MPE IN THE COMMUNITY

ADAM WALKER LEADER ON & OFF THE FIELD

Adam Walker says that he can't always make the world a better place, but he likes working with people that try.

That is one of the reasons he left a great job at Synoptek, in which he had invested 17 years, to join the IT staff at Mountain Parks Electric as the Network Administrator.

"I was happy there, but a friend told me MPE was hiring. I'd heard how they gave back to their customers and that the employees had great benefits. I'm so glad I took the chance with MPE because nothing feels better than working with good people that really care about their customers and community," he said.

At MPE, Adam is active on the Employee Relations Committee, helping plan employee related events and contests and working with management and staff on ways to keep MPE as a premier place of employment.

He is also involved with Granby Rotary Club, where he's helped cook for the Fourth of July barbecues and worked concession sales at Flying Heels Rodeo. He helps manage the Dolly Parton Library for Granby and Winter Park through Rotary and helps distribute dictionaries to third grader students in Grand County. He's most proud of his work on the Rotary Scholarship Committee, though. "Helping local teens chase their dreams is truly fulfilling," he said.

He credits his wife, Tara Walker, for encouraging him to realize one of his dreams – to coach football. He played soccer growing up and started in football as a freshman at Northglenn High School. Playing football taught Adam about teamwork, trust, respect, discipline, and resilience – "getting knocked down and getting back up again."

He got into soccer coaching when his daughters were young, but he kept thinking about how much he missed football. When He heard that Middle Park High School was short on football coaches, he decided to give it a shot. He started as a volunteer, progressed to assistant coach of the offense and defensive line, then became the junior varsity head coach. Coming into the 2023 fall season, the athletic director Mike Reagan and high school football coach Ryan Ledford asked Adam if he would be head coach for the middle school football team while continuing to be an assistant coach for MPHS. When he took the job this season, the goal he had for himself was to

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give the middle school athletes the basic skills needed to be high school football players and go on to be successful adults. He focuses on encouragement, confidence building, and consistency in training.

"As their coach, I aim to help them feel sure about themselves, improve their skills, and understand the importance of respect. This means respecting themselves, their teammates, the coaches, and the rival teams," he explained. "I believe these lessons go beyond the field and can shape them into confident, respectful, and resilient individuals."

Continued on page 4



# 2024

# DEBATES

## APPLIANCES



#### **CLOTHES** DRYER

- \$30
- \$90 for ventless heat pump clothes dryer



#### INDUCTION COOKTOPS

- \$100/unit for electric-to-induction
- \$350/unit for gasto-induction or new construction



#### REFRIGERATOR & FREEZER RECYCLING

- \$60/recycled unit
- Limit of two



# WATER HEATERS

- \$180/unit (30-gallon minimum) for fuel switching: natural gas or propane to electric
- \$350/ unit: Heat-pump water heater



# CHARGER LEVEL 2: 50% of total equipment + install

costs, up to \$1,000 LEVEL 3 (DC Fast Charger):

LED

\$3,000-\$7,000, based on capacity of charger (50 kW min.)



# HEATPUMPS

- BASE TIER (7.8 HSPF2):
  - \$250/ton, up to 5 tons\*
  - \$125/ton for capacity over 5 tons
- COLD CLIMATE TIER (8.5 HSPF2, 70% capacity & COP of 1.75 at 5F)
  - \$500/ton, up to 5 tons\*
  - \$250/ton for capacity over 5 tons
- **GROUND SOURCE** 
  - \$500/ton for new systems
  - \$250/ton for replacement systems

\*not to exceed 50% of equipment costs



- \$8/bulb (max) or 50% of material cost
- 500 lumen minimum
- Limit of 50 bulbs per account per year



# SMARTTHERMOSTAT

- \$25; limit of five per account
- 240-volt-line voltage for electric heat only

# OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT



#### SNOWBLOWERS. **MOWERS & CHAINSAWS**

- 25% of cost, up to \$150
- RIDING MOWER: 25% of cost, up to \$1,000
- WALK-BEHIND MOWER: 25% of cost, up to \$150
- CHAINSAW: 25% of cost, up to \$100



#### LEAF BLOWERS. POWER WASHERS. **PRUNERS & TRIMMERS**

25% of cost, up to \$50



#### **ELECTRIC BICYCLES**

25% of cost, up to \$150



#### **PALLET JACKS** & FORKLIFTS

- Up to \$5,000 per forklift
- Up to \$1,500 per pallet jack
- Limited funds available

REBATES



# COMMERCIAL REBATES

- LED lighting retrofits
- EV chargers
- LED parking lot lighting



- \$500 per system with a minimum system size of 2kW
- Through the Clean Power Program; must be a Clean Power Program contributer



# ENERGY AUDITS

- \$200 for electric-only buildings
- \$75 for gas/electric buildings

Terms and conditions apply for all MPE rebates. **Visit www.mpei.com/REBATES for more details.**Members must provide MPE with receipts within 90 days of purchase.

## WAYS TO SAVE

LINDSAY McCANN

MEMBER SERVICE SPECIALIST

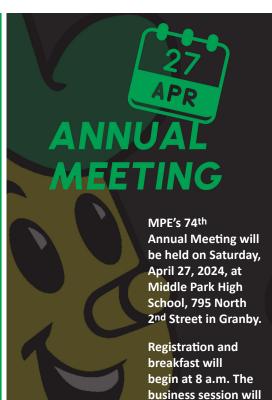




These are the most energy efficient models on the market.

If you have a forced-air furnace or a heat pump, check the filter each month and clean or replace as needed.





begin at 9:15 a.m.

## **WORKING SMARTER**

### GENERAL MANAGERS COLUMN

VIRGINIA HARMAN



hanksto strategic process improvements and good fortune with the weather, MPE's Engineering and Operations departments are entering the new year in a great position considering the number of construction projects in 2023. As Adam Paulson, manager of Engineering and

Operations, shared at the December Board Meeting, this accomplishment is also a testament to the exceptional performance of our Engineering and Operations teams.

In the past 3 years alone, they (Engineering/ Operations) have completed more than 15.000 work orders.

As the snow machines

worked overtime to compensate for our warmer than usual November, our staff was out double-timing it as well. They far exceeded the typical November output for the completion of digging projects. A total of 61 work order jobs were completed, leaving only a handful until next year's construction season – the smallest number of snow/frost-related postponements in years. Not only did they surpass output expectations, they continued to maintain the highest quality of work and safety best practices. We tip our (hard)hats to them!

Adam also shared that based on the number of project plans they have been reviewing, 2024 is expected to be another strong year for construction in our area. Compared to just five years ago, our Engineering and Operations departments have seen a doubling in work orders coming through. In

the past three years alone, they have completed more than 15,000 work orders. That is an incredible feat for an electric cooperative the size of Mountain Parks Flectric.

Since we don't anticipate this boom to slow down, we are continuing to work smarter,

more strategically, to maximize our efficiency. We have realigned our organizational structure and continue to review and update our processes. We are working hard to improve consistency throughout our organization and especially in areas that impact you, our member owners.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and wish all our members a happy new year! I hope you enjoy all our winter wonderland has to offer. If you see me on the slopes or at the local coffee shop, come up and say hi!





- After a review of the MPE Scholarship Program, the Board decided to expand into a threecategory system (Academic, Lineworker, and Trade School) and with additional unclaimed capital funds annually.
- Following the August Board Meeting in which a 2024 rate increase was approved, the Board approved changes to Tariff 202: Rate Schedules, to become effective Jan. 1, 2024.

Read the full report at www.mpei.com/boardbulletin

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#### MPE in the Commmunity: Adam Walker

The stats have shown this to be the case as MPHS alumni currently has three NCAA Division II football players and many others attending college. Seeing his former athletes go on to do well off the field has been rewarding for Adam, but he is also thankful for the time he shared with his daughters through their connection with high school football.

"My daughters, Zandra, and Avery, found their place in Middle Park Football, taking on various roles like football managers, filmers, photographers, and handling the team's social media accounts. Our time together involved not just supporting the team during games, but also creating memories through shared experiences and travels," he said. "Some of my happiest times have been with family, friends, coworkers, and fellow coaches when we are able to work together and make good things happen. It's what brings joy to my life and it's one of the reasons I love working for MPE, volunteering with Rotary, and coaching at MPHS and EGMS."