



inter face

JUNE 2014



FXX Added to People's Choice Package

The newest channel added to the West Central TV lineup—FXX features iconic hits like *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia* and *The League* plus a slate of blockbuster movies and other comedy favorites like *Arrested Development*. You can find FXX on channel 40 in SD and channel 254 in HD. IFC was moved to channel 78.




West Central
 Telephone Association
We Connect You.™

Election Results

The 64th annual meeting of the members was held at the Sebek High School Monday, May 19. Key officers, the manager and the controller reported on the status of the cooperative and what the future holds. President Bruce Kinnunen highlighted the new Personal Emergency Response Systems, WatchTVEverywhere service and the new SmartHub app; he also gave a demonstration of Smart Home technologies. General manager Tony Mayer talked about the cooperative's investment in broadband, and how our schools, businesses and residents have used the technology earning national recognition as one of seven "Smart Rural Communities." The audience viewed a brief video clip featuring U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar visiting the Sebek school to see some of the ways the school is using their advanced network for educational purposes.

Incumbent directors Naomi Moyer of Verndale and Hazel Yliniemi of Wolf Lake were both re-elected to serve an additional three-year term. Both incumbents ran unopposed, and with no nominations from the floor, motions were made and seconded to cast unanimous ballots for each seat. The members unanimously voted for both Naomi and Hazel to each serve an additional term. The members also passed an amendment to the Bylaws that allows the cooperative to vote by mail if they should choose to do so.



Top: The crowd, including Christine Mayer and Roxanne Kriens front and center, are ready for the meeting to begin.



Left: Three more years for Directors Hazel Yliniemi and Naomi Moyer.

Once the meeting was adjourned, door prizes were awarded including a mini iPad that was won by Jim and Betty Runyan, a Sony Blu-ray DVD Wi-Fi system that was won by Mirja Maninga, a Roku 3 Streaming Player that was won by Donna Yliniemi and a grand prize of one year of free local telephone service that went to Norbert Ament.

Kai and Bridget Allen performed with the Scandinavian folk music band Skålmusic before and after the meeting. Subway of Menahga provided the meal. Many door prizes were made possible because of the generosity of our vendors and business partners. Thanks to all who helped make the meeting a success!

Eight \$1,000 Scholarships Awarded

The WCTA Scholarship Committee recently reviewed 20 applications from area high school seniors. Eight students including Lauren Cannon, Jessica Yrjo, Teresa Horton, Madlin Lausten, Jenny Skoog, Helen Schmitt, Abigail Jokela and Eric Blaha were awarded scholarships from WCTA. The scholarships were each valued at \$1,000.

Area high school seniors are invited every year to apply for the WCTA scholarship. Applying for a scholarship is very easy to do. The student can complete the entire scholarship application online, print them and have them signed by their guidance counselor. This is the seventh year with the online format, which has been really helpful with keeping the applicants consistent and anonymous. The applicants choose from three or four topics for consideration when writing their essay. The scholarship committee reviews applicants based on their essay and community involvement. The scholarship's purpose is to recognize students who have contributed to the quality of life in the communities they live in and to assist them in their educational pursuits.

Only students whose parents or legal guardians are cooperative members at the time of the application are eligible to apply. Children of West Central Telephone's employees or board members are not eligible.



Eric Blaha



Lauren Cannon



Teresa Horton



Abigail Jokela



Maddie Lausten



Helen Schmitt



Jenny Skoog



Jessica Yrjo



Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)

In the event of a fall or other medical emergency, how would you or your elderly loved one reach help if a phone wasn't nearby?



West Central Telephone is now offering a new service called the Personal Emergency Response System (PERS). Ideal for seniors, this system is a lifeline to immediate assistance in case of an emergency. The Personal Emergency Response System provides seniors with the ability to safely live independently at home while keeping help close at hand.

The Personal Emergency Response System includes a wristband or pendant to be worn at all times for one-button access to help and a two-way speakerphone for instant one-button access to emergency personnel or a relative.

For more information or to schedule a free in-home consultation, call West Central Telephone at 218-837-5151.