

MAY - JUNE 2015



NineStar CONNECTION

VOLUME 4
ISSUE 3

HELPING HAND

NineStar contributes to
teen's effort for local
tornado siren.

PAGE 10



4-H FAIR ACTIVITIES

NineStar representatives help
youth with electric projects.

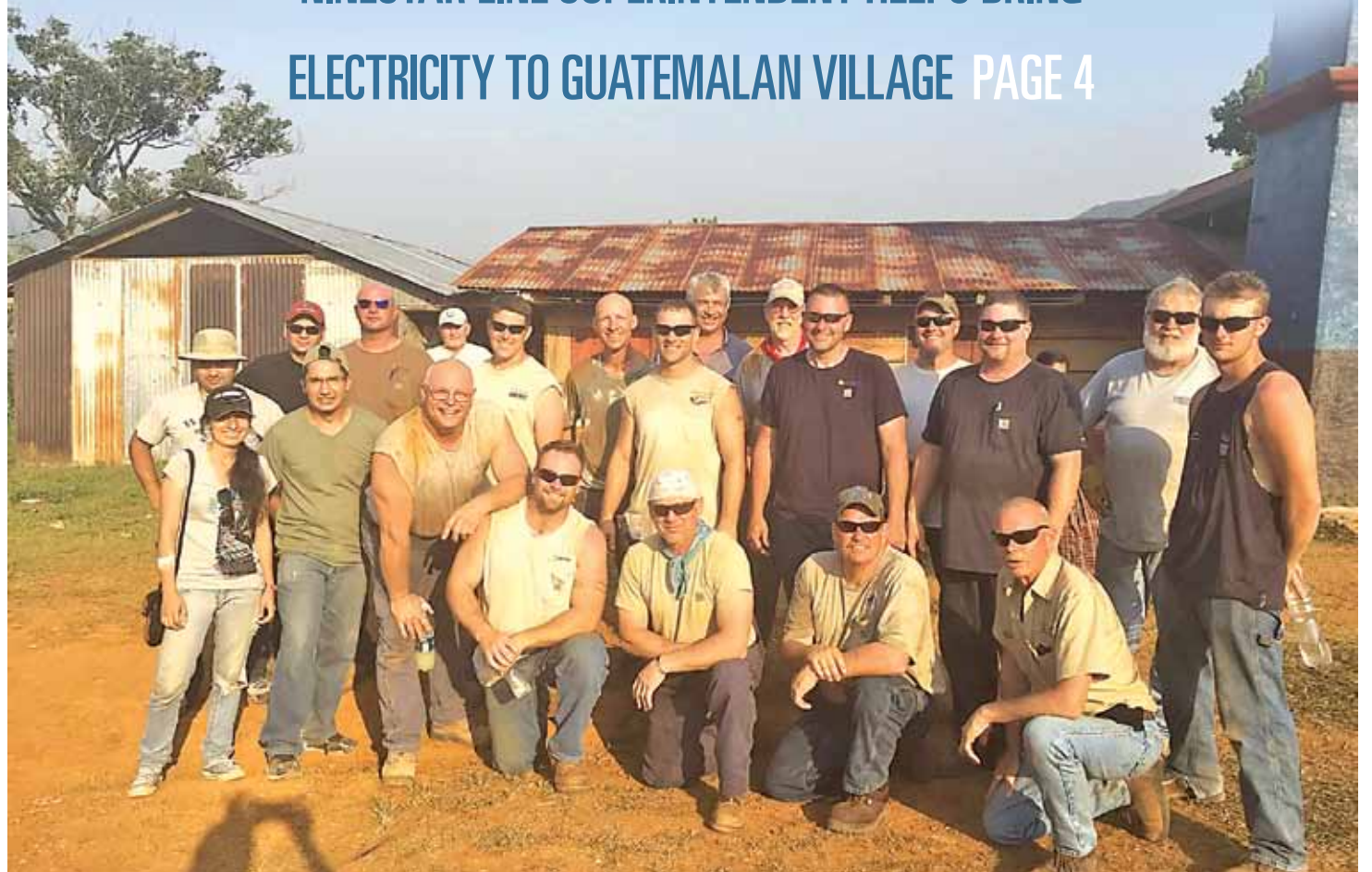
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PRESORTED
STANDARD
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GREENFIELD, IN
PERMIT NO. 220

LET THERE

BE LIGHT

NINESTAR LINE SUPERINTENDENT HELPS BRING
ELECTRICITY TO GUATEMALAN VILLAGE PAGE 4





OUR EMPLOYEES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. HERE'S A CUSTOMER REVIEW FOR ANDREW COX.

"I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH ANDREW ON GETTING MY CABLE INSTALLED. THE PROCESS OF GETTING MY HOUSE 'HOOKED UP' WITH EVERYTHING ELSE HAS BEEN TERRIBLE. I HAVE TO SAY THAT WORKING WITH NINESTAR HAS BEEN A JOY AND HAS BEEN REALLY EASY, THANKS TO ANDREW. I KNOW YOU DON'T ALWAYS GET COMPLIMENTS AS I WORK IN CUSTOMER SERVICE MYSELF AND WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT I PASSED THIS ON."

- TYLER H.

STORY IDEA?

Contact **David Spencer** at dspencer@ninestarconnect.com

HANCOCK COUNTY EXPOSITION COMPLEX

Construction of a new county fairgrounds and exposition center are once again being considered for the county farm property located on East US40 outside of Greenfield. This project will impact all of Hancock County and the surrounding areas. There are two upcoming public meetings scheduled to present the project plans at this point. If you would like to learn more about the project that is being considered and if you would like to find out how you can get involved then you want to plan to attend one of these meetings for more information.

Wednesday July 8, 2015 at 7 p.m.
Sugar Creek Fire Station
3545 S. 600 West
New Palestine, IN 46163

Thursday July 16, 2015 at 7 p.m.
Buck Creek Fire Station
5809 W. Airport Blvd.
Greenfield, IN 46140



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NINESTARCONNECT.COM**

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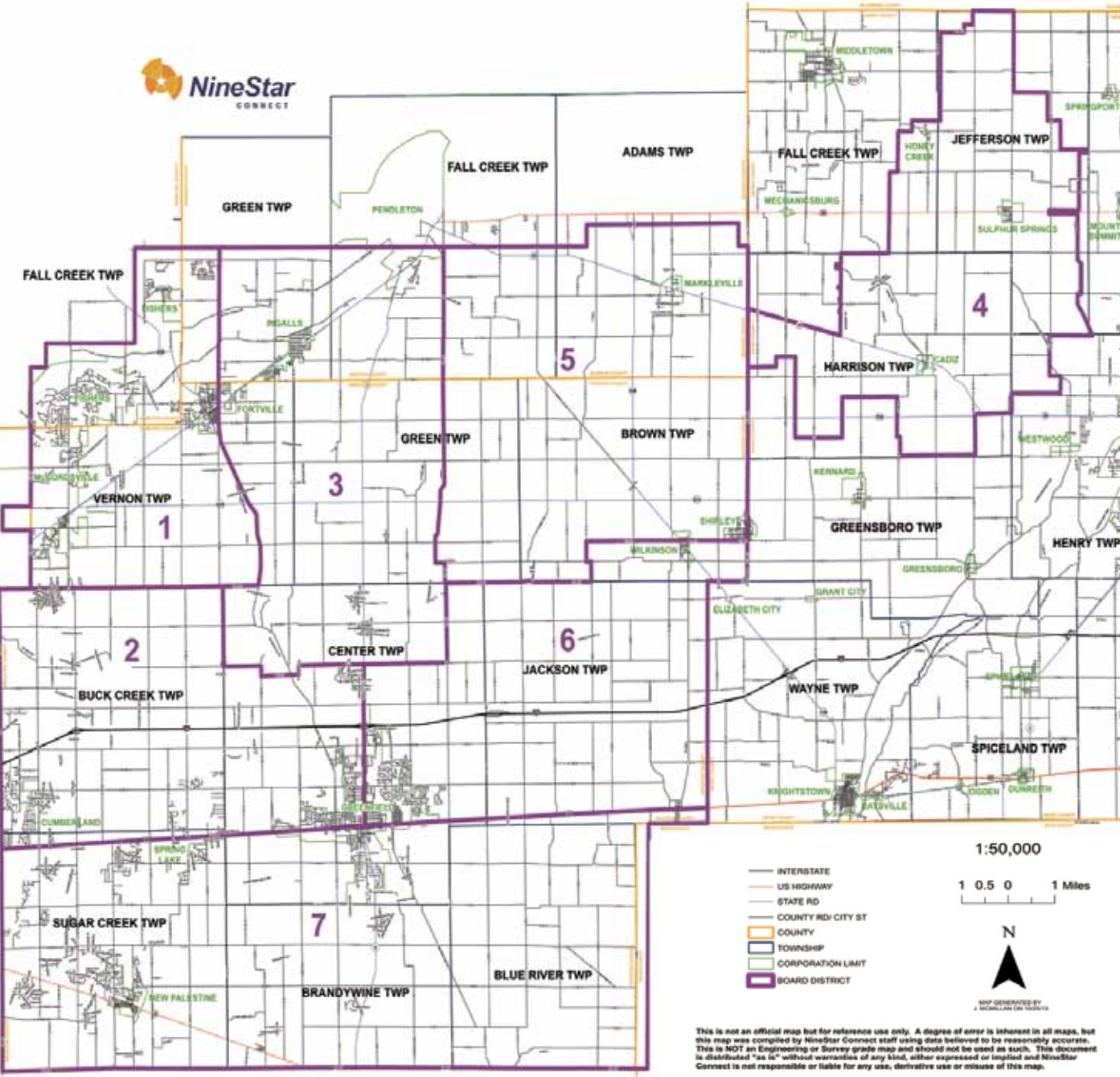
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LET THERE BE LIGHT

GROUP HELPS BRING ELECTRICITY TO GUATEMALAN VILLAGE

Jeff Conley knows what it means to give power to the people. On April 19, the veteran NineStar Line Superintendent and 13 other linemen from the state of Indiana traveled to Central America in order to bring electricity to a small remote village in the mountains of Guatemala. “It was the experience of a lifetime,” he said.

The trip was made possible through a partnership between the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s (NRECA) International Foundation and the Indiana State Association to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to developing countries and to build local institutional capacity – including the training of personnel - to own and manage them.

The terrain is rugged. The working conditions are primitive and the environment is treacherous. Still, it wasn’t enough to scare Conley who jumped at the chance to take part when he heard the NRECA was looking for volunteers.

WRITTEN BY
**JULIE
YOUNG**



“It was a lot different than I thought it would be,” he said. “I knew the terrain would be tough but it was so hot! We had eight days in a row where the temperatures topped 100 degrees. Still, it was worth it. The people were so happy and appreciative. They had no clue what they didn’t have. It was very humbling and it made me so appreciative of my life here at home.”

Of course electricity is not an entirely new concept to villagers in Guatemala, but it is a bit of an anomaly. While some installed solar panels onto the roofs of their one-room huts in order to give their living spaces limited power, others had nothing until Conley’s group tapped into the nearest wired village three miles away.

“We worked alongside the locals to get our mission accomplished and although there was a language barrier, we were able to get it done thanks to their help,” Conley said. “We built the main line and the secondary lines and ran power to the school. We put in lights and outlets for the kids and that was a really neat experience because they’ve never had that before. We also wired about six of the 197 homes in the village, but for the most part the homeowners will do that and then the local association will run services to them. The association will also maintain and service the system as well.”

Conley said working in the Guatemalan village was an eye

opener and his culture shock was not limited to the difficult living conditions the locals exist in. He said he was impressed by the industriousness of the people he met, many of which work in agriculture harvesting spices that are exported to Asia in order to make high-end perfume. He said several village women make handbags and often had their wares out to sell when he and the rest of the volunteers arrived at the jobsite each day.

“I really looked highly on these people. They work hard in order to survive and they take a lot of pride in everything they do,” he said. He admitted that like a lot of people, he had preconceived ideas about what it would be like to work in a place with no elec-

tricity and no running water but was very surprised to find folks who made do with what they have. “You see these huts and you hear how they have to get their water from a run off...well, you assume that they would be dirty but they’re not. They are well groomed, nicely dressed people and it really makes you appreciate the effort they have to go to in order to stay that way in such conditions. It’s amazing.”

Jaime Bell, Director of Operations for Ninestar Connect and Conley’s supervisor says he is glad that Ninestar was chosen as one of the co-ops to participate this year. He said it was a great opportunity for Conley to serve a village that has never had electricity and he knows Conley got a lot out of the trip.

“He was able to do something pretty special that not a lot of people get to do and we have been excited to hear stories about his time in Guatemala,” Bell says.

Conley agrees that he got more out of the trip than he ever put into it and he is grateful to Ninestar for the opportunity to make it happen.

“Without their support and blessing, this never would have been possible,” he said. “They were a big contributing factor. Not only did they fund my trip, but also they had to pick up my slack during the time I was gone. It was a great experience and one I wouldn’t trade for the world.”



4-H ELECTRIC PROJECTS

Activities for the 2015 Hancock County Fair are well under way with club meetings and workshops taking up many evenings and weekends as we get closer to fair time. This year's 4-H Electric Project organizational meeting took place in April followed by workshops in early May for Division I and Division II participants. NineStar Connect Energy Advisor Darin Couch serves as the Hancock County 4-H Electric Project superintendent. This year Darrin was joined by fellow NineStar employees Brad Henderson, Terry McDonnell, Jamie Bell, Donna Sturges, Debbie Roberts and Matt Layton who volunteered their time and talents to help this year's participants assemble their circuit boards during the Division I workshop and their Shake Flashlights during the Division II workshop. The workshops offer all of the participants access to the tools they need to assemble their projects and proper instruction on utilizing those tools. Thanks to the NineStar employees that continue to share their talents in support of the 4-H Electric Program; Hancock County's program has one of the highest participation rates in the state. NineStar Connect along with the Indiana Statewide Association of Electric Cooperatives help support the 4-H Electric Program by providing project resources and talented leaders to create and implement the



program criteria. Electric project judging will take place on June 16th from 9am-12pm (noon). Many of the electric project judges are electric cooperative employees that offer their time and expertise to judge projects. Through a network of cooperative employee volunteers the judge's trade time with neighboring counties to judge the electric projects prior to the opening of each county fair throughout the summer. Many of these same employees also provide judging for the state fair electric projects as well. A visit to this year's Hancock County 4-H Fair would not be complete without a stroll through the 4-H Exhibition Hall as it is amazing to view the many projects that are on display. Not only will you see the talents of the Electric Project participants but of all the 4-H projects created by the talented young people in the 4-H Youth Program. NineStar Connect would like to wish everyone good luck at this year's 4-H Fair!

2015 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

At this year's Annual Meeting, 15 names were announced for the 2015 Scholarship program for children of NineStar Connect's members. The students have to be a 2015 graduating high school senior and have a seven semester minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent at the time of the application. Each scholarship winner received \$1000.00. Here are the names of this year's winners:

- **MERANDA BOLING** – Eastern Hancock High School
She will be attending Indiana State University and majoring in Elementary Education with a minor in Special Education and Speech Pathology
- **SAMANTHA CASE** – Mt. Vernon High School
She will be attending Anderson University and majoring in Nursing
- **KYLIE CLORE** – Hamilton Southeastern High School
She will be attending the University of Missouri and majoring in Business
- **COLLIN DAHLQUIST** – Greenfield-Central High School
He will be attending Johnson University and majoring in Preaching and Youth Ministry
- **BRIANNA DOUGLAS** – Mt. Vernon High School
She will be attending DePauw University and double majoring in English and Art
- **SHAELYN DUFF** – Mt. Vernon High School
She will be attending Trine University and majoring in Chemical Engineering
- **BAILEY FLEMING** – Mt. Vernon High School
She will be attending Olivet Nazarene University and majoring in Biology
- **KATHERINE FLOYD** – Greenfield-Central High School
She will be attending IUPUI and majoring in Neuroscience
- **JACOB FOURNIER** – Cathedral High School
He will be attending Ball State University and majoring in Psychology
- **LEAH JACOBS** – Eastern Hancock High School
She will be attending Purdue University, Kansas State University or Oklahoma State University and majoring in Agriculture Education
- **ALISON KWAK** – Hamilton Southeastern High School
She will be attending Purdue University and majoring in Pharmacy
- **ALLISON LANGHANS** – Greenfield-Central High School
She will be attending Indiana University and majoring in Business
- **LUCAS LEINER** – Hamilton Southeastern High School
He will be attending Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and majoring in Mechanical Engineering
- **BRAYTON SIGLER** – Pendleton Heights High School
He will be attending Indiana University and majoring in Accounting and Finance/ Kelley School of Business
- **JULIANA WYATT** – A Beka Academy (Home Schooled)
She will be attending the University of Kentucky and majoring in Agricultural Business

NINESTAR EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATE IN HEART CHASE CHALLENGE

On Saturday, May 16, a small group of NineStar Connect employees participated in this year's Heart Chase Challenge for the American Heart Association. The Heart Chase Challenge is a unique idea to raise money for the organization. Instead of your average 5K run/walk, it is described as – "Amazing Race" meets "Minute to Win It." A group of 2-5 people team up to solve puzzles, gather clues and complete challenges. Families, friends and co-workers alike can benefit from this friendly competition. You are not only getting the exercise of walking/running from one checkpoint to another (which equals to approximately a 5K course) but you are having fun at the same time. And the best part of it is, you are raising money to support the American Heart and Stroke Associations. The American Heart

Association works hard to gather funding for this event as well as the teams who are participating ... so it is a double effort. With that being said, we are proud to mention that the NineStar teams collectively gathered \$730.00! With assistance from not only NineStar, the teams sold "hearts" for \$1.00 to co-workers and customers, sponsored a breakfast to co-workers along with other personal contributions to reach this amount. After all donations were accounted for, this year's Hancock County Heart Chase collected almost \$13,000.00 overall. This money goes to the association to help spread knowledge, advance research and help Americans live longer, stronger lives. Regina Bever, a member of the NineStar team and Director of NineStar's Customer Service Department, said "This was so much fun! I can't wait to do it again next year!"



NINESTAR NEWS

G-C DUO TAKE NASA HUMAN EXPLORATION ROVER CHALLENGE

Greenfield-Central High School students Austin Jones and Rachel Visnack participated in the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge at the Space Camp Campus in Huntsville, Alabama. NineStar was a proud sponsor of the program.



UPDATES

REALTOR PROGRAM

Looking for a new place to live? Don't forget to check out our ad each Saturday in the Daily Reporter to find which home is a NineStar Fiber Optics home. NineStar has partnered with Berkshire Hathaway, Century 21 and Remax to bring you the latest on what Fiber Optics homes are available in our service area. When purchasing a home, you've considered features, commute, quality of schools... why wouldn't you consider Fiber to the Home? We offer the fastest internet service in Central Indiana!



ATTENTION SECURITY CUSTOMERS

It's important to keep you and your family safe and secure. With NineStar Security, we hope that we can help you do that. However, to make sure you are getting the full benefit of your security equipment, it is important and we encourage you to test your systems monthly. Just a quick assessment of your security alarm system could make a big difference when a possible intruder tries to invade your home. So, why not make it a new routine? The first of every month, make it a priority to test your alarm. Be safe not sorry!

TECH

MAKING PAYMENTS ONLINE

Attention Electric customers! Did you know we have an online bill payment service to make your life a little easier? Try NineStar Connect's Smart Hub. The enhanced features of this site include easy bill payments, your billing history and outages in your area. You can also report outages, check and compare usage from the previous year to the current year and much more! Just by a couple of clicks of the mouse, you can see all the basics about your electric bill and usage that will help with energy efficiency and, in return, save you money. It's easy to get started. First time users just need to log onto www.ninestarconnect.com and click on "My Account" located at the top of the homepage. Then under "Electric," click on "View & Pay Your Bill Online." The following page is a simple tutorial page that will give you instructions on how to set up your username and password. Once those are set up, you have the luxury of logging on and viewing your account at any time. For more help call one of our friendly Customer Service Representatives to assist you at (317) 326-3131.

SPOTLIGHT

CAREER GAL
DEBBIE ROBERTS CELEBRATES
45 YEARS WITH NINESTAR

By Julie Young

Debbie Roberts graduated from Greenfield-Central High School on Friday, May 28, 1970. The following Monday, she arrived in the billing department of the Hancock County REMC and 45 years later, she's still part of the business. If you think that's impressive, consider this: Using some very rough math, it is estimated that Roberts has processed at least 4,568,940 statements throughout her career and has no plans of stopping any time soon.

"When I started, we were still called the Hancock County REMC and located in the building next to the old post office, which is now the shooting range. Then it changed to Central Indiana Power and after the merger with Hancock Telecom, we became Ninestar Connect," she says. "It's been a great relationship and I'm very happy here."

Roberts says she heard about the position the good old-fashioned way – by networking. A friend of her father's worked at the co-op and knew of an opening. She applied for and got the job just before her graduation (the first after the merger of Greenfield High and Central Hancock) but

never imagined she would still be there four-and-a-half decades later. "I was so nervous that first day," she says. "I'd never been in an office environment before." It didn't take long for her to learn the ropes. With Mary Lou Bailey serving as her immediate supervisor, Roberts said she learned about how the co-op worked, and came to know the various service locations and roads that her company covered. She also learned the lost art of hand printing bills long before automation would change the way statements were issued.

"Everything about the job was new and challenging," she says. "I never had to go to college and got all of my training through the office. I really found that I liked working with people, which I had never done before and as the years went by, and being from the area, I ended up working with so many people who were already in my circle of friends one way or another."

As the years have passed, Roberts says the biggest change to the way she does her job has been technology. Once upon a time statements had to be hand generated before being printed out by computers and now automated through software and



online infrastructure. She says new innovations certainly make her job easier, but there are always things that need improvement. "I'm not very good at staying organized," she says. "But I love talking to people and I love how much Ninestar likes to give back to the community."

Roberts has taken part in a number of Ninestar community service projects including helping some young people with their 4-H projects last year. In her spare time, she has been known to bowl, she loves playing euchre, loves the movies (most recently Mall Cop 2) and even traveled to Florida last year.

Today, Regina Bever is Roberts' supervisor and says that it's amazing how she has been at the same job throughout her career, but it is a job that has changed so much with the times. "It's not the same job anymore. It's changed a lot and she has adapted to that change each and every time there has been

a new system to learn. She is trained to embrace new things and she has done a tremendous job," Bever says. "As our customers move toward paperless billing, Debbie will continue to be vital in managing the data and monitoring the system for errors. After all, computers aren't perfect, so it's wonderful to have such a dedicated employee in the billing department, overseeing things for our members."

Roberts said although she knows of a lot of long time employees that have been downsized at other companies, she never let herself think about that possibility or worry about what may or may not happen. She said she simply takes each day as it comes and focuses on the task at hand. "I suppose it could have happened over the years, but it didn't and I am pleased that I have been part of this wonderful company with good people for 45 years and that I am still here," she said. "I really do love my job!"



NINESTAR OFFICIALS VISIT CONGRESSMAN MESSER IN WASHINGTON, DC

In April, officials from NineStar Connect, attended the National Telecommunication Cooperative Association (NTCA) Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. While in D.C. they learned about issues effecting the telecommunications industry and had a chance to meet with other leaders from cooperatives from around the nation. In addition, NineStar had a chance to meet with members of the Indiana delegation, including Congressman Luke Messer. During their visit with Messer they discussed issues and even obtained the congressman's support on a letter to the FCC concerning the Universal Service Fund.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

WILL THE CIRCLE REMAIN UNBROKEN?

Being a rural utility cooperative with a small customer base makes every NineStar Connect employee particularly sensitive to costs. All of us recognize the need to be good stewards of the company's resources while also being as efficient as possible. We do this in order to keep rates reasonable even as the services we deliver remain both reliable and relevant to the needs of our member customers.

Still we are also mindful of the seven cooperative principles upon which our company was founded – notably the seventh principle, "Concern for the Community" – which compels us to focus on member needs while also working for the sustainable development of our community. To some, this might seem like a daunting task but at NineStar, we have found that working toward sustainable community development usually leads to satisfying member needs and vice versa. In essence, those efforts most frequently create a virtuous circle.

I often get asked about NineStar's charitable giving. Some think that as one of the largest companies in the community, NineStar should give more than we do, while others feel we give too much. The fact that I receive comments like that from both sides probably suggests that NineStar has struck a good balance. Nonetheless, allow me to share some statistics from last year and let you be the judge. NineStar's total corporate giving in 2014 totaled \$63,164.64 or slightly under one-tenth of one percent of our total corporate expenditures. We maintain divisionalized accounting so we can track expenses by division and allocate capital credits to those members who

purchase specific services.

The electric division of the cooperative donated \$13,250 in 2014 – about four-hundredths of one percent of the electric division's total expenditures. The cooperative's communications division gave \$16,930 or slightly more than eight-hundredths of one percent of that division's total expenditures and our competitive communications division (i.e. those areas that we provide communications services outside cooperative service area where customers are not members of the cooperative) gave \$32,985 – slightly over two-tenths of one percent of total expenditures.

These corporate contributions do not include the \$93,400 granted in 2014 by the Operation Round Up Board of Trustees.

Numerous community organizations benefitted last year thanks to the generosity of those 83% of NineStar members and customers who participate in the Operation Round Up program. If you happen to be one of them, I thank you.

Lest we forget, NineStar employees also gave \$10,650 to local organizations in 2014 through payroll deductions and volunteered over 275 hours in community service. Through the first quarter of 2015, they have already given more than \$3,000 and volunteered over 250 hours in community service.

Winston Churchill once remarked: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Such is the foundation of NineStar's philosophy of corporate giving – supporting the communities that support our cooperative. Your patronage and support allow NineStar to complete that virtuous circle.

PRESIDENT & CEO



MICHAEL BURROW

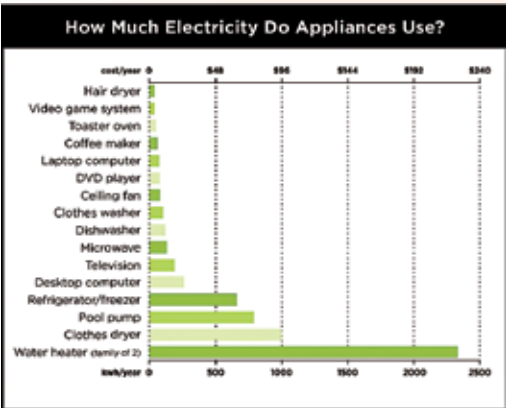
UPDATES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Power out? No Internet or TV? Check NineStar's Facebook or Twitter page! Social Media is exploding, and if you aren't checking your laptop, tablet or smartphone for the latest and greatest fads, trends and updates, you are not living in the 21st century! We have found that posting news about NineStar Connect on Facebook and Twitter has been a successful line of communication for all of our social media followers. Once you "like" our page, you will automatically be notified of any post we share, whether it's information about an outage, an event we are planning, local Channel 9 broadcasting or energy information to save you money. Additionally, if you have a question for us, send us a message. We will research and respond to your question as quickly as possible. We don't want to "leave you in the dark" about any issues or inquiries you might have for us. Our customer service has always been a significant piece of what we do, and giving you the answers you need is imperative to keeping your knowledgeable and satisfied with our service. To add, when there is that unfortunate outage, your communication to us is just as helpful in determining where the problem is and who it is affecting, so we encourage you to share your thoughts.

So, if you haven't already, grab your tablet or smartphone and "Like" or "Follow" us on Facebook and/or Twitter. We will do our best to keep you informed and post all the latest details about NineStar Connect news. But don't forget, we still like to hear your voice! When you need answers fast and need to talk to someone, a phone call to our 24/7/365 Support Center is always just a dial away at (317) 326-HELP.

Facebook icon

Twitter icon



THE BREAKDOWN ON HOME ELECTRICITY USE

That black box in your living room – the one that plays basketball, your favorite sitcom or the news – is probably on a lot, isn't it? And when the kids or grandkids turn it on and run off to do something else, you tell them to turn the TV off because it's wasting electricity. While it's true the box is wasting electricity (since no one is watching) it's hardly the biggest electricity draw in your home. Neither, and this is more likely to surprise you, is your clothes washer and dryer.

By a wide margin, the biggest energy draw in your home, after heating and cooling costs, is your electric water heater. For a family of two, the typical water heater costs more than \$200 to run annually. The next biggest draw, an electric clothes dryer, averages \$96 per year.

Wabash Valley Power Association tries to help our member distribution cooperatives, such as NineStar Connect, save energy. However, not everyone understands where their electricity dollars go each month. Without a home energy assessment, we can't tell you exactly either. But we do have some general information about the relative expense and typical averages of the stuff that most homes use.

The chart below offers a pretty clear idea why Wabash Valley Power Association and NineStar Connect offer energy-efficiency incentives through the POWER MOVES program (specifically on water heaters) and offers free refrigerator and freezer recycling. The program also offers incentives on ground and air-source heat pumps.

The chart also gives you some idea where you can get the most savings month after month. If you're especially curious, you might look into an electric use monitor. This device which can be checked out of the Hancock County Public Library attaches to any 120-volt outlet so that you can see how many watts whatever you're plugging in, is using. You can also contact NineStar's Energy Advisor, Darrin Couch and he has one that can be loaned out as well.

Better yet, schedule a home energy assessment! Doing so gives you exact information about electric use, including a detailed rundown of where you can save throughout your home.

OPERATION ROUND-UP

NINESTAR CONTRIBUTES TO TEEN'S EFFORT FOR GREEN TOWNSHIP TORNADO SIREN

By Caitlin Vanoverberghe
Greenfield Daily Reporter

There is a level of uncertainty that comes with any bad storm. Howling winds and heavy rain have the power to darken skies and knock out electricity, leaving families huddling for safety and wondering what's going on outside their windows.

Katie Floyd was certain she didn't want any of her neighbors facing bad weather without some level of warning.

Now, thanks to the 18-year-old's fundraising efforts, the residents of Green Township will soon hear the distinct wail of a tornado siren should bad weather approach their neighborhoods. The sound will come from a bright green alarm that is scheduled to be placed in front of the Green Township Fire Department later this month.

Floyd said she began working on the project after hearing about the damage caused when four tornadoes ripped through the little southern Indiana town of Henryville in 2012. Her father, Scott, made trips south to help clean trees and rubble from the area and always returned with stories of sadness and hardship.

These tales got Floyd thinking, she said, and she sprang into action when she discovered no tornado sirens were positioned anywhere in Green Township, where she and her family live. She knew she needed to do something to prevent devastation like what happened in Henryville, from happening in her backyard.



A tornado siren won't guarantee safety, but it does increase the chances of a person going inside if it sounds during bad weather.

Floyd, a senior at Greenfield-Central High School and long-time Girl Scout, spent the better part of two years fundraising and applying for grants, with the hope that she'd raise enough money to buy a siren for her hometown.

Earlier this year, she hit the \$11,000 mark thanks to a sizeable donation from NineStar Connect. After she had the money in hand she made contact with Federal Signal, an Illinois-based company that specializes in mass-notification systems. The company agreed to help Floyd achieve the remainder of her goal, build the siren and cover the installation.

Sirens of this type usually cost more than \$17,000, Gabriella Churchill, a spokeswoman for Federal Signal, said. This one will be painted bright green and will display the Girl Scout logo.

The device was assembled in early April, and Floyd was able to visit the factory during her spring break where she was given a chance to assist with the final touches.

George Boaz, deputy direct of emergency management in Hancock County, said this is the first time he's ever heard of a siren being donated by a private citizen. Usually township or county officials decide when and where they will be installed, but none had been placed in Green Township.

In admiration for Floyd's hard work, Federal Signal

created the Federal Signal Citizenship Award, which will now be given in Floyd's honor to other young people who make a difference in their communities.

The hours of work spent on the project have helped Floyd earn her Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award given by the organization. The purpose of the Gold Award project is to encourage girls to show leadership and initiative in helping their communities.

Once the siren is delivered, it will be installed on the grounds of the Green Township Fire Department.

Fire Chief Bob Holland is grateful. "I'm glad she had the ambition to do this," he said. "No one in Green Township or the rest of the county has stepped forward, that I know of, to do something like this."



NINESTAR PRESENTS AWARD AT VAWTER ART SHOW

The 2015 Will Vawter Art Show and Competition kicked off on April 10 with a well-attended reception at the Hancock County Arts new location on State St. in downtown Greenfield. Artists from all over the state of Indiana submitted more than 148 works of art created in oil, watercolor, acrylic, pastel and other media.

NineStar Connect was proud to present the People's Choice Award to Hancock County resident Jordan Tatom for her work "No Matter What", a self-portrait of the artist. Pictured with Jordan is NineStar Connect Director of Marketing, David Spencer who presented the award.

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NineStar's Community Solar program provides environmental benefits, empowers the community and helps protect us from future cost increases of electricity.

is proud to sponsor the

2015 4-H Queen Contest
Saturday, June 20th, 7:00 PM
at the 4-H Show Arena

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■ Broadband	■ Home Security
■ Digital Television	■ Power
■ Key Systems	■ Home Automation

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Representative to convert your account to Paperless Billing today!

Enter for a chance to win a Samsung Galaxy Tablet 8.0
by signing up today!

PAPERLESS BILLING PAYS OFF

A big CONGRATULATIONS to April’s winner, Roger and Darlene Killingbeck, and May’s winner, Nicole Courtney, who both won a Samsung Galaxy Tablet for enrolling in Paperless Billing. You could be a winner too...sign up for Paperless Billing TODAY!

NINESTAR GRADUATES TWO FROM LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

After more than nine months of camaraderie and learning about Hancock County, Jason Warrick and Alan Martin were two of nineteen graduates of the prestigious Leadership Hancock County program. The graduation ceremonies took place at NineStar Connect’s community room and was attended by

many leaders in the community. Each graduate was required to be a part of a capstone project that would help make Hancock County a better place. Jason and Alan were on a team whose project was the Kenneth Butler Memorial Soup Kitchen “Shower Project.” The team researched



the possibility of partnering with a local business owner, church or public entity to provide showers for patrons of the soup kitchen that do not have access to shower facilities. Both Warrick and Martin indicated they learned many things about the community they didn’t previously know. In addition they felt very fortunate to meet and get to know their classmates and look forward to cultivating those relationship and using the connections they have established to benefit their careers and the community.

SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. See ninestarconnect.com Facebook page for last edition’s solution.

	4				8		1	
		9						2
1		2	5			8		
				5				
		4	6	3	9	2		
					7	9		
8				4				
	5				6		4	1
		3	7				5	