

## What's Developing

This column is a look at the highlights of 2007 as the Eureka Community Development Company celebrates 30 years as a nonprofit serving the community.

The search for a new business to occupy the ECDC building in the Industrial Park following the closure of ATI call center took time and effort during the year. The available building was listed on several websites. The ECDC board of directors spent several evenings going through all the equipment and determining what was usable for future businesses.

ECDC had several meetings and a public forum was held with Performance Centers call center from Fargo and Oakes. Call center cubicles were reconfigured and agreements were in place and the company worked with both ECDC and the Governor's Office of Economic Development during several meetings. A labor survey was conducted to find available labor for the call center. In the end, they did not expand to Eureka.

Land was purchased from several different people for future business development in an area adjacent to Highway 10. Legal work continued to get clear title to the land, buildings were removed, and fill was hauled in. Costs for a possible building for a strip mall came in too high for a profitable cash flow for tenants, so the plans were reworked many times in an effort to get the costs to an acceptable level.

That year the Eureka Bakery owned by Wickoren closed, a loan was made to Kauk's Meat Market for equipment, and several meetings were held with a person interested in opening a hardware store in Eureka.

The Daktronics display sign for Chamber was installed and ECDC agreed to do the programming.

An assessment was held in the community, committees were formed, and several projects were completed.

A federal USDA-Rural Development RCDI (Rural Community Development Initiatives) grant for \$60,000 over 3 years was approved for salary, training, and equipment. A \$5,000 grant was received from the Northwest Area Foundation to continue work on a 3-year plan with them.

New board members that year were Mike Vaupel and Clayton Randall.

*Wanda Jundt*