

THE UTE LETTER

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September 2019

FROM THE DESK OF JEFF KOHRS:

First day of autumn is September 23rd. Where did the summer go? I'm sure we're all hoping for a long extended fall to enjoy outdoor activities and to get important work done while the weather is good.

We will be observing Public Power Week and Public Natural Gas Week October 6th thru October 12th. This is that week that communities recognize the importance and benefits public power and public natural gas systems provide their communities. There are over 2,000 communities all across the country that enjoy Public Power, but Nebraska is unique in that we're the only state in the country that is a 100% Public Power state. We plan on having a proclamation by the Mayor at the Council Meeting of October 7th for both departments. We will also have some refreshments and handouts for our customers that come in during the week of October 7th and will have a couple of drawings for prizes to show our appreciation for our customers.

A flyer was put in the payroll envelopes September 5th for Teammates. If you're interested in being a mentor for this program or have some questions, please feel free to contact me. I have extra flyers if you've misplaced yours or I can reach out to a person involved with this program and put them in touch with you.

Thanks everyone for helping to make Nebraska City a great community to live and work in. Your hard work and dedication make Nebraska City Utilities a huge asset to our community.

Work safely and let's be careful out there.

ELECTRIC DEPT:

Carl Abbott

The Electric Department is very busy with various projects. Most recently the findings of two 69 KVA poles on south First Street needed serious stabilization actions due to the recent wet and flood conditions on south Table Creek. The train derailment has caused some major work due to the overhead lines needed to be removed for equipment access to build a new railroad bridge. The rebuild along the 4th Corso viaduct and south 3rd Street is winding down. The West loop and South loop have been completed, along with the new dual feed for the Kearney Hill Sub-station. When the job is completed, it will be nice to retire the old line that was built in the ditch over 40 years ago. The crews have also finished the new sports complex in Palmyra, along with a line extension in Bennet, and several services in Bennet, NC, and Dunbar.

We still have 5 underground services in Bennet, one in Douglas, two in Palmyra and NC, along with new homes being built on acreages in Otoe and the Foxx Creek sub-division. Some major construction projects are in the works, 3 separate 4160 overhead 3 phase line extensions to build in NC. We will also build a 3-phase transformer bank and service in Palmyra for the Softball Park and move some existing facilities in a drainage ditch.

Please remember to get your vacations scheduled. I would like to congratulate Tony on his Retirement and welcome Dan to NCU. I would also like to extend best wishes to all the summer help and wish them well in their future careers. Please remember to work safe.

GAS & WATER DEPT:

Bryan Tuner

I'm writing this on Friday the 13th so hopefully everything comes out all right. The crews are staying very busy with projects and all of the other things that come up. Ron's crew has started to transfer water services from an old 4" CI water main to a 12" DI main along 4th Avenue. Dan's crew has started a Gas Main replacement on 7th Avenue on 7th & 8th St. to get rid of some steel main with Cathodic Protection issues. Along with that, we've cut off services to a couple of houses for demolition and have a couple of new services to install.

Brad has been busy with locating for all of our projects and working with the crews doing the work over in our Pole Yard. Tommy with the help of Derek, when I can make him available, have been keeping up on sewer maintenance and getting manholes and mains figured out for an upcoming sewer lining project. John has been busy with checking and correcting the issues the Fire Marshal found on his inspection, we did really well and a lot of that goes to John and Brad keeping on top of things and the crews thoroughness in inspecting our system. Shawn has been busy testing meters and taking care of the hydrant devices when they come back in, they've gone out a lot this year. He's also been working with Gary to get the new corrector for the Avoca tap ready. I want to thank Gary and Mike for the help they've given me with the issues we've had at the Taps lately. I also want to thank Jake for his help with the seeding project out on Maplecrest Drive, he made it a lot easier for us to get that done.

Make sure you take the chance to enjoy some of this great Fall weather we've been having, and let's stay safe out there.

WATER PLANT:

Mark Lant

Hello NCU Family and happy September from us here at the Water Plant. It has been nice having some cool mornings lately. Each year at this time I appreciate the more comfortable days, but it's always a good reminder of how much I hope to accomplish before the colder weather gets here.

We hope that you are all doing well! The guys are doing a great job here at the plant and are keeping busy as usual. So far this month we have had to replace the motor on the lime elevator, and currently we are working on power washing the top of the large clearwell so that we can get a good coat of sealant on it. I'm curious to see how many total hours it will take us to finish the power washing. Any guesses out there?? I'll let you know next newsletter. Enjoy the rest of your month everyone and stay safe out there. As always Be Blessed!!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

Chris Koperski	10-03-71
Dan Maddox	10-05-65
Travis Peterson	10-21-91
Rob Schreiner	10-14-65
Brian Spurlock	10-20-78
Jacob Walters	10-04-85

OCTOBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES:

David Hoyle	10-09-95
Nate McAlexander	10-13-97
Sharon Smulling	10-16-89
John Stidd	10-15-18
Mike Tellez	10-01-13

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

My name is Dan Hopper and I am the new guy in the Warehouse. I am married to Jessica. We have one son Greyson age 2 and one due in March 2020. I lived in Texas until 2011 when I came back to Nebraska City. My previous jobs include working at Region V and for the Garbage company. My hobbies include golf, bowling, football, motorcycles, and spending time with my family.