

# SOUTHEAST COLORADO POWER ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2020



## MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 521  
La Junta, CO 81050-0521



## STREET ADDRESS

27850 Harris Road  
La Junta, CO 81050



**ph** 719-384-2551

**tf** 800-332-8634

**fax** 719-384-7320

**web** [www.secpa.com](http://www.secpa.com)



[facebook.com/secpaonline](https://facebook.com/secpaonline)

**Our primary mission** is to provide high-quality, reliable electric service at a reasonable cost to our members, improve their quality of life through new technologies and services, be a visible and active member of the community and serve our members with respect, courtesy and responsiveness.

SOUTHEAST COLORADO  
POWER ASSOCIATION IS AN  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER  
AND EMPLOYER



## WE LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

BY JACK JOHNSTON CEO



JACK JOHNSTON

I certainly hope all the anticipation of a new year is being successfully and happily met. There is always something refreshing with the opening of a new calendar because it balances retrospective and perspective thoughts. There is always much on the mind this time of year, and likely a willingness to share those thoughts with others.

We live in a device-driven world. Our smartphones, tablets, laptops and assortment of other devices help us communicate and connect. Companies spend billions pushing out a steady drumbeat of messages and information, and we are constantly bombarded with one-way communication. But is anyone listening on the other end?

At Southeast Colorado Power Association, we are not only listening, but are also eager to hear from you. Whether you text us, respond to a survey or social media post, send an email or simply stop by and chat in person, we enthusiastically welcome your feedback. Connecting with you helps us keep pace with our community's priorities and needs.

Because we are an electric cooperative, we have a different way of operating. We exist to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the consumer-members of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the consumer-members we serve. We hope you will consider us more than your energy provider, but also as a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity.

The energy sector is in the midst of significant changes as technology, legislation and regulation drive toward a more balanced energy mix, which has a significant impact

on long-range planning. These are complex issues that we will be navigating for years to come. This is why it's so important that we hear from you and other community members as we plot our course for the future.

We hope to continually learn from our consumer-members about your priorities so we can better serve you — because our electric co-op was built by the community, for the community. But we can only improve, adapt and effectively plan for the future if we have two-way communication. For our co-op and community to thrive now and in the future, we depend on hearing from you.

I hope you will connect with us and let us know your perspective. WIN\*Dean Bishop acct #202760000

## SAVE THE DATE!

### SECPA's Annual Meeting

Thursday,  
April 23, 2020, in  
Springfield

## Take Care During Winter Outages

Maintaining warmth is a priority during a winter storm. Loss of body heat or hypothermia can be life threatening. When a winter storm causes a power outage:

- Stay inside and dress warmly in layered clothing.
- Close off unneeded rooms.
- When using an alternate heat source, follow operating instructions, use fire safeguards and be sure to properly ventilate.
- Stuff towels and rags underneath doors to keep the heat in.
- Cover windows at night.
- Keep a close eye on the temperature in your home. Infants and people over the age of 65 are more susceptible to the cold. You may want to stay with friends or relatives or go to a shelter if you cannot keep your home warm.



January 2020

### Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Let the sunshine in! For additional warmth, open drapes covering windows that receive sunlight during the day. Close them at night, which can reduce heat loss from a warm room up to 10%.

Source: energy.gov

# WHY IS MY POWER OUT?

A storm or a squirrel may be to blame



When the power goes out, we work hard to resume service as quickly and safely as possible.

### Here are some common reasons the power goes out:



**STORMS:**

Mother Nature can interfere with power delivery.



**TREES AND VEGETATION:**

This is why we work so hard to keep power lines clear.



**ANIMALS:**

Curious animals can cause damage, especially squirrels.



**ACCIDENTS:** Run-ins with a utility pole or other equipment can cause an outage.



**PUBLIC DAMAGE:** Unsafe digging, equipment or line damage, vandalism or theft can all interfere.



**OVERLOAD:** This happens when demand spikes, like on a hot summer day.



**EQUIPMENT ISSUES:** We maintain and inspect equipment regularly, but sometimes malfunctions occur.



## Additional SECPA \$1,000 Scholarships Offered

SECPA is once again making a series of scholarships available to area high school seniors. SECPA increased scholarship offerings from three to five \$1,000 scholarships. SECPA will include applicants to **trade schools or other nontraditional secondary education institutions**. Eligible applicants must be high school seniors graduating in 2020 who plan to attend a two- or four-year college or trade school. Students' parents must be members of SECPA.

Students interested in applying for the scholarships are asked to submit the completed SECPA application form (available on the SECPA website at <http://secpa.com/our-community/scholarships> along with a school transcript, letters of recommendation and a short letter addressing why they deserve the scholarship and what their major will be in school. Applicants are also asked to submit a current digital, high-resolution photo to Debbie Howard at [debbieh@secpa.com](mailto:debbieh@secpa.com) with their application.

Additionally, the SECPA website has information regarding other scholarships SECPA administers through Tri-State Generation and Transmission and Basin Electric Power Cooperative. Local students are also eligible to apply for both of those scholarships. Tri-State Generation offers one \$1,000 scholarship and Basin Electric provides one \$1,000 scholarship.

**Applications for the SECPA scholarships are due no later than February 3, 2020. For additional information, please visit the SECPA website or contact Debbie Howard at 719-383-1314.**

HERE'S TO

2020  
VISION

SECOM wishes you a wonderful 2020. May you stay focused on your goals and look forward with joyful anticipation.

We encourage you to keep an eye on your household's growing internet usage and watch for signs – such as frequent buffering when streaming – that it's time for a speed increase to more fully enjoy your online experiences.

**CALL 800-657-7149 NOW TO UPGRADE YOUR INTERNET PLAN\***



27850 Harris Rd, La Junta, CO 81050  
800-657-7149 • [www.secom.net](http://www.secom.net)

*Service availability and internet speed will depend on location. Contact us for complete details.*

Comerstone Group © 2019



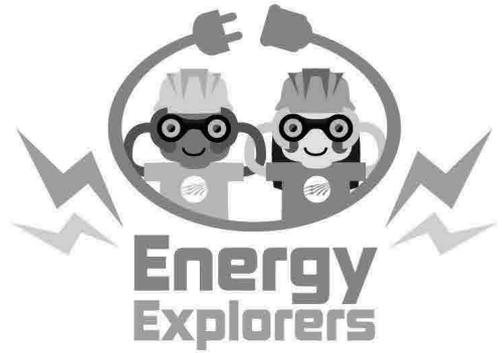
## You Could Be A Winner This Month

If you find your name in this issue as follows (WIN\* your name, your account number), please contact Southeast Colorado Power Association at 719-384-2551 or 800-332-8634 to receive a credit on your next power bill.

# ENERGY SAVINGS WORD SEARCH

Did you know there are many ways you can help save energy in your home?

Read the energy efficiency tips below and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle.



O E S P W F W A T E R S Y E S  
 A L L R S A E T D E I A L S R  
 T E X K E J T O G H C E P X E  
 L C O O G G Z E N X C N M N W  
 B T B F M X R R R T B X Q K O  
 G R I S M M R A R H C L I D H  
 X I S Y K Y E O H X E V A F S  
 I C B X X I N Y B C N A P J I  
 A I G Y Z I H F H X C F T Y E  
 U T U N C W U Y X Z O M B E S  
 U Y Z S E M F P O R V N V T R  
 R E F R I G E R A T O R H E Q  
 E V J M Q S D M D F V G N Y L  
 W M E O F P N T K W I H X Q I  
 G N I H T O L C R L S S B R D

- Turn off **lights** any time you leave a room.
- Keep the **refrigerator** door closed to save energy.
- Wash **clothing** in cold water to reduce the load on your **water heater**.
- Unplug items that consume **electricity** even when they're not in use, like cell phone **chargers** and coffee makers. These are known as "phantom load" **electronics**.
- Take **showers** instead of baths - showers require less **water** use.