

MAY-JUNE 2013



NineStar CONNECTION

VOLUME 2
ISSUE 3

FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

See photos and more from
the 2013 presentation.

PAGES 10-11



4-H FAIR ACTIVITIES

Check out NineStar at the
fair, 4-H projects and annual
queen contestants.

INSIDE

PRESORTED
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WELL ROUNDED

OPERATION ROUND UP
MAKES A DIFFERENCE FOR
THE COMMUNITY

PAGE 4



OUR EMPLOYEES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. HERE'S A CUSTOMER REVIEW FOR WALTER HESTAND.

WALTER DID A GREAT JOB WITH OUR INSTALLATION. WE ARE SO EXCITED TO FINALLY HAVE HIGH SPEED INTERNET WE HAVE BEEN WANTING FOR A LONG TIME. SATURDAY EVENING FOR THE FIRST TIME WE WERE ABLE TO SKYPE WITH OUR TWO YOUNG GRANDDAUGHTERS, WHO LIVE IN DENVER. IT WAS WONDERFUL TO SEE THEM!

- GARY H.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

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NineStar Connect's Operation Round Up helps co-op give back to the community in many ways.

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS PAGES 6-7
NineStar Connect recognizes the efforts of 15 area students with \$1,000 scholarships.

QUEEN CONTEST PAGE 9
NineStar Connect presents the 2013 Hancock County 4-H Queen Contest. See the 25 contestants in this year's event.

THIS IS ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 12
NineStar Connect offers the community lots to do with its annual lineup of family films and presentation of outdoor concerts.

4-H ELECTRIC PROJECT

NineStar Connect sponsors and organizes workshops to help Hancock County 4-H'ers with their annual projects. PAGE 6

FEEDBACK CONTINUES TO IMPROVE CELEBRATION

A big thank you is in order to all of our members who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend our 60th Annual Meeting and Celebration. For everyone who was there, the event truly was a celebration of our cooperative. The evening had something for everyone: great food, entertainment, prizes and many opportunities to learn more about products and services offered by your cooperative.

PRESIDENT & CEO



TIM HILLS

I would also like to take the opportunity to publicly thank our dedicated employees, whose hard work and effort help make the night a success. Many weeks of planning and hard work go into ensuring the evening goes off with only minor glitches. Without them, the night could not be pulled off. This comes as no surprise, being that this same effort is demonstrated on a daily basis providing you with dependable power and advanced communication services.

The celebration continues to improve each year based in part to the feedback you give us on surveys from the event. In this issue, that feedback is shared. However, I would like to point out two items of special note. First, the new RSVP ticketing system for food was a success and 82 percent of you agreed. Secondly, the improvements that were made to enhance the audio/visual aspect of the evening were greeted with positive marks by 91 percent of those who responded. Thank you for the feedback. Your remarks are taken very seriously when planning for the next annual meeting and celebration begins. We will see you once again in the spring of 2014!

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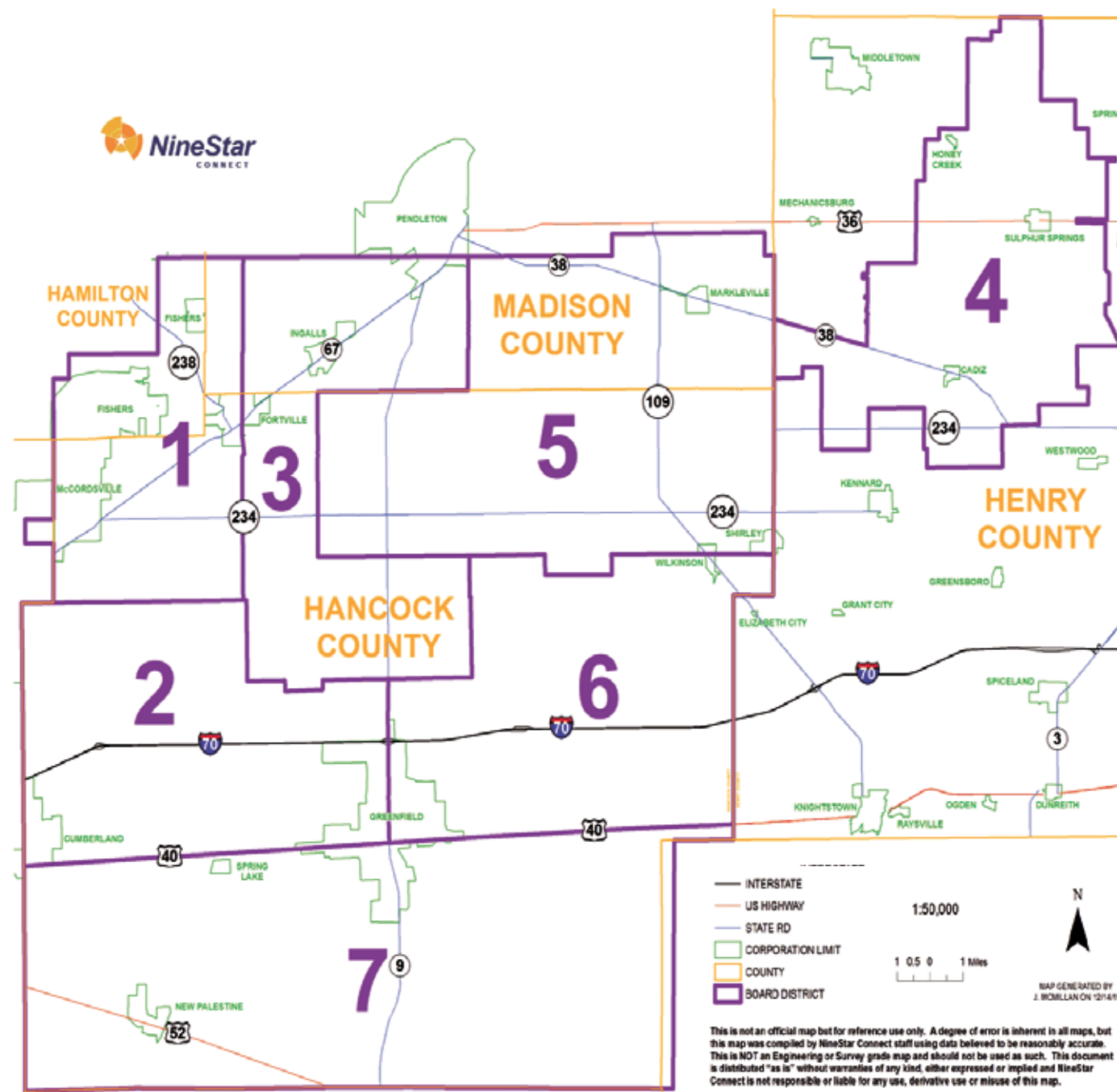


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The *NineStar Connection* is a publication of NineStar Connect servicing retail and residential customers. Nearly 15,000 families and businesses receive this newspaper as part of their membership. *NineStar Connection* provides news, information and features about people, places and issues related to readers.

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WELL ROUNDED

OPERATION ROUND UP MAKES A DIFFERENCE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Remember the old adage, “Every little bit helps?” NineStar Connect’s Operation Round Up program is proof positive that it only takes a few pennies each month to make a big difference for individuals and not-for-profit organizations throughout the local community.

WRITTEN BY
JULIE YOUNG

“I remember when we adopted the program for the electric side of the co-op,” said Darrell Thomas who has served on NineStar’s Board of Trustees as well as its Board of Directors. “It took a while for people to understand, but when they did, they supported it wholeheartedly.”

Operation Round up is a national program utilized by electric cooperatives to raise funds for charitable giving. Spearheaded by a South Carolina cooperative in 1991, the program was adopted by Central Indiana Power in 1994. It is funded by members who allow NineStar to round their monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar and is administered through a board of trustees separate from NineStar’s Board of Directors.

“They meet quarterly to review the applications that have come in over the grant cycle and determine how the funds will be awarded,” said Brad Henderson, NineStar Member Services Manager who also administers the Operation Round Up program for ORU Board of Trustees. “Since it began, ORU has granted nearly \$896K to local entities and individuals throughout our service area who need it the most.”

Henderson said that contributing to Operation Round Up is pretty painless. Approximately 83 percent of members participate in the program, donating between \$.01 and \$.99 each month. It can never add up to more than \$11.88 per year and when combined with others, can have a tremendous

impact on the whole community. “The best part is that they can opt out of the program at any time they want to. It’s strictly voluntary,” he said.

Few do, however. Especially when they see how transformative the program can be. According to Steve Vail, NineStar’s Chairman of the Board, Operation Round Up helps meet the needs of those individuals and organizations that might have fallen through the cracks.

“Our customers have a desire to give back and to help one another and we believe that heart of philanthropy will continue as we grow and expand the program,” he said.

According to the bylaws of the program, funds raised through Operation Round Up cannot be used to subsidize electric or telecommunications bills and all of the money must remain within the boundaries of the service area. The recipient is not required to be a member of the co-op. Individuals are allowed to apply for grants as much as \$2,500 while 503(c) organizations can apply for as much as \$10,000.

“Sometimes it shocks me the amount of money we are able to

grant each quarter,” said John Apple, who has served on the ORU Board of Trustees for nine years and was Chairman during that tenure. “While there are times that there are more requests than funds, it’s overwhelming to be in a community that believes in giving back the way we do. I encourage anyone with a grant request to download the application [from the NineStar website] and apply.”

Over the years, a number of entities have benefitted from the Operation Round Up program including organizations like the Hancock County Food Pantry, Eastern Hancock School Corporation, and Alternatives, Inc. in Madison County among others. Henderson said funds have also gone to finance tests for uninsured cancer patients as well as the purchase of a low-vision reading machine for a legally blind individual who needed the assistive device.

“We are always thrilled when NineStar steps up to help us out,” said Joan Clark, board member and volunteer with the Hancock County Food Pantry. “We feed approximately 650 families a month and in the summertime, that’s when our food supplies are at the lowest. We couldn’t be happier for

their contribution to help us keep going at this critical time of the year.”

Ashley Waterbury-Carpenter, resource development manager with Alternatives, Inc. said that the grant they received from Operation Round Up went to support their emergency shelter program for victims of domestic violence. The program provides, among other things, housing, clothing, vocational training, emergency transportation and individualized case managers for women trying to overcome abusive situations and become self-sufficient members of society.

“The Operation Round Up program is a very inclusive grant program that was a lot less limiting compared to some of the other grants we have applied for,” she said. “They are really reaching out to a broader base of organizations and individuals.”

Kathy Hall, secretary of the ORU board of trustees said that although the program has certainly impacted Hancock and Southern Madison counties the most, there are other areas that are not aware the program even exists. Very few applications have come from the portion of Hamilton County that NineStar serves and because Operation Round Up is only currently set up for electric customers, there is a whole portion of the telecom membership that cannot contribute, nor benefit from the program.

“Right now, we are working to expand the Operation Round Up program to our telecom members as well,” she said. “Once we do, this will not only enable us to raise additional funds each year, but will also allow us to serve additional communities as well such as Sulphur Springs, Cadiz, New Castle, Knightstown and Morristown to name a few. The real challenge is letting people know about the program and encouraging them to apply. There are some organizations in the community who still do not know that this program exists.”

One nonprofit organization, located in New Castle, recently called to apply for funds and was turned away because it didn’t meet the criteria of the program – namely the service area. With the expansion of Operation Round Up to include telecommunications members and customers areas served by NineStar, these organizations will be eligible to apply for major grants by year’s end. The expansion of the ORU program to include residential telecommunications customers is currently underway and will begin with the August billing. This will allow organizations in areas served by NineStar telecommunications only and which currently cannot re-

IS YOUR HOME READY FOR SUMMER?

Summer is just around the corner. The sun will shine late into the evening hours, the mosquitoes will be biting and county fairs will be in full swing. But that means many homes are faced with higher electricity use from overworked air conditioners.

Did you know the average family spends \$1,900 a year on energy bills, with nearly half going toward heating and cooling? With a few simple steps, such as seasonal maintenance of properly sized and installed, energy-efficient heating and cooling equipment, along with properly sealed ducts, you can save as much as 20 percent on annual energy costs. Following the recommendations in ENERGY STAR’s 5 Step Countdown will not only save money on energy bills this summer but will also make you more comfortable at your home.

5. Find and seal air leaks that cause drafts and make your cooling system work overtime.

Use ENERGY STAR’s Home Sealing to improve your home’s “envelope” or “shell” – its outer walls, ceiling, windows and floors. This is often the most cost-effective way to improve your home’s energy efficiency and comfort. ENERGY STAR Home Sealing includes sealing air leaks to stop drafts, adding insulation, and choosing ENERGY STAR-qualified windows when replacing windows. Home sealing can help you save up to 10 percent on your energy bills each year. If your attic is accessible and you like home improvement projects, you can do it yourself with help from the “DIY Guide to ENERGY STAR Home Sealing.” The guide offers step-by-step instructions for sealing common air leaks and adding insulation to the attic. You can find both guides online at energystar.gov.

You can also hire a contractor who will use special diagnostic tools to pinpoint and seal the hidden air leaks in your home.

4. Look for the ENERGY STAR label when purchasing cooling products for your home.

Products such as room air conditioners and programmable thermostats that display the ENERGY STAR label operate more efficiently, which saves energy. You can find the ENERGY STAR label on prod-

ceive funds the ability to participate.

The program will be rolled out to residential telecommunications customers in late June with a mailing that will include a letter explaining the program and its process as well as an Operation Round Up brochure. Operation Round Up is an opt out program and customers will need to fill out the card located in the brochure if they choose not to participate. If customers do want to participate, they do not need to do

ucts in more than 50 categories, including lighting, consumer electronics and appliances. When you choose ENERGY STAR, you get a product that meets strict energy efficiency criteria set by EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy.

3. Schedule annual, pre-season maintenance checkups with a licensed contractor to ensure your cooling system is operating efficiently and safely.

Dirt and neglect are the leading causes of system failure. Get a cooling system checkup, and afterward be sure to clean or change your system’s air filter according to the manufacturer’s instructions – generally once a month. Keep it clean to keep it efficient. If your cooling system is more than 12 years old and needs replacing, consider an energy-efficient model. It’s important to purchase the correct size cooling system for your home and have it installed properly so your new investment delivers its full energy-performance promise. Properly sized and installed, regularly maintained energy-efficient heating and cooling equipment, along with properly sealed ducts, can save homeowners as much as 20 percent on annual energy costs. You can find more information at energystar.gov.

2. Install a programmable thermostat and use your ceiling fans wisely.

Save energy by taking advantage of periods in the day when your home doesn’t need to be kept as cool. A programmable thermostat, set and used properly, can save up to \$150 in energy costs each year. ENERGY STAR-qualified ceiling fans can also cut home energy use – turn the thermostat up several degrees while using the fans to deliver the extra cooling comfort. Remember to turn the fan off when you leave the room. A ceiling fan cools you – not the room.

1. Learn what else you can do to make your home more energy-efficient by visiting PowerMoves.com.

Your local co-op offers many programs and rebates that can keep you cool, save you money and make you more comfortable. You can even schedule an energy audit with your co-op’s energy adviser. He or she may ask you some simple questions or take a tour of your home to help detect places you can save energy and money.

JUNE 21 - 28

COME VISIT NINESTAR AT THE HANCOCK COUNTY 4-H FAIR

The Hancock County 4-H Fair will be held June 21 through 28 at the Hancock County Fairgrounds. Stop by the NineStar Connect booth to see new products and services for your home. New services include the Nest Learning Thermostat, Cummins Generator program, FilterChange.coop (our Furnace Filter program), Water Heater Lease program, Power Guard Surge Suppression program and of course, the loveable NineStar Nerds.



Additionally, most evenings we will have a Customer Service Representative on hand to answer questions you may have regarding what packages are available to you or to just gather some information about NineStar Connect.

Blue River Township residents – don’t forget to sign up for our Blue River Bonanza before it’s too late! We will have a sign up form on hand for those of you who are interested in participating and becoming a part of the communications side of the NineStar family.

Stop by and receive a 4-foot yardstick (while supplies last). We would love to see you!

UPDATES

ORU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

If you like to help people in need or have a desire to be in the decision making process of where the Operation Round Up dollars are divided to, please contact Brad Henderson at 317-323-2714 or bhenderson@ninestarconnect.com about becoming a trustee on the ORU board.



4-H ELECTRIC PROJECTS

With the 2013 Hancock County 4-H Fair fast approaching, NineStar Connect has been busy helping participants with their 4-H Electric Projects. This year, NineStar Connect sponsored an organizational meeting for all participants. The organizational meeting took place April 17 to inform participants about the project guidelines and to provide information about judging. The meeting also allowed participants to get information about the upcoming project workshops being offered at NineStar Connect and the 4-H Electric Camp being offered at Purdue University.

Workshops were conducted for Division I through Division IV over three evenings in May. Participation in the workshops was very good as nearly half of all participants in the 4-H Electric program attended one of the workshops. Participation in the 4-H Electric program continues to grow. This year, there will be almost 90 participants in the program. The workshops are facilitated by NineStar Connect employees who volunteer their time to assist the participants with their projects. The employees are able to share their time with the participants to help them assemble their Circuit Boards, Shake Lights, Extension Cords, Drop Lights and Lamps. NineStar Connect has been a proud contributor to the 4-H Youth Program for many years through program sponsorships, leadership and support. This is just another way NineStar Connect continues to give back to the community we serve.

2013 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

At this year's Annual Meeting, 15 names were drawn for this year's 2013 Scholarship program for children of NineStarConnect's members. The students have to be a 2013 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 receives \$1,000.



JACK-RYAN ASHBY
MCCORDSVILLE
CATHEDRAL H.S.
IU KELLEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ACCOUNTING



ZACHARY TYLER BAILEY
GREENFIELD
NEW PALESTINE H.S.
TRINE UNIVERSITY (ANGOLA, IND.),
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, MINOR IN
AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING



ELIZABETH CLAIRE FIELDS
GREENFIELD
GREENFIELD-CENTRAL H.S.
INDIANA UNIVERSITY, HUMAN BIOLOGY



JAMES E. GILLUM, JR.
MCCORDSVILLE
MT. VERNON H.S.
IVY TECH (W/PLANS ON TRANSFERRING
TO BALL STATE HIS SOPHOMORE/
JUNIOR YEAR), TELECOMMUNICATIONS
(PRODUCTION-BROADCASTING-RADIO)



SETH JOSEPH GOHRING
FORTVILLE
MT. VERNON H.S.
DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY,
ACCOUNTING/BUSINESS



COURTNEY NICOLE HELLER
PENDLETON
GREENFIELD-CENTRAL H.S.
IVY TECH THEN TRANSFERRING
TO BALL STATE UNIVERSITY,
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION



JOSEPH DANIEL HOSKINS
GREENFIELD
GREENFIELD-CENTRAL H.S.
PURDUE UNIVERSITY, ENGINEERING/
LAW



WYATT HUBER
GREENFIELD
GREENFIELD-CENTRAL H.S.
PURDUE UNIVERSITY, CIVIL
ENGINEERING



**MITCHELL PHILLIP
KRAMER**
CHARLOTTESVILLE
EASTERN HANCOCK H.S.
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHWESTERN
OHIO, ASSOCIATES IN APPLIED
SCIENCE, DIESEL MECHANIC
ENGINEERING, AG EQUIPMENT



ROSS EDWARD MORGAN
GREENFIELD
GREENFIELD-CENTRAL H.S.
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA,
UNDECIDED



NATHAN ALEXANDER MORIN
GREENFIELD
NORTHCREST ACADEMY
PURDUE UNIVERSITY, COMPUTER AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



KAI DEN WAYNE SHULTZ
GREENFIELD
EASTERN HANCOCK H.S.
INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BUSINESS



ALEXANDER M. TONEGES
GREENFIELD
CATHEDRAL H.S.
IU KELLEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS,
BUSINESS



THOMAS LELAND VISNACK
GREENFIELD
GREENFIELD-CENTRAL H.S.
ROSE HULMAN, COMPUTER
ENGINEERING



JOSHUWA DEAGIN WOOD
SULPHUR SPRINGS
SHENANDOAH H.S.
IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
COMPUTER NETWORKING

GENERATOR PROGRAM PROVIDES ENERGY WHEN THERE'S AN OUTAGE

Being in the 21st century, we all know how much we depend on electricity. When there happens to be an outage for whatever reason, we rely on candles and flashlights to guide our way through the dark, huddle with blankets to keep warm and worry about the food that could spoil in the refrigerator/freezer. Wouldn't it be nice to not have to worry about the losses that could occur? We can do that for you! NineStar Connect is proud to introduce our new Generator program.

A Cummins Residential Standby Generator automatically responds to any utility power outage within seconds. It supplies power to your cooling and heating systems, appliances, lights, healthcare equipment, computers and other sensitive electronics on demand.

Some key features of the generator include its in-home digital display, which lets you program your generator. It's as easy to operate as a thermostat except with more capabilities that allow you to check the load on the generator on demand. It also displays maintenance and service reminders automatically.

Secondly, the remote monitoring capability gives you two-way communication, so you can verify the generation status, receive updates while you are away, and start and stop the generator. Service technicians can pre-diagnose any required maintenance or service before they arrive to save time and money.

Third, the residential standby generator sends emails on routine maintenance, service requirements and generator performance. If a utility power outage occurs, the system is designed to fully inform you—even when you are away from your home or second residence.

NineStar offers two sizes, the 13Kw and 20Kw generators. All sales require a three-year preventive maintenance contract, which renews annually after the third year.

Additionally, to make acquiring a generator a little easier on your pocketbook, Ameriana Bank is offering financing to qualified buyers. Detailed information is posted on our website at www.ninestarconnect.com along with an on-line financing application.

For more information regarding this program, please contact Member Services; mbrservices@ninestarconnect.com or 317-326-3131.





NINESTAR HOSTS BLOOD DRIVE

On May 20, NineStar Connect was proud to partner with the Indiana Blood Center for its bi-annual blood drive. The event, held at the south campus, had 26 units donated. This included NineStar employees and was open to the public. The units collected will help 78 fellow Hoosiers.

Every day, people are diagnosed with various illnesses that require blood transfusions. According to the Blood Center, many individuals may require as much as 200 units of blood. So being able to donate is truly a lifesaver for numerous people.

NineStar Connect plans its next blood drive for Oct. 23. Again, this event is open to the public. Updated information will be published as we get closer to this time. Thanks again to all of you who participated in this significant event!



LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

The U.S. Senate declared April 18, 2013 as National Lineman Appreciation Day. This is a one-time celebration to honor our line workers for all they do. While working with thousands of volts of electricity and atop high power lines, linemen put their lives on the line every day with little to no recognition. Additionally, they are often the first responders during storms and other catastrophic events, where they must work diligently to ensure the scene is safe and clear for other first responders in an emergency situation. Here, we at NineStar, are proud of our linemen and thank them for all the heroic and brave duties they do on a day-to-day basis. We celebrated this event with a cake in their honor. Pictured are linemen Tommy Nance and Brian Potts.



CONFERENCE CENTER AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

Needing a place to conduct a business meeting? What about a birthday party for your close friend? Searching and searching for the perfect spot for your upcoming wedding reception? Let NineStar Connect help you! NineStar Connect Conference Center is available for public events. Our state-of-the-art conference center holds up to 100 people and has various room setups that fit your needs. From banquet style to classroom style, we can make sure your event is a success!

Also available if needed are double video screens and a speaker podium with microphone for easy communication in larger groups. An accessible kitchen area is also present; however, catered food must be brought in, as preparation of food is not permissible.

If you are interested in holding your next occasion at our conference center (South Campus: 2243 E. Main St., Greenfield), please log onto www.ninestarconnect.com under "Our Community." There is an appointment locator for easy-to-use calendar availability. Once you choose which day and time would work for you, you can easily book it to hold that date, as it is a first come, first served policy. If the date you are wanting is unavailable or if you have any questions regarding renting the conference center, please call 317-326-3131.

CO-OP CONNECTIONS CARD UPDATE

As most of you already know, the NineStar Co-op Connections Card has been mailed out to our members to help save you money and give you discounts on items such as prescription medicine to auto repair. We have received an abundance of questions regarding the card and its uses on a day-to-day basis. We are overjoyed about hearing some of the positive comments that we have received regarding the card's ability to save you money.

To prevent any further delays in mailing out the card, we wanted to go ahead and get the cards in our members' hands as soon as possible, so they can familiarize themselves with how to use the card and take advantage of the national offers as well as a few local ones that are advertised. We especially had this in mind for the Healthy Savings portion of the

card, which is so valuable to those who don't carry health insurance or would get a better discount with using this card. However, we understand that there are not many local deals to benefit from at this time. We ask that you please be patient with us as NineStar's marketing team is working diligently to get the word out to local commerce that might be interested in participating in this program. Over the next few weeks, you will start to see more local offers to help save you money, and in turn help local places achieve more customer visits. We think this program is a great way to help make this a win-win solution for everyone!

We are excited to share that Why Fly Inc. and Sanders High Performance, both from the Fortville area, have inquired and are currently offering discounts that are now accessible to you. Please go to www.ninestarconnect.com or directly to www.connections.coop to learn more about their offer.



NINESTAR CONNECT PROUDLY PRESENTS THE 2013 HANCOCK COUNTY 4-H QUEEN CONTEST

NineStar Connect is once again honored to be presenting the 2013 Hancock County 4-H Queen Contest. The event will be held on June 22 at 7 p.m. at the Hancock County Fairgrounds in the 4-H bowl.

This year, 25 girls will compete for the crown. NineStar wishes all the candidates best of luck!



JOY BROADFIELD



PAIGE CARROLL



CAITLYN CHERRY



CASSIDY CHERRY



CHYANN COLLES



BROOKLYN CROSS



REBEKAH DICKMANDER



BRIANNA DOUGLAS



ABIGAIL ELLENBURG



CASSIDY FROST



GABRIELLE GUERRA



SAMANTHA GULDEN



SYDNEY HANCOCK



COURTNEY HELLER



CORRINE HIBBERT



RACHEAL HODGE



SAVANNAH HUDSON



JESSICA JONES



EMILIE KINDRED



MORGAN MCKINNEY



RACHEL POPE



KAITLYN SMITH



ALEXA WARREN



LINDSEY WERKING



HALLIE WRIGHT

(Below) During the annual meeting and celebration, NineStar provided child care, complete with food and entertainment. Here, Sunshine the clown makes balloon animals for the children who accompanied members to the meeting.



President Tim Hills (second from right) answers a question asked by a member during the question and answer session. Also on the stage during this session (from left) were Chairman Steve Vail, CFO Scott Hiatt, Marty Blake of the Prime Group, Board Member Phil Hayes, and VP & General Counsel Michael Burrow.

ANNUAL MEETING

NINESTAR CONNECT HOSTS MORE THAN 1,000 FOR 59TH PRESENTATION

NineStar employee Darrin Couch explains the benefits of the water heater leasing program. Started in 2012, the program offers worry free hot water coupled with a lifetime maintenance program.



NineStar Connect employee Mark Hudson leads one of the workshops at the 2013 annual meeting. In addition to the discussion on Fiber-To-The-Home, a workshop also took place on Products and Services You Never Knew NineStar Offered. These educational workshops ran several times leading up to the business meeting. Both workshops were very well attended by members.



NineStar Connect employees Dave McCord (engineering) and Angie Freeman (customer service), assist a couple of members with questions. The annual meeting is a great place to learn more about your cooperative and to take advantage of having multiple departments in one place at one time.



(Above) During dinner, members were entertained with music from two groups provided by students from Mt. Vernon High School. These two groups included the Jazz Ensemble and (pictured here) the Steel Drum Band.

(Left) Two members make their way through the food line at the 2013 annual meeting and celebration. In all, close to 1,000 members were fed during the night. Members enjoyed a great meal catered by Indy Anna's.

ANNUAL MEETING SURVEY FEEDBACK

Included in the annual meeting giveaway bag that each voting member receives is a survey requesting feedback on the annual meeting. We appreciate the opinions, suggestions and thoughts on how to improve the annual meeting experience. As you can tell with the improvements to this year's meeting, the suggestions are taken very seriously by the Membership Committee of NineStar. In all, close to 300 completed surveys were collected and tabulated. A sampling of the feedback can be found below.

- More than 97 percent of respondents indicated that the date, time and location was preferred
- 92 percent of respondents indicated that high school entertainment was their preference for future entertainment
- 91 percent indicated they preferred to have the entertainment before rather than during the official business meeting
- 78 percent indicated they preferred a sit down meal to sandwiches or no food at all
- 82 percent of respondents indicated that they liked the new RSVP/Ticket format to ensure food is available for everyone
- 91 percent of those surveyed stated they appreciated the audio and visual enhancements made to this year's meeting
- 97 percent of those who attended at least one of the workshops indicated the sessions were very informative and they learned something new
- 89 percent of respondents indicated they preferred cash prizes over gifts during the door prize drawing

Once again, we would like to thank all members who took the time to offer their feedback on the surveys. The information will be used to make future annual meetings more enjoyable. We look forward to seeing you in 2014!

GREAT CUSTOMER SERVICE
JUST GOT BETTER.
NINESTAR CONNECT'S TECH
SUPPORT CALL CENTER IS
OPEN AROUND THE CLOCK.



317-326-HELP OR NINESTARCONNECT.COM

NINESTAR CONNECT SPONSORS FAMILY FILM FESTIVAL

NineStar is proud to once again be partnering with Greenfield's Legacy Cinema to sponsor this year's Family Film Festival. In all, eight family-friendly movies will be shown at no charge throughout the summer. All shows take place Wednesdays, and show times are set for 10 a.m. A complete listing of movies and dates that will be shown can be found below. For additional information, please call Legacy Cinema at 317-462-6831.

DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX
JUNE 5

**MADAGASCAR 3:
EUROPE'S MOST
WANTED**
JUNE 12

PARANORMAN
JUNE 19

**ICE AGE:
CONTINENTAL DRIFT**
JUNE 26

**PIRATES
BAND OF MISFITS**
JULY 3

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
JULY 10

RIO
JULY 17

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS
JULY 24



ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES LINE-UP

NineStar salutes its customer, Greenfield Banking Company, on its continued sponsorship of the Entertainment on the Plaza.

This year's series is marked by a lineup who organizers say are sure to delight concert-goers Friday evenings from June 7 - July 26, 2013, starting at 7 p.m.

All concerts are free to the public and last until around 8:15 p.m. with no intermission. The Hancock County Courthouse Lawn and City Plaza set the scene in a non-commercial setting. The concert series has been a summer staple for the past 27 years.

Audience members are asked to bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. There are no rain dates or a rain site set for this event series.

JUNE 7: LLOYD WOOD SHOW
Website unavailable at time of print
Country, gospel, impromptu comedy and impersonations

JUNE 14: WRIGHT BROTHERS
www.wrightbrothersband.com
Blend of country, bluegrass and rock

JUNE 21: TERRY LEE & ROCKABOOGIE BAND
www.rockingterrylee.com
High-energy, piano pumpin' rock from 50s and 60s

JUNE 28: COOK & BELLE
www.cookandbelle.com
Blend of popular rock, country, soul and gospel

JULY 5: BRANDYWINE WIND
www.brandywine-wind.com
Patriotic-themed program

JULY 12: JESSIE BROWN
www.jessiebrownmusic.com
Favorites of Americana and Folk music

JULY 19: LITTLE BIG BAND
www.andersonbeck.com/greganderson
Swing band selections from Greg Anderson and his 7-piece ensemble.

JULY 26: BANISTER FAMILY BLUEGRASS BAND
www.hbgarden.com/banister
Bluegrass selection

S U D O K U

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.

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