WRCTC

May 2023

West River Cooperative Telephone Company
Calling on You

OFFICE CLOSED

West River Cooperative Telephone Company will be closed Monday, May 29, 2023 in observance of Memorial Day.

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inside this issue

CELEBRATE SOUTH DAKOTA!
GREAT FACES, GREAT PLACES.
2024 DIRECTORY PHOTO CONTEST

We are looking for photos for the 2024 WRCTC Directory. The photos can be of any object that represents South Dakota!

The State of South Dakota - state bird (pheasant), state animal (coyote), state sport (rodeo), state fish (walleye), state flower (pasque), state tree (Black Hills Spruce) – All objects that represent SOUTH DAKOTA! Just capture it through your lens!

WRCTC now requires all photos to be submitted digitally. Digital photos are more vibrant and clear, they keep their quality 14282 Limpert Rd, Buffalo; and are easy to access while designing the directory cover.

Pictures must be taken within WRCTC's Service Territory.

Please submit pictures to: bschecher@wrctc.coop

Deadline to enter the 2024 Directory Photo Contest is July 31, 2023.

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 2023 college semester, SDTA will be awarding THREE scholarships: TWO for $2,000 and ONE for $1,500 under the Memorial Scholarship Program. The deadline to apply for these Scholarships is June 15, 2023. 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 2023 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 PO Box 328, Bison; 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 online 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.

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 control 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 we 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 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! ($3/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! 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! ($3/month)

There are so many benefits to the **FREE** CommandIQ App, the ProtectIQ option and the ExperienceIQ option! The list goes on and on! Call the office today for more information!
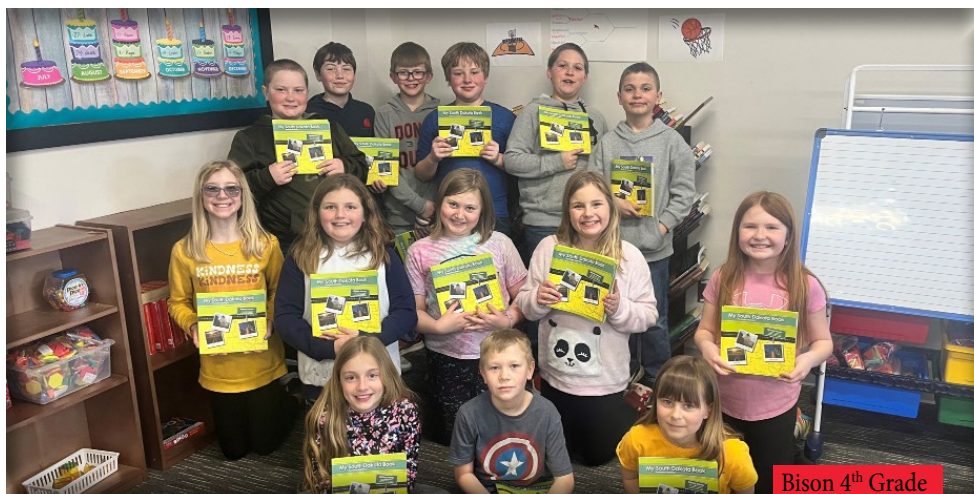
¤ CommandIQ is available to all Managed Wi-Fi subscribers. ProtectIQ and ExperienceIQ require our GigaSpire.

¤ Already have a GigaCenter? Call us today 610 5th Ave W, Lemmon; 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*. Every 4th grade student in our territory 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 18805 Stonelake Rd, Nisland; 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 located in 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. Unfortunately, there was only a select amount of books printed by SDN, and this will be the last round of books presented to local 4th graders.

Bison 4th Grade

Buffalo 4th Grade

Not Pictured: Lemmon 4th Grade and Newell 4th Grade

IPTV DVR UPDATE

On August 1, 2023, a system update will take place for all DVRs on West River Cooperative Telephone Company's IPTV system.

This update will, unfortunately, reset all DVR's and any recordings you have saved, will be permanently deleted. This should not affect any scheduled recordings, but should be double checked, by the members, after the update. Once the update is complete, you will be able to record again as normal.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please call the office if you have questions at 605-244-5213.

IMPORTANT

New WRCTC Members

Lemmon
Ham, Darrin & Jammi
    – Country House   605-374-4103
Lucas, Nancy   605-374-8886

From the Mailbox

Thank you for purchasing my animal at the Butte-Lawrence County Fair.
Orrin Youngberg - Butte-Lawrence 4-H Participant

Thank you so much for the Round-Up money!
Bill & Rose Bucholz, Round-Up Recipient

Thank you so much for the $500.00. It is very much appreciated.
Leona Aaker, Round-Up Recipient

We have a couple thank you's. First, Thank you for the $50.00 credit on our December bill. Second, A VERY BIG thank you for the Round-Up check you presented to Fred!! What a surprise and much appreciated!! We are very humbled by your gift! Blessing to you all- You are awesome, WRCTC!
Fred & Sherry Wells, Round-Up Recipient

Thank you for your generous donation to the Reva/Sorum Fire Department so we can build a new fire hall. We really appreciate it. Thank you!
Reva/ Sorum Fire Department

We hope you know how PO Box 473, Newell; *much your continued support to our efforts in the Bullock Play mean to us. We are forever grateful to you.*
Bullock Community Players

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 29, 2023.

$20 bill credit

Local Graduation Schedule

BISON
May 13, 2023   @   2:00 PM

FAITH
May 13, 2023   @   3:00 PM

LEMMON
May 14, 2023   @   2:00 PM

NEWELL
May 20, 2023   @   2:00 PM

BUFFALO
May 20, 2023   @   2:23 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 a age, a parent/guardian must sign prior to receiving the money. Each customer may submit FOUR photos. Photos must be taken in WRCTC's territory. Photos must be submitted by e-mail as a jpeg or pdf file. Photo must be cropped to the final version before being submitted. The photos must be in full-color. 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 2024 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 to participate.