

PO Box 309 Danville. IN 46122

# **NEWS & VIEWS**

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS OF HENDRICKS POWER COOPERATIVE

**MARCH 2025 VOL 18 | ISSUE 3** 

**AROUND TOWN** 

# Calendar of Events

# 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 bv 4:30 pm.

### Learn More:

hendrickspower.com/scholarships

#### MARCH 17

# **Legislative Breakfasts**

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 breakfast is on April 28. RSVP by the Thursday before to janna.bolen@infarmbureau.com.

# APRIL 18

# **Good Friday Holiday**

Our office will be closed in observance.

# JUIY 17

**Annual Meeting & Member Appreciation** 

Hendricks Co. 4-H Fairgrounds 11:00am-7:00pm

Save the date & stay tuned for additional details!

# **WOMEN IN POWER** Women's History Month & Their Role in Power

#### Roles of Women in Power: Breaking Barriers and Lighting the Way

Women have made significant strides in leadership, technical roles, and policy-making within cooperatives. Their contributions are reshaping the landscape of energy distribution, bringing diversity, innovation, and a fresh perspective into the industry.

Women in cooperatives have helped drive progress in various ways, including: Leadership and Governance - More women are now serving on cooperative boards and in executive roles, where they influence policy decisions and strategic planning. Their leadership fosters inclusive decision-making that benefits both members and employees.

Technical and Engineering Contributions - Traditionally, electrical engineering and fieldwork were male-dominated. However, more women are pursuing careers as engineers, technicians, and lineworkers, proving their capabilities in these roles.

Community Engagement and Advocacy - Women have played a crucial role in promoting consumer education, renewable energy adoption, and sustainable power solutions. Their efforts help communities become more energy-conscious and self-sufficient.

Innovation and Sustainability – With the global shift toward renewable energy, women in cooperatives are at the forefront of developing and implementing sustainable energy solutions, such as solar and wind power projects that increase reliability.

# Women in Leadership at Hendricks Power



Director of Technology 26 years

Manager of Member

Diane

Services

24 years



Brandy Resources 5 years

**Emily** 

5 vears

Manager of Marketing

Communications



Manager of Human



**Debbie** Director of Business



Manager of Cooperative Processes & Data Analytics Records & Capital Credits 25 years



Heather Director of Human



Resources & Marketing 17 years



Susan Area 7 Board Director 9 years

**MARCH 2025** 

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**Stay Safe When Working** on Home DIY Projects





# **MEET CHRIS MANN**

**Hendricks Power Board Secretary** & Area 6 Director

#### Where do you live?

I live in Area 6, in the westernmost area of Hendricks Power, which covers the eastern half of Putnam County.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

# What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

I enjoy spending my free time visiting with my family. I also enjoy being involved with my church, community, and professional organizations.

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

I am a farmer and small business owner. Hendricks Power has been an outstanding electricity provider in terms of reliability and cost to my business and community. Because of their reputation, I ran for an open directorship a few years ago. It has been a great experience to be involved with an excellent organization.

# **Which Cooperative Principle** most strongly resonates with you?

The cooperative principle I most resonate with is democratic member control. Every individual who uses electricity from Hendricks Power is a member of the cooperative and has the opportunity to vote and have their voice heard regarding our cooperative.

# What do you hope to contribute to the board?

My biggest past contribution is being involved with our strategic plan. The plan is a guide for how to mitigate risks and improve the organization. Hendricks Power is uniquely situated in an area with tremendous growth potential in terms of population and industry. The board of directors is committed to ensuring the organization is prepared to meet these new demands.

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# **HPC Hosts Bingo at Hendricks County Senior Services**



On February 18, a group of seven HPC employees volunteered to participate in a few rounds of bingo and distributed giveaways.

"Our staff enjoys volunteering and partnering with Senior Services. Getting to know the adults and putting a smile on their faces is the highlight of our day!" said Emily Thomas, Hendricks Power Marketing Manager and volunteer.





# HPC Earns an ACSI® 2024 Customer Satisfaction Award

Thank you to our members! Hendricks Power ended O4 of 2024 with an American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) score of "90" on a 100-point scale. Hendricks Power Cooperative ranked in the top 5 ACSI scores! We appreciate your feedback and are committed to keeping satisfaction a top priority!

The 2024 ACSI award affirms that Hendricks Power's hard work has been noticed by

its members. Hendricks Power is grateful for its members and will continue to strive for excellence through constant dedication to improvement.

Award criteria are determined by the ACSI® and are based on customers rating their satisfaction in a survey independent of the syndicated ACSI Energy Utility Study. For more about the ACSI, visit www.theacsi.org/badges. ACSI and its logo are registered trademarks of the American Custome Satisfaction Index LLC.



# **HENDRICKS POWER MEMBER APPRECIATION**

MEMBER APPRECIATION

**BOGO TICKETS TO: CIRQUE MECHANICS:** PEDAL PUNK! AT **HENDRICKS LIVE!** 

March 29 | 7:30 PM March 30 | 2 PM **Hendricks Live!** 200 W Main Street, Plainfield

Hendricks Power appreciates our members and takes great pride in serving our community. That is why HPC is bringing you an electrifying BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE ticket offer to Cirque Mechanics: Pedal Punk at Hendricks Live!

# Enjoy a family-friendly show filled with:

- High-flying acrobatics
- · Incredible mechanical marvels
- · A bit of clowning around

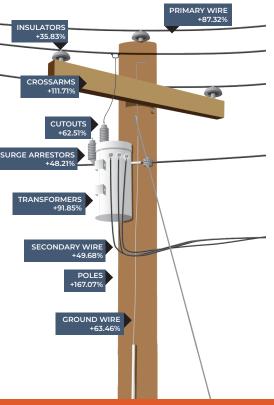
Cirque Mechanics, hailed as "the greatest contribution to the American circus since Cirque du Soleil" (Spectacle Magazine), delivers an unforgettable experience combining storytelling, innovation, and jaw-dropping stunts.

Promo code: HLBOGOHPC

Buy tickets: hendrickslive. org/events/cirquemechanics-pedal-punk/



# **HOW HPC IS LOOKING**



Our commitment to providing reliable and affordable electricity has never wavered at Hendricks Power. However, like many other industries, we feel the pressure of rising costs of essential materials to maintain and expand our power grid.

This graphic illustrates how much the prices of critical components, like poles. transformers, and wire, have increased in recent years. For example, the cost of utility poles has soared by 167%, while transformers are up by nearly 92%. These are the building blocks of our electrical infrastructure—the hidden pieces that keep the lights on for you and your family.

# Advocacy for Our Members

Even in the face of these unprecedented challenges, we want to assure you that your cooperative works tirelessly to minimize the impact on your energy bills. We are actively negotiating with suppliers, seeking out cost-effective solutions, and collaborating with other cooperatives to share resources and insights.

As a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative, every decision is guided by what's best for you. Unlike investor-owned utilities that focus on generating profits for shareholders, our mission is simple: to serve our members with the best service at the lowest possible cost.

# How We're Planning Ahead

We're also investing in long-term strategies to manage these rising costs, including:

- Proactive Maintenance: Upgrading existing infrastructure to reduce unexpected repairs and extend the life of current equipment. In 2024 alone, Hendricks Power replaced 84 transformers for \$420,000 and 750 poles at a cost of \$5 million.
- Smart Investments: Leveraging technology and data to efficiently use resources.
- Advocacy: Joining forces with cooperatives nationwide to advocate for solutions that benefit rural electric systems.

### Thank You for Your Trust

We recognize that these challenges may raise concerns, but we are doing everything possible to keep costs low while maintaining the reliable service you depend on. At the end of the day, this is your cooperative, and together, we will navigate these challenges to ensure a brighter future for everyone in our community.

**ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS** 



# STAY SAFE WHEN WORKING ON HOME DIY PROJECTS

Being aware of electrical safety can help you be better prepared for do-it-yourself

You have a good reason for wanting to take on a do-it-yourself home project. You may have acquired the skills to do the work on your own, want to save money or enjoy the challenge.

When working on these projects, keeping safety in mind is essential. You can quickly put yourself in a dangerous situation if you don't take proper safety precautions and understand what you're doing before you start.

"Many homeowners lack the real knowledge or experience to take on some projects around the house safely," said Steve Hite, Energy Services Supervisor for Hendricks Power Cooperative. "If it feels like a project is beyond your skill or comfort level, leave it to a professional."

When it comes to tackling any electrical project at home, here are some safety reminders to keep in mind:

- · Learn about your electrical system so it's easier to navigate and maintain it safely.
- · Avoid projects beyond your skill level—call a professional to prevent tragedies.
- Turn off the circuit breaker in the main panel before working on a circuit.
- · Unplug any lamp or appliance before you start working on it.
- Test the wires before you touch them to ensure the power is turned off.
- · Avoid touching plumbing or gas pipes when doing your electrical project.

