

THE UTE LETTER

252 Edition of the Nebraska City Utilities News

December 2019

FROM THE DESK OF JEFF KOHRS:

I'm hopeful that everyone was able to spend time with family and friends over Thanksgiving. We certainly live in a great country and have so much to be thankful for.

I don't know for sure how many participated in our annual "Pig Out Day". Hopefully you were able to. Had a lot of good food and opportunities to visit. We did see several of our retired employees and spouses, so it was good to sit a visit with them. Thanks to everyone who stopped by.

Our annual audit was recently completed and presented to the Board at their meeting December 12th. Thanks especially to Mona and her team for all the additional work to pull all the information and documentation together.

By now everyone should have seen a letter that outlines the upcoming change in payroll dates beginning next December. If you have any questions, please see me.

The Mayor declared Christmas Eve as an additional holiday again this year. If you were planning to be off on vacation anyway on Christmas Eve you will be able to carry an additional day into the next calendar year.

Thanks Mary Lynn for coordinating the "Adopt a Christmas Family" project again this year. We are so blessed and have very generous employees that help to make Christmas a bit brighter for a family in our community.

I hope you are all able to enjoy the Christmas Season and OD on all the football games. Have a Happy and Blessed New Year!

Please remember to work safe and let's be careful out there.

Merry Christmas!!

ELECTRIC DEPT:

Carl Abbott

The 2019 calendar year has gone very fast. The crews have cleaned up the railroad derailment, got all the circuits tied back together, and all the conduits that needed to be installed for underground services this winter have been buried. We have several pressing jobs that will still need to be worked into the schedule, no matter what weather we encounter, but I feel good with the progress we have made. Thanks to all the crews for stepping up and getting the jobs completed to a spot where if the weather changes, we can still move forward. We have many jobs that will get finished this winter, but if the frost gets too cold, and the frost gets deep, we are to a point we can put the trenchers away.

I want to extend Happy HOLIDAYS to all my co-workers and their families and hope everyone gets to enjoy each other. There are many distractions in our daily lives, as well as work, and please remember to use good judgement, and look after your fellow co-workers and keep each other safe. One second can change peoples' lives forever.

GAS & WATER DEPT:

Bryan Turner

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Well it's December 11th today and we DROVE into the well field for the first time today since March 13th. It was in a tractor, but we drove. There is still some water covering the road leading to the entrance, but the road in the wells is dry.

Ron's crew has been working on clearing the mud from the road and getting the gate open and clear, they've also finished tying on the water services on 4th Avenue for the first 3 blocks and killed the old main for that stretch. Dan's crew has been busy with cleaning up the mess on 1st Avenue from a water main break and replacing a broken valve near the same hole. They've also started the Annual DRS inspections and are replacing a leaking Gas main valve in Syracuse. Shawn has been busy with meter maintenance and will be assisting Gary install the new corrector at the Avoca Tap. John has completed the Business survey and has been busy helping Brad with locates and filling in where necessary. Kenny has been helping John with the leak survey out west, reading meters and taking care of a lot of locates. Tommy has replaced an impeller at the 9th St lift station that has been causing issues and been making sure the lift stations are ready for Winter. Brad's been doing a lot of locates while the weather has been decent, everyone is trying to get things done before the weather makes things too difficult and assisting JEO and the Electric department with the new mapping.

On the safety side of things, the new inflatable shoring has been delivered and the crews have put it to use. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

SERVICE DEPT:

Mary Lynn Hall

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all of our generous employees who sponsored the families we were assigned to sponsor from the Angel Tree Program!!!!!! I'm sure the kids will love their gifts. May God bless all of you for using your good fortune to help these families and let's all say a prayer for them.

I would like to wish everyone a very Blessed and Merry Christmas. I hope your time with your families and friends will be amazing. Happy New Year also and be safe!

STORES DEPT:

Sharon Smulling

The warehouse is busy as usual. Dan Hopper has completed his "train the trainer" course for our forklift. I would like to thank Kory White for filling that job the last time we had a training session. This winter we will have Dan plan and inform everyone when we will refresh everyone with forklift safety.

From everyone in the Stores Department, I would like to wish everyone a joyous Christmas season. Christ is the reason for the season.

**** Correction****

Tom Lant served in the National Guard and the Navy, not in the Army as stated in the November issue. Thank you for your service Tom.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT:

Mark Lant

Hello NCU Family! The crew here at the Water Plant hopes your December is off to a great start. We hope you have all recovered from Thanksgiving and are prepared for Christmas and all the good food that it will bring your way.

It has been very busy here at the plant working around vacations, maintenance, and preparing for a plant inspection. As of today, we are finally at 18ft River Stage and are hoping to be able to access the Wellfield soon to get started on cleanup and maintenance that we have not been able to do on a regular basis for some time now.

Have a great Christmas everyone, I hope that you are all able to slow down and soak up some time with those that you care about. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Crew I am Blessed to be a part of here at the Water Plant. A big thank you to Dean Hauptman who I can still remember asking me (How long you been here Kid?) When I asked questions, he thought I should know the answer to 😊. Also, a big Thanks to Cathy Meyer, Steven Roush, Casey Borer, and Shane Bassinger for all that you do! There are so many Utility employees that I have been able to work alongside with over the years that I have been here, and I am so appreciative for those working friendships and Hope only the best for you all! Merry Christmas my Friends, and God Bless You Always!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Stuart Abbott	1-08-84
Tavis Conner	1-26-82
Logan Crunk	1-28-85
Mark Francois	1-24-66
John Hodges	1-27-79
Ron Lechner	1-14-71
Frank Stidd	1-21-77

JANUARY WORK ANNIVERSARIES:

Carl Abbott	1-23-78
Justin Conner	1-03-12
Jeff Liesemeyer	1-12-98
Rob Schreiner	1-05-98



MERRY CHRISTMAS