

IMEA

INDIANA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION



Power Connection

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(Logansport, IN.)

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POWER CONNECTION

Indiana Municipal Electric Association

Letter From IMEA Board President : Bob Dunderman

ISSUE 1 2020

IMEA Members and Associate Members,

I wasn't really prepared to write this letter at this time. As our profession goes, expect the unexpected and it can always get worse or maybe better as in this case.

Ron Fritz a long-time supporter of Public Power and the IMEA was slated to be our 2020 President but Ron was presented with an opportunity that he couldn't pass on. With Ron leaving us I was thrust into the job sooner than I expected.

As a previous board member, I know what makes our organization what it is today, our members and associate members. Without the support and dedication of those men and women the IMEA would be just another association.

The IMEA has so much to offer our members, from safety training to apprentice training and much more. The amount of knowledge in our organization is immense and with the members working toward one goal, making our profession one we can be proud of, it is an easy goal to obtain.

Year to year we have so many volunteers working tirelessly to provide assets, knowledge and training to our members. Those volunteers and their utilities should be proud of the job they're doing for us all. Thank you for all your time and efforts, each and every one of you.

With the work that our Executive Director, Duane Richardson, provides us with, it's no wonder that our Safety and Training program is one of the best in the nation. I for one wouldn't send our apprentices anywhere else. They come out of the training fully prepared to start working as a journeyman and providing a service for our communities.

Janel Sparks, our Member Services Coordinator has worked hard since taking the position to make sure our members are informed. Janel works closely with our Associate Members to provide us with the newest and greatest equipment that assures us that our customers will be provided the best possible service available.

During this year I will work tirelessly to assure that our organization continues to grow and provides the best possible service. I look forward to another great year with the best group of public power professionals in the business.

Robert Dunderman,
IMEA 2020 President



Bob Dunderman
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How Many Times Have We Heard? It's Not My Fault! I'm Not the One to BLAME!

How many times have you heard someone exclaim "it's not my fault!" or "it wasn't me!"?

Whether or not these statements are true is beside the obvious, what we want to consider is how we conduct ourselves and what image we are projecting to those of our fellow employees, family and friends.

A responsible, conscientious person would say "it's not my fault, but it's my problem."

These individuals identify themselves by their actions; they pick up that piece of garbage on the ground, they're quick to lend a co-worker a hand or show them a better, safer way. They step up and take the high road any chance they get. Why? Because to these people, they see an opportunity every time a situation presents itself. An opportunity to eliminate a trip hazard, an opportunity to lighten the load for a co-worker or to help them keep out of harms way.

They may not be a supervisor or a lead hand, but they lead by example, they answer to themselves.

When you hear "Ah....somebody's bound to get that", they are that somebody, for them there's always something to do, always an opportunity.

When you get enough of these people working together (there's never enough, always looking for new members) you get a company of people that do the right things, follow safe work habits and procedures, help and look out for each other and co-workers throughout the site.

They project an image of accountability and carry a reputation for getting things done and asking, "what else can we help you with."



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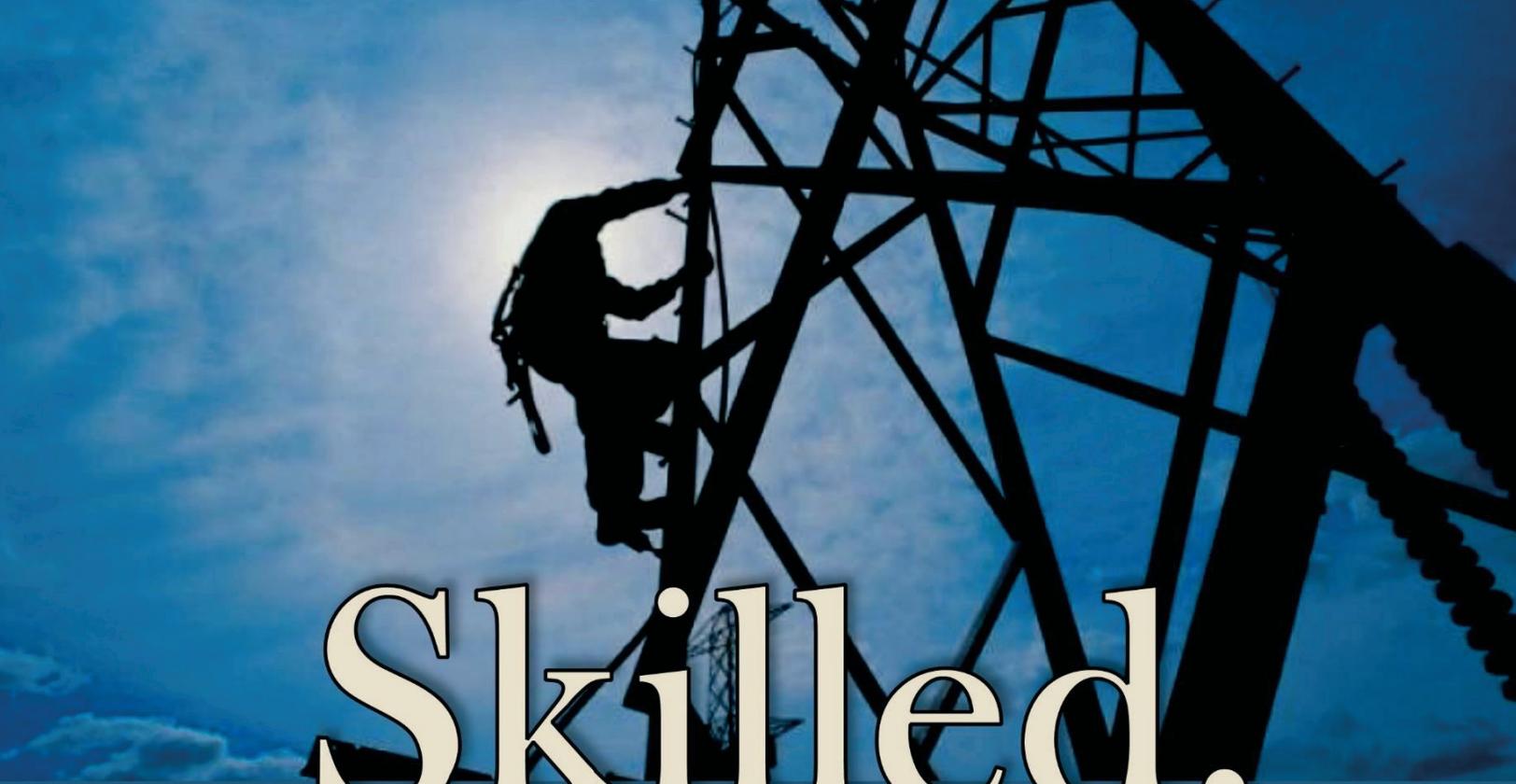
Call **317.273.9841** email us at info@alphaeng.us visit us on the web at alphaeng.us to get started today.

If this sounds familiar, keep up the good work! If this sounds like an opportunity, Welcome Aboard! We're always looking for committed Communities and Municipals that think and believe in good Health and Safety practices, plus providing a solid trust foundation built by loyalty to all involved in these good working habits. We at IMEA say THANK YOU, to all that abide by these good works.



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ABOUT THE IMEA

IMEA has operated as the statewide service association representing the issues and concerns of municipally owned and operated electric utilities while promoting the benefits and public power business model since 1941.





PROS AND CONS OF SMART ELECTRIC METERS

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that over 70 million American homes are already using a smart meter, and electric utilities are enthusiastically replacing the aging analog meters.

Advantages of Smart Meters for Consumers

- Far greater and more detailed feedback regarding energy use
- Ability to adjust habits in order to lower electricity bills
- Reduces the number of blackouts and system-wide electricity failures

Advantages of Smart Meters for Electric Companies

- Eliminates manual monthly meter readings
- Monitors the electric system in real time
- Encourages more efficient use of power resources
- Provides responsive data for balancing electric loads while reducing blackouts
- Enables dynamic pricing
- Helps to optimize the profit with existing resources

Disadvantages of Smart Meters for Electric Companies

- The additional cost to train personal, develop equipment, and implement new processes for data storage
- Managing public reaction and feedback concerning new meters
- Making a long-term financial commitment to new hardware/software
- Ensuring the security and privacy of metering data

The Disadvantages Are Short Term

With new technology comes new challenges that will arise regarding expensive, energy-intensive data storage and the privacy issues that loom large over these domestic and commercial technologies

The majority of the smart meter's disadvantages may seem short term, but such challenges will slow down the rate of adoption for these technologies in some cases, especially with the smaller municipalities.

Promises to protect and value the personal data of users are crucial but unfeasible if electric companies don't place cybersecurity and technical leadership squarely in the charter of their organizations.

Disadvantages of Smart Meters for Consumers

- Additional fees for the installation of the new meter
- Privacy concerns for the personal data collected
- More responsibility placed upon the consumer for maintenance

Estimated Number of AMI installations

Residential	Commercial	Industrial
76,498,388	9,932,993	411,287

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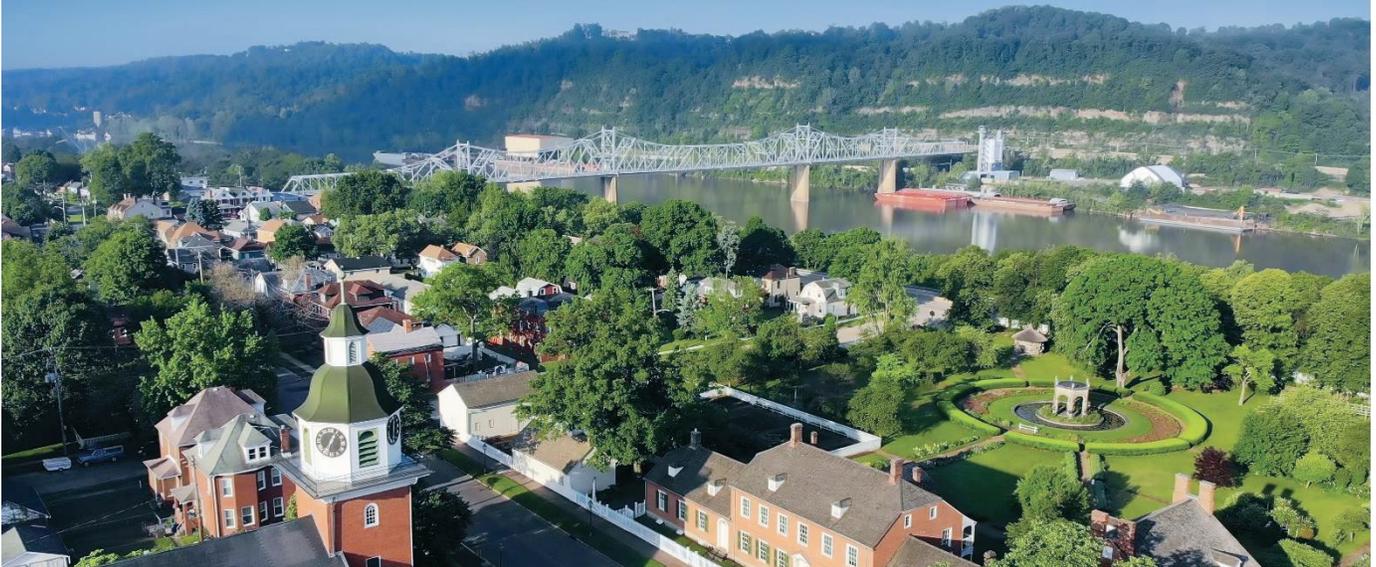
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Health and Safety Awareness Coronavirus (COVID-19) Manage Anxiety & Stress

Stress and Coping

The outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may be stressful for people. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Coping with stress will make you, the people you care about, and your community stronger.

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations. How you respond to the outbreak can depend on your background, the things that make you different from other people, and the community you live in.

People who may respond more strongly to the stress of a crisis include:

- Older people and people with chronic diseases who are at higher risk for COVID-19
- Children and teens
- People who are helping with the response to COVID-19, like doctors and other health care providers, or first responders
- People who have mental health conditions including problems with substance use

Stress during an infectious disease outbreak can include:

- Fear and worry about your own health and the health of your loved ones
- Changes in sleep or eating patterns
- Difficulty sleeping or concentrating
- Worsening of chronic health problems
- Increased use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

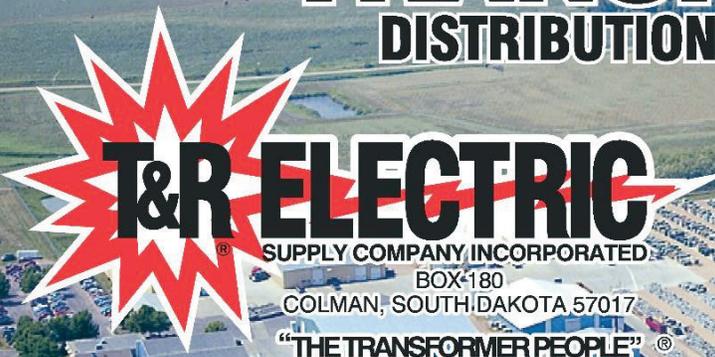
People with pre-existing mental health conditions should continue with their treatment and be aware of new or worsening symptoms.

Taking care of yourself, your friends, and your family can help you cope with stress. Helping others cope with their stress can also make your community stronger.

www.cdc.gov

Content source: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases

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Elements of Combustion



Three Basic Elements are required for combustion to occur:

- **“Fuel” (a combustible material)**
- **“Oxygen” in sufficient quantity to support combustion.**
- **Sufficient “heat” to bring the fuel to its ignition temperature and keep it there.**

• A Chain Reaction

Any program on fire prevention and safety is based on a clear understanding of how materials ignite. In order for a fire to occur, three elements are required; Oxygen, Heat, and Fuel. These elements are frequently shown as the “fire triangle.” All three **elements** must come together before a **fire** can occur.

Combustion is a chemical **process** in which a substance reacts rapidly with oxygen and gives off heat. The original substance is called the fuel, and the source of oxygen is called the oxidizer. The fuel can be a solid, liquid, or gas, although for airplane propulsion the fuel is usually a liquid.

The elements of combustion are very similar to the construction of a triangle: All sides must come together before a fire can occur. Therefore, the goal of a fire safety program is to keep these elements apart. Since oxygen is present in nearly all industrial work situations we must separate or control the heat and fuel sources to reduce the chances of fire.

Make sure to take a look around your work areas today and everyday where both heat and fuel sources may be found. And remember...housekeeping is important. Keep your work areas clean and organized.

Stages of a Fire

There are three generally recognized stages to a fire. The incipient stage, smoldering stage, and flame stage.

The incipient stage is a region where preheating, distillation and slow pyrolysis are in progress. Gas and sub-micron particles are generated and transported away from the source by diffusion, air movement, and weak convection movement, produced by the buoyancy of the products of pyrolysis.

The smoldering stage is a region of fully developed pyrolysis that begins with ignition and includes the initial stage of combustion. Invisible aerosol and visible smoke particles are generated and transported away from the source by moderate convection patterns and background air movement.

The flaming stage is a region of rapid reaction that covers the period of initial occurrence of flame to a fully developed fire. Heat transfer from the fire occurs predominantly from radiation and convection from the flame.

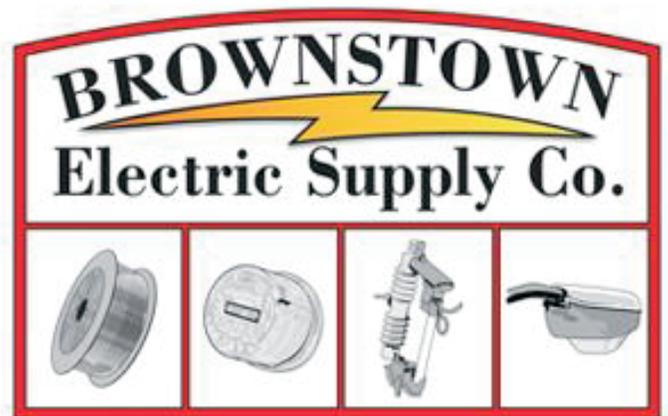
Class A fires – are fires involving organic solids

Class B fires – are fires involving flammable Liquids

Class C fires – are fires involving flammable Gasses

Class D fires – are fires involving Metals

Class F fires – are fires involving Cooking oils



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The Media World – What To Pay Attention To and What To Avoid

Ads, smartphones, apps, social media, the internet – we’re captive to an endless parade of distractions. Behind the instruments of distraction lies an entire industry devoted to capturing our attention and selling it to the highest bidder.

Pros / Cons of the Media World Who benefits? Who doesn’t?

There is a multitude of broadcast, TV stations, cable TV and satellite as well as daily newspapers, magazines, social media and internet media, all told that we have more ways to reach more people than we’ve ever had in the history of humankind. But is this a good thing?

Those involved in multimedia studies have been answering this question in different ways for many years. In short, the effect of mass media’s influence is complicated. Which is to say, mass media simultaneously benefits us and creates new problems. Here are a few of the pros and cons.

(Pros) It Can Keep Us Connected

Before mass media, you could live your entire life knowing nothing about the world outside of your Community. Now, we are all connected. This can be a very good thing. For instance, when the world has a pandemic virus outbreak, people all over the world hear about it within moments and can mobilize immediately to research the virus and what to do to take preventive measures to eliminate the chances of contracting the virus. Without mass media, we would have far less ability to understand how we’re all connected and we all need each other.

It Can Increase Awareness For Businesses

Where would business be without advertising and marketing? Thanks to the business communication made possible by mass media, businesses can reach potential customers faster and easier than ever before. This helps keep our economy going.

It Can Give A Voice to the Voiceless

From reporters bringing us stories of people in difficult situations to social media allowing one person’s thoughts to go viral and spread across the world, mass media can lift-up an individual voice that would otherwise have gone unheard.



(Cons) It Can Be Used For Misinformation

How do you know what you’re seeing or hearing from mass media information are far more trustworthy than others, mass media as a whole is vulnerable to propaganda and insubstantial information.

(Cons) It Can Overtake Personal Connections

We’ve all seen it or been a part of it; a group out to dinner where everyone spends much of the evening staring at their phones or gazing at a TV in the corner. As much as mass media can connect us with people all over the world, it can disconnect us from the people right in front of us.

Tips on How to Use Your Time Wisely Between Media Exposure and Family (Real Time):

- Aim for Balance – There’s a time for technical, physical and connecting balance as an individual and family.
- Set Time Limits to Prevent from Over-Exposure – Take time for a real conversation with a friend, co-worker, or family member and find a hobby to enjoy outside of social networking.

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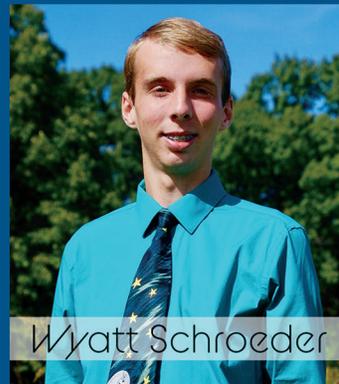
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