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THIS ISSUE

- 01 Rural Fiber Clean-Up Continues
- 01 66th Annual Meeting
- 02 Eight \$1,000 Scholarships Awarded
- 02 Manage MyWi-Fi

Rural Fiber Clean-Up Continues

While the rural Sebekia fiber-to-the-home project is complete, there is still considerable clean-up work to be done. Our construction crews had to work fast to get the fiber in the ground before the winter freeze. As a result, there are some areas they need to revisit to reseed grass or smooth dirt. Most of this clean-up work is in the road right-of-ways, but if you have any questions or concerns regarding your property, please call the office at 837-5151 so we can take care of it right away.



(Left Photo) Current directors, L to R: Hazel Yliniemi, Dave Pulju, Naomi Moye, Bruce Kinnunen and newly elected director, Robert Weaver. *(Top Right Photo)* Musical performers, L to R: Nickolas Johnson, Kaitlyn Huhta and Jessica Benson. *(Bottom Right Photo)* Grand prize winners, L to R: George Geray, Donna Yliniemi and Marvin Runyan

66th Annual Meeting Highlights

The 66th annual meeting was May 9 at the Sebekia High School Auditorium. Board president Bruce Kinnunen talked about the completion of our fiber-to-the-home network. Our network now includes 1,499 route miles of fiber throughout our 602 square mile area. He mentioned our national Gig-Capable certification and our new Honeywell line of home security and automation services. He demonstrated the Amazon Tap, asking Alexa for the Wolf Lake forecast. If you aren't familiar with the Amazon Tap, it's definitely worth checking out!

Controller Jennifer Grewe discussed the financial statements. General Manager Chad Bullock discussed regulatory reform, revenue streams and strategic partnerships. Jason Dale, CEO of Cooperative Network Services, gave his perspective of our industry under this new era of regulatory reform. Kinnunen also

announced that \$357,173 capital credits will be paid out to members this year.

Unopposed, Dave Pulju was re-elected by members to represent the Nimrod exchange. Robert Weaver won the Menahga election winning over incumbent Dave Kriens.

Following the meeting, employees drew names awarding door prizes. A year of free local service went to Marvin Runyan. Donna Yliniemi won a 40-inch Vizio SmartTV. George Geray won the Amazon Echo Tap.

Sebekia students Kaitlyn Huhta, Jessica Benson and Nickolas Johnson entertained the crowd with their musical talents. Many door prizes were possible because of the generosity of our vendors and business partners. Thanks to all who helped make the meeting a success!



West Central
Telephone Association
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Eight \$1,000 Scholarships Awarded

We recently reviewed applications from area high school seniors. The committee awarded eight students \$1,000 scholarships each.

Every year, we invite area high school seniors to apply for a West Central Telephone scholarship. High school seniors whose parents or legal guardians are members are eligible to apply. Children of West Central Telephone's employees or board members are not eligible.

Applying is easy to do. Students complete the scholarship application online. The online format helps keep the applicants consistent and anonymous. Students include their community and sports activities as well as work experience, and they write a brief essay. 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.

Congratulations to Sydney Weniger, Jordyn Glenz, Mitchell Blaha, Jennifer Stifter, Sean "Jake" Jager, Madison Snyder, Thane Dailey and Leah Aho.



Sydney Weniger



Jordyn Glenz



Mitchell Blaha



Jennifer Stifter



Sean "Jake" Jager



Madison Snyder



Thane Dailey



Leah Aho

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