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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

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Appreciation, Celebration & Illumination

West Central Telephone strives to say thanks to our customers throughout the year. Now that the holidays are approaching, we want to make sure this message of appreciation shines as brightly as the season's lights.

Thanks for letting us provide the internet service that connects you to Thanksgiving recipes and holiday gift ideas, and the TV service that entertains family and friends. It's an honor to be part of your celebrations.

Our offices will be closed to enjoy the holidays on:

- Thursday, November 24
- Monday, December 26
- Monday, January 2




West Central
 Telephone Association
We Connect You.™

Experience the Magic of Santa and His Reindeer!

You won't want to miss sleigh rides with Santa's special reindeer at West Central's holiday open house events! First, the reindeer will give sleigh rides in Menahga, and the following week, Santa will join the reindeer in Sebeka!

Friday, December 9 from 2:30pm-4:30pm

at the Menahga office, located at 14 Main Street SW in Menahga.

Friday, December 16 from 2:30pm-4:30pm

at the Sebeka office, located at 308 Frontage Road in Sebeka. Don't forget your camera for pictures with Santa!

Enjoy cookies, hot chocolate and coffee at both locations.





Holiday Coloring Contest

We invite all children 10 years old or younger to take part in the West Central Telephone 2016 Coloring Contest. Stop by and pick up an entry form, then color or decorate to your liking. Drop off or mail your entry to Coloring Contest, West Central Telephone, PO Box 304, Sebeka, MN 56477.

Wednesday, November 30 is the deadline for entries. We will announce the winning entries the following week. Official rules will be on the entry forms.



Rate Negotiations with Broadcasters & Cable Networks

Every three years, we have to get permission from local broadcasters to carry their channels. This process includes broadcasters requesting compensation and, in turn, we try to negotiate a reasonable rate for you.

West Central Telephone is negotiating with FOX-KMSP for retransmission consent fees—what we and other cable TV providers must pay to carry their networks on our system. FOX, FOX Sports North, Big Ten Network, FOX News Channel and FOX Business News are all up for contract renewal at year's end.

As always, we will do our best to negotiate a fair rate with the broadcasters and networks. But if past experience is any indicator, the negotiations are typically a one-way street. We have two options—pay the exorbitant rate or lose the network. In the past, we have chosen to continue carrying these networks at the higher rates. But, we want to make our TV customers aware that there could be short-term “blackouts” of certain networks during these negotiations if the broadcasters act unreasonably.

One way we can lower the end programming cost is to offer only networks that are in each customer's designated market area or DMA. We currently offer both the Minneapolis and the Fargo local broadcast channels to all customers, even though most are in the Minneapolis DMA. **Watch for an online survey to get your feedback in mid-November!**

We will keep you up to date as these negotiations progress and will work diligently to keep our TV rates as affordable as possible for you. If you have any questions, please call us at 218-837-5151.



**Miracles
from Heaven**
Premiering December 24

STARZ

A young girl suffering from a rare digestive disorder finds herself miraculously cured after surviving a terrible accident. Based on the book “Three Miracles From Heaven” by Christy Beam.

Visit starz.com for airdates/times. STARZ and related service marks are the property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. Miracles from Heaven © 2016 Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. All rights reserved.



What You Need to Know About Battery Backup

Many of today's advanced home phone services require backup battery power to continue functioning during an outage. To avoid a disruption of home voice service during an outage—and to maintain the ability to connect to 911 emergency services—West Central Telephone provides backup power for your home phones at no extra charge.

What Your Battery Can and Can't Do for You

Our backup batteries allow you to continue to use your home voice services during a power outage.

Without a backup battery or alternate backup source such as a generator, you will not be able to make any calls, including emergency calls to 911. The only way to maintain the ability to use your phone is by using some form of backup power. Our backup battery does not provide power to any services other than voice. Home security systems, medical monitoring devices and other equipment will not run on a home phone backup battery.

Replacement Options

West Central Telephone maintains and routinely replaces battery backup power. Our team will call you to schedule a time to swap out the battery backup power—at no charge to you.

Expected Battery Backup Duration

Our backup batteries are expected to last eight to ten hours on standby power. The battery backup should give you at least six hours of talk time.

Instructions for Proper Care and Use of Your Battery

These batteries are not rechargeable. They have an expected life of four to five years, at which time we will contact you to schedule a time for replacement. If your device begins to beep loudly, it means the battery is depleted and needs to be replaced. Please contact our office for replacement.



OBSESSABLE™ ORIGINAL SERIES & BIG HIT MOVIES



GET STARZ® FREE

FOR YOUR FIRST MONTH + \$25 CASH BACK WITH PROOF OF 3 MONTHS PAYMENT



5-DAY FREE PREVIEW

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Programming is subject to change. Offer expires 12/31/2016. STARZ \$25 cash back offer expires 12/31/16. New STARZ subscribers between 1/1/16 and 12/31/16 only. Mail-in request with proof of 3 months STARZ subscription required. Visit starzoffers.com for terms and conditions. STARZ and related service marks are the property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. Ash vs Evil Dead © 2016 Starz Entertainment, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Blunt Talk © 2016 MRC II Distribution Company, L.P. All Rights Reserved. Black Sails © 2016 Starz Entertainment, LLC. All Rights Reserved.



Welcome, New Members

Altenbrun, Larry.....	445-3911
Brown, Adam.....	445-4598
Edin, Lance.....	445-0694
Kern, Alicia.....	445-0656
Kolstad, Amanda.....	445-8456
Lieberg, Jacob.....	445-7709
Middendorf, Sarah.....	445-3420
Poling, Justin.....	445-1484
Runyan, Nathan.....	445-9951
Tiede, Mark & Kristina.....	445-2048
Werk, Scott.....	445-7939
Gertken, Lois.....	472-5126
Kotila, Karen (Huntington)....	472-5814
Kandoll, Neal A.....	538-5095
Aaa Rolloff Services.....	564-4743
Albers, Alicia.....	564-7547
Anderson, Charleen.....	564-8776
Anttila, Chris.....	564-8987
Bower, Janette.....	564-0734
Boyd, Kurt.....	564-3730
Compton, Charles.....	564-0158
Creechley, Dorothy.....	564-9158
Haverinen, Kara.....	564-6305
Hinz, Randall.....	564-6359
Irish, Beryl.....	564-9794
Isaacson, Ken.....	564-8063
Hillstrom, Janis.....	564-5074
King, Pat.....	564-2420
Mikus, Jacob.....	564-9042
Ristinen, Terry.....	564-3731
Rogers, Gary.....	564-8787
Rudquist, Aaron.....	564-7468
Sandretzky, Michael.....	564-7313
Schwartz, Benjamin E.....	564-5639
Strayer, Casey.....	564-1431
Thomas, Jeff.....	564-7288
Wiekamp, Steve.....	564-6683
Withers, Alan Scott.....	564-6471
Bullock, Jessica.....	837-9282
Dufault, Jessica.....	837-4506
Frieler, Mark.....	837-9453
Huttunen, Katelyn.....	837-3324
Kern, Derek.....	837-1077
Robbins, Charlotte.....	837-6488
Schoon, Savanna.....	837-1981
Serenity Living Solutions.....	837-6406
Spencer, Dustin.....	837-1665
Wiegand, Elaine.....	837-4919



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Sebeko Lumber Sales

Location: 201 Minnesota Ave East, Sebeko

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-5:30pm; Sat, 8am-12pm

The site of a lumberyard since 1921, Clifford Gronlund began Sebeko Lumber Sales in April of 1960. At that time, rail cars brought in coal and rough lumber to be sold. Carpenters used the rough lumber to build rafters, windows, doors, cabinets and other projects.

Today, Sebeko Lumber Sales still supplies area carpenters and homeowners with materials for construction. This includes exterior siding and roofing materials, custom cabinets, countertops, molding and interior doors, drywall, paint, fixtures and more. They also supply prefinished garden sheds, garage doors, hand tools, hardware, cordless drills and storage and organization options.

Richard Gronlund bought the business from his dad in 1994 when Clifford retired. Richard said, "Sebeko Lumber Sales have supplied materials for many of the homes in the area, including Hill Top Villa Apartments, area churches and First National Bank of Sebeko. If you are ready to start your project, let us help you. Whatever it is you're looking for, we probably have it."

Sebeko Lumber Sales embraces technology, too. They use computer software to design and create estimates, and relay many through email. You'll find them online at sebekalumbersales.com and on Facebook. Besides WCTA phone service, they have high speed internet and several IP surveillance cameras. Noted Richard, "It's important to keep an eye on my business whether I'm at home, at a jobsite or out in the hunting stand. Working with West Central makes that easy to do."

For all of your building and remodeling needs, visit Sebeko Lumber Sales in Sebeko. For help keeping an eye on your home or business, contact West Central Telephone at 837-5151.