

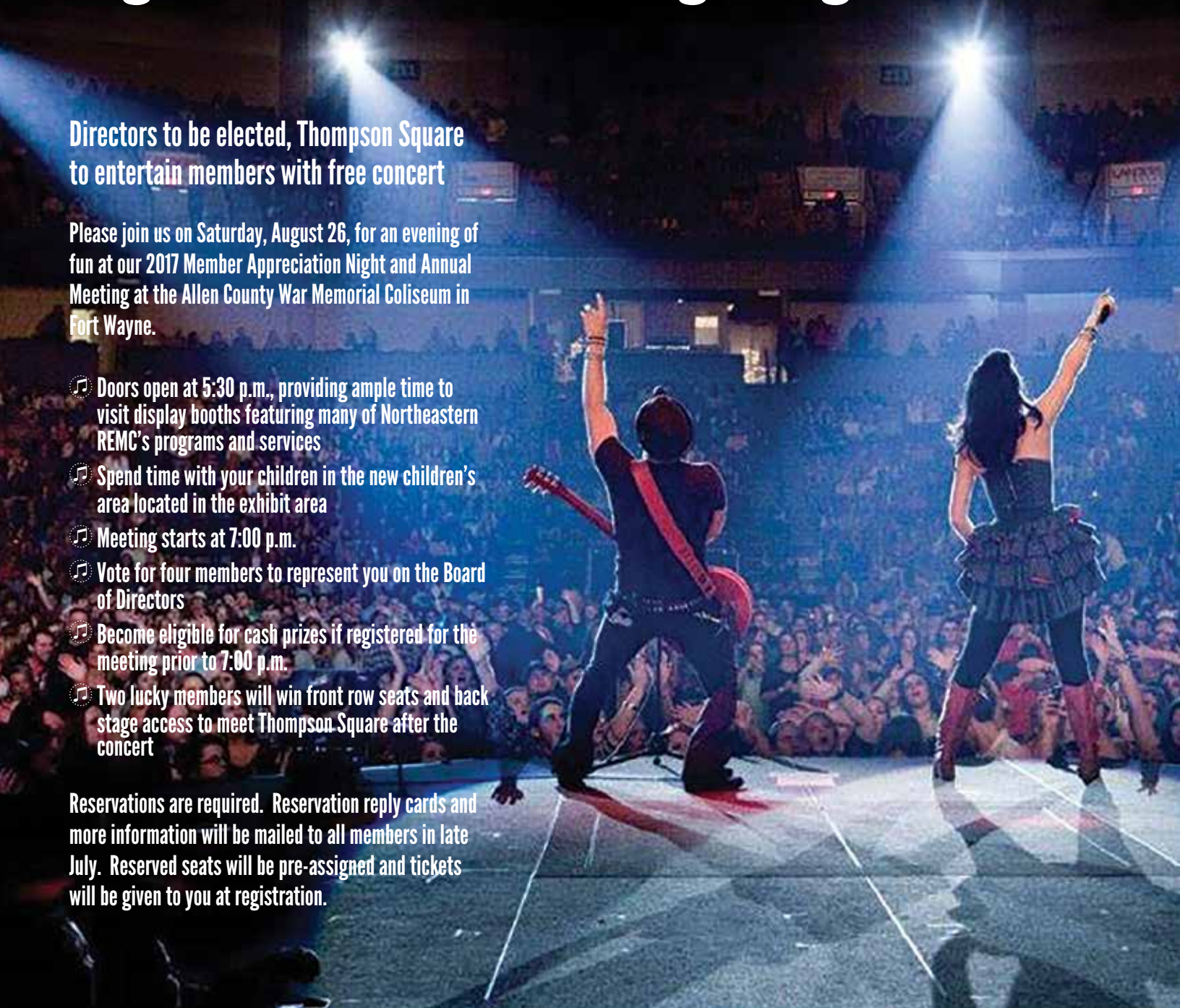
## Join us for our Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting - August 26

**Directors to be elected, Thompson Square to entertain members with free concert**

Please join us on Saturday, August 26, for an evening of fun at our 2017 Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne.

- 🎵 Doors open at 5:30 p.m., providing ample time to visit display booths featuring many of Northeastern REMC's programs and services
- 🎵 Spend time with your children in the new children's area located in the exhibit area
- 🎵 Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.
- 🎵 Vote for four members to represent you on the Board of Directors
- 🎵 Become eligible for cash prizes if registered for the meeting prior to 7:00 p.m.
- 🎵 Two lucky members will win front row seats and back stage access to meet Thompson Square after the concert

Reservations are required. Reservation reply cards and more information will be mailed to all members in late July. Reserved seats will be pre-assigned and tickets will be given to you at registration.



# Four board members to be elected during

As a member of Northeastern REMC you can have a direct voice in how it operates. Every year each REMC member is given the opportunity to elect individuals to the board of directors. This privilege is unique in that most other electric utilities do not allow their customers to select its board members.

On Saturday, August 26, you will be electing four board members who will be involved in setting the direction of this company. Every member present can vote in each district election.

We value your input and encourage you to attend our Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting to show support of your electric cooperative.

## District 7



### Jerry Busche

Jerry Busche of West 150 North in Columbia City, has more the 30 years of experience in the areas of tool and die and production machining. He is the president/business owner of three Columbia City businesses - PDQ Holding LLC, Impact CNC LLC and PDQ Tooling LLC, as well as JM CNC LLC in Rushville, IN. His companies employ 180 people, 150 of which are located in Whitley County. Targeted sales goals for 2017 exceed \$45 million. Impact CNC was just named the 50th fastest growing company in the United States and #2 fastest growing in Indiana by Inc. 500 Magazine. He was nominated for Entrepreneur of the Year in 2017.

Prior to moving to Whitley County in 2010, Busche was Vice President and part-owner of Busche Enterprises in Albion, IN, which supplies automotive components. Busche was born and raised in Albion, IN and graduated from Central Noble High School. He has been a lifetime resident of northern Indiana.

Busche has been a Northeastern REMC member since 2011. He is a past board member of the Whitley County YMCA and is a member of the American Legion. Busche is a current member of the Regional Opportunities Council (ROC), an investment board of 120 of the region's top business leaders who are intensely engaged with the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership to market and sell Northeast Indiana to increase business investments.

## District 1



### Robert Higgins

Rob Higgins has served Northeastern REMC members as the co-op's District 1 director for three years. He has earned the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate and is currently working on obtaining NRECA's Board Leadership Certificate.

After serving for four years as a Fire Support Specialist in the United States Army, Higgins began building a career in the communications industry. In 2007, he was named Assistant Superintendent of the Electric Department for the City of Auburn. And in April of this year was promoted to Outside Plant Manager for both the Electric Department and Essential Services.

Higgins' primary responsibility was the deployment of the City's fiber to the home network. He now manages all projects related to providing fiber optics to homes, as well as the City and County fiber network and fiber optic design. Higgins is also responsible for coordinating projects for the Electric Department. He reviews bids, makes bid recommendations, interviews contractors, collaborates with the Board of Works, and collaborates with the General Manager for budgeting and purchasing.

Higgins lives on Madden Rd. in northwest Allen County. He has one daughter who will be attending Carroll High School this fall.

## District 9



### Thomas Line

In 2013, Thomas Line joined medical device manufacturer, Micropulse, Inc., in Whitley County, as Team Lead on the Dedicated Services. In this position he has been overseeing project management and product distribution to ensure life-enhancing orthopedic medical devices are distributed directly to surgeons and hospitals across the country.

Prior to joining Micropulse, Line held the position of Business Manager for Coca-Cola, with financial and budget responsibilities in Coca-Cola's distribution centers around the state.

Line graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University and an MBA from Indiana Wesleyan University. He is a past PTA President and member of the Northeast Indiana Region PTA. Tom and his wife Michele have been married for 30 years, have two children, and are life-long northeast Indiana residents. The Lines live on Talon's Reach Blvd. in northwest Allen County. They have been Northeastern REMC members for one year.

## District 7



**Cathy C. Egolf**

Cathy Egolf has been a School Superintendent for the past 16 years. From 2012 until she retired on December 31, 2015, she served the community as Superintendent of North Miami Community Schools in Denver, IN, located north of Peru. Prior to that she was Superintendent at East Washington School Corporation in Pekin, IN (2010-2012), South Adams Schools in Berne (2006-2010), Southwestern Consolidated Schools District in Shelbyville (2001-2006), and the Bicentennial Union High School District #76 in Salome, Arizona (2000-2001). Egolf was also the High School Principal at Pike Central High School and Caston Educations Center. Many locals might remember her as a social studies teacher for the Whitley County Consolidated School Corporation (1986-1992/1994-1997). She was honored as Indiana Administrator of the Year by the Indiana Association for Educational Office Professionals in 2004.

Egolf is a Certified Covey Trainer and Facilitator for The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. She has facilitated and been the guest speaker at numerous meetings and workshops across the country. She has been a member of Rotary International and has served on multiple boards of directors.

Egolf and her husband Gary owned Egolf Grain Elevator. They lived in Northeastern REMC's service area until 2000 then returned in 2016. They now reside on E. 7010 N. in Churubusco. The Egolfs have two children and eight grandchildren.



**George A. Schrupf**

George Schrupf of East Shug Road in Columbia City, is one of three elected Whitley County Commissioners, responsible for reviewing all contracts of the county, as well as overseeing the maintenance and operations of the county jail, courthouse, historical museum, government building and highway department. In all, the commissioners oversee 250 employees. He was first elected to this position in 2011. Schrupf currently serves as their board chair and represents the commissioners for the Whitley County Economic Development Commission.

Schrumpf is past owner/president of both Sipe Steel Rule Die Inc, and Inner Pack Inc., and is now 60 percent owner of Wings, Etc. in Columbia City. Currently he serves on the Parkview Whitley Executive Board (4 years), is director/finance chair for Passages, Inc. (4 years), is a member of the Whitley County Community Corrections Advisory Board (2 years), the Whitley County Community Foundation Executive Board (1 year), and is a 5 year board member of the Tri-Lakes Sewer District.

Schrumpf and his wife Lola attend Churubusco United Methodist Church. The Schrupfs have been Northeastern REMC members for five years.

## District 9



**Jane Scott**

Jane A. Scott has served on Northeastern's board of directors four terms. During this time she has earned the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Credentialed Cooperative Director's Certificate, Board Leadership Certificate and Director Gold Certification. Jane has also attended several courses sponsored by NRECA and our statewide association, Indiana Electric Cooperatives (IEC), to further her cooperative education. She currently serves as Vice Chair of the Northeastern

REMC board of directors and as Northeastern's representative on the state board of directors for IEC. She was elected to represent the co-ops of Region 3 for IEC and as such sits on the Executive Committee for IEC.

Scott has served on the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fort Wayne for 15 years which serves Huntington, Wells and Allen counties and currently serves as Board Chair. Over the years she has served on numerous other not-for-profit, philanthropic, church committees and boards. Scott is also past president of the Kosciusko Community YMCA board of directors and former administrator of the Warsaw Community Development Corporation. In addition to being a successful antique dealer in Markle, Indiana, Scott owns her own business in Fort Wayne, Interior ReDesign, which focuses on room makeovers, design assistance and real estate staging. She attended Manchester College, earned a real estate license and a certificate of completion from the Interior Arrangement and Design Association.

Scott and her husband George live on Linden Grove Drive in the Autumn Ridge subdivision and have been REMC members for over 28 years. They have two children and five grandchildren. They are active members of Good Shepherd United Methodist Church where Ms. Scott currently serves as Finance Chair.



**Brandon Stutsman**

Brandon Stutsman, of Perry Lake Drive in Northwest Allen County, currently serves as the Manager on Duty at the Parkview YMCA. In this capacity he works with members resolving any issues that arise, coordinates logistics for meetings, and ensures smooth operations for the entire facility.

Prior to moving to Fort Wayne and becoming a Northeastern REMC member in 2015, Stutsman and his wife, Melissa, lived in Madison, Wisconsin, where Stutsman was the City Manager for Midwestern Wheels, Inc., a regional car rental agency. In that capacity he oversaw all operations of the Madison Service facility and all area off-airport locations. Before being promoted to that position, he managed four Avis and Budget rental stations across the Madison/Wisconsin Dells area. He has earned multiple awards based on customer service and increased revenue for both the Budget and Avis agencies.

Stutsman earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Organizational Management from Goshen College. He and his wife have two children, volunteer at Canterbury School, and are members of Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church.

## District 8



### Joseph Hilger

A life-long resident of Allen County, Joseph Hilger has been a member of Northeastern REMC for over 40 years and served as a director from 1993-2008, during which time he served terms as the board treasurer and secretary. He earned the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate and Board Leadership Certificate and completed other director education courses. Hilger earned an Associate Degree in Agriculture from Vincennes University and recently graduated from Western

Governors University with a Bachelor Degree in Secondary Education

Hilger is presently the manager of Hilger Family Farm and a substitute teacher for Fort Wayne Catholic Diocese Schools. He is former partner/manager at Hilger's Market, a past member of the Allen County Plan Commission and the Bishop Dwenger High School Board of Education.

Hilger and his wife Elaine live on Butt Road. They have 11 children and 34 grandchildren. He is a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus and attends Queen of Angels Catholic Church.



### Erik Linnemeier

Upon graduating from Carroll High School, Erik Linnemeier chose to serve our country by joining the 122nd Indiana National Guard. After an Honorable Discharge from both the Air Guard and the United States Air Force, Linnemeier began a career as a Tool and Die maker while earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from Indiana Wesleyan University Marion Indiana. This led him to positions with Industrial Engineering, L.H. Carbide, Micropulse, Inc., Hirata, and ultimately to his present position as Vice President of Advanced Machine and

Tool, a global production engineering company specializing in the design and build of industrial automated robotic assembly equipment.

Linnemeier is a current member of Pine Hills Church. He also is a 44-year past member and former school board member of Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran School. He assists with business and government affairs at the Lake Township Trustee Office, is a member of the Arcola Volunteer Fire Department, and is a long-time Allen County 4-H Fair Horse and Pony member. Linnemeier is also a graduate of Leadership Whitley County, and numerous professional conferences, seminars and training sessions throughout his professional career.

Linnemeier and his wife of 23 years, Jody, have three children and live on Frazier Drive. Linnemeier grew up in Northeastern REMC's service area and has been a member for decades. He is the son of current/retiring Northeastern REMC District 8 Board Member Dan Linnemeier.

# SPOTLIGHT

## REMC closed on Labor Day

Northeastern's office will be closed Monday, September 4. If you wish to pay your bill, you can do so at any time online at [nremc.com](http://nremc.com), by phone or by using our SmatHub app. A drive-up deposit box is also available for your convenience.

## FREE is good!

Get a whole house energy use consultation done for free from our certified energy advisor. All you need to do to start saving money is call and schedule an appointment with Jeanne Hasty at 625-3700, x 403, or email her at [j\\_hasty@nremc.com](mailto:j_hasty@nremc.com).

## Tree trimming = better service

Tree trimming and brush clearing will continue throughout Jefferson and Smith Townships over the next couple months. This helps minimize contact with power lines which results in better service reliability.



## Our Vision

Service, Satisfaction and Safety -  
Second to None!

## Our Mission

To meet our members' on-going need for reliable energy service at a good value while meriting trust and confidence.

**WIN TWO FRONT ROW SEATS  
AND  
BEHIND STAGE ACCESS  
to be photographed with**

## **Thompson Square**



### **NREMC's Member Appreciation Night & Annual Meeting Saturday, August 26**

If you sign up to participate in Northeastern REMC's Operation RoundUp program the night of our Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting before our meeting starts at 7 pm, your name will be entered in this special drawing!

Operation RoundUp assists LOCAL organizations in need of financial support. Members participating in this charitable program round up their monthly bill to the next dollar each month. The money collected from all participants is dispersed by a board of trustees made up of REMC members. All money stays in our community. On average members participating donate approximately \$6 per year.

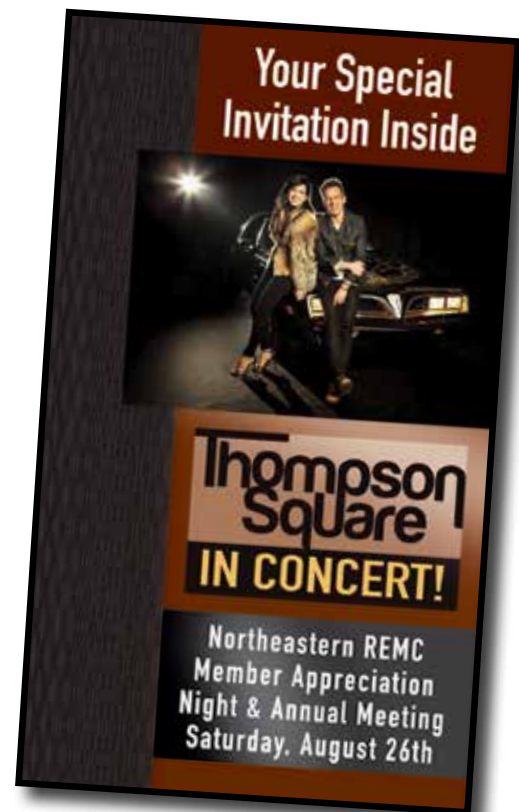
Your spare change can make a HUGE difference in this community. Please consider signing up!



## **Supervised children's program eliminated - seats are now required for all children**

This year there will be no supervised children's program offered during our Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting.

In place of the children's program, our expo area will feature a new family-friendly area appropriate for children 4 years old or older who are accompanied by their parents. Face painting, caricatures, safety demonstrations and gifts will be provided. These stations will close at the start of the 7 p.m. meeting. All children will be required to have a seat and remain with parents throughout the entire evening. A total family count must be provided when submitting reservations.



**Watch your mail for your special invitation to our Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting.**

**Respond quickly – all seats are reserved based on the postmark of your return reservation card.**

**We hope you can join us for a fun-filled evening August 26!**

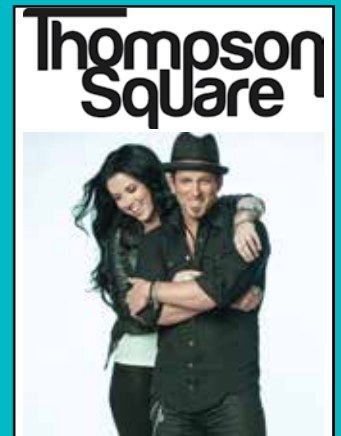
PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
NORTHEASTERN  
REMC

Get to know all  
your director  
candidates



**PAGE Two**

WIN front row  
tickets and  
behind stage  
access



**PAGE Five**