



# CONSUMER

HOLY CROSS ENERGY » COMMUNITY » YOU!

# CONNECTION

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## » IN THIS ISSUE:

Success Story: Brian Huebner

Did You Know?

Don't Block the Box

Community Corner

## THREE-COUNTY ELECTRIC VEHICLE SALES EVENT

OFFERS DISCOUNTS ON PLUG-IN CARS



Spring is in the air! Check out the  
live Osprey Cam at:  
[pitkincounty.com/osprey](http://pitkincounty.com/osprey)

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Touchstone Energy®  
Cooperatives

Officials from Garfield, Pitkin and Eagle counties gathered at the Holy Cross Energy headquarters in Glenwood Springs on March 15 to announce the launch of the Electric Vehicle Sales Event: REV Up Your Ride, a three-month campaign to drive up purchases of electric vehicles.



For the sales event, running from April 1 to June 30, four auto dealerships are offering discounts on seven models of electric vehicles. Participating dealers are Audi Glenwood Springs, Mountain Chevrolet of Glenwood Springs, Co's BMW Center of Loveland, and Boulder Nissan.

For a limited time, the dealers will be offering discounts on plug-in electric and gasoline hybrids (PHEV) and on plug-in battery electric vehicles (BEV). The discounts can be combined with the state of Colorado's tax credit (up to \$5,000) and federal tax credit (up to \$7,500) to significantly drive down the cost of a lease or purchase.

CONTINUED INSIDE »

[www.holycross.com](http://www.holycross.com)

## ENERGY SAVING TIPS



### Unplug electronics and appliances when not in use

Did you know that some plugged-in electronics and appliances are still using energy even when turned off? This type of energy is called “phantom” or “vampire” energy and can account for about 10% of your monthly utility bill. Save energy by pulling the plug — from the wall outlet — on your electronics and appliances when not in use.

### Unplug your heat tape for the spring and summer

The energy use of typical heat tape is six to nine watts per foot. That means each 100 feet of heat tape operating 24/7 can translate to an added monthly cost of \$41 to \$62. Consider putting heat tape on a timer, running it during the day and turning it off at night. The timer could cut your heat tape electricity costs in half. HCE offers a \$100 rebate for a hardwired timer. Remember to turn off your heat tape in the spring when the last of the snow is off your roof.

### Learn about Colorado's electric vehicle rebates

Considering a new car? There's never been a better time to get an electric vehicle (EV). With up to \$12,500 in State and Federal tax credits available this year, Colorado has the best subsidies in the country. And it just got better with a local group buy program that could shave off as much as \$8,000 more.

## SAVE THE DATE!



### Energy Smart Contractor Expo *April 27*

Come learn about energy efficiency, renewable products and utility rebate programs. Attend one or more of the eight 30-minute training workshops. This event is at the Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs. For more information and to register, log on to [www.energysmartcolorado.com/forcontractors](http://www.energysmartcolorado.com/forcontractors).

### Climate Communities Summit in Aspen *May 18-19*

A gathering of Colorado mayors and elected officials. The event will consist of a series of presentations and workshops that will provide attendees with a platform to announce their commitments. This event is the first step to forming the Compact of Colorado Communities. The Compact will be a collection of commitments from Colorado towns, cities, and counties. For more information and to register, go to [www.compactofcoloradocommunities.com](http://www.compactofcoloradocommunities.com).

### Crown Summerfest *June 2-3*

Save the date for this second annual event at Crown Mountain Park in El Jebel. Fun for all ages including a taco competition, live music, hot air balloon tethered rides, beer garden and free bounce house kingdom. This year features the addition of a KIDS FOAM CITY (giant foam machine and foam cannon). For updates and more information, log on to [www.crownmtn.org](http://www.crownmtn.org).

### Holy Cross Energy Celebration and Annual Meeting *June 8*

**4 Eagle Ranch in Wolcott** – Please join us for a Western Hoe-Down and Annual Meeting like no other! We will enjoy the Caribou Mountain Collective String Band, a BBQ dinner, pony rides for little buckaroos, and old west photos for all. The fun starts at 4:30 pm! For more information, visit [www.holycross.com](http://www.holycross.com).

## ELECTRIC VEHICLE SALES EVENT

*(Continued from cover page)*

“The EV Sales Event goal is for the dealerships to sell at least 50 electric vehicles to residents and businesses in the three counties,” said Vail Town Councilwoman Kim Langmaid. The Sales Event also set a goal of increasing public charging stations in the region by 25 percent, growing the current number of 160 stations to 200 by year's end.

Compared to other transportation fuels, electricity is the cheapest. In Colorado, the average price of gasoline is currently about \$2.32/gallon (as of 4/13/17), while the price of electricity purchased from HCE is \$0.94/eGallon. EV's also have fewer moving parts and are often much simpler than a conventional vehicle. No oil changes are required, brakes last longer, and maintenance costs can be cut in half according to [energy.gov](http://energy.gov).

“Electric vehicles are shifting the transportation fuel market away from oil and toward electricity, a domestic energy source,” said Glenwood Springs City Councilman Stephen Bershenyi. “That supports Colorado electric utilities and their fuel providers, he said, and raises consumer demand for more renewable energy.”

More information about the vehicles and dealerships is available on the HCE website, **holycross.com**. If you are interested in driving an electric vehicle, please contact or visit any of the four participating dealers.



**Co's BMW Center**



**Audi  
Glenwood Springs**





# SUCCESS STORY: BRIAN HUEBNER

In 2016, Brian Huebner purchased a 60-year old house in Eagle. He knew it wasn't going to be the most energy efficient house in town. Brian saw a newspaper ad about Colorado's Affordable Residential Energy (CARE) program and called Energy Smart Colorado in Eagle County. Brian said, "I knew I had to act now, or pay the price down the line."

John-Ryan Lockman, Walking Mountains Science Center Energy Programs Director, came to his home, took measurements, looked in the attic for proper insulation levels and took note of everything from the water heater to the windows. One thing that caught John-Ryan's eye was the dust marks on the ceiling which showed where the ceiling joists were located. When a ceiling gets cold, the moisture in the air will condense on the ceiling and dust sticks to it. A cold ceiling is a sure sign that there is inadequate insulation.

Lack of insulation was identified as the biggest energy hog in Brian's home. CARE sent a local energy professional to address all the holes and gaps in the attic floor. He added over 10 inches of insulation to Brian's attic bringing the insulation value to R-49.

Brian noticed the comfort level in his home increased instantly. "It (CARE) is a wonderful program. Now I can spend my money elsewhere in the community rather than on wasted energy," said Brian.

CARE leverages Energy Outreach Colorado funding, Black Hills and Holy Cross Energy rebates, and local resources to provide FREE energy efficiency services to participants.

Along with saving energy, Brian was interested in using renewable sources of energy. Though he didn't have the capital to install solar panels on his home, he knew that a community solar garden was available to offset his electric use.

Brian applied to GRID Alternatives Income-Qualified Solar Program. GRID Alternatives in conjunction with Holy Cross Energy offers solar at no cost to qualified applicants for a two-year period. This program may reduce the participant's annual electric bill by up to 50%. Combined with the weatherization work, Brian's home is now more comfortable and his electric bill is significantly reduced.

For more information about Income-Qualified Weatherization programs contact Energy Outreach Colorado at **(303) 226-5061**.



"It (CARE) is a wonderful program. Now I can spend my money elsewhere in the community rather than on wasted energy."

~ Brian Huebner



## DON'T BLOCK THE BOX

Every year, Holy Cross Energy has to cut down trees and bushes that are planted in front of our pad-mounted transformers. To avoid this, please don't plant trees or bushes that will grow to within 10 feet of doors or within four feet of the sides of transformer boxes. Low growing flowers in front of the transformer are fine.

Trees planted under power lines can also be a problem. Holy Cross Energy is required to follow federal vegetation management guidelines to keep our overhead lines clear of trees. There are a variety of trees that do not grow tall enough to impact our lines. Please contact Holy Cross Energy or your local nursery for advice on which trees are best for planting under power lines.



## DID YOU KNOW?

In May 2017, Holy Cross Energy will return over \$2.4 million to over 44,150 members who purchased electricity from Holy Cross in 2016. Your Member Equity reflects your ownership equity in Holy Cross.

Since 1963, Holy Cross Energy has returned over \$144.7 million in Member Equity to its members.





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**Look inside for important news!**



## COMMUNITY CORNER

## Giving Back To Our Communities



*Eagle Valley Career Fair*



*Nigel Zeid of Boulder Nissan -  
Sales Event*



*Helicopter evacuation training at HCE*



*Groundbreaking for Habitat ReStore*



*CMC 50th Anniversary Celebration  
on Wheels!*