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JUNE 2017

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Watch TV Everywhere

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Watch your favorite TV programs wherever you go with watchTV everywhere from West Central Telephone. Stream more than 75 of your favorite channels and programs including sports, movies, children's shows and music channels. Full episodes and live TV are available to watch on any computer, tablet, smartphone or other internet-connected device.

To register up to four watchTV everywhere accounts per West Central Telephone account number, visit wcta.net and click on the watchTVeverywhere link.



67th Annual Meeting Highlights

The 67th annual meeting was held May 15 at the Sebeka High School Auditorium. Board president Bruce Kinnunen talked about the superheroes in our communities who use our broadband. He highlighted area school's use of gigabit internet and access control door locks to keep visitors, staff and students safe. Retiring board director Hazel Yliniemi received a special award commemorating her twelve years of service to WCTA.



2017 Board: Dale Schmith, Harvey Aho, Robert Weaver, Dave Pulju, and Bruce Kinnunen

Controller Jennifer Grewe discussed the financial statements. CEO Chad Bullock discussed the cooperative's growth through expansion of our fiber optic network into neighboring rural areas. He also discussed the importance of relationships with state and federal legislators and strategic partnerships. Brent Christensen, CEO of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance, gave his perspective of our industry under the new administration. He addressed regulatory reform, fighting rising TV costs and the status of the state's broadband deployment program. Kinnunen announced that \$346,218 in capital credits will be paid to members this year.



Hazel Yliniemi



David Fjeldheim

Harvey Aho was elected by members to represent the Wolf Lake exchange. Dale Schmith won over incumbent Naomi Moyer to represent the Verndale exchange.

Door prizes were awarded after the meeting. The big prizes went to David Fjeldheim who won a year of local telephone service, Raymond Hendrickson who won a gas grill and Brad Lehmkuhl who won a Lyric thermostat. Many other prizes were given out. Sebeka students provided the music before and after the meeting.

\$1,000 Scholarships Awarded

We recently reviewed applications from area high school seniors. The committee awarded eight students scholarships of \$1,000 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 activities as well as sports and work experience. They also 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 and good luck to this year's scholarship recipients!



Kajsa Anderson



Jordan Brownlow



Amber Johnson



Canton Matson



Anna Olson



Kirsten Peterson



Samantha Sabin



Logan Schoon

★ STREAM MOVIES FASTER WITH ★

BLOCKBUSTER

★ INTERNET SPEEDS ★

No one wants to see this:

The dreaded buffering. It's one of the most frustrating things about streaming. If you've experienced it, you know it's usually during the worst possible time, too! If your router is up to date, then most likely you need to increase your internet speed to get rid of buffering. You can upgrade from 10 Mbps to 25 Mbps, or from 25 Mbps to 60 Mbps, for only \$10 more per month. Even better, upgrade during June and we'll waive the \$10 upgrade fee for the first month! West Central Telephone makes the perfect co-star with streaming media sites like Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Instant Video or Vudu. Upgrade today! You won't have to wait while the movie loads (or buffers) and can enjoy higher-definition video.



Strike a Pose on National Selfie Day

Start perfecting your smile! National Selfie Day is coming up on June 21. Follow these selfie tips:

- **Hold the camera up and your chin down.** This is the first rule of selfies. For the best angles, hold the camera above you and tilt your chin slightly down. You may also want to try tilting your head at an angle.
- **Show off your sense of humor.** Have some fun when taking selfies by contorting your face into a strange position or using goofy props.
- **Follow the rule of thirds.** In general, try to have your eye line about one-third down from the top of the frame. To improve composition, keep your face to one side rather than putting it in the center.
- **Stay close.** Keep your shots tight to your face to avoid distracting backgrounds.
- **Choose the right light.** Pick an area with flattering lighting—either outside or inside near a window.

Don't forget to share the fun using the hashtag #NationalSelfieDay.