



NIPSCO shines light on community leaders



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TIMES CORRESPONDENT

MERRILLVILLE | NIPSCO honored community leaders and organizations Thursday at its second annual Luminary Awards at the company's headquarters.

The Luminary Award is a recognition for exceptional community service in categories including community leadership, economic development, education, emergency response and environmental stewardship.

NIPSCO made a \$1,000 contribution to each award winner's charity of choice and also celebrated the completion of a companywide fundraising initiative benefiting the American Red Cross, its 2013 Charity of Choice. Through blood drives, fundraisers and other events, NIPSCO employees raised \$100,000 for the Red Cross.

"This helps us continue the amazing work of the American Red Cross," said Sharyn Whitman, CEO, American Red Cross Indiana-Ohio Region.

Times Executive Editor William Nangle was the recipient of the Luminary Award for community leadership.

Nangle said he came to Northwest Indiana on a career track that predicted he'd be here five years. That was 43 years ago.

"I ran into the spirit and the people of this community and found it's a wonderful place to raise a family, a wonderful place to do business, and a wonderful place to live," he said. "As an editor I reach into all different sectors of Northwest Indiana. And I know there are so many good people, so many good leaders, who are far more suitable for receiving this than I am. But I am thankful."

Goshen College received the Luminary for environmental stewardship. The college is part of NIPSCO's Green Power Program.

"It is an honor," said Glenn Gilbert, the college's utilities manager and sustainability coordinator. "NIPSCO's been a good utility to work with. We've made a commitment to reducing our carbon footprint as substantial as we can."

The Michigan City Police and Fire departments received the emergency response award for their role in saving 6-year-old Nathan Woessner after he fell into a hole while climbing Mount Baldy in July.

“We feel honored because when we look back on that afternoon it really drives home what we did that day saving young Nathan’s life,” said Michigan City Police Chief Mark Swistek. “Having personally met his family as a father I’m very blessed to know we played a big part in Nathan’s life.”

Linda Woloshansky, president and CEO of the Center of Workforce Innovations, received the Luminary Award for education.

Holladay Properties received the economic development award.

NIPSCO CEO Jim Stanley said Luminary Awards began a year ago as a way to recognize the leadership its recipients provide all across the northern part of the state.

“It was a way to help grow and guide and lead our communities and partner with us,” he said.

NIPSCO President Kathleen O’Leary said they received many nominations and the difficulty selecting the award winners is a testament to the quality and the commitment of the organizations and the individuals who serve communities all across northern Indiana.

For more information on the NIPSCO Luminary Awards, [click here](#).