

What's Developing

The Eureka Community Development Company recently completed their annual Care Package project. This is the third consecutive year that it has been done.

The idea for the project originated when the board of directors discussed the need for youth in the town. Because Eureka High School graduates know the town very well and that the most recent graduates are the ones currently in the process of setting the course for their future, the board decided to target those youth. The first year of the project Care Packages were sent to the most recent graduates, and since that time graduates from the two most recent years have received Care Packages.

Here's how the program works: A package is sent to each of the graduates. They get the message that they are receiving the Care Package because "Someone Cares" for them. It is sent during the fall when many of them have been away from home for a while and they receive them before the holidays. The two main messages that they receive are that their hometown cares for them and that Eureka would like them to return at some point in their lives.

The packages vary year to year, but they always contain letters from people in Eureka, a copy of the Northwest Blade, a package of Kauk's beef jerky, and information about Eureka.

All are invited to return to their hometown to run a business, work, raise a family...or if the return is a long ways off, to retire here. All are welcomed to return to the place where they grew up. Those who already live in Eureka also receive a Care Package.

Too often the youth in small towns are urged to leave and are told that they cannot make a living in their hometown. And, all too often they are never asked to return. They hear just the opposite when they receive their Care Packages.

The future of our town depends on youth. Many have already returned and that is setting a very optimistic outlook for Eureka.

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