

# THE NEWSBOY

News for Members of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative

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# ciello

POWERED BY SLVREC

## WELCOME TO TOMORROW

1-844-4CIELLO

It is with great pleasure that we, San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, introduce our new fiber optics network, Cielo. There is an undaunted will that exists in the San Luis Valley. If there is a need, people will step up and find a way to meet it. Here at SLVREC, we have been doing that from our very first day back in 1937. We believe in our communities and serving them.

## *Cielo Launch Event, November 20th, 2014*

For too long the Valley has been subject to Internet service that does not meet the requirements of its residents. Cielo, powered by SLVREC is ready to meet those needs. We are excited to be launching Cielo in November. SLVREC will be hosting a launch party so that members and non-members alike can come and experience for themselves our great speeds and reliability. The launch event will be held at the SLVREC office located in Monte Vista on November 20<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 2pm. We encourage all to come out and join us for this exciting event. There will be food, fun, great prizes and festivities. The SLVREC and Cielo staff will be on hand to answer any questions you

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## Hear Us Roar!

### An Employee Perspective

At San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative we believe in our neighbors and communities. We believe in fostering what is important to the members we serve as well as those we hope to serve.

Recently, Raleigh Burt, our Operations Engineer, shared his view of the importance of the Cielo Fiber Optics project and the anticipated positive outcome of this endeavor.

The Valley is my home and I have always seen it as a place that could grow into something more than simply an agriculture-reliant economy. Just as the REC is currently diversifying its portfolio to gain more financial stability into the future, so too does the Valley as a whole need economic stimulation from industries completely unrelated to farming.

I tend to revert to manufacturing as a solution because I have witnessed the power it has in small communities. Companies who produce things require labor; labor can be performed by any willing individual. While some crops require labor on a seasonal basis, the work is short lived and the individuals performing the work only see a temporary financial benefit. Imagine an industrial plant operating 24 hours a day employing hundreds of people. Those people now have steady income which they can save, invest, send their children to college, or turn right around and spend in the community. Now, imagine the businesses around that facility. Banks flourish because accounts are being created. Restaurants find that they need to be open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner because people now have discretionary spending to eat out more often. Retail shops begin to open on Main Street to fill the needs of the community. Leisure facilities and businesses realize an increase in revenue because people have more financial flexibility to have fun.

Cielo is the foundation of this type of growth. Just as the telegraph was the catalyst that ignited the industrial revolu-

tion, so too will our network drive the advancement of this Valley. The infrastructure we are building is integral to future growth, but the true benefit to the area will be the dream that somebody develops and produces here.

Cielo powered by SLVREC is expanding the horizon for the Valley and its residents.



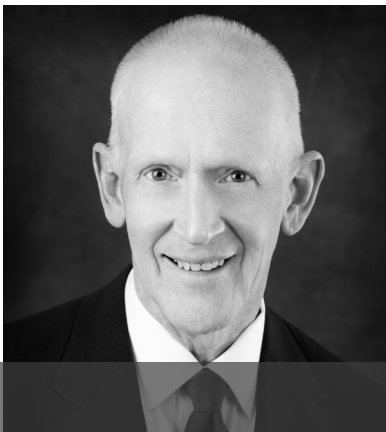
may have

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and will be happy to accommodate in setting consumers up with new service!

With the Plaza Mesa Pilot Project nearing completion we will be quickly moving into the first two sections of South Fork. We anticipate being there by December 4th, 2014. We have already received a great deal of interest and we are eager to accommodate both residential and commercial consumers.

Cielo is the new network to serve our rugged, rural area and bring the world to you! Dependable service, reliable connection and world-class innovation are our focus here at Cielo. Welcome to tomorrow!



## LOREN HOWARD

### Doing Our Part

This past month or so, your cooperative did the first install of Fiber to the Home (FTTH) to a small “pilot” area of about 20 homes. Not all 20 homes subscribed to our Internet service, but a good percentage did sign up. The FTTH efforts of SLVREC will bring quality telecommunications to residents throughout the San Luis Valley and even into the remote areas of the valley. Soon, in addition to Internet service, phone service will be available. The FTTH project will bring a critical piece of infrastructure to the San Luis Valley – state of the art telecommunications. However, this is only one element of a successful business climate needed to bring jobs to our communities.

Attracting businesses to a community to a competitive and complex process which requires committed public and private leaders, excellent educational resources, a capable and available work force, solid infrastructure (electric, water, wastewater, telecommunications) and great health care. Throughout the San Luis Valley, many are working to put forth the effort to put these elements in place. SLVREC has been providing electricity for 75 years and will continue for the next 75 years, at least. Adding telecommunications in the form of gigabit Internet service and quality phone service to remote locations will for the next 75 years also be a part of SLVREC. In addition, the fiber optic system will facilitate cell service build out to remote locations.

Telecommunications is one part, albeit an important part of the success of our communities, but we must also put resources into the other critical pieces of economic development – education, workforce, health care

and community leadership. SLVREC has in the past and continues to put time and money into the organizations working to help current employers succeed and bring new jobs and new business to the valley. San Luis Valley Development Resource Group under the guidance of Mike Wisdom has been working and succeeding in bringing success to the San Luis Valley. The Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council is planning ways to contribute to the economic success of the valley.

Our “What Ever it Takes” campaign embraces the commitment by SLVREC Board and employees to contribute resources to our communities. Yes, we have provided electricity for 75 years, but that is not all we are doing. This is our home, our communities and our success. We look forward to continuing to be a part of what makes the San Luis Valley a great place.

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Your e-mail will be forwarded based upon the direction you provide in your message.

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# COMPANY NEWS

## Kiwanis Thanksgiving Dinner



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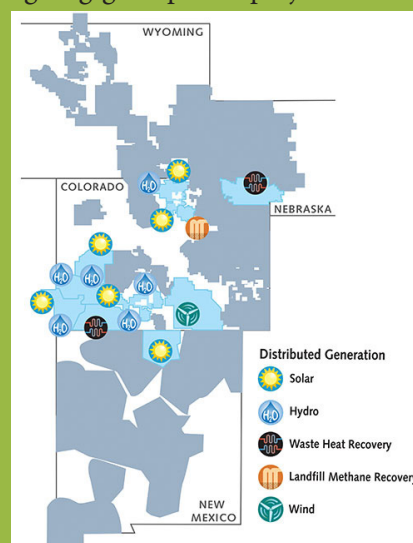
## CONSERVATION CORNER

Cooperatives have a unique role in the development of local, community-based renewable energy and distributed generation projects.

Tri-State's board of directors has authorized an aggressive, first-of-its-kind in the nation program to incentivize the development of local renewable energy projects within its members' service territories. Under the program, Tri-State will make available renewable performance payments to its members to support a variety of community-based renewable energy projects.

The renewable energy incentive program further enables Tri-State members to develop local renewable resources that diversify the resource base while assisting to meet renewable portfolio standards requirements. These projects comple-

ment Tri-State's existing renewable portfolio and the near-term addition of utility-scale renewable resources. <http://www.tristategt.org/greenpower/projects.cfm>





# RECIPES OF THE MONTH

## INGREDIENTS

2-4 gallons of water (dependant of turkey size)  
2.5 cups salt  
2 cups sugar  
One package fresh poultry herbs  
2 Oranges  
2 Lemons

## BRINED TURKEY

Put the turkey in a large vat and all ingredients in the water, squeeze oranges and lemons. Stuff the bird with the citrus and herbs. Turkey brining is a great way to ensure lots of flavor and tender juiciness for your Thanksgiving dinner! For optimal results the turkey should soak overnight. However, 4 to 6 hours will work. After the turkey has soaked remove the bird and drain off access liquid. Place the the turkey in a roasting bag, place in the pre-heated oven and roast until golden brown. Use a meat thermometer to ensure proper cook temperature.

## INGREDIENTS

6 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled  
2 T bacon fat  
1 large onion, sautéed in 2 T bacon fat  
8 medium potatoes or 16-18 very small potatoes, boiled and cubed

## HOT GERMAN POTATO SALAD

Mix the following on the side: 1/2 C apple cider vinegar, 1/2 C water and 1 1/2 T cornstarch. Add: 1-2 cloves crushed garlic and 2 T Dijon mustard. Put together in the saucepan with the sautéed onions and simmer. Add sauce over the top of the potatoes and crumbled bacon. Toss in a big bowl, serve immediately. (Submitted by Ernie Ford)

## INGREDIENTS

3 1/2 pounds sweet potatoes (about 5 medium), peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks  
1/3 cup honey  
1 large egg  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
1/8 teaspoon ground ginger  
Kosher salt  
1 tablespoon packed dark brown sugar  
1/3 cup finely chopped pecans

## Sweet Potato-Pecan Casserole

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Mist an 8-inch square baking dish with cooking spray. Bring a few inches of water to a boil in a pot with a large steamer basket in place. Put the sweet potatoes in the basket, cover and steam until tender, 20 to 25 minutes. Transfer the potatoes to a bowl and let cool slightly. Add the honey, egg, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, the nutmeg, ginger and 1/2 teaspoon salt; whip with an electric mixer until smooth. Spread the sweet potato mixture in the prepared baking dish. Mix the brown sugar, pecans and the remaining 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon in a bowl; sprinkle over the potatoes. Bake until hot and beginning to brown around the edges, 40 to 45 minutes. (Submitted by Cheryl Jones)





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## POWERING OUR COMMUNITY

SLVREC's offices are open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
on Monday through Thursday.  
Offices are closed Friday through Sunday.

### ENERGY ASSISTANCE

866-HEAT HELP (866-432-8435)  
<http://www.energyoutreach.org>

### SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Board Meeting December 16, 2014 @ 9:30 am  
The Board of Directors meet the last Tuesday of each  
month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome.

**Our Offices will be closed Dec 24th & 25th for Christmas**



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