

Coop Month

Intro Music

ANNOUNCER: Welcome to The Energy Update, brought to you by San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative.

HEATHER: October is co-op month. We are encouraging everyone to recognize that co-ops are all about people working together.

ANNOUNCER: That sounds like a great message to send. I agree that cooperatives are pretty important here in the Valley.

HEATHER: It's true. Pretty much everybody that lives here relies on a cooperative—whether its electricity like our co-op offers or farm and ranch supplies like Monte Vista co-op offers. When Valley people work together, they can accomplish great things. Our electric cooperative was formed in August 1937 when a group of people got together and decided that they wanted to find a way to put legislation passed for rural utility services into action and get electricity in their homes and on their farms. It wasn't easy. It took a long time for everyone in the Valley who wanted power to get electricity. But we got it done.

ANNOUNCER: I imagine there are still some people here in the Valley who remember what it was like before they had electricity.

HEATHER: That's true. Many of our older Valley residents remember the day the lights came on for the first time. It was a big event. This year's coop month celebrations are designed to help younger people understand the importance of working together as cooperatives and to understand what a difference cooperatives can make in our lives. There's a web site, go.coop, with information about co-ops and how they help people work together.

ANNOUNCER: What was that web site again?

HEATHER: It's "G" "O" dot "C" "O" "O" "P". This year's co-op month theme is "Cooperative enterprises build a better world." This slogan emphasizes the contributions cooperatives make

to social and economic development around the world. We'll carry this slogan all the way through next year for the special celebrations.

ANNOUNCER: Special celebrations? What's going on next year?

HEATHER: From a global perspective, The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2012 as the International Year of Cooperatives. At a local level, in 2012, SLVREC will celebrate its 75th year of service to the San Luis Valley.

ANNOUNCER: Congratulations! That *is* something to celebrate about.

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