





ENERGY



YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Both Offices Open:

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

leavy snow accumulation brings branches into power lines. Call us f you see any contacts.

Keep a good supply of water, candles, and a first aid kit materials and handy in case of

on with disabilities who require alternative means of com-ication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, au-pe, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the re-sible Agency or USDA's 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 acide available in languages other than English.

SMPA Board Kicks Off 2019 by Sending Out Over \$1Million in Member Dividends!

ONE MONTH AFTER OPTING NOT TO INCREASE THE SAN MIGUEL POWER ASSOCIATION (SMPA) ACCESS FEE IN 2019, THE SMPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED THE RETURN OF \$1.1 MILLION IN MEMBER DIVIDENDS TO THE CONSUMER-MEMBERS. THIS MOVE COMPLETES THE PROCESS BY WHICH EXCESS REVENUES GET SHARED BACK WITH CONSUMERS OVER TIME

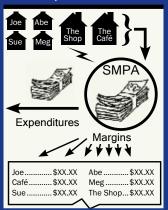
In a typical year, SMPA collects more than enough revenue to cover its expenses. The excess revenue, called "margins" is allocated to each consumer in proportion to their contributions for that year. The cooperative reserves this money for a period of time. When the Board determines the time is right, allocations for a given year or combination of years are cashed out as "Member Dividends" and returned to the members.

This month, many SMPA members received checks in the mail. The dividends represent allocations from the years 1989, 1991, and 1992. The majority of members received dividend checks between \$20 and \$250. Some large power users, including towns, counties, and schools received checks over \$1000.



Giving member dividends back to you is one of the ways we distinguish ourselves from investor-owned, for-profit utilities. It's a commitment that is absolutely foundational for an electric cooperative like SMPA.

RUBE FELICELLI SMPA BOARD PRESIDENT







Center Stage: PalmKidz Expands with Support from SMPA

Since 1960, scientists have been collecting data supporting the theory that stimulating environments bolster brain development—especially for the young. Palm Arts Inc. of Telluride seeks to help provide just such a stimulating environment for children in Telluride and the surrounding region with its PalmKidz program.

PalmKidz brings affordable, live, diverse and inclusive family programming to the region. Last year's performances included such artists as the Creede Repertory Theater, Opera Colorado, Hip Hop artist Mr. Kneel, Latino artists Jarabe Mexicano, and award-winning classical violinist Tessa Lark.

In 2018-19 Palm Arts expanded the PalmKidz program by increasing the number of performances and making it a year-round program. Regional funding from donors like SMPA have allowed Palm Arts Inc. to make the program 100% free for all attendees and the program was able to grow its audience and serve over 1300 patrons in the region!

"The PalmKidz program has been an amazing success thanks to the generosity of San Miguel Power Association," said Chris Vann, Palm Arts Programming and Development Director.







Sharing Success Economic Development Grants Awarded

Local business owners have it tough. Never mind the litany of concerns that owners must address in order to keep their doors open, they must also invest in their communities to help ensure there are enough customers to walk through those doors. For all our sakes, local businesses work, risk and invest for the communities they serve.

SMPA, and cooperative partners, CoBank and Tri-State Generation and Transmission recognize and appreciate the efforts of local businesses. That's why we've partnered to provide the Sharing Success Economic Development Grant to help support community initiatives that aim to benefit the entire business community of a region.

These initiatives:

- Stimulate job creation in our area
- · Promote economic growth
- Create/improve local commerce
- Maintain/strengthen existing businesses
- Enhance regional prosperity



Congratulations to the winners of the following 2018 Sharing Success Economic Development Grants:

Town of Naturita: \$10,000

Top of the Pines: \$3,000

Silverton Farmer's Market: \$2,500

Town of Silverton: \$2,500

West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC): \$2000







SMPA was proud to support local holiday festivities with floats in Christmas Parades of Ouray, Nucla, Norwood and Ridgway.

Thanks to all who came out to see us!



This Month's Puzzle: I, LE NICE, CRAFTI, REDI TEC Hint: Need more outlets? Call me.

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

EnergyWise PO Box 1150 Ridgway, CO 81432