



photo by Ginny Watterson

# RINGER

JUNE 2019



# NCC



**Official Notice of NCC Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 18, 2019**  
at the NCC Warehouse in Ray 111 Railroad Ave.

- 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. .... **Registration**
- 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. .... **Demonstration Booths**
- 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. .... **Kids Entertainment**  
*Prize Drawings for Kids. Grand Prize: Video Game System.*
- 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. .... **Free Meal**  
*Shredded beef sandwiches and sides.*
- 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. .... **Entertainment by DMJ**  
*An all-female band/trio from Williston with beautiful harmony, a variety of instrumentation, and a contemporary folk style.*
- 6:30 p.m. .... **Business Meeting**  
*Cash Drawings during Business Meeting including the Grand Prize of \$500 Cash.*



**Two Directors will be elected to three year terms:**

- **District #5** LESLIE GRUBB (uncontested)  
– Powers Lake and Columbus exchanges.
- **District #6** LORENA LAMBRECHT (incumbent)  
– Tioga exchange.

**REMINDER: Bring your postcard invitation for faster registration!**



## Elda Titus Retires from Board of Directors

### Director Retires

After serving the cooperative for 36 years on the Board of Directors, Elda Titus announced her retirement effective June 18, 2019. Elda began her position on the board on April 6, 1983. Since this time she's been an integral

piece of the planning to see NCC transition from a telephone company providing plain old telephone service to present day of offering 1,000Mbps (1Gig) of broadband internet speeds to every customer in the NCC service area. This was in addition to a career as a Registered Nurse and raising a family.

When asked what Elda will be doing with her extra time, she smiles and says that she will replace that time 'participating on other boards in her community.' Elda's commitment to her community is unique. NCC sincerely thanks Elda for her leadership, commitment and positive outlook as a director.

### Capital Credits

As a cooperative, NCC allocates annual operating margins, or profits, to members receiving service during the year. These margins (revenue in excess of expenses) are allocated using a proportional ratio (using the dollar amount of service that each member purchases in a year compared to the total service purchased by all members) and are called capital credits. They are used by NCC for operating funds and when deemed financially possible, NCC's board of directors vote on dispensing capital credit funds back to the members through a retirement. The 2018 Margin and Excise Tax Allocation is \$2,905,641.43. Capital credits are not available to members as cash until the NCC Board of Directors authorizes their retirement. They vote on an annual basis whether or not to retire a certain percentage of the accumulated capital credits. As a member, your capital credits continue to accumulate even though the general retirements are not made. In 2019, the Board of Directors voted to retire only estate retirements.

NCC cooperative members will soon be mailed your annual allocation statement, which provides the total amount of capital credits earned for doing business with NCC. This statement is for your records only, and no further action is required. If you cease to purchase services from NCC, please keep us informed of your address in future years. This will enable us to forward payment when the capital credits are retired for the year or years of your membership.

#### PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Capital Credit Allocation Statement is not a bill. You do not owe those amounts.
- These amounts are NOT now payable and do not represent cash, but rather your equity in NCC.
- You cannot apply these amounts to your bill.

Your cooperative began with a mission to provide telecommunication services to people in northwest North Dakota. We are committed to continue that mission to keep you connected.

### Grant Opportunities

Each year, NCC commits nearly \$50,000 in donations, sponsorships and scholarships in and around the communities we serve. Grants to local organizations are a large priority of these commitments. We are excited to again offer the following grant opportunities:

#### Rural Development Finance Corporation (RDFC) grant:

NCC and the other Rural ILECs in ND are given \$2,000 to distribute to community owned entities, non-profits and other community-based projects. Funds available up to \$2,000. This grant requires a \$4 of your funds to every \$1 of RDFC funds. Due back to NCC by August 15, 2019.

#### CoBank grant:

NCC is again partnering this year with CoBank to provide a grant of up to \$15,000. Entities who can apply must be a 501 (c)(3) charity, school or government organization such as counties or municipalities and their agencies or departments. Due back to NCC by September 16, 2019.

If you belong to an organization that might benefit from one or both of these, please find more information and applications on our website at [www.nccray.com](http://www.nccray.com), email [ncc@nccray.com](mailto:ncc@nccray.com) to request an application or stop by our office at 111 Railroad Avenue in Ray.



### Should you drop your landline?

Let our experts help talk you through the decision.  
Call 568-3331 today!

## Cable TV Notification

The FCC requires that as a Video TV provider, NCC must notify customers annually of the following information:

- NCC provides Video TV services to customers in the towns of Lignite and Flaxton and the exchanges of Alamo, Bowbells, Columbus, Crosby, Epping, Grenora, Marmon, McGregor, Noonan Powers Lake, Ray, Round Prairie, Tioga and Wildrose.
- Cable TV packages available in RF areas include: Economy Package for \$28.44/mo., Basic Package for \$71.49/mo. and Expanded Basic with HD channels and access to one HD set-top box for and additional \$28.95/mo. The Economy and Basic Package are available to all TV sets in the premise. A set-top box is needed for each TV to receive the Expanded Basic package. You must subscribe to the Basic package in order to subscribe to the Expanded Basic package, and the Expanded Basic package if you would like to subscribe to any of the Premium Packages. Advanced TV is available in areas with fiber optics and is priced as follows: Economy Package for \$28.44/mo., Basic package for \$74.50/mo. and Expanded Basic package for \$100.85/mo. and includes up to (2) set-top boxes. A set-top box is required for every TV set to receive any of the Advanced TV packages. Premium Packages are as follows: HBO - \$17/mo., Cinemax - \$11/mo., Starz/Encore - \$11/mo. and Showtime - \$15.00/mo. Additional HD set top boxes are \$5.95/mo. DVR feature is \$9.95/mo. A local broadcast fee of \$16.05/mo. is assessed to all Video customers. Pay-Per-View options, NFL RedZone and Whole Home DVR service are available with Advanced TV. Current pricing can be found on the NCC website at [www.nccray.com](http://www.nccray.com). Pricing does not include franchise, FCC fees & taxes.
- Cable TV installation is \$25.00, plus the costs of any additional equipment and time spent installing this equipment.
- Instructions on how to use our Cable TV service is provided to customers by an NCC technician at the time of installation. Additional information about the equipment can be found online at [www.nccray.com](http://www.nccray.com).
- Channel line-ups are available on the NCC website at [www.nccray.com](http://www.nccray.com).
- Customers with billing questions or complaints in regards to billing, signal quality, equipment issues, etc. can contact NCC by calling 568-3331 during normal business hours or by emailing [ncc@nccray.com](mailto:ncc@nccray.com).
- Information on the set-top box, DVR and universal remote that NCC utilizes with our Cable TV system can be found on our website at [www.nccray.com](http://www.nccray.com). These manuals will provide information about the compatibility with your TV, VCR or any other system you may be using. Additional universal remotes are available for purchase at NCC, but may also be purchased at any local retail outlet that sells TV equipment.
- To protect our customer's information, NCC adheres to an authentication procedure before information is shared and/or changes are made to accounts.

Cooperative Members will be voting at the Annual Meeting on June 18th.

## NCC Director Candidate Profiles:



**LESLIE GRUBB**  
Uncontested  
– DISTRICT 5 –  
*Powers Lake  
and Columus*

The candidate director for District #5 is Leslie Grubb. She is a graduate of Powers Lake High School and Minot State University with a degree in Finance and concentrations in Accounting and Management.

Leslie is currently employed by Liberty State Bank as a Loan and Compliance Officer and has 13 years of banking experience. She serves as Treasurer for the Women's Group of Holy Cross Lutheran Church where she also teaches Sunday School. She has recently coached girls' basketball as well.

Leslie and her husband Tyler, a farmer and handyman, have been married for 12 years this summer and have been blessed with four children: Oakley, Ella, Owen, and Ozmon. She enjoys spending time with her family, music, organizing, pontoon rides, and attending community and sporting events.

The incumbent director from District #6 is Lorena Lambrecht. She has served on the NCC Board of Directors since 2007. She is also currently serving as the 1st Vice President on the board of the Broadband Association of North Dakota (BAND). She is a graduate of Tioga High School and has taken college courses at Minot State University and also through the University of Indiana's long distance learning program.

Lorena has been employed at the Tioga Medical Center for 39 years; 10 years as a Certified Nursing Assistant and the last 29 years as an Activity Coordinator. She has been a member of the local chapter of Dollars for Scholars for seventeen years. She is also serving on the board for the Tioga Public Schools Endowment Fund and is currently its secretary.

Lorena's husband, Daren, is employed with the Hess Corporation. They have two daughters, Krista, and Kelsey. Lorena enjoys fishing, golfing, gardening, walking, and most importantly of all, spending time with her family.



**LORENA LAMBRECHT**  
Incumbent  
– DISTRICT 6 –  
*Tioga*

## New Telephone Listings

### CROSBY

Montoya Kyle & Hannah..... 965-8758

### EPPING

Helms Glenn & Tammy..... 859-8181

### TIOGA

Zion Lutheran Church..... 664-6706

## Pedestal Damage Notice!



### ATTENTION FARMERS:

This past farming season, you may have accidentally hit an NCC pedestal in your field. Please report any pedestal damage by calling the NCC office at 568-3331.



## Join NCC at the local events happening this month!

- Saturday, June 1st  
Youth Fishing Derby  
in Powers Lake
- Saturday, June 15th  
Divide County Fair
- Wednesday, June 19th  
UMVF Co-op Supper
- Thursday, June 20th  
Crosby Country Club  
Ag Open Golf Tournament
- Saturday, June 22nd  
Burke County Fair  
FREE BBQ lunch on Saturday  
at Fairgrounds in Flaxton

## Notes

- Happy Father's Day on June 16th!
- Like us on Facebook! Go to [facebook.com/northwestcommunications](https://facebook.com/northwestcommunications)
- After hours technical support is available by calling our office number at 568-3331. If they are unable to help you, NCC employees are on call for any emergency outages.



**Report Trouble:** 611  
**Email:** [ncc@nccray.com](mailto:ncc@nccray.com)  
**Ph:** 701-568-3331 or 800-245-5884  
**Directory Assistance:** 411  
**Call Before You Dig:** 811  
**Newsletter Editor:** Angela Schepp  
**Design:** [lori@leutzgraphics.com](mailto:lori@leutzgraphics.com)

**Business Hours:** M-F 8am to 5pm.  
NCC Message Center will take calls outside of these hours.

Make a payment anytime by using Secure Pay 1-888-816-8068 or SmartHub [www.nccray.com](http://www.nccray.com) or download the app