVREC rebate application form.

### Residential rebates available for new equipment:

#### Energy Star Rated Appliances

-Refrigerator or Freezer, \$40 + Additional \$40 for proof of recycling

-Clothes washer, \$40

-Dish washer, \$30

Electric Water Heater

-\$70 per water heater

-Additional \$25 for units with a lifetime tank warranty

LED Bulbs

-Up to \$10 per bulb/fixture for units rated at 300 lumens or more

Water heating can account for 14% to 25% of the energy consumed in your home. Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120°F). You'll not only save energy, you'll avoid scalding your hands. <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/fall-and-winter-energy-saving-tips>



# RECIPES OF THE MONTH

## INGREDIENTS

- 5 eggs
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 4 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 (15.25 ounce) can whole kernel corn
- 2 (14.75 ounce) cans cream-style corn

## GRANDMA'S CORN PUDDING

Preheat oven to 400 Degrees F (200 degrees C). Grease a 2 quart casserole dish.

In a large bowl, lightly beat eggs. Add melted butter, sugar, and milk. Whisk in cornstarch. Stir in corn and creamed corn. Blend well. Pour mixture into prepared casserole dish.

Bake for 1 hour.

## INGREDIENTS

### Cake:

- 1/2 cup butter, room temperature
- 1 1/4 cups white sugar
- 3 eggs, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon finely grated lemon peel
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup prepared eggnog
- 2 tablespoons bourbon whiskey

### Frosting:

- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups prepared eggnog (or see notes for recipe)
- 1 cup butter, room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups white sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon rum-flavored extract
- 1/8 teaspoon finely grated lemon peel
- 1/2 cup finely chopped toasted pecans (optional)

## EGG NOG CAKE

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease and flour two 9-inch round baking pans.

Beat 1/2 cup butter and 1 1/4 cups sugar with an electric mixer in a large bowl until light and fluffy. Mixture should be noticeably lighter in color. Add eggs, one at a time, allowing each egg to blend into butter mixture before adding the next. Stir in 1 teaspoon vanilla extract and 1/4 teaspoon lemon peel, mixing well.

Combine 2 cups flour, baking powder, and 1 teaspoon salt in a bowl. Pour flour mixture into the batter alternately with 1 cup eggnog, mixing until just incorporated. Stir in bourbon. Divide batter evenly between prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven until cake springs back when touched lightly with a fingertip or a toothpick inserted in the centers comes out clean, 30 to 35 minutes (test both cake layers). Cool in pans for 10 minutes before inverting on a wire rack to cool completely.

To make frosting, combine 1/4 cup flour and 1/4 teaspoon salt in a saucepan. Gradually whisk in 1 1/2 cups eggnog, whisking until smooth. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring frequently. When mixture boils, cook for 2 minutes, whisking constantly, until thickened. Remove from heat and let cool completely to room temperature.

Beat 1 cup butter and 1 1/2 cups sugar in a bowl until light and fluffy. Mix in cooled eggnog mixture, 1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract, rum extract, and 1/8 teaspoon grated lemon peel. Beat on high speed until mixture is fully incorporated and frosting is fluffy.

Spread cake with plain frosting between cake layers, over the top and on the sides. Coat the sides with toasted pecans, pressing the nuts onto sides in small handfuls. Refrigerate until serving time.



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*Happy Holidays! Celebrate!*



## POWERING OUR COMMUNITY

SLVREC's offices are open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
on Monday through Thursday.  
Offices are closed Friday through Sunday.

### ENERGY ASSISTANCE

866-HEAT HELP (866-432-8435)  
<http://www.energyoutreach.org>

### SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Board Meeting December 16th @ 9:30 am.  
The Board of Directors meet the last Tuesday of each  
month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome.

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider*



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