

# UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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## Connected for 80 Years

**Annual Meeting Features Director Election, Cooperative Update, Prizes and More**

## IMPORTANT DATES

<b>MAY</b>	<b>National Electrical Safety Month</b> Learn more at <a href="http://ecfi.org">ecfi.org</a>
<b>MAY 27</b>	<b>Memorial Day</b> United Power Offices Closed
<b>JULY 4</b>	<b>Independence Day</b> United Power Offices Closed

Members may have noticed a little more energy in the air at this year's Annual Meeting and Director Election, and that's not in reference to thunderstorms roaming throughout the area much of the day. When United Power members gathered on April 17th to hear about new and innovative ways the cooperative is providing safe and reliable power, they were also joining in celebrating being "Connected for 80 Years." The special milestone capped off another strong year for the cooperative, which also topped 90,000 meters earlier this year.

Nearly 800 members were represented at the annual member event held at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Brighton, Colo. With

seats up for election in three of United Power's four districts, members were asked to cast ballots to decide who would represent them in those seats for the next three years. More than 5,000 votes were cast in the election, and results were announced during the course of the business meeting. South District incumbent Keith Alquist II retained his seat with 2,940 votes. Bradley J. Case received 2,745 votes in the South District election. Elizabeth Martin, East District, and Ursula J. Morgan, West District, also retained their seats for another term with 5,362 votes and 5,342 votes, respectively.

Balloting began shortly after member registration at 4:30 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall. Members were then able to enjoy a catered barbeque dinner from Three Tomatoes, visit informational exhibit booths and enjoy live entertainment. The business meeting began at approximately 6:30 p.m. in the Waymire Dome and was streamed to overflow seating in the Exhibit Hall.

The business meeting began with a short video segment detailing United Power's battery storage system at its new facility, the Carbon Valley Service Center, located off Interstate 25 near Firestone, Frederick and Dacono.

Energized in mid-December, the battery storage system is currently the largest such system in the state of Colorado and is expected to save the cooperative roughly \$1 million in wholesale power costs each year.

"We are progressive when we look at renewables," said New Business Director Jerry Marizza. "This is part of what I'll call the 'utility of the future,' and a lot of this is driven by what we as a utility want to do but it's partially because we listen to our members. That's who we're listening to to determine what to do next. It may be a small step today, but it's the future step for bringing more renewables onto the grid."

The Carbon Valley Service Center has already begun to prove its worth, as well. The new facility was partially manned in late 2018, and provides more convenient access to United Power's franchise communities west of Brighton. The drive out west was once a 45 minute trip from headquarters, but it now only takes a few minutes for linemen to respond to communities nearby.

"The new facility gives us the ability to respond to outages in the western part of our service territory more quickly," said John Parker,



[www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)

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

## Nest can help you earn **\$75** with **Rush Hour Rewards**.

With Rush Hour Rewards, your Nest will automatically shift energy use away from peak times to help us reduce load on the electrical grid. And when you help us save, we'll pass those savings along to you.

Learn more at [www.unitedpower.com/rush-hour-rewards](http://www.unitedpower.com/rush-hour-rewards).



# UP TO \$3,500 SPECIAL REBATE<sup>1</sup>

## TOUCHSTONE ENERGY COOPERATIVES, MEMBERS & EMPLOYEES

United Power members are eligible for an exclusive rebate on fleet or individual purchases of the **All-New NISSAN LEAF** through **JULY 1, 2019**.

<sup>1</sup>A \$3,500 special rebate is available on the 40 kWh model NISSAN LEAF and a new \$2,500 rebate is available on the 226 mile range, 62 kWh, ePlus model. This offer can be combined with the \$7,500 Federal EV Tax Credit to provide you with savings up to \$11,000 on your purchase of a new NISSAN LEAF. Other restrictions apply.

[www.unitedpower.com/EVRebate](http://www.unitedpower.com/EVRebate)



## ENERGY SAVERS

### Reduce Phantom Loads

Use an electric power strip for your electronic equipment. When your electronic equipment is not in use, turn it off to reduce or eliminate phantom loads. Reducing phantom loads can save you up to \$100/year.



## A Snapshot in History

This *Electric Light and Power* magazine dates back to May 1929, several years before Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Rural Electrification Act (1936) and United Power was formed (1938). The cover features a lineman climbing a pole on power lines in the state of Washington, and the magazine contents featured the latest news and innovations in the power industry.

A lot has changed since 1929, but much remains the same. Our linemen still work tirelessly to deliver our members safe and reliable power around the clock, sometimes in the most trying conditions.

Thanks, **Henry Schafer**, for bringing in this historical look at some of the power industry's earliest roots.

## United Power Celebrates Milestone Anniversary with Members

United Power Chief Executive Officer.

“These projects are aimed at driving United Power toward the future and continuing to think of our members first.”

In honor of its 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, the cooperative highlighted its connection with the communities it serves with a special member video featuring long-term members throughout its service territory. Some members had lived here all or most of their lives or represented multiple generations of United Power members. Others recalled the significant role the co-op played in helping grow the local community.

“The people up here take [electricity] for granted,” said mountain member Mary Ramstetter. “They don’t think about it, just don’t think about it. So I think we aren’t focused on it, but I guess that’s United Power’s plan. Make life as easy as possible. They do very well.”

Over the past year, the cooperative experienced growth of more than 4,000 members (or roughly 5 percent) and reduced outage times by nearly 40 percent, thanks in part to a focus on rehabilitation of older parts of the system. In September, United Power was proud to send lineman Kelly Snow to participate in a joint operation with linemen from Oklahoma to bring power to two remote jungle villages in Guatemala, epitomizing the cooperative values of cooperation and community.

For all our hard work and dedication to provide members with safe and reliable power in the most sustainable and economical way possible, United Power has once again set the bar high for others to follow. The cooperative’s operating expenses in 2018 totaled \$248 million, an increase of more than \$22 million from 2017, nearly all due to higher purchased power costs, Board Treasurer Ursula Morgan reported. Purchased power represents more than 77 percent of operating costs.

Another year of strong financial standing allowed the cooperative to retire \$5 million in capital credits this past year, comparable to the amount retired in 2017. In the past five years, United Power has retired nearly \$25 million in capital credits back to members.

The evening also included a special video presentation to highlight the 2019 scholarship winners. United Power is proud to provide more than \$19,000 in scholarships to deserving high school seniors within its service territory who are pursuing postsecondary education.

For members who were unable to attend but are still interested in learning how United Power continues to serve them, these videos and our Annual Report are available on the cooperative’s website, social media and YouTube channel.

Today, United Power serves all or part of nearly 20 different communities and two mountain canyons. These communities tell inspiring stories of Colorado’s early history in gold, coal and agriculture dating back nearly 200 years to the early settlers, trappers and entrepreneurs who helped establish them. Although much has changed since the co-op was formed in 1938, its goal remains the same - stay progressive, looking to the future, for the best ways to provide members safe, reliable and economical power.



## RECIPES



### DIY Dark Chocolate Almond Bars

- 1 cup cocoa butter
- 1/3 cup maple syrup (add more for sweetness)
- 1 cup cacao powder (or unsweetened cocoa powder)
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup roasted almonds
- 1/8 tsp sea salt

Melt cocoa butter in double boiler or glass mixing bowl set over small saucepan with 1" water over medium heat (or use microwave).

Once melted, remove from heat and add maple syrup. Whisk to combine. Add cacao powder and vanilla and combine. Adjust sweetness as needed.

Pour into candy molds, mini paper cupcake liners or line baking sheet with parchment paper and pour chocolate on top. Top with almonds and a sprinkle of salt.

Set in refrigerator or freezer to harden. Cut or break into pieces or bars.

*Recipe from MinimalistBaker.com*

## 2019 Director Election Results

United Power members cast more than 5,000 ballots, and the following results were certified by the Election and Credentials Committee at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

### East District

**Elizabeth Martin**..... 5,362

### West District

**Ursula J. Morgan**..... 5,342

### South District

**Keith Alquist, II**..... 2,940

**Bradley J. Case** ..... 2,745

## Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

ONLINE: [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)

MAIL: United Power Recipes  
500 Cooperative Way  
Brighton, CO 80603

# May is National Electrical Safety Month

If you are subscribed to newsletters or emails from any major electronics store, you have experienced firsthand the rapid advancement of technology over the past few years. Smart technology has evolved past our phone and thermostat to incorporate practically every aspect of our daily life. From entertainment to fitness, technology powers our lives.

May is **National Electrical Safety Month**, and United Power is joining with the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) to raise awareness about potential home electrical hazards and the importance of electrical safety. Safely managing electronic tools and toys may not cross our minds as we walk around with water resistant phones and watches, but improperly managing electronics can be dangerous. Staying aware of a few simple things can keep you and your family safe from electrical hazards.

**United Power offers the following tips to help identify and eliminate electrical hazards to protect yourself, your family, and your home:**

- Overloaded electrical circuits are a major cause of residential fires. Lower your risk of electrical fires by not overloading your home's electrical system.
- Light bulbs come in a variety of wattages, and lamps work with specific watts. Only use light bulbs that meet (or are below) the maximum wattage listed on the lamp or fixture. Consider investing in LEDs, which use fewer watts while outputting the same amount of light and cost less to operate. Exceeding the wattage limit can cause overheating and potential fire hazards.
- Extension cords should not be used as a permanent solution. Contact a licensed electrician to install additional outlets.
- Never use electrical cords that feel warm to the touch or are damaged or frayed in any way.
- Frequently tripped circuit breakers and blown fuses are a clear warning sign of faulty electrical wiring. Contact a licensed electrician for an inspection.
- Be prepared, just in case. Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Remember to test once a month!



Visit [www.esfi.org](http://www.esfi.org) for more tips on keeping your home and family safe.

## READER REWARDS

MAY/JUNE  
2019



### Three Winners Every Month!

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail entry form to: United Power • Reader Rewards  
500 Cooperative Way • Brighton, CO 80603

## Reader Rewards Online

[www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)



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

## What day was the historic Bomb Cyclone?

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

## UNITED POWER PRIDE



United Power's *United Newline* continued its tour of Disney castles when the Brunson family, Zach, Savannah and Aria, visited Disney World's magical and iconic Cinderella Castle this past year.

## United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the *United Newline* and you'll get a \$50 bill credit if we print it. Send your name, address, phone number, and a description of the photo to:

E-MAIL: [unitednewline@unitedpower.com](mailto:unitednewline@unitedpower.com)

MAIL: United Power—Attn: United Newline  
500 Cooperative Way, Brighton CO 80603



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# **UNITED POWER**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT FINANCIALS

# Comparative Balance Sheet

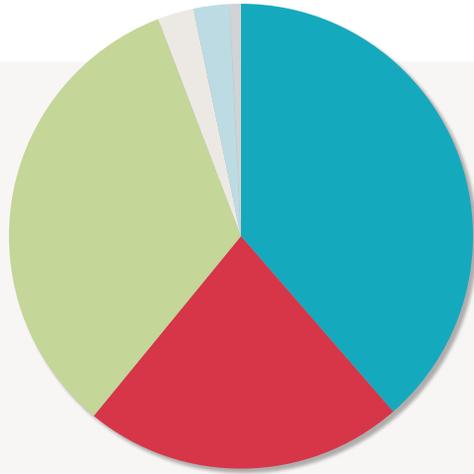
	2018	2017
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Utility Plant		
Electric Plant	\$ 347,984,980	\$ 323,900,638
less: Depreciation	(87,312,346)	(81,926,172)
Depreciated Value	<u>260,672,634</u>	<u>241,974,466</u>
Investments and Other Property	134,792,775	129,757,265
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	5,845,866	7,159,264
Receivables	11,056,883	11,282,225
Materials	6,410,484	5,540,535
Prepayments and Other Current Assets	34,550,404	24,363,988
Total	<u>57,863,637</u>	<u>48,346,012</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 453,329,046</b>	<b>\$ 420,077,743</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; CAPITAL</b>		
Capital Equities		
Patronage Capital	\$ 198,824,947	\$ 187,500,809
Other Capital	(4,269,612)	(4,962,561)
Total	<u>194,555,335</u>	<u>182,538,248</u>
Long-Term Debt	188,197,259	167,512,198
Obligations Under Capital Leases	216,296	729,382
Current Liabilities		
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	7,264,377	7,513,209
Current Maturities of Capital Leases	513,086	666,902
Notes Payable	26,000,000	29,500,000
Accounts Payable	21,323,765	16,706,260
Accrued Expenses	6,388,651	5,477,633
Accrued Taxes	4,460,161	5,392,087
Customer Deposits	1,507,211	1,138,721
Total	<u>67,457,251</u>	<u>66,394,812</u>
Deferred Credits	2,902,905	2,903,103
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Capital</b>	<b>\$ 453,329,046</b>	<b>\$ 420,077,743</b>

# Statement of Operations & Patronage Capital

	2018	2017
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>		
Operating Revenue	\$ 255,682,734	\$ 227,404,844
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Cost of purchased power	191,749,770	173,659,441
Operating expenses - distribution	6,395,663	6,494,480
Maintenance of distribution plant	6,979,330	6,795,930
Consumer accounting and collection expenses	5,823,542	4,615,980
Other customer expenses	2,920,805	2,440,499
Administrative & general expense	12,232,906	11,417,059
Directors fees and expense	419,386	326,979
Depreciation	8,966,487	8,326,355
Property taxes	4,491,773	4,714,781
Interest on long-term debt	7,261,699	6,149,436
Other interest expense	482,962	481,844
Other expenses	599,994	446,481
Total Operating Expenses	248,324,317	225,869,265
Operating Margins (Loss) Before Capital Credits	7,358,417	1,535,579
G&T and Other Capital Credits	8,708,703	10,240,628
Operating Margins	16,067,120	11,776,207
Interest revenue	261,319	221,825
Other revenue (expense)	(190,592)	(779,745)
Non-operating margin	70,727	(557,920)
<b>Net Margins</b>	<b>\$ 16,137,847</b>	<b>\$ 11,218,287</b>

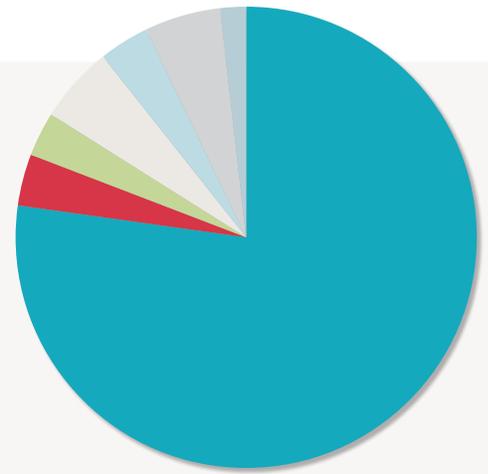
	2018	2017
<b>PATRONAGE CAPITAL AND OTHER EQUITY</b>		
Net Margins	\$ 16,137,847	\$ 11,218,287
Beginning of Year	182,538,248	175,901,166
Subtotal	198,676,095	187,119,453
Retirement of Capital Credits and Other Contributions (Net)	(4,120,760)	(4,581,205)
<b>Patronage Capital &amp; Other Equities End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 194,555,335</b>	<b>\$ 182,538,248</b>

# Financials at a Glance



## SOURCES OF REVENUE

Residential	\$102,104,404	38.6%
Small Commercial	\$59,056,304	22.3%
Large Commercial	\$87,938,021	33.3%
Other Operating Revenues	\$6,652,299	2.5%
Tri-State Allocations (non-cash)	\$6,643,925	2.5%
Other Allocations & Income (non-cash)	\$2,064,778	0.8%



## STATEMENT OF EXPENSES

Cost of Power	\$191,749,770	77.2%
Depreciation (non-cash)	\$8,966,487	3.6%
Interest	\$7,744,661	3.1%
Operations & Maintenance	\$13,374,993	5.4%
Consumer Accounts & Info	\$8,744,347	3.5%
Admin, Gen'l & Other	\$13,252,286	5.3%
Taxes	\$4,491,773	1.8%



## NUMBER OF METERS

2014	74,146
2015	76,629
2016	79,966
2017	83,323
<b>2018</b>	<b>87,528</b>



## MILES OF LINE

2014	5,771
2015	5,800
2016	5,857
2017	5,979
<b>2018</b>	<b>5,941</b>



## ENERGY SALES - KWH (THOUSANDS)

2014	1,645,719
2015	1,965,198
2016	2,150,654
2017	2,182,274
<b>2018</b>	<b>2,447,189</b>



## TOTAL REVENUE (THOUSANDS)

2014	\$179,892
2015	\$208,569
2016	\$219,962
2017	\$227,405
<b>2018</b>	<b>\$255,683</b>



## TOTAL ASSETS (THOUSANDS)

2014	\$372,824
2015	\$383,093
2016	\$387,864
2017	\$420,078
<b>2018</b>	<b>\$453,329</b>



## TOTAL PLANT INVESTMENT (THOUSANDS)

2014	\$308,718
2015	\$309,352
2016	\$302,293
2017	\$323,901
<b>2018</b>	<b>\$347,985</b>

# United Power Book Awards - \$1,000 Scholarships



## **Ayaka Hayashi, Brighton High:**

Ayaka serves with the Brighton Youth Commission and is active with the high school National Honor Society. At the Colorado School of Mines, she will take advantage of its Peace Corps Program to help the less fortunate.



## **Elena Pocs, Prairie View:**

In the fall, Elena will attend Colorado State, where she plans to major in construction management. She hopes to become a leader in the predominantly male field and eventually start her own company.



## **Scott Hampton, Eagle Ridge:**

Scott will travel across the country to attend Florida Gulf Coast in the fall, where he'll major in business management. Building on his current certifications, Scott plans to own a business in the aviation industry.



## **Hailee Hurtado, Frederick High:**

Hailee will enroll in the honors program at Colorado State, where she plans to focus on neuroscience and become a psychiatrist. Hailee volunteered at the Longmont United Hospital and was active in NHS.



## **Joanna Santibanez, Ft. Lupton High:**

Joanna has been involved with just about every club as a student at Ft. Lupton, and is currently student council president. She plans to attend Colorado State and major in environmental engineering.



## **Kelley McAmis, Mead High:**

In the fall, Kelley will attend the University of Northern Colorado and major in nursing and American Sign Language. She hopes to help fill a gap in the number of available medical professionals who know ALS.



## **Hannah Rockwell, Weld Central:**

As class valedictorian and member of the NHS, Hannah has excelled in her class. She will attend Colorado Christian University in the fall and major in pre-med in hopes of becoming either a general or trauma surgeon.



## **Anna Yocum, Mountain Territory:**

Anna plans to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees from the Colorado School of Mines. From there, she hopes to work with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory researching environmentally friendly fuels.



## **Emily Thoren, Erie High:**

Emily will graduate from Erie High School with a number of academic awards and having completed several community service projects. She plans to pursue a degree in accounting at the University of Denver.



## **Sophia Kate Thompson, At-Large:**

Sophia, Prospect Ridge, has been active in her community through a variety of volunteer projects. She hopes to continue giving back to her community after college as a physician.



## 2019 United Power Scholarship Recipients

United Power proudly announces the 2019 scholarship recipients. Seventeen scholarships were granted for a total of \$19,500. United Power awards the scholarships each year to outstanding students served by the cooperative. The United Power Scholarship Committee gives these awards based on grades, test scores, extracurricular participation and a short essay. Applications are made available at the end of each year.

**Visit [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com) for more information.**

### **Megan Lewis Basin Electric Power Co-op, \$1,000**



In the fall, Frederick High School senior Megan Lewis is heading west to Brigham Young to study chemical engineering. She plans to work toward a career in pharmaceutical engineering to both create and enhance medications. Having spent eight years growing up in China, Megan has a desire to one day return overseas to make a difference in third world countries by providing medical care.

### **Amanda Schmidt Bill Berens Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000**



As a student at Frederick High School, Amanda Schmidt has earned a number of academic and leadership accolades. Her involvement around the community inspired her to dream about establishing a nonprofit following college. At Colorado State, Amanda will major in chemical and biological engineering and leadership studies, which will allow her to express her creativity and affect change in the world.

### **Kaylee Speer Lois Lesser Education Scholar, \$1,000**



Kaylee Speer has significant experience working with children of various ages, and plans to use that experience as she pursues a degree in early childhood education when she graduates from Frederick High School. While in high school, Kaylee was on the tennis team and a manager for the wrestling team. She has also participated and volunteered with numerous events benefitting multiple sclerosis research.

### **Alexia Simonton Tri-State G&T Association Scholarship, \$1,000**



While Holy Family senior Alexia Simonton is pursuing a potential career in business, law or public relations, she is certain about one thing – she'd eventually like to teach social science education. Active in both her school and community, Alexia served as a student ambassador and helped establish a speech and debate club for middle schoolers while also volunteering with nursing home residents and her church.

### **Amanda Ruybal United Power Youth Leadership Scholarship, \$1,500**



Amanda Ruybal believes passionately in providing a voice for the underrepresented. She hopes to provide that for them one day as a politician. The Brighton High School senior has been an active in a number of political groups for youth, including the Brighton Youth Commission, Colorado Youth Advisory Council, Inspire US and World Denver. In the fall, she'll focus her studies on political and environmental sciences.

### **Alexx McMillan United Power Colorado College Scholar, \$2,000**



As a student at Prairie View, Alexx McMillan was involved in several activities, including cross country, track, student council and theatre. She'll enroll at the University of Colorado in Boulder this fall to student English in order to become a more effective communicator to advocate for causes she's passionate about, such as human rights or environmental conservation. Alexx hopes to become a novelist, film director or operate a nonprofit.

### **Daniel Smith United Power Colorado College Scholar, \$2,000**



Weld Central senior Daniel Smith will head to the Colorado School of Mines in August to study mechanical engineering and applied mathematics. While at Weld Central, he was involved in athletics, band, drama and the Technology Student Association. He was also captain of the school's Knowledge Bowl team. Working in engineering will allow Daniel to accomplish his goal of helping his family and giving back to the community.

# All Hands on Deck for the Bomb Cyclone

## Linemen Respond to more than 10,000 Outages

The calm before a storm is often the most unsettling. A cold, breezy Wednesday morning belied a more sinister winter storm rapidly intensifying and bearing down on the Colorado's northern Front Range. Anxious employees peered through slotted window blinds searching for early signs of the encroaching storm (dubbed a "bomb cyclone"), and linemen gathered for morning safety meetings in anticipation of a long day.

Initial signs of the storm began rolling in late morning, bringing with it a mixture of blowing rain and light snow. Within the hour, the storm transformed into a whiteout and roads disappeared underneath a layer of rapidly accumulating snow. As worsening conditions stranded travelers, highway patrol began closing major highways and warning residents to avoid travel unless absolutely necessary. Shortly after, Governor Jared Polis declared a state of emergency.

All United Power line crews were mobilized early in the morning and placed on standby in order to respond quickly once the storm moved in. The first outage alerts were triggered before noon, and before long several thousand members had been impacted. The storm was beginning to show its teeth.

Strong winds and heavy snow contributed to limited visibility and created a challenging situation for linemen traversing snow-packed roads and drifts measuring several feet deep to restore affected members' power during the raging storm. Trucks were forced to limit their mobility, moving slowly and only when visibility cleared enough for them to proceed safely.

"Finding the road was sometimes like trying to find your hand in the dark," said Troubleshooter Jon Lundstrom. "There were moments we couldn't even see beyond the hoods of our trucks, let alone know if we were actually on the road. I'm certain I drove through an empty field at least once."

Back at United Power's headquarters, operations staff were carefully monitoring incoming outages through the cooperative's advanced mapping system, SCADA, and relaying them to linemen in the field. Where possible, system improvements now allowed staff to effectively reclose certain breakers instead of having to dispatch crews to a location, freeing them to respond to more critical outages.

While nearly a third of all members impacted by storm-related outages were restored from the office, crews still needed to be dispatched to the majority. Despite uncertain conditions, linemen responded to each outage with as much urgency as the weather would allow.

"Our engineers have done a great job designing an infrastructure that allows us to be responsive without sending out a crew," said Operations Manager Brent Sydow. "But nothing can replace the value of having boots on the ground, especially when the weather turns ugly."

In total, more than a dozen crews with roughly 50 linemen between United Power and its contractor, Ward Electric, responded to just over 10,000 outage alerts over the course of the storm and late into the night. When final Ward crews were called in just

before 4 a.m., most linemen had worked in excess of 19 hours to restore power. Just 23 accounts remained without power when crews arrived again later that morning.

According to advanced metrics obtained through the United Power operations team, of the 10,304 meters affected during the storm, only 2,000 experienced an outage lasting longer than 6 hours, and most were restored within 2 hours.

"Storms expose your weak points," said Sydow. "Some parts of our system normally hit hard during strong storms like this held up well. It's a testament to United Power's commitment to system and infrastructure improvements over the past couple years, the efficiency of our processes and the hard work of our linemen."

As far as storms go, March's bomb cyclone was unlike anything Colorado has seen before, confirmed as the most intense storm in state history. Hundreds of thousands of residents were left without power during the storm as it paved its way through the northern Midwest and impacted travel across much of the country. More than 1,300 flights were cancelled and 1,100 travelers were left stranded.

"It takes a certain kind of person to look into a storm like that and say whatever it takes to get the job done," said Troubleshooter Kurt Westhoff. "We're at our best when the weather is at its worst. It gives us motivation and adrenaline to go out there and get the power back on. It's what we do; it's why we got into this."



## What is a Bomb Cyclone?

Bomb cyclones, also known as **bombogenesis** or **explosive cyclogenesis**, are naturally occurring weather phenomena producing hurricane-force winds and blizzard conditions. They are formed when warm air and cold air meet under the right conditions, resulting in cyclonic movement and a sudden and sharp drop in barometric pressure over a short period of time. As pressure continues to drop, the storm intensifies. Only a handful of these weather events have been recorded, and rarely over continental locations.



## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Funded by members "rounding up" their electric bills to the next full dollar amount, Operation Round-Up provides a rich source of support for those in our territory that may be struggling financially. The foundation has been around for more than 20 years and has distributed more than \$1.5 million dollars. Through block grants for partner organizations and grants to non-profit groups, Operation Round-Up is a huge force in the communities we serve, providing thousands of dollars in support.

### Partner Organizations Supported by Operation Round-Up:

In 2018, these organizations received \$92,500 which was used for direct assistance to individuals and families in the United Power territory. Getting clients into the doors of a service organization is important – not only to alleviate their immediate crisis, but to help them access other services like food stamps, job training and subsidized housing opportunities.

These partner organizations are empowered to use the money to help those seeking assistance, and allow us to make a much broader impact on those families in need in our territory.

#### ALMOST HOME (BRIGHTON)

Promotes self-sufficiency and provides housing assistance for the homeless and those in need in Adams and Southern Weld County. Operates an emergency homeless shelter and provides case management services, financial assistance for rent and utilities and other resources.

#### CATHOLIC CHARITIES (FT. LUPTON)

Serves tens of thousands of people each year in seven ministries: Marisol Services (for women), Early Childhood Education, Shelter Services, Archdiocesan Housing, Sacred House Counseling; Family, Kinship and Senior Services; and Parish & Community Services. They also provide disaster relief services.

#### CARBON VALLEY HELP CENTER (FIRESTONE)

Helps people in immediate need move toward self-sufficiency by unifying Carbon Valley resources and information about a variety of regional resources. Client specialists work with individuals to get them information and assistance they need to regain their confidence.

#### CANYON CARES (COAL CREEK CANYON)

Serves the community by providing short-term resources to help care for the necessities and urgent needs of residents in Coal Creek Canyon and unincorporated Gilpin County in Colorado's Front Range.

Learn how you can give back through Operation Round-Up at [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com).

## Members #ThankALineman

National Lineman Appreciation Day was celebrated on April 18<sup>th</sup>, and we asked our members to send in a short note of appreciation to United Power linemen. We received some very warm and kind notes from members, and we'd like to share a couple:

*"Thank you for all you do on a daily basis to ensure we all have electricity. You have a dangerous, physically demanding position. I watched a crew last summer in Blue Mtn. Estates replace all the overhead cable. We truly appreciate your work!"*  
- The Bennett Family

*"Ron and I want to thank you for all the wonderful service you provide for us. We have lived in Coal Creek Canyon for 43 years and have always felt very blessed to be under your care. Take care and be safe."*  
- Ron & Georgia Schafer

## Fairs & Festivals

### June Upcoming Events:

- 6/1** **City of Brighton Summerfest**  
Carmichael Park | Brighton
- 6/1** **Johnstown BBQ & Parade**  
Parish Park | Johnstown
- 6/8** **7th Annual Erie Brewfest**  
Coal Creek Park | Erie
- 6/13** **Neighborhood Outreach**  
Fronterra Park | Commerce City
- 6/21** **Frederick in Flight**  
Centennial Park | Frederick
- 6/22** **Red, White & Blue Fest**  
Reunion Park | Commerce City

### July Upcoming Events:

- 7/3** **Adams County Stars & Stripes**  
Riverdale Regional Park | Brighton
- 7/3** **Fireworks Festival**  
SE Weld County Fair | Keenesburg
- 7/4** **17th Annual 4th at Firestone**  
Miner's Park | Firestone
- 7/4** **69th Annual Canyon 4th Fest**  
CCCIA Hall | Coal Creek Canyon
- 7/4** **4th of July Celebration**  
Ft. Lupton Rec Center | Ft. Lupton

# Inside This Issue

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2019



## 2019 United Power Annual Meeting Re-Cap & Results



Nearly 800 people attended the United Power Annual Meeting. They learned more about the operation, how the cooperative is performing financially and celebrated being "Connected for 80 Years."



Event Overview

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Election Results

Page 3



## Scholarship Recipients

United Power has awarded \$19,500 in scholarships to area high school seniors.

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## SPECIAL INSERT

### 2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

View the entire Annual Report at [www.unitedpower.com/annual-reports](http://www.unitedpower.com/annual-reports).

## STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR CO-OP

**email**.....[UnitedNewsline@UnitedPower.com](mailto:UnitedNewsline@UnitedPower.com)

**online**.....[www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)

**f**.....[facebook.com/UnitedPower](https://facebook.com/UnitedPower)

**t**.....[twitter.com/UnitedPowerCoop](https://twitter.com/UnitedPowerCoop)

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

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

## CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** James Cirbo, Broomfield

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Dana Gallegos, Brighton  
Carrel Rogers, Golden

See your name listed as a winner? Call 303-637-1248 to claim your Reader Rewards.

<b>Board of Directors</b>	James Vigasaa Ursula J. Morgan Beth Martin
<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	John Parker
<b>Chief Operating Officer</b>	Bryant Robbins
<b>Chief Financial Officer</b>	Laurie Rydwell
<b>Public Affairs Officer</b>	Troy Whitmore
<b>Newsline Editors</b>	Richard Newmann Tim Erickson Ginny Buczek
	Susan Petrocchio Keith Alquist Susan Petrocchio Treasurer
	Richard Newmann Dave Rose Tamera Waternath

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