

Municipal Power News



Lawrenceburg Municipal Utilities

Volume 28, Issue 2 | Fall 2023



Kinnett's Corner

Lawrenceburg Municipal
Utilities Director, Billy Kinnett

Fall is my favorite time of year. Football season is in full swing and the fishing and hunting is good. It just doesn't get any better than sitting around a campfire with family and friends on a chilled autumn day. We're anxious to see what the Tigers do this year after their State Runner-Up experience last year. One of our nephews is a Senior this year. We're expecting great things from him and the rest of the Tigers, both on the football field and in the classroom.

Lawrenceburg Municipal Utilities has replaced and upgraded our phone system. We had received concerns from customers for several years that they have a hard time communicating with LMU through our phone system, especially when we had multiple outages at the same time. Our old phone system was definitely a weak link and we have made significant improvements with the way you can now communicate with LMU through our new phone system. We listened to you and made the improvements you deserve.

I am extremely proud of the improvements we have made in the way of system reliability that keep the lights on for LMU customers. When I started in September 2020 as your Utility Director, we were experiencing way too many interruptions in electric service. We put an improvement plan in place then worked to implement that plan. You have

helped us with our tree trimming efforts, which have played a huge role in improving our system reliability. Trees and power lines just don't play well together. We've done a great job of keeping the trees out of the power lines and this has significantly reduced the number of power interruptions. Some extremely strong windstorms have come through our area this year. LMU has only had a few outages during these windstorms while neighboring electric utility companies have experienced significant outages. Thank you for your help and cooperation in making our tree trimming efforts a big success.

We put animal guards throughout the Walker Substation to keep the pesky squirrels and birds from getting into the power lines and causing outages. We have not had an interruption of electric service caused by a fault in the Walker Substation since the animal guards were installed. We have also worked very hard to repair the streetlights in need with routine checks of our streetlights to make sure everything is working properly. We get a lot of compliments on how great our streetlights and downtown string lights look in Lawrenceburg.

Finally, I just cannot say enough about the great team we have here at LMU. Our people care about our community and they do everything they can to make sure we are providing great service to our utility customers. Our employees definitely go above and beyond expectations to make sure you are taken care of. I am honored to work with such great people. We are also very fortunate to live and work in such a great small community with everything Lawrenceburg has to offer. We don't take that for granted.

Here's to a great fall and Go Tigers! ●

40 Years of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency



The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) began with a single idea to enable municipally-owned utilities to join and share power resources for a more reliable and cost-effective future. Before the formation of the Agency, individual municipal utilities in Indiana only had limited access to power supply options, and their small size kept them vulnerable to the changing energy market. However, the founders of IMPA believed in the adage of “strength in numbers,” and sought to withstand these challenges by working together. In 1979, representatives of 11 Indiana municipally-owned utilities organized themselves into a Joint Action Committee to investigate the feasibility of uniting into a joint action agency, which would allow them to share generation resources and bulk purchase power at a mutually beneficial low cost.

By 1980, Indiana state legislation was passed allowing the 11 representative communities to unite in the purchase of

wholesale electric power and transmission services, as well as issue bonds to pay for the cost of projects. This allowed the formation of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, which had its first operating year in 1983—40 years ago.

In four decades, IMPA has been through a vast number of changes, but has always remained true to its strong founding mission of providing a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally-responsible power supply to its members. Through the years, the Agency’s membership has grown from 11 Hoosier communities to 61 towns, cities, and villages in Indiana and Ohio. The Agency has also grown to offer services beyond power supply, including economic development assistance, marketing and communications support, and government relations work. IMPA also formed its operations and engineering subsidiary—IMPA Service Corp—in 2001 to provide a cost-effective resource for members regarding engineering work, rate studies, and electric system management. These services continue to strengthen IMPA’s membership for the betterment of public power utility customers across the Midwest.

IMPA initially began in 1983 with 24.95% ownership in a coal-fired baseload generating facility called Gibson 5 in southwestern Indiana. As the Agency’s membership grew throughout the decades, IMPA would come to acquire additional power supply resources to support its



Some of the founders of IMPA

members and incorporate diverse fuel types into its portfolio. By 2023, IMPA has added seven combustion turbines operated primarily on natural gas, four with fuel oil backup for reliability, to its resources, as well as joint-ownership in other coal-fired power plants in Kentucky and Illinois. The Agency has also incorporated power purchase agreements of nuclear, wind, and solar power into its power supply portfolio.

Since 2014, IMPA has also developed its own solar power program—constructing 44 solar parks in member communities throughout Indiana. This solar park initiative has played an integral role in building the renewable portion of IMPA’s portfolio and diversifying resources to the benefit of all members. Moving forward, IMPA is working toward a projected energy portfolio made up of 46% no-carbon resources by 2026. As environmental regulations continually change, and as older generation units near their end-of-life expectancy, the shift is a necessity for the Agency’s future success.

Forty years ago, the founders of IMPA provided the building blocks for a resilient foundation, and this foundation remains strong. IMPA as an Agency today has truly been formed by its history — the visionaries



that created the Agency, the decisions that shaped the Agency’s operations, and the evolution of IMPA’s service and power supply over time. As the Agency embarks on its next 40 years of existence, IMPA will continue to write its own story and history as the Agency adapts for future generations. •

IMPA Adds 75 MW of Wind Power

This June, Alta Farms wind farm in DeWitt County, Illinois, announced it began operations to produce renewable wind power. IMPA previously signed a power purchase agreement with the wind farm’s developer, Enel North America, for 75 megawatts of power, which has

now been added to the Agency’s power supply portfolio.

IMPA continues to build upon its historic foundation with wise investments in the Agency’s power supply portfolio, ensuring that its members will always have their everchanging electric needs met.

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, who collectively make up the Agency's membership.

What are some of the benefits of solar energy?



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!

Reader Survey

Is there more about your community that you would like to know? Do you have questions about how public power or your municipally-owned utility works? Would you like to learn more tips and tricks as to how you can improve your home's energy efficiency?

Reach out to newsletter@impa.com to suggest topics for future *Municipal Power News* newsletters and let us know what articles you enjoy most, and what you'd like to see next!

What's the Word?

Exploring Electric Terminology

Circuit Breaker

A circuit breaker is a safety device typically used in homes to interrupt the flow of electricity whenever the current level gets too high. These devices are vital in preventing house fires or other electrical hazards caused by wiring problems or equipment failures.



Employee Spotlight: Jay Schwarz

Jay has been an employee of Lawrenceburg Municipal Utilities since 2007. He completed his certification to become a Journeyman Lineman in 2011. Jay enjoys working and giving back to the community. Jay enjoys traveling and spending time with his family as well as working on home remodeling and projects.

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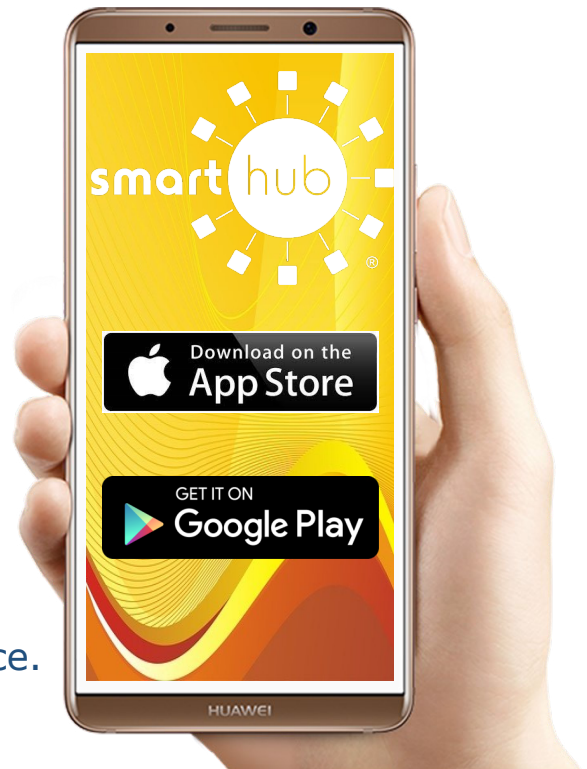
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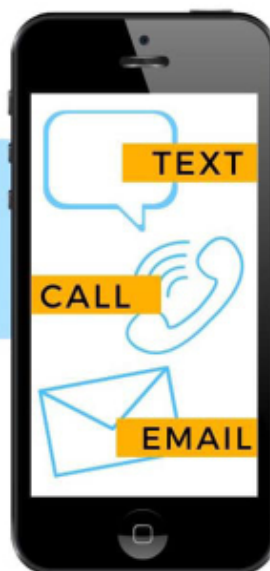
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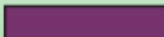

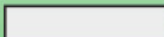
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MPN Recipes
11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032
or
newsletter@impa.com

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

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Cooking Corner

Darlington High School Pizza Burgers

Recipe submitted by Martha of New Ross, Indiana

- 1 lb hamburger
- 1/2 lb bologna
- 1 1/2 cups pizza sauce
- Italian seasoning to taste
- Salt and Pepper
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 4-8 oz pizza cheese
- 1 dozen hamburger buns

Mix hamburger and bologna. Chop bologna in food processor. Brown until hamburger is no longer pink. Add salt, pepper, garlic, and italian seasoning. Stir in pizza sauce. Should not be too wet. Let cool slightly. Add cheese and spoon onto half of a bun. Bake 350 until hot. May add more cheese on top. Makes 2 dozen.

Apple Dumplings

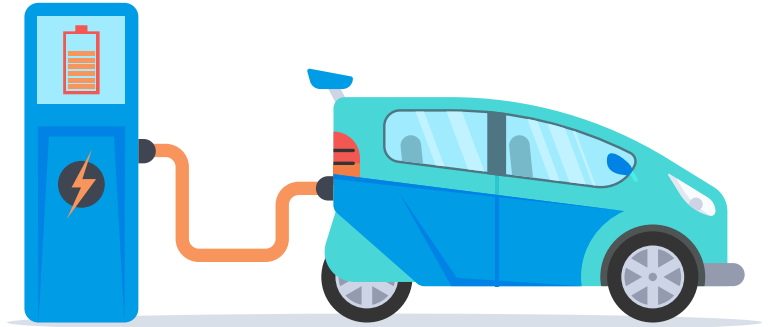
Recipe submitted by Jamie of Linton, Indiana

- 2 cans crescent rolls
- 2 large Granny Smith apples
- 1 1/2 sticks butter
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 cup Mountain Dew

Cut apples into 8 slices each and wrap each slice into a crescent roll. Mix butter, sugar and cinnamon; bring to a boil then spoon over rolls. Pour on Mountain Dew next. Some people will add the Mountain Dew in with the butter, sugar and cinnamon. Bring to a boil. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

The Benefits of Electric Vehicles

In the last issue of the Municipal Power News, we asked readers to share some of the advantages of driving an electric car rather than a traditional gas powered vehicle. We received a number of great comments from our readers—check out what some of you said!



“One significant benefit of driving an electric vehicle (EV) over a gas-powered car is the cost savings associated with fuel and maintenance. Electric vehicles are more energy-efficient, allowing drivers to cover more miles per unit of energy compared to internal combustion engine vehicles. With electricity generally being cheaper than gasoline, EV owners can save significantly on fuel costs over time. Furthermore, electric vehicles have fewer moving parts and require less frequent maintenance. They don’t need oil changes, spark plug replacements, or timing belt adjustments, reducing ongoing maintenance expenses. This combination of lower fuel costs and reduced maintenance requirements makes electric vehicles a cost-effective choice for environmentally conscious drivers.” – Mario, Richmond

Spot on answer! The energy efficiency of EVs, as well as their low maintenance needs, make these vehicles remarkably safe and dependable. Like Mario, many of our other readers mentioned the environmental benefits of EVs:

“A benefit of driving an electric car is zero tailpipe emissions.” – Sue, Bremen

“Electric vehicles are better for the environment by having a lesser carbon footprint.” – Todd, Winamac

“Lower carbon footprint.” – Charlie, Bainbridge

This is also a great observation—No power source is completely benign environmentally. While the mining and production of the battery components causes emissions, EVs may have an edge when considering lifetime emissions of EVs versus conventional gas powered cars. As renewable energy generation becomes more popular, the electricity that fuels EVs is also becoming cleaner. This reduction in emissions improves the air quality of your community and supports renewable resource integration.

The popularity of electric vehicles steadily rises as consumers learn about the numerous benefits that they provide as compared to gas powered cars. While EVs may not be for everyone, their use is expected to grow in the coming decade. As a member of a public power utility, EVs also benefit your entire community as their fuel supply comes from your local utility. The energy purchased to charge an electric vehicle helps to support infrastructure upgrades, hometown jobs, and steady electric rates that are provided by public power utilities. Next time you’re in the market for a new vehicle, consider going electric!

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

IMPA Commissioner: Billy Kinnett



Winter Wonderland

Mayor's Reception & Christmas Tree Lighting

Sunday, November 26
5:30-7:30PM

You and your family are invited to join us for the Mayor's Reception and Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony hosted by Mayor Kelly Mollaun and the City of Lawrenceburg as we officially kick off the holiday season!

* LAWRENCEBURG EVENT CENTER

Cincinnati Brass Band 5:30P
Hord D'oeuvres & Drinks Station
LMS Ornaments Available
Preview Central Elementary School
Christmas Essays
Transition to Civic Park 6:45P

* LAWRENCEBURG CIVIC PARK

Mayor's Welcome 7:00P
Lighting of the Christmas Tree
& Holiday Lights
Christmas Essay Winners Announced
Hot Chocolate and Sugar Cookies
Tiger Pizazz Christmas Caroling 7:15P

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