

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Lebanon Utilities



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

Volume 22, Issue 3



Jeff McNew, Apprentice Lineworker for Lebanon Utilities, was recently named Apprentice Lineworker of the Year by the Indiana Municipal Electric Association. McNew will also compete in the 2017 American Public Power Association's Lineworkers Rodeo in May.

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## Lebanon Utilities' Lineworker to Compete on National Scale

**J**eff McNew, a fourth-year apprentice lineworker at Lebanon Utilities, was named the 2016 Apprentice of the Year by the Indiana Municipal Electric Association (IMEA). In addition to receiving this honor, McNew also placed first overall in the apprentice category at IMEA's 2016 Lineworkers Rodeo.

The annual Lineworkers Rodeo is designed to showcase the skills and knowledge of lineworkers from public power utilities throughout Indiana. The rodeo features a variety of competitive events, which include team, apprentice, senior and mutual aid. Lineworkers are judged on the quality of their safety, work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling and speed.

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# Public Power Lineworkers: A S

**W**hen severe weather strikes, the first instinct is often to hunker down inside and wait for the storm to pass. Lineworkers across the state and the country know that when severe weather hits, it's time to get to work. A portion of a lineworker's job demands working in inclement weather conditions for long periods of time, often during the middle of the night. These lineworkers put their lives on the line each day to ensure that everyone in their cities and towns has access to reliable electricity. Read on to meet a few lineworkers from Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) member communities across the state.

## Colin Leinenbach - Huntingburg Electric Utility



"This can be a dangerous job, and my first year as an apprentice, I wasn't sure if I could do it. But, I learned to trust the other people that I work with. They keep me safe and they keep me alive, and we have a real bond. It's a dangerous job and it's a hard job, but it's worth it to know that I'm helping keep the lights on for our city."

Colin has worked for the City of Huntingburg in various capacities for six years and has been an apprentice lineworker for the last four years. Colin is in his final year in the apprenticeship program and is set to graduate and receive his certification in March 2017. Colin is also a recent graduate of the Dubois County Leadership Academy.

## Myron McAlister - Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power



"The best part of this job is that I learn something new every day. Even though I've been a lineworker for basically my entire adult life, I know that I don't know everything. There are definitely some storms that I'll never forget, but it has all been worth it. I'm glad I made the choice to become a lineworker, and I would encourage others to think about this as a career."

Myron has worked for Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power (CEL&P) for 41 years and will retire on February 28, 2017. IMPA and CEL&P thank Myron for his decades of service to CEL&P as well as to public power as a whole.

# A Staple in their Communities

## Greg Gayler - Darlington Light & Power



"Over the past few years in Darlington, I've really tried to make the electric system more reliable for the people who live here. It's a small town, but we all care about each other. That's what makes it worth it to go out in bad weather. I see that people appreciate it, and I want to do what's right for our town."

Greg has been with the Town of Darlington for the past eight years, but has 35 years of experience as a lineworker. He is the recipient of the American Public Power Association's Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award, which is a national award that recognizes utility managers who serve in the nation's smallest public power communities.

## Jeff McNew - Lebanon Utilities



"When I first started as a lineworker, I really didn't know a lot about the job, but the longer I worked, the more I liked it. I enjoy climbing the poles, being outside and working with the other lineworkers. Sometimes people will come up to us and tell us how much they appreciate what we do, which always makes you feel good. It's hard to work in the rain, ice and snow, but it's worth it."

Jeff has been a lineworker with Lebanon Utilities for four years. Jeff was recently named Apprentice Lineworker of the Year by the Indiana Municipal Electric Association and will compete this spring at the national American Public Power Association's Lineworkers Rodeo.

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), your community's wholesale power provider, knows just how hard these lineworkers work, each and every day. We salute lineworkers from our member communities for putting their lives on the line each day, ensuring that each resident and business across all 61 of IMPA's member communities has access to safe and reliable electricity. ●

# Lebanon Utilities Welcomes New Employee

**T**race Bowles joined Lebanon Utilities on October 31, 2016, as the new Engineering Services Manager. In this role, Bowles is responsible for a wide variety of tasks, which include overseeing day-to-day engineering duties, assisting with the design of overhead and underground power lines, as well as street lighting design and managing the SCADA system and substations.

Prior to joining Lebanon Utilities, Bowles served as the Manager of Operations and Engineering at the Rensselaer Municipal Electric Utility in northern Indiana. In that role, Bowles managed all electric department personnel, prepared budgets and standards, negotiated with new businesses and assisted with electrical design. Before working for the City of Rensselaer, Bowles served as the Vice President of Operations for Spectrum Engineering for over 30 years.

“I come from a background of engineering and have always enjoyed designing systems and figuring out problems,” commented Bowles. “This new position gives me the opportunity to assist with those tasks, while still being able to work with customers and build relationships both inside and outside the utility.”

In his spare time, Bowles enjoys spending time with his wife, Pam, his three grown daughters, two son-in-laws and two grandchildren. He and his wife look forward to living in and exploring the City of Lebanon and all it has to offer. Lebanon Utilities and the City of Lebanon welcome Trace to his new position and wish him all the best! ●



Trace Bowles was recently hired as the new Engineering Services Manager for Lebanon Utilities.

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## Lineworker

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This is the second year in a row that McNew has placed first overall in the apprentice category at the rodeo, which has motivated him to compete in the national 2017 American Public Power Association’s (APPA) Lineworkers Rodeo. This rodeo is a similar setup to the IMEA rodeo except that it is a national competition that brings together lineworkers from all across the country to compete in a variety of events and challenges. According to APPA’s website, “the rodeo is the ultimate venue for public power lineworkers to demonstrate their skill and knowledge while competing for professional recognition.” The 2017 Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo takes place on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in San Antonio, Texas. Lebanon Utilities and the Indiana Municipal Power Agency wish Jeff luck as he competes on a national level, representing Lebanon, the State of Indiana and its public power utilities. ●

# Lebanon Utilities Focuses on Reliability

Lebanon Utilities is moving forward on a project that, once completed, will greatly increase electric reliability for the city and its residents. The utility is taking a proactive approach to electric reliability through its construction of a new three-mile 69 kilovolt (kV) line, which will bolster reliability, especially in the case of a natural disaster such as an ice storm or a tornado.

Currently, three 69 kV lines, which all flow from one singular substation, provide power to all residents and businesses within the city. If a disaster occurred and destroyed those 69 kV lines, the city could be without power for an extended period of time. This new 69 kV line will detour around that central point, which will allow the city to remain powered even if the other lines were to go down.

The utility has determined that the new 69 kV line will start on County Road 100 South and weave west and north through the city, ending on Hamilton Street at one of the city's substations. Lebanon Utilities is currently in the midst of surveying properties and contacting landowners who may be affected by the construction of this line. The utility expects that construction will begin in late spring or early summer of 2017 and will be completed by the fall of 2017.

## Tidbits & Trivia

**Question:** How many peregrine falcon chicks hatched at IMPA's co-owned generating unit, Trimble County Station, in 2016?

- a) 38 chicks
- b) 5 chicks
- c) 10 chicks
- d) 3 chicks

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.

## Generation

The actual creation of electricity at power plants or a generating station.

*IMPA's generation portfolio includes seven coal-fired units, seven combustion turbine units and 13 solar parks.*

# Trimble County Station's Wildlife Preserve Helps Save Endangered Species

**T**he Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), your community's wholesale power provider, is passionate about providing affordable and reliable electricity, but is equally passionate about environmental responsibility and preserving our country's natural resources. One of IMPA's co-owned generating stations, Trimble County Station, is a great example of how the two seemingly opposite services – power production and environmental responsibility – can merge together as one.

Trimble County Station is a two-unit station located in Kentucky that generates a total of 1,274 Megawatts (MW) of power of which IMPA owns 162 MW. Trimble County Station, a baseload generating station whose mission is to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is an integral component of IMPA's power portfolio. It provides a steady and consistent stream of electricity, which serves to power your homes and businesses. In addition to generating power in a reliable manner, Trimble County Station also boasts its own 114-acre wildlife preserve, which includes both wetlands and forest areas. This nature preserve is home to a variety of wildlife, including American bald eagles, peregrine falcons, fox, deer, wild turkeys and many other species of birds and mammals.

Trimble County Station's wildlife preserve has been instrumental in preserving the peregrine falcon population, which was considered an endangered species as recently as the 1970s. As a participating power generation station in Kentucky's peregrine falcon nesting program, Trimble County Station's wildlife preserve contains a nesting box where falcons can breed each year. 2016 was successful for the Station as a male falcon, Favre, and his female falcon companion once again nested at Trimble County, producing three peregrine falcon chicks. In 2016, the entire Kentucky peregrine falcon nesting program produced a total of 38 chicks throughout a variety of participating locations.

Trimble County Station and IMPA are proud to be a part of this resurgence in the peregrine falcon population and are also proud of the efforts made to maintain our country's natural resources. Going forward, IMPA will continue to remain vigilant in providing low cost, reliable electricity in an environmentally responsible manner. ●



One of IMPA's generating stations, Trimble County Station, is home to a 114-acre wildlife preserve (pictured above). Trimble County Station (pictured below) provides a steady stream of electricity, which helps to power IMPA's 61 member communities.



# Cooking Corner

**We need more recipes!**

Send your favorites to:  
MPN Recipes  
11610 N. College Ave.  
Carmel, IN 46032  
or  
[newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com)

**You'll win a prize!**

## Potato Soup

Recipe submitted by Penny Cox of Montezuma, Indiana.

- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped carrots
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 3 cups cubed potatoes
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 tbsp. parsley
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 tbsp. chopped pimento
- 4 cup milk (1/2 reserved)
- 1 can chicken broth

Heat olive oil in a 3-quart saucepan over medium-high heat and saute onion until tender, about five minutes. Add carrots, celery, potatoes, parsley, chicken broth, salt and pepper. Cover and simmer until vegetables are tender, about 15 minutes. Reduce heat; add pimento and 3 1/2 cups milk. Heat soup until milk is scalded only - do not boil. Blend flour with 1/2 cup of milk and add to soup, stirring constantly. Cook until bubbly and slightly thickened.

## Easy Corn Casserole

- 1 8.5 oz. package cornbread mix
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 stick unsalted butter, melted
- 1 15-oz. can creamed style corn (not drained)
- 1 15-oz. can corn (drained)
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1/4 tsp. salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 2 1/2-quart baking dish. In a bowl, mix together sour cream, corn, creamed corn, melted butter and eggs. Add cornbread mix, salt and pepper and stir. Pour into greased baking dish and bake for 45-60 minutes until sides are golden and the middle doesn't jiggle when you shake it.

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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					Winamac



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

IMPA Commissioner: Mike Whitman

## Security is of Utmost Importance for Lebanon Utilities

**G**eneral Manager of Lebanon Utilities, Mike Whitman, is a stickler for safety and security. Since taking over as the General Manager in 2016, he has implemented a variety of new procedures that are all aimed at protecting both his staff and the general public.

This summer, Lebanon Utilities focused on office security and offered active shooter and violent intruder classes for all of those who work at the utility. Members of the Lebanon Police Department also visited Lebanon Utilities' office in the Municipal Building to assess the space and determine areas of safety improvement.

"I take the safety of my staff and customers very personally. They all have the right to be safe and protected when they come to work or into Lebanon Utilities," said Whitman. "You can never be too cautious. It's important that everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency."

In order to increase safety and security for staff and customers, Lebanon Utilities has created an evacuation plan and has also installed a video recorder and TV camera in the office lobby. Going forward, the utility will continue to reinforce safety and security in all of its everyday procedures. ●