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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

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Make November and December a Season to Remember

This time of year offers so many wonderful opportunities to gather with those we love and enjoy treasured meals, decorations and activities. All of us at West Central Telephone wish you a joyous Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

Our offices will be closed to enjoy the holidays on:

Thursday, November 28
Wednesday, December 25
Wednesday, January 1

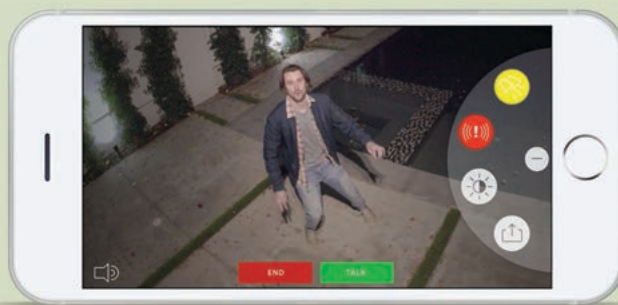

West Central
Telephone Association
We Connect You.™

PROTECT YOUR HOME from the Grinch



This holiday season, don't let the Grinch or a real burglar steal your holiday cheer! Protect your home, and any packages delivered, with a motion-activated security camera with built-in floodlights, a security siren and two-way talk.

With customizable motion detection, Ring Floodlight Cam has the most advanced motion sensors in home security. Its 140° field-of-view will let you detect motion around corners and monitor all your blind spots. Ring Floodlight Cam easily replaces existing wired floodlights and connects to standard junction boxes. With the app, you can control the lights, trigger the siren and zoom-in to focus on your most important areas.



Now through December 31st, save 15% on a Ring Floodlight Cam.*
Call 837-5151
to learn more.

*Save 15% on Ring Floodlight Cam with professional installation. Installation fee varies. Contact us for full details.

Would You Like to Get Involved in the Cooperative?

As a member of WCTA, you are eligible to serve on the Nominations & Election Committee. Members of the committee are responsible for appointing qualified candidates to run for directorship, collecting ballots and verifying election results at the annual meeting held in May 2020.

Committee members currently plan to meet March 3, 2020 to appoint candidates who wish to run for directorship serving the Verndale and Wolf Lake exchanges. Dale Schmith (representing the Verndale exchange) and Harvey Aho (representing the Wolf Lake exchange) are both seeking re-election.

This will be the first year that voting-by-mail will be available to all members, rather than just for those who request an absentee ballot. Nominations from the floor are no longer accepted either. These changes are a result of the amended Bylaws that were approved by members at the 2019 annual meeting. As a result, we've adjusted the timeline to allow for ballots to be mailed and returned. The committee will most likely meet before the start of the annual meeting to count the ballots that were returned by mail, and then any that are cast at the meeting.

If you are interested in serving as a committee member, please contact WCTA at 218-837-5151 before January 20, 2020.

ALL HEARTS COME Home for Christmas

Whether connecting in person or via phone calls and video chats, we hope family and friends warm up your Christmas season and beyond. To kick off your holiday spirit, join us in the following activities.

Holiday Coloring Contest

Children 10 years old or younger are invited to enter the 2019 Coloring Contest. Pick up an entry form, then color or decorate to your liking. Return your entry to Coloring Contest, West Central Telephone, PO Box 304, Sebeka, MN 56477. Friday, November 29 is the deadline for entries. Winners announced the following week.

Enjoy Christmas Cookies & Coffee at Our Holiday Open House

This year we're hosting Holiday Open Houses at both our Sebeka and Menahga offices on Thursday, December 5 from 2:30pm to 4pm. Watch for more information in your December bill.

Holiday Giving: Empty Stocking

In the true holiday spirit, we invite you to start a new family tradition of helping local families in need. We're collecting new toys, games and gifts for those in need. Cash donations are also welcome. Drop off your donations at either of our offices by December 6. They'll be delivered to area families before Christmas.

We're also accepting gently used (or new) winter coats, hats and gloves in cooperation with the Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership, Inc., which distributes the coats. If you need a coat, please contact your county office.



Dublin Murders

Premiering November 10
@ 7:00 pm

STARZ

Dublin Murders is an eight-part psychological thriller series based on two bestselling novels by Tana French, *The Lickeness* and *In the Woods*. Set during the height of the Celtic Tiger financial boom of the millennium, the series focuses on two murder investigations led by a pair of ambitious and charismatic detectives. Initially, the victims are seemingly unrelated, but as the cases progress, we find a connection not only to Ireland's past but the detectives' as well.

When it comes to the mystery at the heart of Dublin Murders, no one knows the whole truth.

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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 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 phone 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 phone. 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 at least eight hours on standby power. The battery backup should give you six hours of talk time. We do have options for an extended outage battery that can provide up to 24 hours of standby. Call for more information.

Proper Care and Use of Your Battery

These batteries are rechargeable and have an expected lifespan of two to three years. At this point, we'll 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 to arrange replacement.

HBO **CINEMAX**

THANKSGIVING
FREE
PREVIEW

Nov 28 - Dec 3



Catherine the Great



Peter Pan



Watchmen

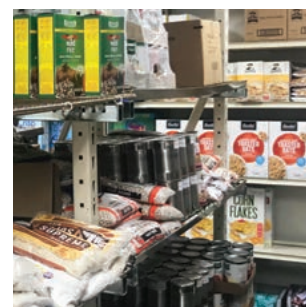


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Welcome New Members

Aho, Ruby E.....	564-3883
Anderson, Owen.....	564-7210
Benson, Al.....	445-6206
Bishop, Rachel.....	837-4780
Bock, Michael.....	472-3804
Broding, Marilyn.....	629-1253
Buckingham, Janice.....	629-1936
Carpenter, Erin.....	837-2045
Dailey, Kimberly.....	837-9186
Fisher, William H.....	445-5171
Flath, James.....	629-1922
Gabrielson-Radell, Sue.....	564-5628
Graba, Jack.....	564-3222
Hallermann, Joseph.....	631-2667
Hendrickson, Kelly.....	538-6763
Hockett, John.....	564-4349
Holmquist, Crystal.....	564-4077
Janson, Beatrice.....	837-5025
Kanis, Matthew.....	629-1958
Kinnunen, Clarita.....	564-3906
Lake, Alayna.....	564-8185
Mcginley, Tyler.....	837-7082
Murphy, Kevin.....	564-5765
Niemela, Nathan R.....	564-9179
Peterson, Mara.....	631-7035
Pomey, Jennifer.....	472-4208
Rousslang, Diane.....	629-1232
Rutten, Timothy.....	445-1406
Schlecht, Bonita.....	631-1175
Sibert, Roland.....	445-2105
Thompson, Michelle.....	564-5896
Tomperi, Aydin.....	564-1846
Waln, Maranda.....	629-1599
Wuollet, Diane.....	414-6944
Ylitalo, Tim.....	564-5299



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Sebeka Food Shelf

The Sebeka Food Shelf is a volunteer-run program that helps families who find themselves short on funds and food or other necessities like diapers. It prioritizes people with children and the elderly. Families are typically served one time each month by the food shelf, which focuses on the Sebeka School District.

The Sebeka Food Shelf helps roughly 32 families per month and gives out over 2,000 pounds of food. There are several volunteers that make sure this process of helping other people goes smoothly. We spoke with treasurer Joyce Limanen and manager Kay Oehlenschlager, and asked them what their favorite part of their job was. They both said, "We love helping the community and this is a great way of doing it!"

West Central Telephone feels the same and we were happy to donate \$500 toward the purchase of a new freezer for the food shelf. Many in the community also donate fresh produce and cash. Cash is king, as volunteers have a \$5 to \$1 purchasing power with the food banks.

The Sebeka Food Shelf is open one day a week — Thursdays from 5-7 pm. — and is located in the back of the Sebeka United Methodist Church at 100 Jefferson Ave S, Sebeka, MN. You can also reach them at 472-3288.