

Calling on You

**OFFICE
CLOSED**

**West River
Cooperative
Telephone
Company will be
closed Monday,
May 27, 2024 in
observance of
Memorial Day.**



facebook.com/WRCTC
Leave us a Review!



BABY ANIMALS 2025 DIRECTORY PHOTO CONTEST

We are looking for photos for the 2025 WRCTC Directory. The photos can be of any kind of **BABY ANIMALS**. Whether it's a curious calf, leaping 19031 Oliver Lane, Newell; lamb or playful puppy, we want your photos!

WRCTC requires all photos to be submitted digitally. Digital photos are more vibrant and clear, they keep their quality 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 2025 Directory Photo Contest is July 31, 2024

directory cover rules on pg. 3

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Office Promotions



JANELLE GODDARD joined West River Cooperative Telephone Company and Grand Electric Cooperative as a Customer Service Representative on October 1, 2013, and her title was changed to Member Relations Representative in June 2022. On March 1, 2024, Janelle stepped into her new role of Administrative Assistant, taking over for Pam Kolb upon retirement. Janelle's new job duties include providing administrative support for the Board of Directors and General Manager, organizing and maintaining files, planning special projects, and researching and recording easements.

Janelle and her husband, Todd, are active members of the church of Christ. They reside and ranch south of Prairie City. Together, they have two grown children, Ashleigh Nash (Steven) and Roy Goddard (Shannon), and four grandchildren five and under. In her free time, Janelle enjoys helping on the ranch, playing and snuggling with her grandkids, and pursuing her hobby of sewing crafts. Congratulations on your new role, Janelle!



BROOKE SCHECHER joined West River Cooperative Telephone Company and Grand Electric Cooperative as a Customer Service Representative in June 2016, and her title was changed to Member Relations Representative in June 2022. On April 1, 2024, Brooke began her new role as the Marketing Technician. Her new job duties include designing newsletters, Annual Reports and websites, working with all youth engagement activities and scholarships, and planning all Cooperative hosted events such as luncheons, tailgate PO Box 275, Meadow; parties, home shows and annual meetings.

Brooke and her husband, Bradley, live south of Bison on a fifth generation ranch. They have two beautiful children, Kashton and Hazyn, that keep them very busy. When Brooke is not working, she enjoys being with her family, reading a good book, traveling and spending time at the lake. Congratulations, Brooke!

FREE COMMANDIQ APP

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?!**

There are so many 12840 194th St, Vale; benefits to the **COMMANDIQ** App!

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

Pam Kolb Retires After 29 Years at the Cooperatives



PAM KOLB began her career at West River Cooperative Telephone Company and Grand Electric Cooperative on May 1, 1995, starting as a Secretary. Over the years, she handled various tasks, from answering phones to typing letters and filing documents. In January 2004, Pam's role shifted to that of a Customer Service Representative, where she and one other CSR (Susie) handled all the incoming phone calls. Pam and Susie

worked through numerous storms, providing excellent 12124 SD Hwy 20, Buffalo; customer service to the members over the years.

In May 2013, Pam was promoted to Administrative Assistant/Benefits Administrator. In this role, she worked closely with the Board of Directors and the General Manager and managed employee benefits. Pam was excited to close this great chapter of her life and open the next to retirement.

Her 29 years with the cooperatives have been filled with joy and countless memories. Pam looks forward to dedicating more time to her family. Alongside her husband, Jeff, Pam shares three children, Jennifer Kolb, Alyssa Scharrer (Marty), and Eric Kolb (Liz), as well as numerous cherished grandchildren. She looks forward to helping on their ranch and enjoying moments spent with loved ones. Pam is eager to spend more time tending to her garden, working in the yard, and refinishing furniture.

Pam, we express our deepest gratitude for 29 years of dedicated service to the Cooperatives. Your warmth, compassion, and nurturing spirit have touched the lives of many, and you will be greatly missed. As you begin this exciting new chapter, we hope every moment is filled with joy and satisfaction. Congratulations on the beginning of your latest adventure!



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 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 2025 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.

New WRCTC Members

Lemmon

Herlofsky, Ron & Anna	605-374-0886
Schoon, Britnai	701-376-3734
Streamline Plumbing	605-374-4046

Local Graduation Schedule

BISON

May 11, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

LEMMON

May 12, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

NEWELL

May 18, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

HARDING COUNTY

May 18, 2024 @ 2:24 PM

FAITH

May 18, 2024 @ 3:00 PM



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.

\$20
bill credit

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

Deadline is May 28, 2024.



THREE Scholarships Available:
Each scholarship is valued at \$2,000!
DEADLINE: June 14, 2024

Scholarship Criteria:

- A High School Diploma or GED equivalent;
- Accepted into or attending a multi-year program degree at any accredited technical college or accredited post-secondary higher education institution in South Dakota for the fall 2024 semester;
- 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 (examples of majors eligible for this scholarship can be found at https://sdtaonline.com/sdta_scholarships.php) and
- A customer/member or have a parent or legal guardian that is a member of a SDTA member company: WRCTC.

How to Apply:

- Complete the online application at: https://sdtaonline.com/sdta_scholarships.php or
- Submit typed application via E-mail to: karasemmler@sdtaonline.com or
- Submit typed application via Mail to: South Dakota Telecommunications Association, PO Box 57, Pierre, SD 57501.

Instructions:

Complete and submit the application along with:

- A minimum of two letters of recommendation. At least one from a teacher, instructor, or advisor. The other may be from someone who knows you well (but not a family member).
- An unofficial transcript

Scan the QR Code to be directed to SDTA's Scholarship Website.



Selection of awards will be announced by July 20, 2024.
The scholarship will be distributed for the spring semester (2025).