



Local Restaurant
Goes 100%
Green!



Sharing Success
for Affordable
Housing



High School
Seniors: Last
Chance to Apply!

MARCH 2023

ENERGYWISE

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives
The power of human connections®



CONTACT INFORMATION

Nucla
170 W. 10th Ave.
P.O. Box 817
Nucla, CO 81424
(970) 864-7311
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

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

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

www.smpa.com
www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower

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 x2120

SAFETY TIPS

Circuit Breaker Safety:

- Label all circuit breakers and fuse boxes clearly
- Do not block access to circuit breakers or fuse boxes
- Do not tie power cords in tight knots

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

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intakeusda.gov.

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Telluride Restaurant goes Totally Green!

If you've ever taken a bite from a mouth-watering burger at Counter Culture, you're in for another treat. The Telluride restaurant is one of the newest additions to San Miguel Power Association's Totally Green Program; a project that allows consumers to source energy from 100% renewable resources.

When an SMPA employee dined at Counter Culture last year, he casually suggested the program to co-owner Steve Hertzfeld, who knew instantly that investing in renewable energy aligned with both his personal philosophy and his restaurant's mission.

Counter Culture was founded two years ago by three savvy food service professionals who shared a passion for both food and the environment. Throughout their culinary careers, co-owners Grace Mayer and Taylor Landry, along with Hertzfeld, have sought to be a model of sustainability in the restaurant world. With an emphasis on local and seasonally available food, the folks at Counter Culture can now deliver delectable cuisine with a lower carbon footprint.

"It's not about bragging rights," says Hertzfeld. "We genuinely believe this is the right thing to do." And with an added investment of only one cent per kilowatt-hour, the restaurant did not have to sacrifice profits for principles. They see on average an increase of \$11 per month on their electric bill.

Both businesses and residents can help to combat climate change and contribute to the local community through the energy resources harnessed by solar, wind, and hydropower. Signing up for SMPA's program ensures all electricity is sourced from carbon-free resources. For more information, or to sign up for the Totally Green Program today, visit smpa.com/content/sign-totally-green or call 1-877-864-7311.

Be sure to celebrate your sustainable choice with a tasty bite at Counter Culture, located at 156 Society Drive in Telluride. They are open from 11am-5:30pm Monday through Saturday.

- FOR**
- Outage Updates,
 - Community Programs
 - Helpful tips and tools

[FACEBOOK.COM/SANMIGUELPOWER](https://www.facebook.com/sanmiguelpower)




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For the Best Information, Go to the Source


If you are looking to purchase and install new power equipment, like solar panels, it can be tempting to just take the word of your installer, who may be very knowledgeable about their products. However, some estimates they give, may be based upon assumptions.

If you are planning to make a significant change to your power usage, give us a call. We can help you download and initialize your SmartHub app, and we can help you interpret and utilize the data that it supplies. Because we keep this data private, your installer does not have access to it. Take charge of your own data and be sure you're using the best information when making purchasing decisions. We're glad to help.






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2023 Election Schedule

The San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) Director District #2 (Telluride area) is holding an election to be concluded on June 8, 2023. All SMPA members have the right to vote for the director representative in their district and may be eligible to run for election. If you would like more information, please telephone (970) 626-5549 (Ridgway) or (970) 864-7311 (Nucla) during regular office hours.





What a Great Opportunity!

The Home Trust of Ouray County and the West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC) were on hand at our January Board Meeting to receive their Sharing Success Economic Development Grants. We look forward to seeing the ground broken for affordable housing in our territory! Thanks to CoBank and Basin Electric for matching donations.

LAST CHANCE TO APPLY!

The final scholarship deadline is March 13. Take advantage of SMPA's increased scholarship amounts:

-  \$3K for the Collegiate
-  \$3k for the Vocational scholarships





GIVE BLOOD | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

11:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

170 W. 10TH AVE., NUCLA

vitalant.org

- **March, 2023:**
Nomination packets available for pick up at SMPA Offices. Email alex@smpa.com for digital.
- **April 6, 2023:**
Nomination Packets (*Petitions with 15 or more valid member signatures*) DUE. Completed petitions to be posted on www.smpa.com the following week
- **April 24, 2023:**
Date of Record (*New District #2 Members or those who switch their primary account to District #2 after this date will not be eligible to vote in 2023.*)
- **April 26, 2023:**
Paperless voting email campaign allowing members to "turn off" their paper ballot, if they wish.
- **Mid-May, 2023:**
If the election is contested, ballots are mailed to members in District #2 and online voting opens.
- **June 7, 2023:**
Mail-in & e-ballot deadline. Online voting closes. Mail-in ballots must be RECEIVED by close of business.
- ★ **June 8, 2023: ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING**
Ridgway, Colorado. An in-person / virtual event. See www.smpa.com to register. (Election results announced.)

SMPA POWER PLAY

This Month's Puzzle:
SAME NET GAIN UN LAMP
Hint... Learn the winner first here.

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

EnergyWise
PO Box 1150
Ridgway, CO 81432



Have you changed your phone # or email?
Let us know at 1-877-864-7311