

## Steamboat School District Adds Seven Electric Buses to Its Fleet



YVEA was happy to support to the Steamboat Springs School District (SSSD) in its pursuit of adding more electric buses to their fleet. Casey Ungs, director of transportation for the school district, was quoted in *The Colorado Sun*, saying that he “sees them as a far safer ride for children and drivers, not only because of how much they cut down on pollution but also because of how quiet they are. You’re able to be more aware of traffic and vehicles around you just with having less noise” He concluded by saying that “school buses are one of the best uses of electric vehicles because of the short distances they drive in heavily populated areas.” Congratulations to the SSSD on this grant opportunity.

# Rise AND SHINE

Join us for an all-new community event:

## COFFEE WITH YOUR CO-OP

### Have a coffee on us!

**YVEA invites the community to stop in to one of its all-new events: Coffee with Your Co-op!**

“My desire is for our member-owners to feel more connected with their co-op and to know we are working to better serve their needs. I invite our members to come out, grab a coffee, ask questions and let us get to know you better. I hope our members will carve some time out of their schedules to attend,” said YVEA President and General Manager Steve Johnson.

YVEA will host multiple Coffee with Your Co-op events across its service territory to introduce its team and learn about its members’ needs and interests. Community members can come and go as needed. Events are free of charge. There is no formal agenda or presentation; members can mix and mingle with the YVEA team as desired and speak to co-op leadership on topics of their choice.

#### Upcoming Stops:

- August 3 – Prodigal Son’s Coffee, Craig
- August 17 – Rex’s, Steamboat
- September 22 – Bearpaw Bakery, Yampa

All events will be from 8-10 a.m.

**For more information about the upcoming Coffee with Your Co-op events, visit [yvea.com/coffee-your-co-op](http://yvea.com/coffee-your-co-op).**

## SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH TO BUILD A BETTER TOMORROW

Because our youth power our future, the YVEA Board of Directors chose to use unclaimed capital credits to fund a scholarship program. Our hope is that this commitment is realized in the future leaders, business developers, teachers, and maybe even a few lineworkers. YVEA will continue to invest in our communities through amazing opportunities, such as these scholarships, for our younger members. Congratulations to the following scholarship recipients:

**Leah Allen**  
**Rylie Felten**  
**James Hamric**  
**Allison Ingols**  
**Emi Ramirez**  
**Ashley Spencer**

**Josephine Deckler**  
**Paula Effinger**  
**Jadyn Ellis**  
**MaKala Herndon**  
**Jed Kirby**  
**Brooke Munden**

**Pepper Rhyne**  
**Madison Truong**  
**Danika Weber**  
**Dylan Zimmerman**



Attendees of the YVEA Annual Meeting in Craig listen to Board President Tom Fox discuss the year in review.

Thank you to all the members who helped pack the house at our annual meeting in June! It was an amazing opportunity for us to talk about current happenings and answer questions you had about the co-op.

As a quick recap, the proposed ballot measures, Bylaw Amendment 22-01 and Bylaw Amendment 22-02, both passed. The updated bylaws can be found on YVEA’s website at [yvea.com/yvea-bylaws](http://yvea.com/yvea-bylaws).



## DIGITAL VOICE: THE PHONE SERVICE OF THE FUTURE

For most of the world, landlines are going the way of the dinosaur. Less than 40% of American households today still use a landline,<sup>1</sup> and many under 30 have no idea what a home phone is, or have never used one.

But if you live rural, you know reliable home phone service is important. What you may not know, however, is that you can enjoy the same great call quality — better, even — for a lower price through a technology called Digital Voice.

### What is Digital Voice?

Also known as voice over internet protocol, or VoIP, Digital Voice uses broadband internet to make and receive phone calls instead of analog lines. By converting your voice into a digital signal that travels over the internet, VoIP allows you to make phone calls anywhere in the world. All you need is a physical phone (a computer, tablet or cellphone will also work) and the high-speed internet you already have.

Simple, right?

### Reasons to make the switch

One of the biggest reasons people switch to Digital Voice is the cost savings. Since you're not paying another service provider for access to the phone system, you can switch to VoIP and save significantly on your phone bill.

You'll also enjoy a number of other benefits, including:

- **Long distance and international calling:** These calls can be expensive through your traditional phone company. Since VoIP uses the internet rather than physical phone lines, your service provider can offer much lower rates.

- **Easy installation:** If you have internet access, you have phone access, simple as that.
- **Clear, reliable calls:** Fiber internet is as good as it gets — meaning you get clear calls with no noticeable latency, lag or dropouts.
- **Portable numbers:** No need to get a new phone number when you switch. VoIP numbers are virtual, so you can keep your old one and use it anywhere in the world.
- **Backwards compatibility:** That's right, you can keep your home phone even if you switch. A simple adapter will make your current phone VoIP-compatible, and you can also use your mobile device, tablet or desktop computer if you'd like.
- **Advanced functions:** With call waiting, voicemails sent to you over email and simple call forwarding when you're away from home, Digital Voice services make it easier than ever to communicate how, where and when you want.

And if you're a business owner, VoIP can help you save even more, offering multiple phone lines and advanced features like voicemail-to-email transcriptions at a fraction of the cost.

VoIP is growing rapidly, with experts predicting about 10% growth each year — and for good reason. If you have high speed internet, VoIP is a great way to connect with loved ones all over the world using the service you already have.

Luminate Broadband's Digital Voice service relies on our super-reliable fiber internet to give you high-quality calls at a low cost. Contact our friendly, hometown staff at 970-870-4320 if you're interested in learning more. We'd love to hear from you. Visit us at [luminatebroadband.com](http://luminatebroadband.com).

<sup>1</sup>Statista, 2021





Michael Lake and Anya Simones attend this year's Washington DC Youth Tour.

## Washington DC Youth Tour

YVEA was proud to send two students from our membership to the annual Washington DC Youth Tour. Michael Lake and Adriana (Any) Simones were the two students we chose through the application process to go on this incredible 10-day trip. Students from across the state went on a tour of our State Capitol before heading off to D.C. with the electric cooperative youth tour. If you think you or a student in your household would like to join the tour next year, keep an eye on January's issue of CCL for the sign up date.



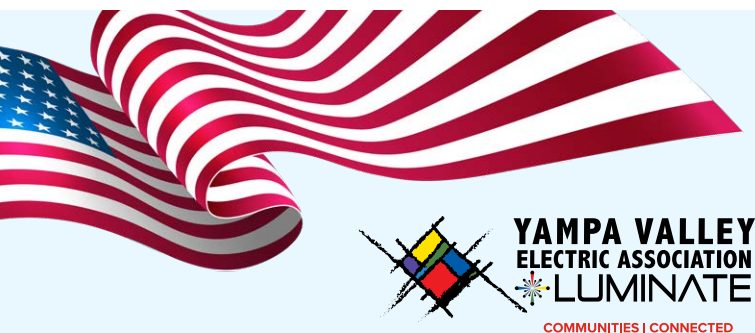
Students visit Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine.



Students visit Washington National Cathedral



Students meet with Colorado Governor Jared Polis at the State Capitol.



**LUMINATE AND YVEA OFFICES  
WILL BE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY,  
SEPTEMBER 5.**





Steven Booker



Patrick Delaney



Dan Leblanc

## YVEA Welcomes Two New Board Members

At YVEA's June Annual Meeting, we were happy to welcome two new board members to our member-elected board of directors. We were also happy to welcome back Patrick Delaney, District 5. YVEA would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our two outgoing board members — Sonja Macys and Dean Brosious. Thank you for your dedication to the board and the districts you represented.

**District 4, Elk Springs: Steven Booker**  
**District 5, Hayden: Patrick Delaney**  
**District 7, Steamboat Springs:**  
**Dan Leblanc**



### YVEA RULES & REGS CHANGES

The YVEA Board of Directors has approved changes to the YVEA Colorado Rules and Regulations, effective August 1, 2022. To see the updated Rules and Regulations as well as the redlined copy, please visit: [www.yvea.com/service-rules-and-regulations](http://www.yvea.com/service-rules-and-regulations)



### ENERGY HERO TIP OF THE MONTH

#### BEAT THE HEAT

While our YVEA service territory is known as an outdoor paradise with moderate temperatures and lots of sunshine, summers can get warm during the day. Stay cool and comfortable this summer with these no-cost and low-cost energy efficiency tips.

- Close blinds and drapes during the day to keep heat out.
- If you have air conditioning, set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home. Set it to a higher temperature when you are away.
- Turn off lights, ceiling fans and any portable fans when you leave a room. Ceiling fans cool people, not rooms, by creating a wind chill effect.
- If you aren't using it, unplug it! All electronics generate heat. Even if switched off, electronics generates heat. Per device, it isn't much heat, but all of those devices can add up and add a few degrees to your home.
- Sealing your home isn't just for the winter. Leaks in your home can allow cold air out, and let hot air in. Seal small cracks with foam or caulk.

### SUMMER CONSTRUCTION

This summer you will see YVEA and Luminate crews working on various construction projects. From Lynx Pass to North Routt, and in Hayden, Craig and Baggs, teams and contractors will work to improve the reliability of service you receive.

We know construction can be frustrating, and we thank you for your patience as we make improvements throughout our territory. Please give crews space while they are working and contact YVEA at 970-879-1160 with any questions about the ongoing construction.

#### Mt. Werner Substation Work Continuing Throughout the Summer

YVEA is working on improving service and reliability with work taking place at the Mt. Werner Substation (near Casey's Pond), and continuing up to the base of the Ski Mountain.