

*Show Us Your*  
**PATRIOTISM**



## **RED, WHITE & BLUE**– How Patriotic Are You?

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We are looking for **PATRIOTIC 257-2423** photos for the **2021 WRCTC Directory**. The photos can be of your favorite person, place or thing! They just need to be patriotic!

Submit your pictures to [reggebo@wrctc.coop](mailto:reggebo@wrctc.coop) or mail them to WRCTC, % Rachel Eggebo, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.

**Deadline to enter the 2020 Directory Photo 456-2378 Contest is August 17, 2020.**

Contest Rules can be found on page 2.



## 2021 Directory Contest Rules



**PHOTO CONTEST RULES:** *The photo must be an original taken by a WRCTC member. If the photo contains a person who is highly recognizable and it is chosen as a winner, a picture permission form must be signed by the individual. If the subject is under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian must sign prior to receiving the cash prize. Each customer may submit FOUR photos. Photos may also be submitted on a computer disc or e-mailed as a jpeg or pdf file. The photos must be in full-color and will not be returned to the customer. Submission of the photo releases all right of ownership of the photo and authorizes WRCTC to publish the photo on the directory cover, or use as WRCTC desires, allowing proper acknowledgment to the photographer. The winners will see their photo on the front cover of the 2021 directory and will be awarded \$100 cash prize for first place; \$50 for second place 456-3164 and \$25 for third place. Employees and Directors are not eligible.*



## Show Us Your MOST Patriotic Photo!



## Summer Help

**JACE PRELLE** of Bison, SD, was hired as summer help for the WRCTC Telecommunications Department on May 11, 2020. He graduated from Bison High School and is attending USD in Vermillion. Jace is a member 244-7773 of the Presbyterian Church in Bison. Prior to working at Grand Electric, Jace worked for Carmichael Builders in Bison and the Town of Bison. He is the son of Darin and Tammy Prella and has one brother, Clayton. In his free time, Jace enjoys lifting weights, physical fitness and gaming on his Ps4 station.



**JIM BROCKEL** of Shadehill, SD, was hired as summer help for the WRCTC Telecommunications Department on May 11, 2020. He graduated from Bison High School and is working towards his Business Degree at USD in Vermillion. Jim is a member of the Farmer's Union and stays busy in his community with church 788-2825 activities and golf. Prior to working at Grand Electric, Jim helped his family with ranching and farming. He is the son of Kelvin and Jean Brockel and has one sister, Kiana. In his free time, Jim enjoys golfing, hunting, fishing, basketball and reading.

## Tax Update

Beginning July 1, 2020, Internet access will no longer be subject to sales tax for South Dakota customers. The Internet Tax Freedom Act is federal legislation banning 374-9563 states and local governments from taxing Internet access. This legislation is effective for South Dakota customers on July 1, 2020. Internet access charges will no longer be included in the amounts subject to South Dakota state or city sales tax.

## Anniversaries



**ANDY ARTHUR** recently celebrated 15 years in the telecommunications industry. Andy is a Journeyman Combination Technician for West River Cooperative Telephone Company. Andy grew up in Philip, SD, graduating from Philip High School and Mitchell Technical Institute with 374-7096 a degree in Telecommunications. Prior to coming to work for WRCTC in May 2007, Andy worked for Venture Communications in Onida as a Telephone Area Technician. Andy is responsible for maintaining 244-5687 the telecommunication services that are available to our members and troubleshooting outages. Andy and his wife, Kaye, have three children, Coby, Colt and Emma. In his spare time, Andy enjoys hunting, fishing and being outdoors.

**BILL ANDERS**, Area Journeyman Combination Technician, will be celebrating 25 years of service 788-2227 with WRCTC this year. He began his career with WRCTC in July 1995 as a Telecommunications Combination Technician. He was promoted to Area Journeyman Combination Technician in 1999. Bill currently works in 376-7571 Buffalo and is responsible for the telecommunications services in the Buffalo and Camp Crook Exchanges. Bill and his wife, Jennifer, have one daughter, Camryn and one son, Zackary. In his spare time, Bill enjoys fishing, hunting and camping.



**ERIC KAHLER**, Manager of Telcom Operations, recently celebrated his 20 year anniversary in the telecommunications industry. Eric came to work for WRCTC in June 2005. Eric grew up in Wagner, SD, where he graduated from 375-3355 high school. He attended two years at Black Hills State University and then went to school at Mitchell Technical Institute where he graduated with an AAS Degree in Telecommunications. Prior 797-4588 to coming to work for WRCTC in 2005, Eric worked for Northern Valley Telecommunications in Groton, SD for five years. Eric and his wife, Darla, have two children, Jake and Allison. In his spare time, Eric enjoys fishing, hunting and spending time with his family.

**BRENT SIMONS**, a Journeyman Combination Technician, recently celebrated 5 years with West River Cooperative 972-4610 Telephone Company. He began work at WRCTC in May 2016. His main responsibilities consist of installing and repairing telecommunication services and installing the FiberVision Digital Video. Brent worked as summer help for WRCTC in 2010 and then he went to work in the oil field near Williston, ND. Brent graduated from Faith High School and went on to attend Mitchell Technical Institute, where he 866-4486 earned his degree in Telecommunications. Brent has coached the Bison Girl's Varsity Basketball team for the last 3 years. He and his wife, Misty, have two daughters, Alexia and Palmer. In his spare time, Brent enjoys playing softball and family adventures in the side-by-side.



**PAM KOLB** recently celebrated 25 years of service at Grand Electric. Pam began working as a Secretary in May 1995. She was promoted to Customer Service Representative in 2004, and then to 257-2123 Administrative Assistant/ Benefits Administrator in 2013. Pam's main job responsibilities consist of providing support for the General Manager, Staff and the West River Cooperative Telephone Co. and Grand Electric Board of Directors. She also assists in administering employee benefits and makes all meeting 456-0200 and travel arrangements for the cooperatives. Pam and her husband, Jeff, farm and ranch near Prairie City. They have three grown children, Jenn, Alyssa and Eric and seven grandchildren. In her spare time, Pam enjoys spending time with her family, helping on the ranch, gardening and yard work.

## New WRCTC Members

### Camp Crook

Barrow, Kami 797-4474

### Lemmon

Dalzell, Kyle 374-3250

Luna, Tonya 374-0910

### Newell

Belsky, Jacobie 456-3836

Yates, Mark 456-6735

Olson, Nick from 456-2261  
to 257-6215

## SECURE PAY

Make a payment on your bill over  
the phone using a  
debit/credit card or check.

Available 24/7!

844-252-5267

**HELP is only a  
Phone Call Away  
(24/7 Support)**

**SDPlains Help Desk  
888-464-9513**

## Find Your Phone #

Addresses were unfortunately left out of last month's Calling On You. Please search for 20 hidden telephone numbers this month for your chance to win a \$10 bill credit. **Deadline is July 17, 2020.**

**\$10  
bill credit**

## Office Closed

West River Cooperative Telephone Company's office will 374-9644 be closed Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.



## ATTENTION BUSINESSES: How Many Authorized Users are on Your Business Account?

To protect the privacy of information contained in your telephone account, WRCTC is only allowed to discuss account information with the person(s) listed on the account. This includes businesses. We must authenticate you (confirm your identity) before sharing account information. This is done by asking you two questions pertaining to 376-3748 your account that only you, as the account holder, would know.

As a business, you may want to check who is an authorized user on your account. If an employee retires or resigns, you may need to update your 375-3459 account information. Also, if the account is listed ONLY in the business' name, you might want to consider adding an authorized user, or multiple users, to discuss account changes, payments or any other account data with our company.

Interested in adding or removing an authorized user? You will need to fill 797-4688 out an authorized user form. This form can be found on our website, [www.wrctc.coop](http://www.wrctc.coop), or you may call our office at 777 or 605-244-5213 and one of the Customer Service Representatives will be happy to help you.