

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Gas City Municipal Utilities



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

Volume 25, Issue 3 | Fall 2020



History in
the Making
Page 2

Hardware Store
Opening Soon
Page 5

Save Energy
Through the Holidays
Page 8

Community Event Center Coming Soon

On September 1st, Gas City officials joined with state and federal legislators to celebrate the ground-breaking of a site that will soon become a local event center. Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch, Indiana Senator Travis Holdman, and US Representative Susan Brooks joined with Mayor Bill Rock, officials from Mississinewa Community School Corporation, and Gas City personnel to commemorate the milestone in the community.

-continued on page 4

History in the Making

A Message from IMPA



Though 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.

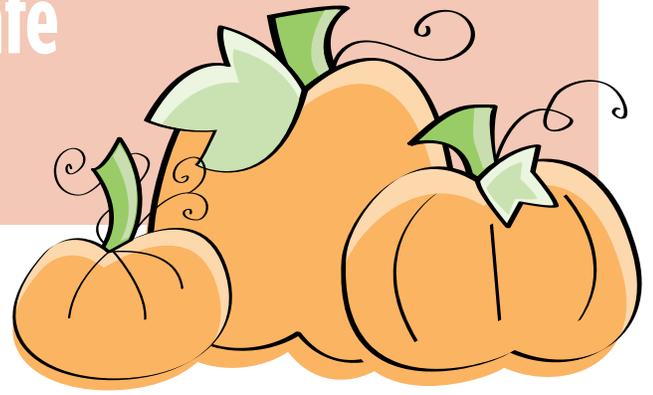
As your community's wholesale power provider, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) embraces its role as an essential service provider through the developing pandemic. COVID-19 is unique from past plagues and outbreaks in that our world is

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!



Hackers 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

Event Center Coming Soon

-continued from page 1

Work to construct the future community event center, which has yet to be named, began shortly thereafter, with workers prepping the site for the building's foundation and parking lots. City officials are hopeful that construction may be finished by July of next year, but much of the work depends on cooperative weather.

The multi-million dollar center is being constructed using Tax Increment Financing (TIF), a common tool used to bolster economic development without increasing local homeowner's taxes. While the city is using the TIF to fund the construction of the center, Mississinewa Community School Corporation plans to take over the operations of the building once construction completes. The school will eventually use the event center to host graduations, sporting awards ceremonies, school musicals and performances, and anything else requiring an auditorium. School officials have played a large role in the development of this project in Gas City, as the school corporation has never had access to an auditorium of their own. With the city's TIF and the donation of land by a retired schoolteacher, Mississinewa students will now have a venue to officiate their fine arts programs and academic ceremonies.

Additionally, the school won't be the only entity to host events at the center. Gas City has partnered with the entertainment company and events promoter, Live Nation, to help the center turn a profit during the off season. When the building isn't being used by the local school, nationally recognized artists and entertainers will be

invited to perform in the center, attracting visitors outside of the community and strengthening the local economy.

"It's unique that the city has partnered with the school to make this project happen, but we're thrilled because it will serve to benefit everyone involved," said Dick Justice, Gas City Electric Supervisor and Indiana Municipal Power Agency commissioner. "It will be great that the school finally has an auditorium, and the city will benefit from the increased traffic to the community. Anytime you open a venue where you're bringing outside entertainment into the city, you bring revenue to local restaurants, motels, and shops."

Once finished, the community event center will be located on the east side of town on the corner of State Road 22 and Olynger Road. The state-of-the-art facility will be one of the first things that motorists see as they drive into Gas City. •



Hardware Store Opening Soon

Construction on a Gillman “Do It Best” Home Center began in late May of this year and has continued through the fall. The future retailer, located on the corner of State Road 22 and County Road 600 East, will supply lumber and building materials, as well as services for home design, key cutting, paint tinting, and more. This Gas City location will add to Gillman’s growing number of stores in Indiana and Ohio.

Officials are hoping to have a soft launch of the retail store in November, with a grand opening in early 2021. Gas City personnel are excited to continue the expansion of businesses in the community and welcome the opening of Gillman “Do It Best.” •

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.

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

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

Editor: Niki Dick
Director of Marketing
Communications

Correspondent:
Whitney Hicks
Communications Specialist

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

Want to receive IMPA newsletters digitally?
To get an online notification each time an MPN is published, send your email address and home town to newsletter@impa.com.

IMPA
Members

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



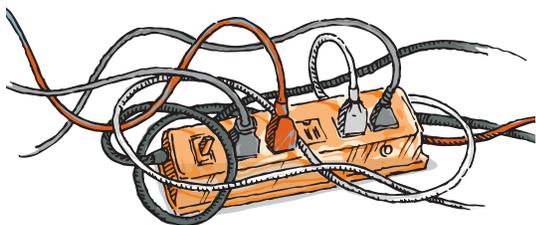
Annually, nearly 50,000 fires in the United States are caused by electrical failures or malfunctions. This results in more than 400 deaths, 1,500 injuries, and \$1.4 billion in property damage each year. Help lower your risk of electrical fires.

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



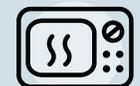
Warm or discolored wall plates

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

The Municipal Power News is published by the
Indiana Municipal Power Agency and Gas City
Municipal Utilities.

IMPA Commissioner: Dick Justice

Save on Energy Through the Holidays

The holidays are fast approaching, and so is the cold weather that accompanies them. While the temperatures trend downward, some residents and businesses may see their electric use go up. Luckily, since Gas City's electric utility is a public power utility and a member of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, your community already provides you with some of the best electric rates in Indiana. As outside temperatures cool down, you can take the following energy-saving measures to save even more on your utility rates.

- Find and seal any air leaks you feel coming from cracks or gaps in windows and doorways.
- Use energy-efficient holiday lighting. Verify that your decorations are Energy Star® certified.
- Take advantage of sunlight and open curtains on south-facing windows during the day to help warm your home.
- Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable during the day and reduce a few degrees when you are sleeping or away from home.
- Replace furnace and heat pump air handler filters monthly for the best efficiency.
- Set your water heater to the warm setting at approximately 120°F.