

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Town of Chalmers



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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IMPA Service Corporation, the engineering and operations subsidiary of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, arrived in Chalmers to help restore power after a major wind storm.

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## Chalmers Recovers from Major Wind Storm

**A**fter straight line wind gusts of close to 100 miles per hour swept through the Town of Chalmers during the early morning hours of Thursday, June 23rd, the town suffered from an excessive amount of tree debris as well as a major power outage. Thanks to the IMPA Service Corporation, the engineering and operations subsidiary of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), Chalmers' wholesale power provider, the town was able to quickly regain power.

IMPA Service Corporation crews arrived in Chalmers on Thursday around 1:00 p.m., and had most of the power back on by 6:00 p.m. that same day. Once finished in Chalmers, IMPA Service Corporation crews traveled to the nearby community of Brookston, which had a more severe, town-wide power outage, and stayed there working for several days.

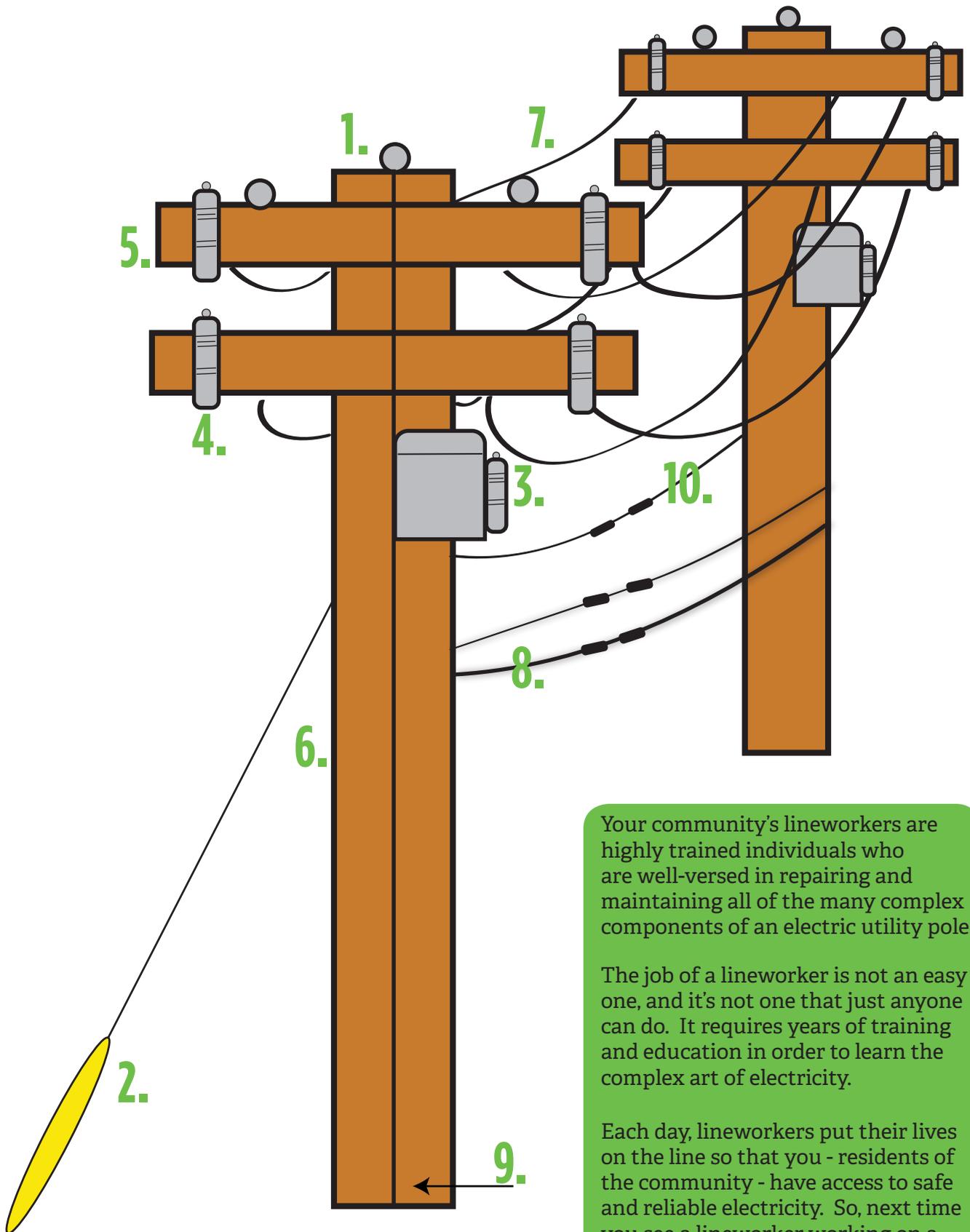
Whenever there is a power outage, lineworkers and other utility personnel are typically the first people on the scene. These individuals put their lives on the line each time they go to work, especially during extreme weather conditions. The Town of Chalmers appreciates IMPA Service Corporation's help and also thanks town residents for their patience during the power restoration period. ●

# Anatomy of an Electric Utility Pole

Utility poles are a common sight throughout the United States, as they are located adjacent to many roadways that are visible while driving. While you see these poles every day, have you ever thought about the function of the poles and the lines and attachments that hang onto them?

Utility poles play an important role in electrical distribution, which is a fancy term for how electricity travels to your home or business. All of the lines and attachments that sit on the utility pole play an essential role in this process. Read on to learn more about the different parts that make up your everyday electric power pole.

- 1. Insulator:** The insulator prevents wires from coming into contact with each other on the utility pole, which could cause fires, outages and other dangerous conditions.
- 2. Guy wire:** The guy wire is a tensioned wire that helps to stabilize the utility pole to the ground.
- 3. Transformer:** An electrical device, typically in a metallic enclosure, that converts high voltage electricity to a lower voltage for use in homes and businesses.
- 4. Fuse cutout:** A combination of a fuse and a switch, the fuse cutout is used to protect power lines and other equipment from surges or overloads by disconnecting the power line from a transformer.
- 5. Crossarm:** This horizontal piece of the utility pole is typically made of high-quality wood and holds power lines and other equipment, such as transformers, onto the pole.
- 6. Utility pole:** The utility pole is typically made of wood or steel, and can range in height from 30 feet to more than 100 feet. The pole serves as the backbone for the electric line and holds all of the components and equipment.
- 7. Primary wire:** These wires are on the very top of the utility pole, and usually carry high voltage electricity from a substation.
- 8. Lowest wires:** Utility poles don't just hold electric wires; other wires, such as telephone or cable wires, are also attached to these poles. Typically, these wires are found closest to the ground and are the lowest wire on the utility pole.
- 9. Ground wire:** This wire runs the entire length of the utility pole, directing any electricity on the pole safely into the ground.
- 10. Secondary wire:** Once the high voltage electricity has been converted to a lower voltage, the secondary wire carries that electricity to homes and businesses.



Your community's lineworkers are highly trained individuals who are well-versed in repairing and maintaining all of the many complex components of an electric utility pole.

The job of a lineworker is not an easy one, and it's not one that just anyone can do. It requires years of training and education in order to learn the complex art of electricity.

Each day, lineworkers put their lives on the line so that you - residents of the community - have access to safe and reliable electricity. So, next time you see a lineworker working on a utility pole, stop and thank them for their service to the community.

# Multiple Town Projects in the Works

Town Manager Faith Willoughby is making it her mission to identify and apply for multiple grants in order to help pay for a variety of town projects. One project that Willoughby hopes to complete via grant funds is the installation of overhead lights stationed along the walking trail at Chalmers Park. While there are already light poles in the ground along the walking trail, there are no lights actually on the poles. Willoughby hopes that by adding lights, the park and trail will be safer for residents to use once it starts getting dark outside.

In addition to the lights in the park, Willoughby would also like to secure grant funds to help pay for new sidewalks as well as a repaving project, both along a portion of Main Street. At the beginning of 2016, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) introduced a new grant opportunity called Community Crossings, which provides matching grant funds to towns, cities and counties throughout the State of Indiana to help pay for road, bridge and sidewalk projects. Willoughby has applied for the INDOT grant funds, specifically for the Main Street project, and will hear by the end of August if the Town of Chalmers has been awarded the funds.

“I am always looking for ways to save the Town of Chalmers money, whether that is through grant funds or just through smarter spending,” stated Willoughby. “I’m hopeful that Chalmers will receive these grants so we can continue updating portions of our community.”



Willoughby hopes to secure grant funds to install overhead lights along the walking trail at Chalmers Park.



In the future, Main Street will receive a facelift, which consists of new sidewalks and a road repaving project.

# Chalmers Day Town Festival a Success

The Town of Chalmers, along with its Park Board, hosted the successful Chalmers Day Town Festival on Saturday, June 11th. The festival took place in downtown Chalmers and consisted of a breakfast sponsored by the Chalmers Fire Department, a classic car show, town-wide yard sales, games and more.

“This was the first year that I helped organize Chalmers Days, and I thought that it went really well,” stated Chalmers Town Manager Faith Willoughby. “It gives our town an opportunity to gather together and enjoy each other’s company in a fun way. I’m very happy with this year’s event, and hope to make it even bigger and better next year.”

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Pictured here is the Best in Show winner from the classic car show.

## Tidbits & Trivia

**Question:** Which type of wire on a utility pole carries the high voltage electricity from a substation?

- a) Secondary wire
- b) Primary wire
- c) Ground wire
- d) None of the above

Send your answer to the question to IMPA, and we will randomly select winners from all of the correct entries to receive an energy efficiency prize pack. Please send your name, e-mail address and address with your answer to:

newsletter@impa.com

OR

MPN Energy Efficiency Quiz  
11610 North College Avenue  
Carmel, IN 46032

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 member utilities purchase their power from IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within the community.

## Substation

*noun.*

A facility used for switching and/or changing or regulating the voltage of electric energy. A substation may tie generating stations to transmission systems or transmission systems to distribution systems.

# IMPA Continues Building Solar Parks in Local Communities

Throughout the last two years, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) has constructed nine solar parks in large and small IMPA communities throughout Indiana. This year, the Agency is in the midst of constructing four additional solar parks in the communities of Anderson, Huntingburg, Waynetown and Washington. These solar parks are all aimed at adding more renewable and economical energy resources to IMPA's power portfolio.

When energy is created by the solar parks, it is then placed onto the local distribution system in whichever town or city the solar park is located in. As the solar power is produced, it becomes a part of all of the electric generation that is supplying the system, which is typically a mixture of power produced via coal, natural gas, solar, wind and nuclear.

The process of generating electricity from the sun may seem to be a complex one, but in reality, is really quite simple. When sunlight

hits the solar panels, the panels convert that energy into direct current electricity. That electricity is transferred to an inverter, located within the solar park. The inverter then takes the direct current electricity and converts it into alternating current (AC) electricity. Once converted to AC, the transformer steps-up the voltage to the proper level, and is then transferred to the interconnection point on the distribution system. The AC meter measures the energy from the solar park prior to its connection to the distribution system and ultimately the customer.

IMPA plans to add approximately 10 megawatts of solar capacity into its overall power portfolio each year, meaning more and more IMPA member communities will have solar parks within the coming years. For more information on IMPA's solar parks, visit [www.impa.com](http://www.impa.com).

## How does solar generate electricity?



# Cooking Corner

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)

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**Editor:** Niki Dick  
Manager of Marketing Communications  
[niki@impa.com](mailto:niki@impa.com)

**Correspondent:**  
Meredith Sauter  
Communications Specialist  
[meredith@impa.com](mailto:meredith@impa.com)

Send submissions and comments to:  
11610 N. College Ave.  
Carmel, IN 46032 or  
[newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com).

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Centerville	Frankfort	Lebanon	Rising Sun	Waynetown
Chalmers	Frankton	Lewisville	Rockville	Williamsport
Coatesville	Gas City	Linton	Scottsburg	Winamac

## Chicken and Dumpling Casserole

Recipe submitted by Vicky Hicks-Spear of Tell City, Indiana.

- 1 pound chicken breasts
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1/4 cup butter
- 2 cups Bisquick
- 2 cups whole milk
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 3 tsp. chicken bouillon
- 1/2 tsp. sage
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 1/2 stick butter

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a 9x13 baking pan, melt 1/2 stick butter. Shred chicken and spread over butter. Sprinkle black pepper and sage over the chicken. Do not stir. In a small bowl, mix milk and Bisquick. Slowly pour over chicken. In another medium bowl, whisk together 2 cups of chicken broth, chicken bouillon and soup. Once blended, slowly pour over the Bisquick layer. Bake casserole for 30 to 40 minutes, or until golden brown.

## Strawberry Delight

Recipe submitted by Burdett Parsons of Washington, Indiana.

- 1 pre-made angel food cake
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 16 oz. strawberry glaze
- 16 oz. tub whipped cream
- 1 <sup>1/3</sup> cup sugar
- 1 qt. fresh strawberries

Tear angel food cake into pieces and mix with 1/3 of the tub of whipped cream. Put whipped cream mixture into the bottom of a serving dish. Mix the rest of the whipped cream with the cream cheese and the sugar and place on top of the cake. Slice strawberries into quarters and mix with the strawberry glaze. Then, spread the strawberry mixture over the top of the cake.

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IMPA Commissioner: Faith Willoughby

## Chalmers Days

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The classic car show was one of the biggest draws of the day, and included 27 cars for visitors to see. There were also dozens of yard sales, located throughout town for visitors and attendees of the festival to enjoy. The Town of Chalmers thanks all attendees and volunteers, and looks forward to next year's Chalmers Day! ●

