

ICCU Donation Boosts Palouse Ice Rink Towards The Finish Line

By Cheryl Reed

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MOSCOW, ID –Idaho Central Credit Union (ICCU), Moscow’s newest financial institution, has donated to the Palouse Ice Rink (PIR) to help remodel the former NRS building south of town. The new 42,000 square-foot facility will house a full-size ice rink with locker rooms, bench seating, a classroom for the Science on Ice Program, and more.

Idaho Central Credit Union Branch Manager, Mark Kunz, is enthusiastic about the partnership. “This project is very important to our community, and if it’s important to the community, it’s important to Idaho Central Credit Union. We are happy to support the Palouse Ice Rink, and I can’t wait to take my family ice skating!”

“This gift is important to the ice rink,” said Christina Randal, Director of Fundraising for PIR. “It is the first gift from a corporate sponsor, and marks a turning point in our fund-raising efforts.”

Efforts to raise \$1.25 million to remodel the building began in November, 2020 with an open house in the new location at 2009 S. Main Street in Moscow. The Palouse area community has been overwhelmingly supportive. Along with cash gifts, several donors have purchased the naming rights to different parts of the new ice rink—from items as small as a landscaping brick to an entire locker room. ICCU’s generous donation will allow their name to be displayed on the Zamboni and Zamboni garage for 10 years.

“I really appreciate a new business in Moscow recognizing the value of supporting the local community,” said Mark McQuire, president of the Palouse Ice Rink Board of Directors. “The ICCU commitment to the rink serves the needs of youth and families in the area with healthy recreation during the grey days each year.”

Palouse Ice Rink’s current facility, located on the Latah County Fairgrounds in Moscow, was built as a temporary structure in 2002. Within a few years, the popular recreational facility became an important icon of the area, attracting more than 35,000 patrons a year, hosting youth and adult hockey leagues, figure skating, curling, public skating, skating clinics, and the well-known Science on Ice Program. As the temporary structure deteriorated, the need for a permanent, full-size ice rink became apparent. Bolstered by a \$1 million donation from the City of Moscow, the PIR Board of Directors began raising funds to build a permanent, full-size ice rink. When the opportunity to purchase the former NRS building became available late last year, PIR was able to secure a purchase contract with owners Bill and Donna Parks.

With donors like ICCU, the new ice rink is positioned to become a major economic contributor to the Palouse area by hosting state hockey games, figure skating competitions, and workshops by well-known skate professionals.

“We are excited to partner with a community-minded organization like ICCU, and look forward to delivering a full-sized ice rink to the Palouse in the coming months,” said Tony Mangini, Vice President of the Palouse Ice Rink Board of Directors.

Palouse Ice Rink is a non-profit organization and gifts are tax-deductible. With more than \$400,000 in donations raised to date, construction will begin in February and is expected to be complete in October 2021.

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About Idaho Central Credit Union

Idaho Central was organized as a state-chartered credit union in 1940. The credit union’s administrative office is located in Chubbuck, Idaho. Idaho Central has over 1,375 employees serving over 420,000 members with 41 locations throughout the state and over \$6.4 billion in assets. Idaho Central is a full-service, federally-insured financial institution and is ranked as a top credit union in the nation in returning value to its members. For an Idaho Central location near you, please visit ICCU.com.
