



# ENERGY



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**Ridgway** 720 N. Railroad St. P.O. Box 1150 Ridgway, CO 81432 (970) 626-5549 Toll Free: 1-877-864-7311

### **Both Offices Open:**

M - TH, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

### www.smpa.com www.facebook.com/SanMiguel Power

In the event of a power outage, contact your local SMPA office to reach our 24-hour dispatch.

### **QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS**

energywise@smpa.com (970) 626-5549 x212



IS YOUR HOME ELECTRICAL
SYSTEM READY FOR WINTER?

Professionally-installed outlets
are cheaper than electrical
fires. Call an electrician before
overloading your circuits.



Routinely check the condition of your wiring, sockets and plugs. Replace what is worn or damaged.

with unsabilities who require alternative means of com-ication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, au-spe, American Sigh Language, etc.), should contact the re-sible Agency or USDAS TARGET Center at (202)/20-2600 e and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Ser-at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may nade available in languages other than English.

(866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

# Lucky SmartHub User Selected in e-Bike Drawing. "With SmartHub, Everyone Wins"

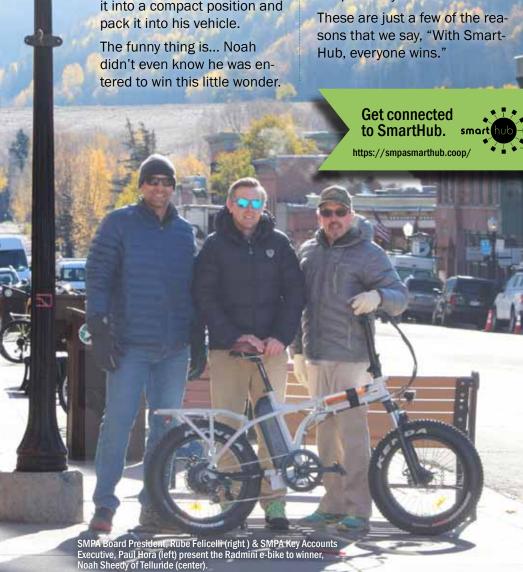
Whenever Telluride resident, Noah Sheedy needs to get to work, he now has another option. As the winner of the SMPA drawing for the Radmini e-bike, Noah can hop on his 750W, 48V battery-powered bike, and cruise up the hill to his job in Mountain Village or to anywhere else without breaking a sweat.

The Radmini is equipped with comfortable but compact 20" x 4" wide ("Fat") tires, front suspension and disc brakes. When Noah wants to bring the bike on long trips, he can fold it into a compact position and

"I downloaded the SMPA SmartHub app because it just makes paying my power bill easier." said Noah. "I had no idea about the contest."

...and he's right. With Smart-Hub's automatic notifications, and compatibility with any bank draft or pay card, it can reduce the bill paying process to just a simple tap on the smart phone.

SmartHub also puts the latest co-op news, account management options and powerful energy analysis tools right in the palm of your hands.



REMINDER: SMPA Of-

fices will be closed **Nov. 21**st

Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>

We'll see you after Thanksgiving!

# **Net Metering Member Focus: CC Blue Ranch**

"It's All About the Flow"



Construction on the 35-acre plot began in 2010 and made use of only local materials as well as local labor and craftsmen.

Just off County Road 24 in Pleasant Valley, there lives a rare property that joins the past and the future in a most remarkable way.

The "CC Blue Ranch," owned and operated by former Boulder residents, Cynthia ("Cindy") Carrillo and Matthew Valadez stands as an example of not only net metering for energy efficiency, but of sustainable living and compatibility with the land, the seasons and the basic "flow" of life.

The property includes main and guest houses, a modern barn, a guest yurt, a crop garden and greenhouse that grows year-round produce and blue tilapia!

Powering it all, is a solar / wind grid-tied generation system with battery backup. Not wanting to be isolated, the pair continue their membership in SMPA. With this, they have increased reliability and the knowledge that their excess generation is not wasted. "Is that weird?" asks Cindy. We think it's kind of awesome!

Cindy and Matthew gave their architect a list of priorities he later dubbed their

Cindy and Matthew gave their architect a list of priorities he later dubbed their "Mission Statement." The list included sustainable building practices, and the ability to live off the land. "We wanted to create an environment, not just a house."



CC Blue's essential systems draw power from their battery backup system when their renewable generators aren't producing. SMPA provides additional insurance with the grid.

Growing Pains



X

Our conversion to

a new information management system temporarily interrupted

online payment processes for some members. We apologize for

any inconvenience.



# **Apply for 2019 Youth Leadership Camp**

Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 2, 2019

# NO RATE INCREASE! SMPA Holds Consumer Rates Steady in 2019

Although all voting directors acknowledged the eventual need to raise the SMPA access charge to cover fixed costs, no director moved to adjust the SMPA energy rates nor access charge for the calendar year of 2019. This may provide relief to budget-conscious member-consum-

ers who may have been expecting an increase in their electric bills.

This decision followed a report from Chief Financial Officer, Bill Mertz explaining that the cooperative is meeting financial goals and is on good financial footing as of October, 2018.

The board also approved the 2019 SMPA budget and plans to discuss the possibility of distributing member dividends at a later board meeting. Read future issues of EnergyWise for updates.





OK

Coming Up...

# **Knowledge Bowl**

- November 12th, 3PM
- Norwood School

**DOWNLOAD SMARTHUB** https://smpa.smarthub.coop







This Month's Puzzle: MEET NITE NRG

Hint: It's Renewable Power with Grid Backup. The Best of Both!

**SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER** and be entered into a drawing for a fun prize to:

EnergyWise PO Box 1150 Ridgway, CO 81432