

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

South Whitley Municipal  
Electric Utility



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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South Whitley Utilities hired a lineworker, Brandon Lopez, in October 2016.

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## South Whitley Welcomes New Lineworker

**T**he Town of South Whitley and South Whitley Utilities are pleased to announce that Brandon Lopez has joined the utility as a lineworker. Prior to hiring Lopez, the nearby community of Columbia City assisted South Whitley with its electric needs by providing assistance with general maintenance projects as well as helping during power outages. While that was an effective temporary solution, the Town of South Whitley had been seeking to hire a full-time lineworker who would be located within the community.

Lopez was hired and began working for South Whitley Utilities in October 2016. Prior to working in South Whitley, Lopez served as a lineworker in both Columbia City and in Texas. The Town of South Whitley welcomes Lopez and wishes him the best in his new role.●

# 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. ●

# South Whitley Utilities Installed New Electric Utility Meters

After receiving approval from the South Whitley Town Council, South Whitley Utilities began the process of ordering and installing all new radio read electric meters. These types of meters utilize automatic meter reading (AMR) technology, which transmits meter data through radio waves. A utility employee simply uses a data collection device, usually a wand or probe, and drives by homes and businesses to record meter data. The signal is automatically transmitted from the meter to the wand, and the data can then be easily uploaded to a computer.

Before the utility decided to update its meter technology, a South Whitley Utilities employee had to manually read each electric meter, walking from house to house and recording the reading in a written log. Not only

was that process extremely time-consuming, but the reads were also prone to error, whether due to inability to read the meter or because of human error. The new AMR technology will not only be more efficient, but will also give the utility and the customer a more accurate reflection of the amount of electricity being used. In addition, it will also be easier to catch issues that sometimes cause high electric bills before the situation gets out of control.

The town has roughly 800 electric meters that had to be removed and then replaced with the new meter and technology. The utility finished installing the new meters in the fall of 2016, and now the town and the utility have access to more accurate electric meter reads.●

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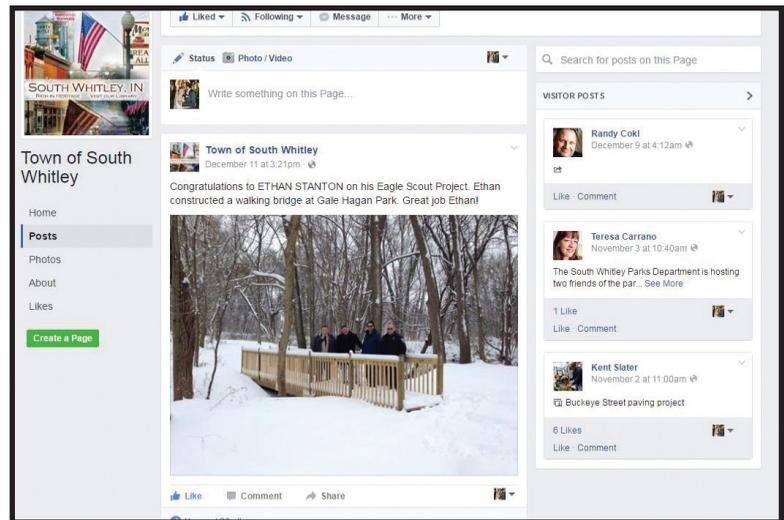
## South Whitley Main Street Presents Home for the Holidays

In an effort to bring residents downtown to celebrate both their community and the holiday season, the South Whitley Main Street organization presented the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Home for the Holidays festival on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. This annual festival incorporates many local downtown businesses as the hosts for a variety of activities. These activities include a tree lighting ceremony, food, drinks, ornament making, crafts, photos with Santa Claus and cookie decorating. Local churches also participated by caroling throughout town, and the event ended with a live nativity, presented by the Collamer Church of God.

The South Whitley Main Street organization is always looking for volunteers to assist with this event and others like it. If you are interested in learning more about the organization and the work that it does, visit [www.facebook.com/SouthWhitleyMainStreet](http://www.facebook.com/SouthWhitleyMainStreet) or contact Lori Starkey at [lstarkey81@gmail.com](mailto:lstarkey81@gmail.com).●

# Town Offers New Facebook Page

The Town of South Whitley attempts to communicate with its residents across a variety of platforms, including newsletters, paper notices and through its website and Facebook page. In order to increase communication and make it easier for residents to obtain information, the town created a Facebook page. This page is devoted to town news and information as well as events and other community happenings. Visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search Town of South Whitley. When you find the page, be sure to 'Like' it so you can stay up-to-date on all the town news!●



## 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](mailto: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!**

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  
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).

## 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.

IMPA  
Members

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

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IMPA Commissioner: Randall Cokl

# Community Now Participating in Emergency Notification System

The Town of South Whitley wants its residents to be aware of issues and emergencies so that no one is caught off guard and everyone can be prepared for what's to come. Based on that desire, the town is now participating in Nixle, which is a website and alert system that provides its participants with up-to-date and relevant information from local public safety departments.

Both South Whitley and Whitley County send notifications through Nixle, so those interested have the option of receiving notifications from both the town and the county. These notifications will alert participants of emergencies such as power outages, car accidents, flooding and other issues. If you are interested in receiving these alerts, visit [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) and enter your zip code. You will then be able to opt-in to alerts from the State Police, South Whitley and Whitley County.