



NREDA News Brief | May 2022



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President's Message



What's Your Ingredient?

May and June rank up there as some of my favorite months, not at the top, but pretty close. The reason is my wife's Strawberry Rhubarb Crisp. It started out as pie, and Kerry hits that recipe out of the park also, but the crisp is really good. My thoughts then are why is it so good, the main ingredients, the strawberries, the rhubarb, the crunchy oatmeal topping? Maybe it's just the right amount of sugar, or just a "pinch" of salt to bring out the flavors.

Each ingredient has its own value to the whole recipe, the richness of fresh strawberries, tartness of rhubarb, sweetness of sugar, texture of oatmeal in the topping, salt to highlight the flavors, each so important

to the success of the whole.

My question to you today, what do you bring to the economic development recipe in your community? Are you the strawberries or the rhubarb (now that could have at least two definitions for you to look up) or are you're the salt? Do you bring relationships, a voice of reason, technical expertise on financing and incentives, or maybe historical background to the project?

Each of us has to bring something (ingredient) to the table for the community (recipe) to be successful, sometimes you may be the main ingredient, sometimes you may just be a pinch that makes the recipe its best. But always each ingredient is needed for the recipe win the blue ribbon at the baking contest.

You are important to the success of the whole, bring your ingredient to the recipe. Remember though, if you are bringing the salt, don't overdo it or you will get noticed in the wrong way! Recognize the others for what they bring as we are all needed from the strawberries to the oatmeal to the salt.

And don't forget the ice cream!
Dan Boysel, NREDA President

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Sharing NREDA Member Successes

Plant to be \$1.1B investment - Point Township recycler to employ 300

By Peter Kendron
Published: April 8, 2022

Press Enterprise Editor POINT TWP. — A Texas-based recycling company plans to invest \$1.1 billion to build a facility south of Danville that will take rarely-recycled plastics and turn them into the chemical building blocks for new projects.

Submitted by NREDA member Jennifer Wakeman, CEcD, Executive Director DRIVE Economic Development

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Coweta-Fayette EMC Wins 2022 Chesnutt Award for STEM Teacher Training Camp

By Victoria A. Rocha, staff writer for NRECA.
Published: May 3, 2022

Press Enterprise Editor POINT TWP. — A Texas-based recycling company plans to invest \$1.1 billion to build a facility south of Danville that will take rarely-recycled plastics and turn them into the chemical building blocks for new projects. Coweta-Fayette EMC had a longtime goal of offering programs for STEM educators and students in its Georgia service territory, but the timing wasn't right—until last year.

That's when the Palmetto-based co-op debuted its Alternative Energy Summer Adventure for Teachers in partnership with the Coweta County School System. The three-day professional development experience for K-12 STEM teachers included hands-on activities and field trips to see local examples of sustainable development and energy efficiency.

Submitted by Lisa Hurley for NREDA member Maggie Reenstra, Coweta-Fayette EMC

[Continue Reading](#)

Gov. Wolf: Country View Family Farms Chooses Pennsylvania for \$47.3 Million Expansion that Will Create 51 New Jobs in Union County

Published: April 28, 2022

Governor Tom Wolf announced today that Country View Family Farms, LLC has selected Pennsylvania for its more than \$47.3 million feed mill expansion project that will create at least 51 new good-paying jobs in Union County.

"Pennsylvania successfully competed against other states for this expansion – a project that will have a big impact on the regional and state economy," said Governor Tom Wolf. "It's a testament to the welcoming, positive business environment we have here in the commonwealth, especially for agribusinesses, that we were able to win this project."

Country View Family Farms will build a new feed mill on a 100-plus acre rail-served site at 2142 Old Route 15 in New Columbia, Union County, to support its hog production business.

Submitted by NREDA member Jennifer Wakeman, CEcD, Executive Director DRIVE Economic Development

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NREDA Membership Challenge

The NREDA Membership Committee has set their goals for the year and is calling for your help.

The committee is targeting new members from telcos and states with low membership numbers.

The NREDA member that recruits the most new members in either of these categories will be awarded in a grand way at the Annual Conference this fall in Albuquerque.

Make sure they mention that you recommended them in their application.

States that qualify include:

Arizona
Arkansas
Colorado
Florida
Idaho
Illinois
Mississippi

Montana
Nevada
Oklahoma
Oregon
Utah
West Virginia



New Member Highlights

Beth Lee, CKAE

Manager of Key Accounts, Community Relations, Gov't Affairs and Economic Development

Valley Electric Association, Inc.

What does your job entail?

Build partnerships with key accounts and communities to become their trusted energy advisor. Assist new developers and organizations navigate the development process for a smooth project.

What is your background?

I have worked in the mortgage industry, real estate, construction, urban planning, and now work for an electric utility co-op.

What is the one thing you enjoy most about your position?

Building relationships with the communities and developers, assisting them to bring projects to fruition.

What is the one thing you'd like to learn from your experience with NREDA?

I would like to broaden my economic development knowledge, specifically with REDLG and funding opportunities.

Welcome New Members

Everett Butzine
Non-Metro Connections
Fox Lake, WI

Eileen Chavezq Yarborough
Cibola Communities Economic
Development Foundation
Grants, NM

Jessica Stern
Americans for the Arts
El Prado, NM

Dr. Alfonso Garcia
Oklahoma City, OK

Jennifer Richburg
Wabash Valley Power Alliance
Indianapolis, IN

Travis Richards
Jay County Development
Corporation
Portland, IN

Ben Dispennett
Warren County Local Economic
Development Organization
(LEDO)
Williamsport, IN

Alan C. Tio
Kosciusko Economic
Development Corporation
Warsaw, IN

Christy Householder
Cass County Economic
Development
Logansport, IN

Cyndi Todd
Partnership Parke County
Rockville, IN

Kaci Davignon
NEX-TECH
Wakeeney, KS

Save the Date

SAVE THE DATE



NREDA
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2022 NREDA Annual Conference November 2–4, 2022



NADO News

New! 2022 NADO Impact Awards application portal to open

The application portal for the 2022 Aliceann Wohlbruck NADO Impact Awards will open May 27. Each year, NADO recognizes its member organizations that demonstrate valuable and effective approaches to regional economic and community development through our awards program. Since 1986, the Impact Awards have recognized thousands of NADO members for their creative efforts in advancing regional economic development and improved quality of life. Learn about last year's winners in our awards [Story Map](#). Please direct questions to Brett Schwartz (bschwartz@nado.org) or Ciara Ristig (cristig@nado.org).

New! EDA and USDA launch resource guide for rural communities

The US Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development [released](#) a guide to help rural communities access resources to boost economic development. The [resource guide](#) outlines programs and services in four areas:

- Planning and technical assistance
- Infrastructure and broadband expansion
- Entrepreneurship and business assistance
- Workforce development and livability

Issue Brief: “Building Trust with Immigrant and Refugee Families”

The [Aspen Institute](#) released a [new issue brief](#) about the importance of trust between social service organizations and their clients to effectively provide services to immigrant and refugee families. The publication also explores how organizations can form trusting relationships and sustain them long-term to best serve these communities.

Action Items

We Need Our Member's Help!

What are your success stories? We want to share them for future posts on social media and brag about our members! Email Jay Buchholz at jay.buchholz@siouxvalleyenergy.com.

#NREDA

Don't forget when posting on social media to use the hashtag #NREDA when sharing your stories! This way we can spread it to all of our members!

Upcoming Events

NREDA Annual Conference
November 2-4, 2022
Albuquerque, NM

NREDA Staff

Executive Director

Kailah Schmitz

NREDA Meeting Professional

Brittney Burton

Membership Dues, Billing

Kelly Kipping

NREDA Website

Darcy Watson