

BEING THANKFUL IN DIFFICULT TIMES

BY MARK JOHNSTON GENERAL MANAGER

This year has been hard for so many people in the United States and around the world. Sadly, holidays can magnify hardship. Yet over the past several months, unexpectedly, many have found hope and thankfulness: over the release of someone from the hospital, for having additional time with family and friends, or from seeing more clearly the needs of others and finding a way to help. Even little things, like going for a hike or a bike ride, seem more meaningful than they did just a short while ago, despite adversities that remain.

How hard is it to be thankful during difficult times? Sarah Josepha Hale — the woman who penned “Mary Had a Little Lamb” — thought recognizing thankfulness was important enough to lobby for 36 years to proclaim Thanksgiving a national holiday. Even after more than two years of a civil war that saw tremendous suffering and hardship, she resolved to be thankful.

Her vision finally materialized on October 3, 1863, when President Abraham

Lincoln set aside the last Thursday in November as a day of thanksgiving, a time “to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.” If you are looking for a new family tradition, this could be it: Try reading Lincoln’s proclamation aloud at the Thanksgiving table this year. It’s less than 600 words.

Almost 160 years later, Hale and Lincoln’s singular act has profoundly affected the generations that followed. Many of us are fortunate to have good Thanksgiving memories.

Half a century ago, Mountain Parks Electric’s consumer-members were sincerely grateful for (and remembered) the day that electric service was brought to their homes and ranches. One historical tidbit from yesteryear that makes me smile: When the town of Walden first received electric service, many locals would park their cars under the streetlights at night to read the newspaper. My, how our entertainment



MARK JOHNSTON

options have changed!

I hope that you are able to take time this holiday season to count your blessings. If you need another reason to be thankful this year: no electric rate increase in 2021.

Happy Thanksgiving!

“Gratitude turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity ...it makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.”
— Melody Beattie



◀ Americans were coming out of the Civil War 157 years ago, but still found things to be thankful for and President Abraham Lincoln declared the last Thursday of each November as a day of thanksgiving.

KITCHEN TECH: 3 REASONS TO CONSIDER INDUCTION COOKING (PLUS 2 CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS)

BY ROB TAYLOR MANAGER OF MEMBER RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

An induction what?

Induction cooktops are electric ranges — more energy efficient than their standard electric or gas counterparts — that generate heat from magnetic coils. They heat more rapidly than standard cooktops and deliver superior thermal efficiency. Induction cooktops were first introduced at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair.

1. Super convenient

With an induction cooktop, you can cook faster and save energy. MPE recently tested the technology in a Granby home, comparing cooking speed to a gas range. In the test, the induction cooktop boiled water in just a couple of minutes, 2 minutes faster than the gas range. It also used less energy than a standard range, and cleanup was easier. Temperature control is equal to that of a traditional cooktop, so no special recipes are required. You will, however, need to use pots and pans that contain iron or are induction-range compatible. (These are not difficult to find.)

2. Kicking kitchen safety up a notch

Induction cooking is, as you might expect, flameless. That means no indoor air pollution created from burning gas while cooking. The cooktop surface also remains cooler than a standard range, since heat is delivered directly to pots and pans via a magnetic field instead of being generated from a heating coil or gas flame beneath the cooking surface.

3. Carbon friendly

Since MPE's power supply is becoming greener (50% renewable by 2024), one way to reduce your carbon footprint is to replace appliances like gas ranges with electric counterparts — like induction cooktops. It's a small change, but one we think you will like.



▲ Induction cooking is faster and more energy efficient than using a gas or traditional electric range.

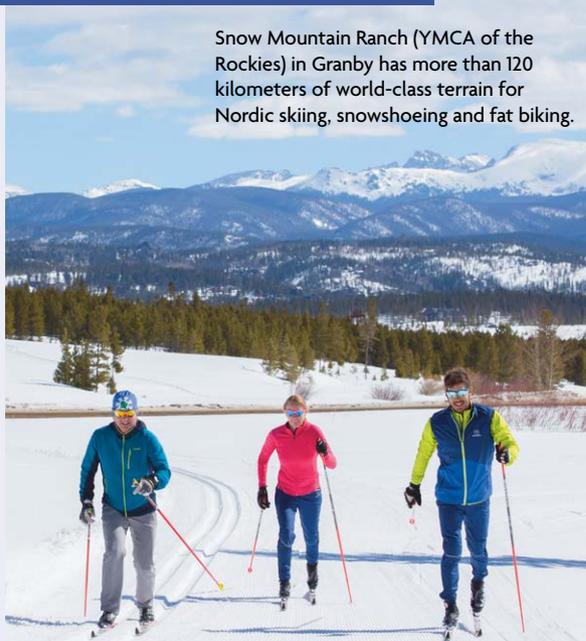
“When I cook at home, I do prefer an induction burner or cooktop.” — Chef Anne Burrell

“I love, love, love the induction technology.” — Chef Rick Bayless

High-Country Outdoor Lifestyle Tip

“A one-hour lesson is usually all you need to begin cross-country skiing. It's easier to learn than you might think. If you can walk, you can ski. One hour is all you need to learn the basics.”

— Mary-Ann Degginger,
Snow Mountain Ranch
Program Director
970-887-2152



James MacDonald, ACCT 110238401



Find Your Name Win \$5

If you find your name in this magazine, contact Mountain Parks Electric to receive a \$5 credit on your power bill. Winners must contact MPE within one month of the date of issue.



WAYS TO \$AVE

BY LINDSAY MCCANN CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR

EFFICIENT COOKING

Energy-Saving Tips

- Use glass or ceramic pans in the oven. (They heat faster than metal pans.)
- Use toaster ovens, slow cookers and microwave ovens for small meals or when reheating leftovers.
- Keeping a lid on your pots and pans will cook food more quickly by keeping the steam in.



PET OF THE MONTH

ECHO CHARLIE

Echo Charlie Guthrie loves to be with her family — Eric, Wyatt and Rebecca — whether is it outdoors or camping in a new area. She is a 4-year-old Catahoula-border collie mix.

Owners: Rebecca and Eric Guthrie

Email your pet photos and pet bio to rtaylor@mpei.com

Peter Llorente, ACCT 150353201



Hansen Brown
General Manager

Local Chef SPOTLIGHT

RESTAURANT: PIZZA PEDAL'R
WINTER PARK SKI RESORT (IN THE VILLAGE)
970-726-5944
PIZZAPEDALR.COM

HOURS: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. or later

SPECIALTY: Pizza, of course

COOKING TIP FOR MPE READERS

For tastier, healthier homemade pizza, use as many fresh, unprocessed ingredients as possible. And don't forget to distribute toppings equally so each bite tastes the same.

News and Notes

ELECTRIFY EVERYTHING

MOUNTAIN PARKS ELECTRIC

Electrify Everything Program Update

MPE's Electrify Everything program offers financial assistance for qualifying consumer-members wanting to install heat pumps, insulation, commercial electric vehicle chargers and solar arrays. Three months into the program, nearly 50 people have applied for assistance. For more information, visit mpei.com/electrify-everything-program or call 970-887-3378, ext 6.

WANDA WUNDERLICH, ACCT 1004709

Fewer Outages Expected as Winter Approaches

When wildfire risk is high, like it was this summer, MPE adopts stringent fire prevention grid protocols. Unfortunately, this increases the possibility of electric service interruptions.

While our focus is providing affordable and reliable power, grid management also requires us to mitigate fire risks. In the months ahead, as local authorities relax fire restrictions, our grid will return to normal operation. We expect fewer outages as a result.

Our Pink Army

On Saturday, October 3, 11 MPE employees donned pink hard hats and completed a 5K walk along the Fraser River Trail to raise cancer awareness and to promote Mountain Family Center's Taking Steps fund. All donations were earmarked toward helping locals with cancer-related expenses.



And the Winner is ...



Hundreds entered our free electric bike contest. This year's lucky winner was Grand Lake consumer-member Pat Beekman. Congrats!

Want to Save Money on Electric Heating Costs?



This month, MPE is giving away five sets of MYSA smart thermostats, which can help reduce electric baseboard (and resistive) heating costs. To enter the contest, just check out the smart thermostat post on MPE's Facebook page and write a comment. Program winners will be announced December 1.

Promoting National Drive Electric Week

In celebration of National Drive Electric Week at the end of September and the first week in October, MPE showed off its new electric car at four sites throughout its service area: in Kremmling, Walden, Granby and Fraser.

Soon, MPE plans to schedule events for its consumer-members to ride in and drive its EV.



5 chances to win a \$100 bill credit

Download SmartHub this month, MPE's online account management app, and choose the paperless billing option to be automatically entered for a chance to win a \$100 bill credit. Sign up at mpei.com/smarthub-instructions. Winners to be announced December 1.