



West River Cooperative Telephone Company

Calling on You

OFFICE CLOSED

West River
Cooperative
Telephone Company
will be closed
Monday,
May 30, 2022 in
observance of
Memorial Day.



facebook.com/WRCTC
Leave us a Review!



ON THE ROAD AGAIN 2023 DIRECTORY PHOTO CONTEST

We are looking for photos for the 2023 WRCTC Directory. The photos can be of anything, just make sure that the main focus of the photo is a ROAD!

Dirt roads, paved roads, winding roads – Any type of ROAD that you are able to capture through the lens!

WRCTC now requires all photos to be submitted digitally. Digital photos 101 21st St. NE, Lemmon; are more vibrant and clear, they keep their quality and are easy to access while designing the directory cover.

Please submit pictures to: bschecher@wrctc.coop

Deadline to PO Box 193, Newell; enter the 2023 Directory Photo Contest is August 1, 2022.

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SDTA Scholarships - 3 Scholarships Available!

The South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) annually awards scholarships under two separate programs or scholarship funds administered by the South Dakota Community Foundation, those two programs/funds include the "SDTA Memorial Scholarships" and our "Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarships."

This year, for the fall 2022 college semester, SDTA will be awarding THREE scholarships: ONE for \$2,000 and TWO for \$1,500 under the Memorial Scholarship Program. The deadline to apply for these Scholarships is June 15, 2022. To be eligible for the available Memorial Scholarship awards, you must have plans to attend or already be attending a college as a full-time student (taking at least 12 semester credit hours or its equivalent) and meet the following criteria:

- Have a High School Diploma or GED equivalent;
- Be accepted into or attending a multi-year program degree at any accredited technical college or other accredited post-secondary higher education institution **in South Dakota** for the fall 2022 semester;
- Be majoring in a degree/program or field of study that is useful in the telecommunications or broadband industry or which significantly relies on the use of broadband services and related technologies
- Be a customer/member or have a parent or legal guardian who is a customer/member of a SDTA member company, such as West River Cooperative Telephone Company.

**Previous SDTA Memorial Scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply.*

Examples of eligible majors or fields of study for the SDTA Memorial Scholarship can be found on at https://sdtaonline.com/sdta_scholarships.php

The scholarship application can be completed online, submitted by email to karasemmler@sdtaonline.com or mailed hard-copy to: SDTA, PO Box 57, Pierre, SD 57501. Applications are available online at www.sdtaonline.com, from any South Dakota post-secondary institution student financial aid office, the SDTA office, or any SDTA member company.

Award selections will be announced on or around July 15th.

COMMANDIQ, PROTECTIQ & EXPERIENCEIQ

WHAT IS THIS STUFF and WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO ME?

COMMANDIQ is a **FREE** application on your smart device that allows YOU to control your internet! It's like a remote for your Wi-Fi - HOW COOL IS THAT?! While running the app from the palm of your hand, you can change Wi-Fi passwords and Wi-Fi Network names, run speed tests, turn Wi-Fi on and off for specific devices and get notifications when a new/unknown device connects to your network! Did I mention it's **FREE**?!

PROTECTIQ is part of the COMMANDIQ App- The PROTECTIQ option protects all devices connected to your router. Visualize this as a big blanket! PROTECTIQ makes sure all devices are safe while connected to your network. Not only is it protected, but the app will send you notifications when a threat has been blocked! This provides is one more layer of protection above and beyond Anti-Virus protection (downloaded on an individual computer). PROTECTIQ protects computers, smartTVs, cellphones, tablets, etc. As long as the device is connected to your network, it is protected! Let's keep you safe with PROTECTIQ - a blanket of protection over all your network devices! (\$4/month)

EXPERIENCEIQ is another option within the COMMANDIQ App. Do you work from home or have kids that are spending too much time on the internet? If yes, EXPERIENCEIQ is for you! With this option, you are able to prioritize the importance of internet speed to specific devices. If you have 20+ devices connected and it is bogging down your internet, prioritize your work computer and never have speed issues again during the work day! Sorry kids, the internet may be slower on your devices but at least the work computer is functioning perfectly! Not only can you prioritize devices, but you can also turn access to the internet, off and on, on specific devices. If you want the kid's device turned off at 8 PM each night, you can program EXPERIENCEIQ and it's done automatically at the same time, every night! Keep your internet in check and receive the best internet experience possible with EXPERIENCEIQ! (\$4/month)

There are so many benefits to the **FREE** COMMANDIQ App, the PROTECTIQ option and the EXPERIENCEIQ option! The list goes on PO Box 66, Nisland; and on! Call the office today for more information!

- ☐ COMMANDIQ is available to all Managed Wi-Fi subscribers. PROTECTIQ and EXPERIENCEIQ require our GigaSpire.
- ☐ Already have a GigaCenter? Call us today to upgrade to a GigaSpire for FREE!!

Local 4th Graders' receive *My South Dakota Book- Hometown Snapshots*

West River Cooperative Telephone Company recently visited local Elementary schools to drop off a copy of the book entitled *My South Dakota Book - Hometown Snapshots*. Each 4th grade student was given a book to use for their upcoming curriculum or to take home. The *My South Dakota Book* simulates a fun, photographic road trip of 33 South Dakota towns and their interesting landmarks. This book has some really neat information!

Did you know that Webster, SD hosts a Pumpkin Fest each October that includes kite flying, an Autumn Parade of Lights, a classic car show and hay rides? New Effington is a small town in northeastern South Dakota. This tiny little town used to be on the South shore of one of the most massive lakes in the world! How interesting is that?

The book was published by SDN Communications out of Sioux Falls, SD of which WRCTC is a member. We hope this book will provide the students with the cultural and historical value of the small communities within this wonderful state and all the attractions they have to offer.



Bison 4th Grade

Buffalo 4th Grade

Lemmon 4th Grade

FUSC Decrease

West River Cooperative Telephone members will see an decrease in the monthly Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC) on their telephone bill effective April 1, 2022. A Federal Communications Commission (FCC) order changed the way telephone companies can recover their Federal Universal Fund contributions. The Federal Universal Service Fund Program is designed to help keep all local telephone service rates affordable for all customers, in all areas of the United States. Residential and single line businesses will decrease from \$1.64 to \$1.55 (.09 cent decrease). Multiple line businesses will decrease from \$3.07 to \$2.90 (.17 cent decrease). Please keep in mind that if you bundle your services, you do not see these charges as they are included in your flat bundle fee. If you're not bundled and would like to bundle your services, call the office today at 605-244-5213.

New WRCTC Members

Lemmon

Derschan, Joseph J. 374-4186
Sims Construction 374-7467

Newell

Creative Ripples by Lisa 456-3796

Address Correction in Phone Book

Elmore, Brent & Laurie 797-4694
PO Box 151, Camp Crook, SD

From the Mailbox

*Dear West River Telephone Company,
Thank you very much for the \$50 bill credit I received
from the KBJM Farm and Home Show Special. It's very
much appreciated!*

LouAnn and Fred Bubbers (KBJM Wi-Fi Special)

*Dear West River Telephone Company,
Thank you for the \$25 bill credit I won at KBJM's Farm
and Ranch Show in Lemmon. It was a pleasant surprise
and I appreciate it very much.*

Deloris Hintz (Bill Credit Drawing Winner)

*Thanks so much for the nice surprise of a \$25 bill credit.
I appreciate it and always enjoy visiting with you at
your booth at the Farm and Home Show.*

Phyllis Schmidt (Bill Credit Drawing Winner)

Find Your Address

Five addresses were hidden in the last newsletter.
Hidden in this issue are five new addresses. If you
find YOUR address, all you
have to do is notify our office.
The \$20 will then be deducted
off your next telephone bill.

Changes of address in the New
WRCTC Members section do not count.

Deadline is May 20, 2022.

\$20
bill credit

Local Graduation Schedule

BISON

May 14, 2022 @ 2:00 PM

BUFFALO

May 14, 2022 @ 2:22 PM

FAITH

May 14, 2022 @ 3:00 PM

LEMMON

May 15, 2022 @ 2:00 PM

NEWELL

May 21, 2022 @ 2:00 PM



Directory Cover 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 money. Each customer may submit FOUR photos. Photos must 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 PO Box 558, Buffalo; 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 2023 directory and will be awarded \$100 cash prize for first place; \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place. Employees and Directors are not eligible.