

# ENERGYLINES

News from Hoosier Energy for members and employees. | NOVEMBER 2016 | Vol. 39, No. 11

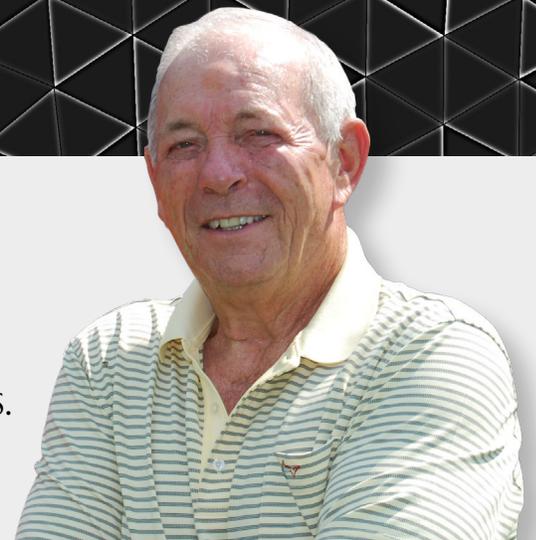
## BLACKOUT FIRST RESPONDERS

Control operators face a power shutdown scenario to solve  
from the Midcontinent Independent System Operator | **PAGE 5**

### A CONVERSATION WITH DAN SCHUCKMAN

Hoosier Energy Board  
Director for four years.

**SEE STORY, PAGE 8**



## EnergyLines publishing update

The next issue of EnergyLines will be a combined December/January issue. This issue will publish in January 2017.

## GETTING TO KNOW THE G&T

Hoosier Energy hosted several tours of its facilities for member directors, CEOs and other co-op employees this fall.

The Hoosier Energy Board of Directors held its October meeting at the Merom Generating Station in Sullivan, Indiana, providing the Board with the opportunity for a detailed tour through Hoosier Energy's largest generating facility, a 900+ megawatt coal plant. An optional bus trip to visit the Holland Energy Plant near Effingham in central Illinois also was included among the board's activities. Holland is a gas-fired combined cycle generating facility.

Also this fall, Hoosier Energy continued its tradition of offering tours for new member cooperative directors as well as employees. The day-long bus trip included stops at Hoosier Energy's Operations Center in Owen County, the Worthington Generating Station, a quick-start, natural gas-fired peaking plant, and the Merom Generating Station. [E](#)



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**COAL FACTS:** Ryan Henderson, Production Manager for Hoosier Energy, points out details about how the plant converts coal into electricity. From left: Keith Mathews Southeastern Indiana REMC CEO, Chris Goffinet, attorney for Hoosier Energy; Steve Smith, President and CEO, Hoosier Energy; Rob Horton Vice President of Power Production, Hoosier Energy; Herb Haggard, Johnson County REMC Director, Janet Anthony, Bartholomew County REMC Director and Mike Rampley, Sr. Vice President, Marketing and Business Development, Hoosier Energy.

Meeting with members

## SCI REMC Annual Meeting



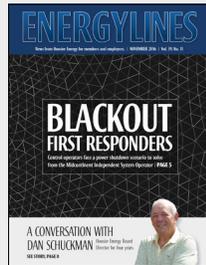
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**MEMBER-FOCUSED:** SCI REMC President and CEO Greg McKelfresh talks with members during their annual meeting on Oct. 8 at Mooresville High School. The meeting had a strong turnout.

EnergyLines is published monthly by Hoosier Energy's Communication Department for members, employees and retirees of Hoosier Energy.

## ON THE COVER

A scenario was posed to system control operators that the electric grid was experiencing high load levels and a blackout might occur. This situation was posed to electric utilities as part of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's (MISO) annual Power System Restoration (PSR) drill with electric companies across the country.



## SEND COMMENTS TO

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## BACK ISSUES

To read back issues, log on to Hoosier Energy's website at [hepn.com/energylines.asp](http://hepn.com/energylines.asp)

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# G&T ranks among top 100 largest cooperatives

## Hoosier Energy ranks 88<sup>th</sup>, advancing seven positions

Hoosier Energy once again ranks among the 100 largest cooperatives in the nation in an annual report issued by the National Cooperative Bank (NCB).

Twenty electric cooperatives made the 2016 edition, three more than last year. NCB said they had combined 2015 revenues of \$19.3 billion. That's about 9 percent of the \$223.8 billion in total revenue of all of the co-ops on the list. The energy and communications sector came in third overall, behind agriculture and groceries.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative once again led the list for the electric sector, coming in at 19 with 2015 revenues of more than \$2.1 billion.

Hoosier Energy ranked 88th, advancing seven positions from the previous year's ranking, with \$673 million in total operating revenue for 2015.

Revenue ranking reflects members' economic growth efforts. Hoosier Energy has earned a spot on the list at least every year for more than a decade, reflecting members' continued economic growth efforts.

Each year since 1991, the Washington, D.C.-based NCB has ranked the top revenue-earning cooperatives in the nation by annual sales from the previous year.

The NCB Co-op 100® is the only

annual report of its kind to track the profits and successes of cooperative businesses in the United States.

NCB's full report is available at <https://www.ncb.coop>

Source: NCB

## Electric Cooperatives among Top 100 Cooperatives

2016 ranking reflects 2015 annual revenues

19. Basin Electric Power Cooperative (ND)
36. Tri-State G&T Association (CO)
40. Central Electric Power Cooperative (SC)
44. Seminole Electric Cooperative (FL)
46. North Carolina EMC (NC)
56. National Rural Utilities Coop. Finance Corp.
59. Great River Energy (MN)
65. East Kentucky Power Cooperative (KY)
69. South Mississippi Electric Power Assn. (MS)
78. Wabash Valley Power Association (IN)
81. Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. (AR)
87. Cobb EMC (GA)
- 88. Hoosier Energy**
90. Buckeye Power (OH)
100. Pedernales Electric Cooperative (TX)



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**WINNING DESIGN:** Bob Richhart, Vice President of Management Services, accepts the award for most innovative workplace design for Hoosier Energy's new Headquarters from Matt Waggoner of Spaces Indiana.

## Headquarters design award

# Hoosier Energy wins design top honor

Headquarters facility earns innovative workplace design award from Spaces Indiana – a commercial real estate initiative

### INDIANAPOLIS

Hoosier Energy's headquarters has won top honors as one of the state's innovative workspace showcases. Spaces Indiana, a commercial real estate initiative that honors companies who create exemplary workplace environments, presented the

award at a ceremony in Indianapolis in September.

The new headquarters building on Cooperative Way in Bloomington won in the large organization (100+ employees) category. Judges commented on the unique design that emphasizes natural light while encouraging col-

laboration and the use of indoor and outdoor spaces. "The Hoosier Energy brand stands for commitment to working with members to ensure a reliable, affordable power supply. Interactive pieces in the space, as well as artifacts on a heritage wall all amplify this commitment."

"It's truly an honor to receive an award that recognizes our commitment to connecting employees and visitors to our corporate mission. Our facility was recognized as promoting efficiency, productivity and employee collaboration, and those are great things to be recognized for as best-in-class," said Bob Richhart, Vice President of Management Services.

The award has led to interest in the media with INside Indiana Business planning to feature Hoosier Energy's innovative workplace culture in a future segment of the "Culture Matters" series. [E](#)

## Demand Side Management (DSM)

# Program changes for 2017 DSM programs

Changes for the 2017 Demand Side Management program (DSM) were announced at the Fall Marketing and Members Service Conference in French Lick. Any rebates for 2016 will need to be submitted by Dec. 31, 2016; otherwise they will count toward 2017.

The following changes will take place for DSM Programs for 2017:

- Attic Insulation & HVAC Duct Sealing – This rebate incentive is going away.
- Appliance Recycling Program – This program has now expanded to 13 member systems.
- Air Conditioners – The rebate for air conditioners will be discontinued beginning in 2017.
- Commercial & Industrial – The rebate for outdoor LED lighting will be eliminated. Schools will have the option to apply using a custom application.
- Energy Star Manufactured Home – This \$2,100 incentive will continue to be offered to manufacturers for upgrades; however, the homes must have a heat pump.
- Geothermal Heat Pump – The incentive will remain the same; however, the tax credit will be going away.
- Heat Pumps, Dual Fuel Heat Pumps & Mini-Split Heat Pumps – The rebate for single-speed compressors will be eliminated.
- Linear Ambient Luminaries – The rebate will be reduced to \$50.
- Online Lighting Store – The rebate will have a sliding scale for 75 percent of cost up to \$5 for a standard lamp and \$10 for reflector or specialty lamps. The agricultural side of the online store will be expanded to include small commercial lighting. [E1](#)

### ONLINEEXTRA



>> For more information about the DSM Programs, visit [TeamUpToSave.com](http://TeamUpToSave.com).



## Meeting in summary

North American Transmission Forum Peer Review

■ Nov. 1-3 ■ Hoosier Energy Headquarters

Hoosier Energy welcomed a peer review of its practices as part of a North American Transmission Forum program that helps members improve their operations and share best practices with other electric utility providers.

Teams led by subject matter experts from Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc., Exelon, Southern Company, Southwest Power Pool, American Transmission Company, Western Area Power Administration, ITC Transmission, Platte River Power Authority, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company review selected practice areas with the goal of promoting excellence in reliability performance and security. Their final reports include noteworthy positives that are shared with other members and improvement recommendations for the host to implement.

### Peer Review Summary

The four teams looked at Hoosier Energy's practices and processes in physical security, system operations, system protection, training and vegetation management. Hoosier Energy was praised for several "noteworthy" practices including the new capacity emergency portal, truck location tracker tool, opportunities for training and job progression, system protection practices and vegetation management customer service.

"Hoosier Energy is doing things we've never seen before," said Wayne Van Osdol, NATF program leader for practices. "We need to take that back and share with the forum."

### Impacts and Opportunities

Areas for improvement centered on continuing to improve training and documentation processes across all operational disciplines. [E1](#)

# Training for a transmission shutdown

SCENARIO HAS PARTICIPANTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY RECOVER FROM A POWER SHUTDOWN

It's the situation that no control operator wants to begin their shift enduring: a Black Start – the procedure to recover from a total or partial shutdown of the transmission system. This entails isolated power stations being started individually and gradually being reconnected to each other in order to form an interconnected system again.

The scenario: It's 10 degrees outside in southern Indiana on a gloomy winter morning. As all states experience below-freezing temperatures, the load level is extremely high and the electric grid is under great stress.

This situation was posed to electric utilities as part of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's (MISO) annual Power System Restoration (PSR) drill with electric companies across the country.

Blackouts typically occur during high load levels, often during extreme weather conditions, sometimes with little warning. Preparation and planning takes place when systems are operating normal, which is why MISO performs this drill between the summer and winter peak months.

This drill helps Hoosier Energy system operators strengthen relationships with other electric utilities as the drill encourages control centers to work together.



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**KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON:** Monitoring a Black Start scenario, posed by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, is (from left to right) System Operations Engineer Todd Taft; System Control Supervisor James Stultz; Worthington and Lawrence Plant Manager Bob Vandeburg. Standing is System Control Specialist David Hamm.

The drill allows system operators to talk through the scenario with system control training facilitators prior to taking action in order to ensure the best plan of action.

"I think it speaks volumes of our system control supervisors that they see this drill as an opportunity to improve even the finer points of their positions," said Stan

Elmore, Hoosier Energy's System Control Coordinator for Operations and Training.

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) has a requirement for system operators to complete training such as this to retain their NERC certification. The two-day PSR drill is a significant aspect of this requirement. [E](#)

*"I think it speaks volumes of our system control supervisors that they see this drill as an opportunity to improve even the finer points of their positions."*

Stan Elmore, Hoosier Energy's System Control Coordinator for Operations and Training

# CELEBRATING SOLAR

Four arrays add to renewable energy options for member electric cooperatives

**U**nder brilliant October skies, directors and representatives from several member cooperatives dedicated four solar arrays as part of a 10-site program that is bringing the benefits of solar energy to cooperative members throughout central and southern Indiana and southeastern Illinois.

Seven of the one-megawatt solar arrays are now operational, with member cooperatives dedicating the latest four in October. The dedication ceremonies took place during national cooperative month, a fitting reminder of the cooperative commitment to the communities they serve. Cooperatives participating in the October dedications included Southern Indiana Power, Dubois REC, Clark County REMC, Jackson County REMC, South Central Indiana REMC and >>



*HE photo*

**ABOVE:** Workers review the interconnection at Henryville near Sellersburg, Indiana.

**BELOW:** Josh Cisney from Hoosier Energy's Renewables team provides the media with a tour of how the New Haven site in Dale, Indiana works.



Johnson County REMC. The three remaining arrays will be dedicated in 2017.

Each array is strategically positioned along a busy highway corridor to provide maximum exposure to the community. Thousands of solar panels from each array are now supplying energy to the grid. Upon completion of the 10-site program, the arrays will provide approximately 20,000,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy annually for Hoosier Energy's 18-member distribution cooperative systems that deliver electricity to end consumers.

"As a cooperative, our focus is always local," said David Vince, General Manager of Clark County REMC at the Clark County REMC and Jackson County REMC dedication on Oct. 7.

Chet Aubin, President and CEO of Johnson County REMC, noted that thousands of motorists throughout southern Indiana cannot help but notice the cooperative commitment to community. "Travel about 40 miles in any direction east, west or south of here and you'll see other solar arrays just like this one," he said at the dedication of the Trafalgar array. "They are a visual reminder to visitors of the innovative, proactive efforts electric cooperatives are taking to add renewables to our electric generation mix."

The solar program is part of Hoosier Energy's "all-of-the-above" power supply strategy to diversify its generation portfolio and provide the best balance for a reliable and affordable power supply.

"Southern Indiana and Illinois offer some good locations for solar arrays," says Heath Norrick, Manager of Renewable Energy for Hoosier Energy. "On a hot sunny day in July, solar can contribute to meeting the energy needs of co-op members." [EL](#)

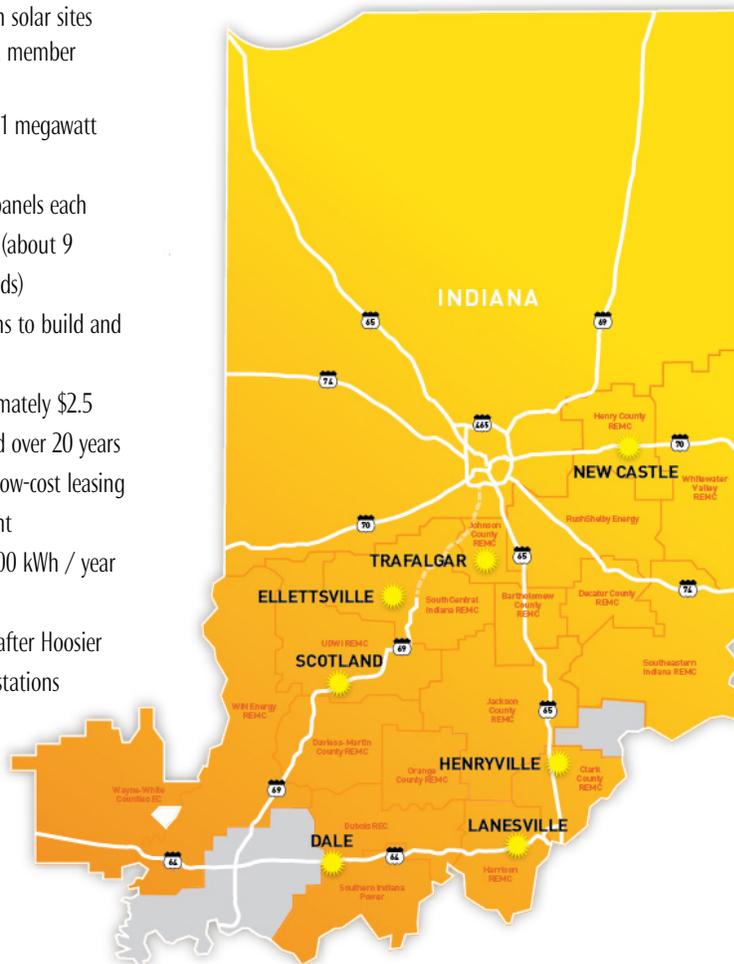
*"Southern Indiana and Illinois offer some good locations for solar arrays."*

**Heath Norrick, Manager of Renewable Energy**

## 10-megawatt solar program

Shown in the map are seven of ten solar sites throughout member territory.

- 10 sites, 1 megawatt each
- ~4,100 panels each
- 10 acres (about 9 football fields)
- 3 months to build and connect
- Approximately \$2.5 million paid over 20 years through a low-cost leasing arrangement
- 2,000,000 kWh / year / site
- Named after Hoosier Energy substations



## The solar program

- Seven operational (2015, 2016):
- New Castle, serving Henry County REMC, Whitewater Valley REMC and RushShelby Energy
  - Dedicated Sept. 16, 2015
- Scotland, serving Utilities District of Western Indiana and Daviess-Martin County REMC (2015)
  - Dedicated Sept. 29, 2015
- Lanesville, serving Harrison REMC
  - Dedicated Dec. 9, 2015

- New Haven, serving Southern Indiana Power REC and Dubois REC
  - Dedicated Oct. 5
- Henryville, serving Clark County REMC and Jackson County REMC
  - Dedicated Oct. 7
- Ellettsville, serving South Central Indiana REMC
  - Dedicated Oct. 17
- Trafalgar, serving Johnson County REMC
  - Dedicated Oct. 26

# Out of the Board Room

## DAN SCHUCKMAN

Dan Schuckman, a three-year starting guard for the Monroe City Blue Jeans, opens the door to the gymnasium. He is ready to play ball. Glancing across the floor he sees an enthusiastic crowd, hungry for another win.

A girl cheering for the rival team catches his eye, but he focuses on the game and time after time, he scores. That was reality in 1961. As he looks today at the original wooden bleachers and the brick walls that remain in the historic building, memories of those glory days come flooding back.

“It was a time when basketball was king,” Dan says. “I’ve spent a lot of years creating memories, now I like to relive them.”

A picture of his team, a signed basketball in the hallway trophy case and the cheerleader who later became his wife, are all reasons for Dan to smile on this warm September morning. He and Nancy – who just celebrated 50 years of marriage in August – are enthusiastic, articulate, well-known in the community and anxious to make their corner of the world a little more prominent. Because their family farm is in a remote location, seven miles from Vincennes and seven miles from Monroe City, the couple opt to start their day at the school.

Now a community center – the school continues to be the hub of activity in Monroe City, home to just over 500 people. >>



*HE photo*  
**POSITIVE MEMORIES:** Dan Schuckman stands in the gymnasium he played basketball for the Monroe City Blue Jeans. Schuckman, a star player, has his name on the ball used from the undefeated 1961 regular season.

Its claim to fame is Steve Alford, a former IU basketball star, who currently coaches the UCLA Bruins. It's also named for Gov. James "Blue Jeans" Williams, who in the 1870s wore a denim suit to the state house.

"We are just so thrilled they saved the school," says Nancy, noting that they were involved in its preservation and saving the original, old scoreboard.

While the school is his alma mater, Dan is a native of another small town not far away – a place called Verne. "I'm the ninth generation of my family – since 1732 – to settle in this area," he says. Nancy traced his lineage through the nearby old Cathedral Church where his French Canadian ancestry is recorded. Dan's family heritage is also enriched by a member who traveled with LaSalle when LaSalle discovered and claimed the mouth of the Mississippi for France in the mid-to-late 1600s.

"We beat Daniel Boone to the area," Dan says with pride.

Dan's parents settled on a farm just beyond the only general store in the Verne area – a store that still stands as a favorite restaurant. Dan and Nancy are familiar patrons. Stepping inside, a wave of friendly gestures sweeps across the room. Last year's Miss Knox County Kristen Downen steps up to take their lunch order and friend, Jack Thorn strolls by the table to say hello.

While waiting for lunch, Dan continues to share some of his life's history. After high school, he attended Vincennes University where he continued to play college basketball. He is also a graduate of the School of Agriculture from Purdue University. For 11 years, he then served as Company Commander of Engineering in the National



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**A PERFECT COUPLE:** Dan Schuckman stands next to his wife Nancy. The couple has been married for fifty years.

## About the series

This is the 15th in a series featuring Hoosier Energy Board of Directors in an "Out of the Board Room" series in EnergyLines. These personal stories are intended to build stronger relationships among us. A different Director from each of the 18 member systems will appear each month.

Guard during the Vietnam crisis. While he remained stateside, he was called out to help patrol the streets of Joliet after the assassination of Martin Luther King.

A common thread has run through the Schuckman family for centuries. Nearly everyone has been involved in farming in some way. Dan's father and uncle farmed together.

At the passing of his uncle, Dan and his brother, Dave, stepped into the business. While the family grew a few crops, it was livestock that really captured Dan's young heart at age 7.

"I was in the open class of 4-H and took my first beef heifer." Sixty-plus years later, he continues to deal in the cattle business, raising 1,200-1,500 feeders per year. He says he is the middle man of sorts, buying cattle at a weight of about 500 pounds then raising them to 750 pounds before selling them off to other farming operations.

While a cattle farmer at heart, he and Nancy have joined efforts to pursue other interests. For six years – until their sons, Matt and Brandt left for college – the couple operated Schuckman's Auctions. With a little encouragement, Dan breaks into a bid-calling chant. He is self-taught.

"For practice, I would drive down the road and every time I passed a utility pole I would up the price," he says – a seemingly

appropriate measure for a man with 30-years of service as director on the WIN Energy REMC board. He is serving his fourth year on the Hoosier Energy Board of Directors.

In addition to auctioneering, the couple has been avid antique collectors and dealers, which seems to segway into a more recent passion that also deals in history and their faith. A winding drive through the countryside lands the couple at the Indiana Presbyterian Church, where they are regularly attending members. A sign outside is a reminder of its posterity. The church was preparing for its 210th annual church picnic.

But the couple is most committed to the property surrounding the church – an old cemetery dating back to the early 1800s. In fact, it is the resting place of John Johnson, a signer of the 1816 state constitution and a Revolutionary War soldier. This summer, due to Johnson's role, the state included the cemetery in its bicentennial celebration.

For Dan and Nancy, however, a stroll through the old cemetery is like a visit with old friends and family. While the graves are old and many stones have required repair, the cemetery represents many of the descendants still living in the area.

"Certain areas we have a tender heart about. Just think of the life stories represented here," Dan says. While he has a grandmother, aunts and uncles buried in the cemetery, his reference is beyond his ancestral lines.

"We think of all these people as family. The neighbor, the man who ran the store, they're all buried here," he adds, noting that he and Nancy spend a lot of time caring for the property. "When I semi-retired, I looked at the cemetery upkeep and repair as some-



HE photo

**CEMETERY CARETAKER:** Dan Schuckman stands in the foreground of the cemetery where he spends a great deal of his semi-retired life. He and his wife, Nancy, are both caretakers and historians of the old cemetery by their church.

thing I wanted to do. It's our gift."

It's more than a small labor of love. In fact, instead of groundskeepers, they are more like historians. To date, the couple has repaired about 100 headstones, digging stones out of the woods that have been broken and reuniting them in the vicinity of their family plots.

"What spare time I have, I spend up here," Dan says. The couple also probes the ground for stones. "Once an old stone hits the ground, it only takes a few years for the ground to swallow it up," he says. The couple finds the stones by pushing a rod into the ground; then they restore them in their rightful places.

Dan and Nancy believe it's time well spent. "It's a worthwhile hobby. You are only here for a short time," Dan says. "This

(meaning the cemetery) is the last place that marks your existence on this earth."

The couple is community-minded, serving on about 15 boards between them. A sampling of Nancy's work includes philanthropic organizations: State of Indiana Archive Advisory Board, the William Henry Harrison Board, the United Way and Salvation Army. Dan, in addition to the electric utility industry, was appointed to the Indiana Board of Animal Health and he serves on the Advisory Board for the German American Bank in Bloomington, is a Little League Coach and Sunday school teacher, just to name a few.

"You have to be a people person to be involved in community service," Dan says. "When you get on a board, you have to work with people. That's where the success starts." 

# ENERGYLINES

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## Producing gypsum by the trainload

At approximately 8:15 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 27, the first trainload of gypsum pulled out of the Merom Generating Station, marking an increase in production of this environmentally friendly product. Merom began producing gypsum, a byproduct of the FGD process, earlier this year and trucking it to distributors. Demand has been so great, though, that the

product is now shipped out by rail.

The station ships about 900 tons of gypsum per month now and that is expected to double over the next year. Now what was once bound for the land-fill is being used as a soil amendment to prevent erosion and provide cropland with much-needed nutrients.