

THE UTE LETTER

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June 2019

FROM THE DESK OF JEFF KOHRS:

The flooding continues to impact not only our operations but also our employees that live in Iowa and the highways and Interstate in our area. The river levels continue to be in the flood stage and it appears that the levels may run high for quite some time. There is talk that major improvements to the bridge and Hwy 2 in Iowa are coming. I hope that's true, we'll wait and see on that one.

Jerry, Nate, Sonny, and John continue working on the repairs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. A lot of equipment, pumps, motors, meters etc. were damaged and either had to be repaired or replaced. Thanks guys for your dedication and hard work getting the plant back to normal operations.

Work on putting unit #7 back together at the Syracuse plant has been completed. There have been a few things to work on to finish it up including running the engine to break it in. There were definitely some obstacles to overcome that pushed the completion of this project out. Thanks for getting it done.

Carl had an accident this past weekend at home. We're not sure of the full extent of the injury or the exact course of action, as of this writing, but hope that whatever it involves results in a quick and full recovery for Carl.

Summer is always a busy time of year trying to get as many projects done as possible, so please take your time, work safely and let's be careful out there.

ELECTRIC DEPT:

Carl Abbott

The summer months are here. A few of the days have shown us that heat and humidity will happen. The construction period has been challenging to communicate when jobs can't be started and completed due to the untimely rains and limited drying time between rains.

We have several projects started, including the first 5 lots in the Evergreens Place Addition in Bennet, as well as 2 other line extensions. We did get a line extension completed in Bennet. We also started on the Sports Complex in Palmyra, but due to the rains we are waiting on some drying time to bury some more conduit and set the Transformer. The 4th Corso Viaduct seems to be moving closer to completion, so we will look forward to getting the East Loop Circuit back together, and a second feed to Kearney Hill Sub.

I would like to welcome our new summer interns from Metro community college Boone Leib and Jacob Eastwood. Our Summer help Christian Fredericks will be attending line school next year. We wish these young men good luck, and we are glad to help give them an opportunity to learn and grow in this great profession. Please help keep them safe and teach them good safe working habits.

I would like to remind all the employees to remember the little people in our communities. Watch for them entering the roadways while riding their bikes etc. I hope everyone has an enjoyable summer and has the opportunity to set aside some time to be with your family. Please remember to stay focused and work safely.

GAS AND WATER DEPT:

Bryan Turner

Well at least the rain has slowed down a bit if not stopped. Everyone has been keeping busy with repairing water leaks and taking care of the damage they cause. Ron's crew was busy putting 10th street back together after that water leak and taking care of some work on a couple gas services. Dan's crew has been working hard to move a gas service on our transmission main out by the tap. We will be starting on some bigger projects starting soon including water and gas main replacement.

We took a lightning strike out by the Avoca tap a while back that damaged a lot of our electronics. Gary, Mike, and Shawn have been busy getting things to work out there while we wait for some new parts. Everyone is wanting to dig, and so Brad has been extremely busy keeping up with all of the locates and working on the GIS system. John has started walking the gas lines in Syracuse and taking care of a lot of the other little things I need done.

I want to take this opportunity to say thanks to all of our employees for their hard work and that I appreciate it very much. Stay safe out there and I hope the bugs don't carry anyone away.

STORES DEPT:

Sharon Smulling

Happy summer! Summer does mean bugs, bugs, and more bugs! Plus, that nasty poison ivy is out with a vengeance. The Stores Department has a good supply of repellent that is for the skin and clothing. FR and non-FR formulas. See us if you need any of these items.

JULY BIRTHDAYS:

Carl Abbott	7-11-53
Jeff Liesemeyer	7-31-78
Howard Orndorff	7-07-62
John Stidd	7-06-71
Sonny Stitt	7-31-66
Bryan Turner	7-09-63

JULY WORK ANNIVERSARIES:

Kyle Connell	7-25-17
Jake Coyan	7-13-15
Craig Davis	7-02-84
Lori Neeman	7-01-03
Brian Spurlock	7-30-12
Miki Van Renan	7-13-95

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

My name is Travis Peterson and I am the new Assistant Operator at the Power Plant. I also, work with my Dad, helping with his cattle. I graduated from SCC- Milford with an Electromechanical degree in December 2018. I enjoy hunting, fishing, and boating.