

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Argos Utilities



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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## Park Upgrades Continue

**T**he town of Argos saw several upgrades made over the summer to the community's Pond Street Park, a recreation ground located west of the Marshall County 4-H Fairgrounds. New walking paths throughout the space were paved in mid-August and brand-new restrooms, fishing piers, and a pavilion are still to come. Once most of the upgrades are completed, town officials plan to host a dedication ceremony to celebrate the park improvements with the community. New signage featuring the park's new, and currently unannounced, name will also be a part of the overall enhancement project.

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# History in the Making

## A Message from IMPA



**T**hough the COVID-19 pandemic has shaken our sense of normalcy, the course of history shows us that the emergence and rapid spread of a deadly illness is anything but abnormal. Humanity has been confronted by detrimental outbreaks of contagious diseases before, such as the Bubonic Plague in Europe, the Smallpox outbreaks in the Americas, and the Spanish Flu during World War I. Each of these difficult moments in humanity's past has been paired with significant cultural and social changes, and the COVID-19 pandemic is certainly following suit.

Many of the same practices that are complicating our life today were frequently implemented to mitigate the spread of infectious diseases in years past, including self-isolation and the limiting of public gatherings. The word "quarantine" itself became popularized in 17th century Italy to describe a mandated isolation (frequently lasting 40 days) that was required of newly arrived travelers to prevent the development of foreign diseases in Italy. Since we still have no reliable treatments or vaccinations to address COVID-19, revisiting the strategies of time gone by is currently our best approach to battling the ongoing public health emergency. Regular social distancing and self-quarantine for those who show symptoms, accompanied by wearing masks, have shown to be the most effective ways to reduce the risk of the transmission of COVID-19 at the present time.

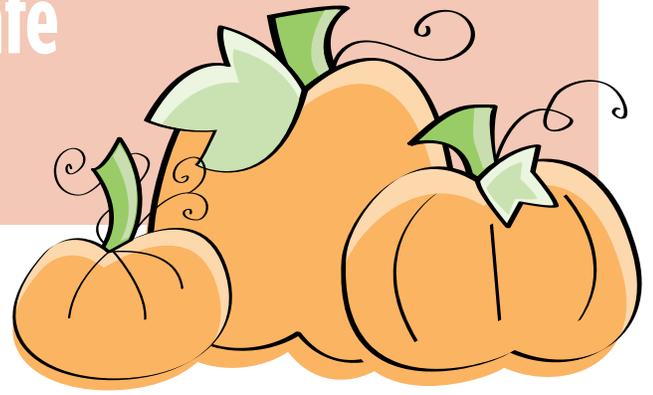
As your community's wholesale power provider, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) embraces its role as an essential service provider through the developing pandemic. COVID-19 is unique from past plagues and outbreaks in that our world is

now connected virtually. Through isolation and social distancing, we can still call family and friends, stream entertaining content, and attend virtual doctors' appointments, business meetings, and religious services. All these things are possible through the power of modern electricity and the country's electric distribution infrastructure. Without the hard work of utility employees on the front lines through COVID-19 to continue supplying a bit of normalcy to the world, we would truly be back in the "dark ages."

Though it was all the way back in March when the first confirmed case of COVID-19 came to Indiana, Hoosier communities are still adapting to the ever-evolving global situation. IMPA and utility personnel in all of the Agency's member communities continue to remain diligent at work and in public spaces. Maintaining the health and well-being of the community, along with a reliable electric service, is at the core of everything the Agency and your local utility are doing.

As history shows, our world has healed from disease outbreaks before, and it will certainly heal from COVID-19. As troubling as the current pandemic is to all of us, societies of the past have confronted similar obstacles and triumphed. We will surely follow in the footsteps of our predecessors, and we can learn a great deal from their actions and innovations. As we look forward in the fight against COVID-19, IMPA encourages everyone to be safe and know that we are all in this together. •

# Keep Your Information Safe This Holiday Season!



**H**ackers know that during this time of year, we are all more likely to pull out our credit cards and do some online shopping in preparation for the holidays. As a result, cybercriminals have come up with some crafty ways to ruin all your holiday fun. Whether you're buying decorations, party favors, or gifts, be sure to keep these tips in mind to make sure you can keep that carefree, festive spirit alive!

- **Only shop on reliable websites.** Use the websites of retailers you know and trust and be sure to access their webpages through a reliable search engine or by directly typing their URL into an address bar.
- **Be wary of online discounts.** If an offer is too good to be true, it probably is! Unreliable websites and fake companies attempt to bait victims by offering fake discounts that lead to fraudulent links. Only use coupon codes or discounts provided by trusted retailers.
- **Beware of seasonal frauds.** Phishing is a form of cyberattack where hackers use emails to impersonate a trustworthy source and lure victims into clicking malicious links. Around the holidays, hackers send out fake package tracking emails, e-cards, charity donation scams, and purchase confirmations. Before clicking on links in an email, always be sure that it comes from a trusted source.



The **Indiana Municipal Power Agency**, your community's wholesale power provider, wants you and your family to have a wonderful, safe holiday season. Follow us on our social media accounts for plenty of holiday fun and safety tips!



@impapower



@ImpaPower



Indiana Municipal Power Agency

# Downtown Public Space in the Works

The Marshall County Crossroads Regional Stellar Communities Initiative, a plan to supply millions of dollars of grant funding to local towns for improving quality of life, has put into motion a plan to revitalize Argos' downtown. In late August, the Town Council and Argos Park Board reviewed proposals for the development of a downtown public square on the corner of East Walnut Street and South Michigan Street. This future public space will be intended for private gatherings, community events and celebrations, a potential farmer's market, performances, and more.

Included in the plans are walking trails, parking spaces, public seating, a stage for performances, and a space for vendors to set up pop-up tents. Town officials would also like to support TGIF Argos events through the square's facilities once the project is completed.

"We're looking to have a replica of an old train depot that used to exist in Argos serve as the stage area and gathering place," said Clerk-Treasurer, Lisa Mullaney. Argos, historically known as a "railroad town," still has train tracks running through town in all directions. While two train depots originally existed in the community, neither remain today. "The replica would be a great way to connect our new improvements to the town's history."

The refurbishment of the downtown area is projected to have a positive economic impact on the community by attracting patrons to the district to eat, shop, and relax. The downtown district is already considered a



place of historical significance, being listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 2001, and the anticipated upgrades will serve to complement the area's reputation.

Work to make these plans become a reality is expected to begin next year. The town is still finalizing plans and requesting feedback from the community to tailor the project to local needs. Community members can keep an eye out on Argos' website and the town's Facebook page for the opportunity to make suggestions about what this downtown space could include. •



**@townofargos**



**www.townofargos.com**

# Park Upgrades

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Funding for the project came from a \$500,000 grant from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) with a 50% match from the town. Additional funds also came from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs' (OCRA) Stellar Communities Program. In December of 2019, Marshall County was designated as a Regional Stellar Community, which brought more than \$14 million to the county for projects



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## Tidbits & Trivia

The **Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA)** is a not-for-profit organization that provides a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally responsible power supply to its members. IMPA provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio. IMPA member utilities purchase their power through IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within your community.

**Question:** In what year was the Indiana Municipal Power Agency founded?

If you would like assistance with your answer, visit our website at **impa.com** and explore our pages for information that could help you formulate a good guess!

Send your answer to **newsletter@impa.com**, along with your name, e-mail address, and address for a chance to win an energy efficiency prize pack! We will randomly select the winner from a pool of correct entries.

## Watt's the Word?

*Investigating power terminology*

### Energy

*noun*

The capacity to do work. In physics, it exists in potential, kinetic, thermal, **electrical**, and various other forms.

The origins of the English word "energy" come from the Ancient Greek term *energeia*, meaning "activity/operation." The term was used by Aristotle in 4th century BCE to convey a force of expression in rhetoric. It wasn't until the 1800s that the word became associated with electricity, with engineer William Thomson claiming in 1867, "Electricity is a form of energy." In physics, energy is measured in various units, such as joules, watts, calories, and more!

"energy, n." OED Online, Oxford University Press, September 2020, [www.oed.com/view/Entry/62088](http://www.oed.com/view/Entry/62088).

# Cooking Corner

## For Your Holiday Hosting Needs!

For a chance to be featured in the newsletter and win a prize, send your recipe to:

MPN Recipes  
11610 N. College Ave.  
Carmel, IN 46032

or  
[newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com)

The **MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS** is a periodic publication of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the 61 communities that it serves with wholesale power.

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### Cranberry Cheesecake

Recipe submitted by Betty Bird of Paoli, Indiana

- 16 oz Philadelphia cream cheese
- 16 oz finely shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 2 tbsp honey
- 1 small bag of chopped raisins
- finely chopped pecans

Beat cream cheese until smooth, then mix in all other ingredients except for the pecans. Use a spatula and your hands to form the mixture into a ball. Coat the ball with the finely chopped pecans to create an outer crust. Serve with crackers, vegetables, pretzels, or whatever you like!

### Salted Peanut Chews

Recipe submitted by Roleen Pickard of Rockville, Indiana

- 3 cups mini marshmallows
- 2 cups Rice Krispies
- 2 cups salted peanuts
- 12 oz peanut butter chips
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup margarine
- 2/3 cup corn syrup
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 3 tsp vanilla

Mix flour, brown sugar, baking powder, baking soda, egg yolks, 1/2 cup margarine, and 1 tsp vanilla, and press mixture into a greased 9"x13" pan. Bake for 10-15 minutes at 350° until golden brown. Sprinkle 3 cups mini marshmallows on top and return to oven for 2 minutes, or until marshmallows look puffy. Let cool.

In a sauce pan, heat corn syrup, remaining margarine, remaining vanilla, and peanut butter chips just until melted. Remove the sauce pan from heat, and add Rice Krispies and salted peanuts.

Spoon mixture from sauce pan over marshmallow crust. Chill, cut into bars, and serve!

Advance	Covington	Huntingburg	Paoli	Thorntown
Anderson	Crawfordsville	Jamestown	Pendleton	Tipton
Argos	Darlington	Jasper	Peru	Troy
Bainbridge	Dublin	Kingsford Heights	Pittsboro	Veedersburg
Bargersville	Dunreith	Knightstown	Rensselaer	Walkerton
Blanchester, OH	Edinburgh	Ladoga	Richmond	Washington
Bremen	Etna Green	Lawrenceburg	Rising Sun	Waynetown
Brooklyn	Flora	Lebanon	Rockville	WilliamSPORT
Brookston	Frankfort	Lewisville	Scottsburg	Winamac
Centerville	Frankton	Linton	South Whitley	
Chalmers	Gas City	Middletown	Spiceland	
Coatesville	Greendale	Montezuma	Straughn	
Columbia City	Greenfield	New Ross	Tell City	

**PRACTICE  
ELECTRICAL  
SAFETY:**

**DON'T**

**OVERLOAD**

**YOUR HOME**



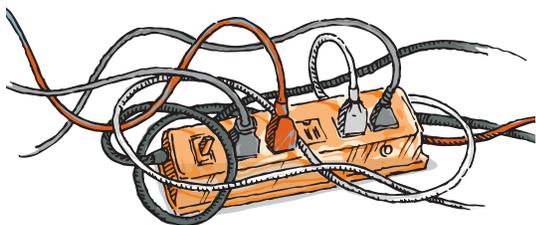
Annually, nearly 50,000 fires in the United States are caused by electrical failures or malfunctions. This results in more than 400 deaths, 1,500 injuries, and \$1.4 billion in property damage each year. Help lower your risk of electrical fires.

Here's how:

## Space Heater Safety

- Never leave a space heater unattended
- Locate space heaters out of high traffic areas and doorways where they may pose a tripping hazard
- Always unplug and safely store the heater when it is not in use
- Never use an extension cord with your space heater.
- Make sure your space heater is listed by a recognized testing laboratory
- Read the manufacturer's instructions and warning labels before using a space heater
- Space heaters are only meant to provide supplemental heat and should never be used to warm bedding, cook food, dry clothes, or thaw pipes

## Overload Warning Signs



Flickering, blinking, or dimming lights



Cracking, sizzling, or buzzing from receptacles



Mild shock or tingle from appliances or switches



Frequently tripped circuit breakers or blown fuses



Burning odor coming from receptacles or switches



Warm or discolored wall plates

## Prevent Overloads

Never use extension cords or multi-outlet converters for appliances



Only plug one heat producing appliance into a receptacle outlet at a time



If you have too few outlets in your home, have a qualified electrician inspect your home and add new outlets



Power strips only add additional outlets; they do not change the amount of power being received from the outlet



Use appropriate watt bulbs for lighting fixtures



\*information from the American Public Power Association

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IMPA Commissioner: Jamie Lindstrom

## Park upgrades

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in the towns of Argos, Bourbon, Bremen, Culver, La Paz, and Plymouth. This Pond Street Park project was one of the first projects to break ground through the county's Stellar Plan. While the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has caused some unanticipated hiccups, town officials still hope to wrap up construction by the end of the year.

Pond Street Park wasn't the only park in Argos to see improvements either, as Community Park gained new benches, a pond aerator, and dog waste stations this summer. Argos' Department of Parks and Recreation works tirelessly to enhance the community's quality of life through upgrades such as these. Residents can follow the Argos Parks and Recreation Department on their Facebook page to receive consistent updates on all park upgrades, keep track of community events, and provide feedback. Together, those living and working in Argos can continue to improve the community for everyone's benefit! •