

AROUND TOWN

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 1

New Year's Day

Here's to a fantastic year ahead! Our office will be closed in observance.

JANUARY 7

Applications Due - Page Day

High school students can spend a day at the Indiana Statehouse.

Apply and Learn More:

IECPageDay.org

JANUARY 27

Legislative Breakfast

Hendricks Co. 4-H Fairgrounds
7:00am

Join us for our 2025 Legislative Breakfasts. A complimentary breakfast will be served at 7:00 am, followed by an opportunity to speak with your representatives at the Indiana Statehouse. Please check our Facebook and website for any possible updates.

The remaining 2025 dates are Feb. 17, Mar. 17, and Apr. 28. RSVP the Thursday before to janna.bolen@infarmbureau.com.

MARCH 3

Youth Program Deadlines

Applications for Youth Tour and Camp Kilowatt are due for consideration.

Learn More:

hendrickspower.com

MARCH 7

HPC Scholarship Deadline

Applications for Commitment to Community Scholarships are due by 4:30 pm.

Learn More:

hendrickspower.com/scholarships

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFASTS



Legislative Breakfast dates announced for 2025 session

Each year, Hendricks Power helps sponsor a series of Legislative Breakfasts for residents of Hendricks County. These breakfasts serve as an opportunity for those in our community to learn more about what's happening during session at the Indiana Statehouse.

Breakfasts will take place at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds Conference Complex in the North/South Hall and last from 7-8am. Upcoming dates for the breakfasts are Monday, January 27, February 17, March 17, and April 28, 2025.

These free breakfasts are the largest publicly attended legislative events in the state during session and will feature time for Q&A, where attendees will be able to ask their own questions. Don't miss this chance to learn more about our state legislature! Breakfasts will feature Representatives Becky Cash, Craig Haggard, Greg Steuerwald, and Jeff Thompson, along with Senators Brian Buchanan, Brett Clark, and Mike Young.

DON'T FORGET TO RSVP We hope to see you! RSVP to Janna Bolen of Indiana Farm Bureau by the Thursday prior to each breakfast at (317) 745-4463 or janna.bolen@infarmbureau.com.

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JANUARY 2025

What's Inside:

2025 Legislative Breakfasts

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Holiday Break Bags

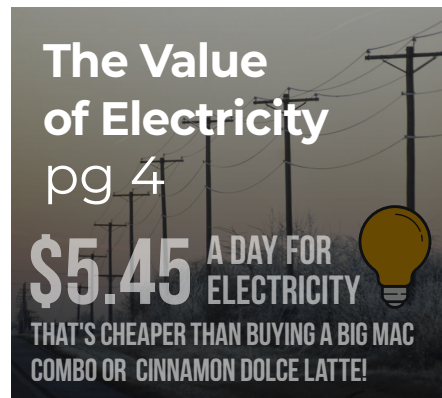
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The Value of Electricity

pg 4

\$5.45 A DAY FOR ELECTRICITY
THAT'S CHEAPER THAN BUYING A BIG MAC COMBO OR CINNAMON DOLCE LATTE!



HENDRICKS POWER
Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



MEET HAL TRUAX
Hendricks Power Board Vice President and Area 4 Director

Where do you live?

I live with my wife Susan in Middle Township, halfway between Pittsboro and Lizton.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

I enjoy woodworking, caning chairs, and repairing antique furniture. I also enjoy working with youth and watching them grow to be responsible adults. I've worked with youth in church groups, as a Boy Scout leader for 12 years, and as a 4-H club leader for more than 30 years. Finally, and most importantly, I enjoy spending time with my wife, our three children, and their families.

Tell us briefly about your background and what led you to join the board.

I am a farmer who has always lived in Hendricks County. I farmed with my father and grandfather and now with my son Ethan. My son and I continue the legacy of soil conservation that my father and grandfather had left. We farm all our ground using the principles of soil conservation. The leadership skills I gained through my training and experiences with various organizations have inspired

me and continue to guide my decisions as I serve on the board. Organizations I have experience through: Scouts as an Eagle Scout and Leader, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), Indiana Agriculture Leadership Program, member of the Steering Committee to develop Leadership Hendricks County, church leadership positions, Hendricks County Farm Bureau, and 4-H as a member of the Youth Council and club leader for over 30 years.

Over the years, I have witnessed the advancements Hendricks Power has brought to our rural community. I wanted to bring my leadership skills, knowledge, and understanding of the energy industry and finances, plus my desire to serve the community to continue Hendricks Power's future of serving its members.

Which Cooperative Principle most strongly resonates with you?

I value all seven Cooperative Principles: voluntary and open membership, democratic member control, member economic participation, autonomy and independence, education, training and

"The leadership skills I gained through my training and experiences with various organizations have inspired me and continue to guide my decisions as I serve on the board."

information, cooperation among cooperatives, and concern for the community. Together, these principles create a balanced cooperative, making Hendricks Power a strong organization for our members.

What do you hope to contribute to the board?

Working together with the board to make responsible and informed decisions for our members. These decisions include increasing reliability, faster responses to outages, and enhancing accessibility in underserved areas.

ENDURING AFFORDABILITY

The average American household is steadily spending less on electricity as a percentage of its income, even as we become increasingly reliant on digital conveniences in our day-to-day lives.

In today's fast-paced world, many aspects of daily life become routine. For instance, a typical day might include getting ready for work, stopping by a coffee shop on the way to the office, grabbing a quick lunch at a nearby fast-food spot, and unwinding at home with a favorite streaming show before bed.

As we navigate rising inflation, it's natural to evaluate these routines and consider the value they provide compared to the money spent. A morning latte might cost around \$6, a fast-food lunch combo about \$10, and a streaming subscription roughly \$16 a month. These seemingly small expenses can quickly add up—\$85 a week or about \$340 monthly. But what do they really deliver? Often, the return is short-term satisfaction with little lasting value. Even simple changes like packing lunch can only do so much when other daily habits still carry significant costs.

Now consider this: the average daily cost of electricity is about \$5.45, and the average monthly electric bill for Hendricks Power residential members is around \$164. For the price of a single latte, electricity powers an entire home for a day. Brewing coffee at home, preparing meals, streaming shows, and even working out on a treadmill all cost less than that morning drink. That's real value.

Electricity provides countless benefits we often take for granted. Beyond short-term convenience, it powers critical aspects of modern life, from charging devices and preserving food to heating water and maintaining comfortable living conditions. Despite inflation and other economic pressures, electricity has remained relatively cost-stable, delivering enduring value to households and businesses.

As a member-owned cooperative, Hendricks Power is committed to ensuring electricity stays reliable and affordable for everyone we serve. While keeping costs down is a priority, it's also important to acknowledge the factors that can influence electricity pricing. These include supply and demand dynamics, infrastructure investments, operational and maintenance expenses, weather conditions, and government policies such as renewable energy incentives or emissions regulations.

Despite these challenges, Hendricks Power works tirelessly to balance these factors with the needs of our members. Because we're a cooperative, decisions are made with the community in mind, prioritizing reliability and affordability.

The average household served by Hendricks Power spends about

\$5.45 
A DAY FOR ELECTRICITY

THAT'S CHEAPER THAN BUYING

A BIG MAC COMBO MEAL 
\$9.29

A CINNAMON DOLCE LATTE 
\$6.49

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

HPC Distributes Holiday Break Bags for Local Youth

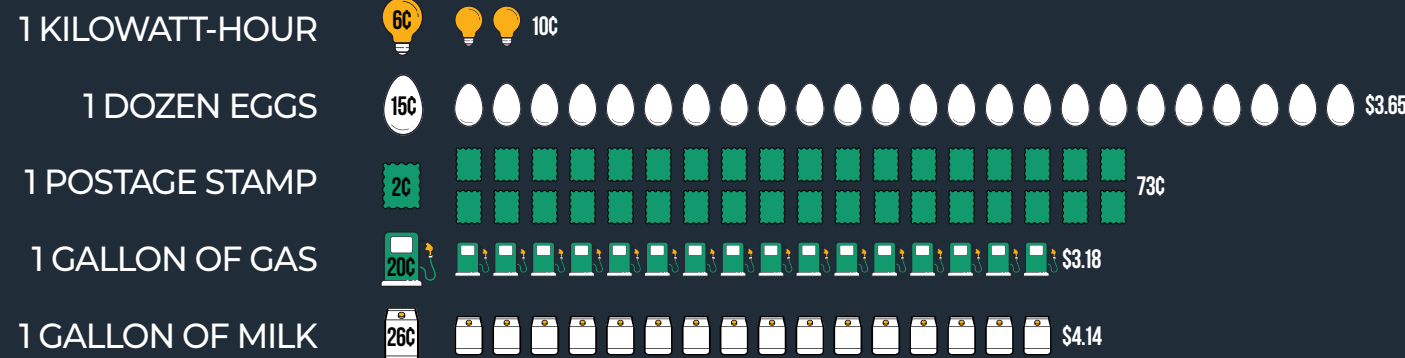


Hendricks Power Cooperative employees made a meaningful impact in mid-December by distributing holiday break bags to local blessings boxes, an initiative sparked by the organization's commitment to addressing food insecurity among students during school breaks. Recognizing an increased need for student meals during holiday periods, Hendricks Power collected non-perishable donations throughout November from its members. These donations included convenient, kid-friendly foods and snacks like peanut butter and jelly, macaroni and cheese, soups, fruit cups, oatmeal, cereal, and granola bars. Once sorted, the donations were packed into nearly one hundred bags. Hendricks Power employees wanted to ensure the bags were accessible to students and parents, so bags were distributed to boxes throughout its service territory. Bags were distributed to boxes in Avon, Plainfield, Brownsburg, Danville, Greencastle, and Stilesville. "We offer a donation drive nearly every year to our members as a way to benefit our local community, and we always receive an overwhelming response," said Heather Thompson, Director of Marketing and Member Engagement. "Our members are generous and always come together to support the community. It warms your heart to think of everyone who went out of their way to ensure kids have the necessities over their breaks." We are also excited to share that Hendricks Power established its own blessings box at its office, creating a year-round resource for those in need. This idea was initiated by co-op employee, Carmen Littleton. Littleton is participating in a two-year leadership program offered by Indiana Electric Cooperatives. Completing a community service project is a meaningful part of the program for participants.

"I'm glad my vision could come to life and benefit our members and local community," says Littleton. "I have the opportunity to work directly with our members daily and am glad we can offer them a resource to fight food insecurity."

Find a full list of blessings boxes that received bags at hendrickspower.com/holidaybags

COST COMPARISON 1930s TODAY



While the cost of most goods and services has increased twenty-fold or more over the past 85 years, electricity remains very affordable. Source: bls.gov/charts/consumer-price-index/consumer-price-index-average-price-data.htm