

What's Developing

In the look back at the past 30 years of Eureka Community Development Company's history, the year of 1999 saw a big boost in local employment in a new business. Many joint meetings of the city council and ECDC were held to make and finalize plans for The Connection, an inbound telemarketing call center. ECDC did a job survey to find available workers, Job Fairs were held, and a typing training was held at the local school through Job Service. Financing was through a Community Development Block Grant, state REDI loans, and the county provided half the cost of the parking lot. The first employees hired traveled to Mobridge for training while the call center in Eureka was being set up. By June employment was at 60, and 40 additional cubicles were then added for additional employees.

The Information Center building was still being set up with help from several organizations. The American Legion donated the flag pole and the labor to install it. A TV/VCR was donated by the Saddle Club with assistance from other organizations. A small grant was received for landscaping plants. Water seeping into the building during rains was an ongoing concern and remedies to prevent it continued to be tried.

The Eureka Community Beautification Company (ECBC), spearheaded by Milbert Schick, was organized under ECDC with its own board of directors – Milbert Schick, David Roggenkamp, Wanda Jundt, Nancy Krein, Arlo Mehlhaff, Howard Mettler, Arnold Lapp and Don Kallenberger. There were five properties in the initial cleanup.

The group worked with Leola on the Dakota Dairy project with Leola, however it never materialized.

Mickey Neuharth set up the original website for ECDC this year.

Business Day sessions were held in Eureka in conjunction with Small Business Development Center.

Personnel from Information Centers in SD came to Eureka in a large bus. ECDC hosted them and taught them about the area – they were treated to lunch at the Lyric, they had a tour of the museum, they were given tourism highlights by community members and received information packets of the area.

An effort to have kuchen named as the state dessert was spearheaded by ECDC. Sen. Lawler introduced the bill. Many community members were involved in the effort. The bill was defeated, and plans began for the effort in the upcoming year.

ECDC met with Chamber to help them revive their organization and Shop at Home campaign was done in conjunction with Chamber.

K&A Implement was named Retailer of the Year in SD for 1999.

ECDC began working with Eureka Manufacturing so necessary upgrades could be made.

ECDC made decorations and decorated a tree for a Christmas tree at the State Capital.

New board members were Bonnie Serr, Neal Woehlhaff, and Richard Vetch.

Wanda Jundt