

THE NEWSBOY

News for Members of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative



A Hidden Gem

What will you find nestled close to the outstretched Sand Dunes and on the outer fringe of Hooper, Colorado? A hidden gem — the Sand Dunes Swimming Pool. This amazing oasis at the base of a mountain is equipped with an air strip, offers delectable lunch and dinner fare, and of course plenty of hot water to soak and play in. Sand Dunes swimming pool has been providing fun and relaxation to Valley residents for over 20 years.

Recently, the proprietors converted their 10,000-square-foot greenhouse into an amazing over-21 sanctuary boasting a handmade bar, three hot pools, a zero-entry pool and a 10-person sauna.

Donnie Bautista and Carly Harmon have put nothing but positivity and dedication into the new features. As small-business owners, they understand the importance of helping the local economy: the pool employs roughly 25 to 30 people during the summer months.

THIS ISSUE

A Hidden Gem

Conservation Corner

Loren Howard

Washington D.C. Youth Tour

Recipes of the Month

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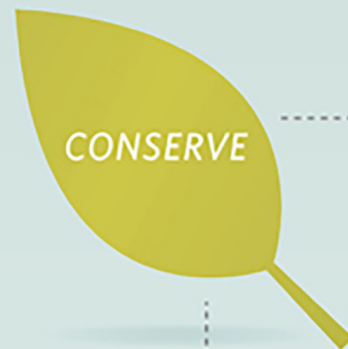


The couple nurtures a culture that is clean, friendly, inviting and collaborative. Keeping dollars local was also very important to them, and the work they didn't tackle themselves, they contracted locally.

The property also includes two houses, several campsites, three small cabins and a large hacienda that's perfect for family gatherings.

Donnie and Carly are a great team. They have the vision, the passion to make it happen and above all they understand the importance of relaxation.

CONSERVATION CORNER



Reduce power usage and strain on your Heating/AC system by changing filters every six months or as recommended by manufacturer.

10%

By lowering your thermostat 8 degrees Fahrenheit for eight hours a day, you can save up to 10% on your monthly bill.

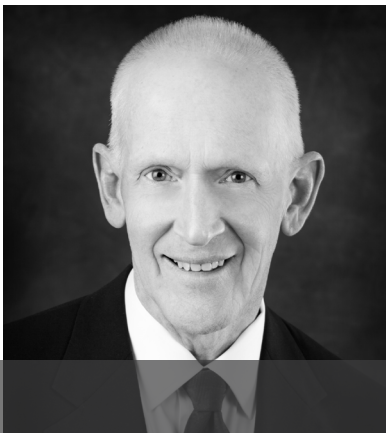


Keep shades and drapes on south-facing windows closed during warm months to keep the heat out and reduce A/C usage.

33%

Upgrade to a programmable thermostat. Used properly, these high-efficiency devices can reduce your annual costs as much as 33%.





LOREN HOWARD

Key Legislation in 2015

What does new legislation mean to SLVREC? The cooperative could see some benefits from the new changes in legislation. SB 252 required the REC to obtain 1 percent of sales from distributed generation (power generation at the point of consumption, or generating power on-site), at least half of which must come from net metered accounts. Most net metered accounts are rooftop solar. SB 046 now allows solar gardens to count toward net metering. This could have advantages to both the REC and members by allowing easier access to solar options through solar garden projects.

Another advantage is through HB15-1364, which further streamlines the process for permitting and inspecting small hydroelectric projects. This may encourage more development of net metered hydroelectric projects.

An additional pending issue that could significantly affect cooperatives is the release of the final Clean Power Plant rule. These rules would primarily apply to power plants, and threaten to significantly impact how electricity is generated in the United States, as well as, the price consumers pay for that electricity. The EPA rules that are of primary concern to the coop fall into two categories: limiting CO₂ emissions from existing power plants and limiting CO₂ emissions from new power plants.

The EPA has developed state-specific emission goals that it expects to be met using a combination of "building blocks," including: (1) making fossil-fuel power plants more efficient (which may or may not be possible on each individual power plant),

(2) increasing the use of natural gas power sources while decreasing coal-based plants' generation, (3) increasing the use of renewable and nuclear energy to replace coal-fired power; and (4) requiring increased energy efficiency by consumers (Keep Electricity Affordable, 2015).

This plan calls for one of the most radical shifts in decades. The implementation of all pieces of the plan could significantly change power generation, which could in turn lead to a rise in electricity prices for homeowners, farmers, ranchers, small businesses and entire communities for whom affordable electricity is an economic lifeline (Keep Electricity Affordable, 2015).

As your cooperative, we plan to keep you informed of any changes that would ultimately affect rates and your monthly bill.

For additional information on this matter please visit keepelectricityaffordable.com



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COMPANY NEWS

Youth Tour Wraps Up

Lilliana Chavez was the student chosen by SLVREC to attend this year's Washington D.C. Youth Tour.

The week started out with a safety demonstration by two of United Power's linemen. This was followed by a presentation from Michelle Pastor at Tri-State, who talked about how power is generated, transmitted and distributed. The group spent the afternoon touring the state capitol and Tri-State's operations center. The students also met with State Senator Beth Martinez Humenik.

While in D.C., the students were on the go, so they were able to visit many memorials and several museums. The group also attended the Broadway play *Newsies*. While out touring, the students made a stop at the Einstein statue, where they were met by a former Sangre de Cristo Electric Youth Tour student, Brian Hall. Brian works for the U.S. State Department and talked to the students about opportunities working with the federal government. It was a great stop and the students had a lot of questions.

The highlight of youth day was the presentation by Mike Schlappi, a four-time Olympic wheelchair basketball champion. Mike always does a fantastic job inspiring the students to be more, to do more, to stand out even if you can't stand up. Following youth day the group participated in a new program that took a deep dive into the cooperative business model.

To prepare for our trip to Capitol Hill, the students participated in a congressional simulation, and Kent Singer (CREA) provided an overview of Colorado's delegation. They met with U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and Cory Gardner and Representatives Scott Tipton and Ken Buck.

The students elected Sarah Conklin (United Power) to represent Colorado on the Youth Leadership Council. Sarah will return to Washington in July to learn more about leadership skills and public speaking. She will represent Colorado during the NRECA Annual Meeting next year in New Orleans.





RECIPES OF THE MONTH

INGREDIENTS

1/4 cup mayonnaise
 1/4 cup sour cream or Mexican crema
 1/2 cup finely crumbled cotija or feta cheese,
 plus more for serving
 1/2 teaspoon ancho chili powder, plus more
 for serving
 1 medium clove garlic, finely minced
 1/4 cup finely chopped cilantro leaves
 4 ears shucked corn
 1 lime, cut into wedges

Mexican Street Corn

Set half the burners of a gas grill to high heat. Set cooking grate in place, cover grill and allow to preheat for 5 minutes. Clean and oil the grilling grate.

While grill heats, combine mayonnaise, sour cream, cheese, chili powder, garlic, and cilantro in a large bowl. Stir until well mixed and set aside.

When grill is hot, place corn directly over hot side of grill and cook, rotating occasionally, until cooked through and charred in spots on all sides, about 8 minutes total.

Transfer corn to bowl with cheese mixture and use a large spoon to evenly coat corn on all sides with mixture. Sprinkle with extra cheese and chili powder and serve immediately with lime wedges.

INGREDIENTS

1 store bought or homemade pie crust
 4 small to medium very ripe peaches,
 halved and pit removed
 (if they are too large they may not fit in
 muffin tin)
 4 heaping teaspoons honeycomb
 1 egg
 4 teaspoons turbinado sugar

Individual Whole Peach Pies

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Lightly coat 4 wells of a muffin tin with cooking spray. Divide the pie crust dough into quarters. Roll into disks.

Place 1 heaping teaspoon of honeycomb into one side of each peach where the pit was. Place the other half on top so the peach is whole again. Place each peach on the center of each of the dough disks and wrap dough around the peaches. The dough does not have to completely enclose the peach if it does not reach the top. If peach is completely enclosed, use a paring knife to cut several slits for air to escape around the top. If peach is not completely enclosed, be sure the sides are supported by the muffin tin or oven proof bowls, as the halves will want to separate during baking. Place each pastry wrapped peach so that it just sits in the prepared muffin tin well.

In a small bowl whisk together the egg and 2 tablespoons water. Brush egg wash on pastry and sprinkle with 1 teaspoon of turbinado sugar.

Bake for 13-15 minutes or until crust is golden brown. Let cool 5 minutes and then carefully remove from pan.





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August 2015



POWERING OUR COMMUNITY



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

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

866-HEAT HELP (866-432-8435)
www.energyoutreach.org

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Board Meeting August 25, @ 6:30 p.m.
The Board of Directors meets the last Tuesday of each
month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome.

This institution is an equal opportunity employer.



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