

NDAREC observes Co-op Month with grand opening

The North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) unveiled the new, 26,337-square-foot Lineworker Training Center and NDAREC headquarters facility at a grand re-opening event on Friday, Oct. 14.

“The new Lineworker Training Center stands as a testament of the electric cooperative commitment to our current and future workforce, to meeting the needs of our industry and, above all, powering the lives of our members and the communities we serve,” says Josh Kramer, NDAREC general manager and executive vice president.

The newly constructed 26,337-square-foot Lineworker Training Center will provide enhanced, year-round training for students of Bismarck State College’s (BSC) lineworker program and the electric cooperative workforce. The facility boasts an 18,000-square-foot indoor training arena and 50-foot walls with



44-foot ceiling clearance, providing opportunities for lineworkers and students to practice skills required for the construction and maintenance of overhead and underground electrical infrastructure. Two classrooms for instruction and a simulator room for Commercial

Driver’s License (CDL) training are also included in the facility.

Owned by NDAREC and its members, the training center is leased by BSC to offer the lineworker program. Since 1970, this public-private partnership has trained more than 1,700 skilled apprentice lineworkers.

NDAREC’s member-cooperatives provided critical support for the training center, and a \$4 million grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) covered about 70% of the total project costs.

“North Dakota’s electric cooperatives have doubled down on their

commitment to improving the quality of life of the people they serve by reinvesting in this critical workforce,” Kramer says.

The renovated NDAREC headquarters facility was designed to meet the future needs of North Dakota’s electric cooperatives. A major

highlight of the building is the Cooperative Center, which offers flexible education, training and meeting spaces with improved technology. Adorned with floor-to-ceiling artwork, video monitors and displays, the Cooperative Center tells the story of North Dakota’s electric cooperatives and shares the cooperative principles and values that guide their work. Two electric vehicle charging stations have also been installed for future use.

“For more than 80 years, North Dakota’s electric cooperatives have evolved to meet the needs of their members. These investments show that, as cooperatives, we are focused on the future and ready to meet the challenges ahead for our industry,” Kramer says. “And, as we celebrate National Co-op Month in October, cooperative principle No. 6 — cooperation among cooperatives — is a guiding reminder that, together, we can accomplish great things. The cooperative spirit is alive and well.”

Empower your financial future with a credit union

On October 20, 2022, Community Credit Union will join over 56,000 credit unions around the world to celebrate International Credit Union Day®. The theme of ICU Day 2022 is “Empower Your Financial Future with a Credit Union.”

ICU Day highlights the many ways that credit unions across the world help members

improve their financial health and well-being.

Credit unions were built on the principle of “people helping people.”

“We’ve seen that philosophy in action for more than 100 years, with credit unions providing access to affordable financial products and striving to meet the needs of underserved communities,” said Barbara Messner, Commu-

nity Credit Union President. Community Credit Union is honored to be a part of this proud tra-



dition, as they celebrate 80 years of service to our communities this year.

Did you know that

credit unions account for more than \$226 billion in economic impact every year, and collectively serve more than 130 million members across the U.S.?

“Ultimately our goal is for more people to understand the important role credit unions play in their community,” said Megan Crowson, manager of consumer engagement for CUNA.

“If we can encourage someone to reach out to a credit union for help on their financial journey, then this program was a success!”

On this International Credit Union Day®, or any day of the year for that matter, know that your local Credit Union is there to help you achieve your financial goals.

Celebrate with these local cooperatives!

Arrowwood Prairie Co-op

Carrington Locations
 Propane and Bulk Fuels 652-3172
 Agronomy 652-2913
 C-Store 652-3949

Co-op Month Food Drive

October is National Co-op Month. In honor of Co-op Month, Fessenden Co-op Association will be collecting & distributing pantry items to local area food pantries. Drop off at the following locations’ main office:

- Fessenden
- Hamberg
- Esmond
- Maddock
- Precision Ag
- Harlow
- Carrington (CCG & CCMP)
- New Rockford
- Sheyenne
- Oberon

Oct. 20 is International Credit Union Day

Community Credit Union

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