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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

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Give a Coat and Share the Warmth

Cold weather is coming, and many people in Wadena and Otter Tail Counties are without warm winter coats. To help, WCTA is collecting clean, gently used coats (and hats, scarves, and gloves) to distribute to families in need. Bring your donations now until mid-December to the WCTA office in Sebeka or Menahga. We're working with the Mahube-Otwa Community Action Council to distribute the coats. If you're in need of one, please contact your county office.



Celebrate National Co-op Month at Our October 11 Open House

October is National Co-op Month, and this year's theme is "Co-ops Commit." As your cooperative, WCTA is committed to this community and our members. Cooperatives benefit the economy of the communities served by returning revenues generated by the cooperative to local members rather than removed shareholders. Cooperatives are motivated by service to their members in addition to profit.

WCTA offers an ever-expanding list of communications solutions including:

- Broadband services such as digital TV, high-speed internet, and systems for security, surveillance, and monitoring
- Telephone, long distance, custom calling features, business phone systems, and more

We invite you to come celebrate National Co-op Month at our Open House on Wednesday, October 11 from 11am to 2pm at the Sebeka office. We'll have technology demonstrations going on throughout the Open House and there will be special deals on services, door prizes, free food, and fun. Look for more information coming in October, and make plans now to stop by this annual event!



Congrats to These Scholarship Winners



Maggie O'Keefe



Paige Hartman



Cody Lake



Candice Carlson



Teresa Horton



Kori Nelson

The WCTA Second Year or Beyond Scholarship is given to assist local students attending college. We congratulate the six 2017 recipients below, who each received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Directory Photo Contest

West Central Telephone is gearing up to bring you the new 2018 WCTA Directory, and your photo could grace the cover! The winner of the Directory photo contest will also win \$200 in cash. Submit your favorite photos at www.facebook.com/WestCentralTelephone. Be sure to include a sentence or two about each photo, such as where it was taken and why you think it would look great on the new WCTA Directory cover.

Contest Rules:

- Amateur photographers only; no professionals please.
- Contest open to West Central Telephone customers only; employees or directors of the cooperative or members of their household are not eligible.
- Each household may submit up to 10 photographs.
- Photos should be in digital form, at least 300 dpi, and preferably in jpg format.
- Name the photo files with your name and number of entry, such as: geri salmela1.jpg, geri salmela2.jpg, etc.
- Photos should not be altered or enhanced and should be taken within the WCTA territory.
- If the photo includes people, the individual(s) cannot be easily identified.
- Trademarks, commercial names, or advertisements must not appear anywhere in the photo.
- Photos must be submitted online through our Facebook page found at facebook.com/WestCentralTelephone; if Facebook isn't an option, you may email a photo to geris@wcta.net with "Photo Contest" in the subject line and your name, address, phone number, and brief description of the photo in the body of the email. **Entries on Facebook are preferred.**
- ABSOLUTELY NO PRINTED PHOTOS WILL BE ACCEPTED; DIGITAL COPIES ONLY.
- All entries will become the property of West Central Telephone; submission implies consent to use photos on the Directory Cover or in any other advertising campaign.



Life
Premiering October 21
STARZ

A team of scientists aboard the International Space Station discover a rapidly evolving life form that caused extinction on Mars and now threatens the crew and all life on Earth.

Order STARZ now to watch must-see movies like Life.

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The deadline for entries is Monday, October 2, 2017.

Return to Sender: Address Unknown

Each year that WCTA is successful, our cooperative members are rewarded with a capital credits check. Some members move out of the area but forget to give us an updated address, or a member may no longer be living. In either case, the checks are returned to us. The members below all had checks returned. **If you know the whereabouts of any of the people listed (or the administrator of the estate), please call us at 837-5151.**

Aho Elias M	Dunbar L (Skeets)	Housman Melissa	Meyer Fred	Ruona Harold
Anderson Cheryl	Dykhoff Taxidermy	Hunter Steve	Meyer Steve	Rural Cellular Corp
Anderson Elsa	Early Melissa	Huntley Leslie(Dick)	Mhcsn Of Mn	S & M Auto
Anderson Rodney	Elfstrum Mike	Hutmacher Mark	Mico Paul	Sakkinen Jennie I
Andrie Steve & Renae	Erholtz Terry & Claudette	I Should Have Bought It	Midnight Tanning	Savela David
Anttila Bob	Erickson Harvey V	Iwen Jessica	Millbradt Dale	Sazama Vivian
Arent Mary	Evergreen Real Estate Co	Jacobson Rev Daryl	Miles Chris	Schmidt Bradley
Arnold Louisa	Ferguson Troy	Jantz Aaron	Miller Ernest R	Schmitz Dierdre
Arretche Frank	Fern Daniel	Jensen Marlys	Mitchell Peace	Schmitz Lyle
Aspen Auction Service	Finck Dallas	Jepson Carol	Modern Banking Systems	Schowinsky Lisa
Austad Dennis	First Choice Mortgage	Jepson Mark	Mohs Doreen	Schultz Laurie
Balzum Tammy	Fisher Charlene	Johnsen Charlie	Moore Kymm	Sebeka Salvage
Barnes Tina	Folkestad Chris	Johnsen Mary (Mia)	Mueller Evan	Seedorf Will
Barnett Edith	Foster Angela	Johnson Harvey R	Mullen Andy	Sharp Danny
Bartholomew Kenneth	Foster Rita	Johnson Scott	Nation Ivan E	Shepersky Todd
Bauer Wendy	Fouts Margaret	Johnson Sue	Nelmark Jason	Sheridan Holly
Beach-Hepokoski Deb	France William	Johnston Andrew	Neurer Pat	Siirila Martha
Beavers Gena	Friest Bruce	Jones Jessica	Newberry Cathy	Siltala Aaron
Bergeron Theodore X	Frimanslund Jeff	Kam Ling	Nielson Mark	Siltala Derek
Bergman Vallery	Fuller Jeffery	Kaufman Roy	Nielson Terri	Siltala Peter Jr
Bj's Color Me Gone, Inc	Gaffney John V	Kelley Michael	Niska Edwin	Skoog Earl R
Boutain Harvey	Gambino Joe & Nancy	Keranen Melissa	Nord David & Nancy	Slavick Joe & Susan
Boyd Kurt	Garner Mark	Kern Victor	Norman Marilyn	Smith Adrian
Branstner Steve	Gedde Dan	Kern Virginia	Norris Wanda	Smith Lawrence
Branstrom Linda	Geoghegan Suzan	Keskey Dan	Northway Bob	Spangler Eleanor
Brasel Joseph	George Kyle	Ketchum Wilma P	Northway Raymond Sr	Spatz Carol
Brenna Todd	Gise Ruth	Kinnunen Sue	Northwest Financial	Spirit Lake Cafe
Brown Caroline	Godlevske Kevin	Kliever Constance	Notsch Joe	Stahl Ruth
Buckley Eric & Gwendolyn	Golda Ricky	Knutson Gayle	O'neil Curt	Stanhope Frank
Bunnell David	Gomez Sheila	Kocurek Judy	Oberg Terry	Stetzler Thomas & Rosemary
Bunting Toni	Gorder Darren	Koeneman Dale	Olson Bradley	Stilwell David
Burgau Troy & Shanon	Gran Travis	Koria Edna	Olson Brenda	Stockwell Allan & Lori
Busboom Clayton	Grangruth Wilmer Mrs	Krause Shannon	Olson Nancy E	Sunday Trena
Bushey Pete	Gravalin Karen	Kumpula Eugene	Otterstetter Adam	Swank David Jr & Monica
Butler Barbara	Gravelle Durwood	Kyro Dave	Otto Roxy	Syerson Doug
Cain Elaine	Gravy Haulin	Lake Area Homes Inc	Packila Linda	Tann George
Cameron Russ	Guzman Baltazar	Lake Ervin	Pangrac Andy	Thorsen Nells
Cannon Allen & Dorothy	Haataja Leslie	Lamont Helen	Park Rapids Physical Therapy	Tourdot Kurt
Carnell Ron	Haavisto Alpo	Lang Doug	Parks Shawna	Trademark Homes
Carstens Jim & Deana	Hagen John	Larson Tamara	Paski Bronte	Tretbar Brian
Caulk Chris	Hailstone Bethanee	Larson William	Patsey Dawn C	Twidwell Darlene
Cherne Ferne	(Shepersky)	Latto Art	Peasley John & Nicole	Uselman Tim
Chilson Todd	Hailstone Mark	Lehmkuhl Travis & Samantha	Penttinen Esther	Vandeusen Jane
Christensen Tina	Hall Greg	Lenoir Jessica	Percival Genevieve	Vargo Tammy
Christiansen Cheryl	Hallikainen Henry	Lenzen Neil	Perron Karen	Verndale Video & Fish Supply
Clark Chadd & Monica	Halpaus Harlen	Lindeen Jackie	Peterson Cheryl Ann	Vernon Toni
Cornelius Tracy	Halvorson Barbara	Lorentz Mark	Peterson Fred	Vonada Matt
Cory Sandra	Hammerbacker Lawrence	Lubo Floyd	Phillips I H	Vynynge Josh
Crooker Cari	Handt William	Ma's Country Cafe	Pietila Rodney	Wagner Margo
Culp Margaret	Hansen Stacy	Mack Lawrence R	Presson Al	Wanous Sam
Cusey Nancy	Hanson Paul & Sara	Makela Margaret	Pride Debra	Ward Gary
Dahl Richard	Haraldson Martin & Ardith	Makinen Maynard	Priebe Magdalene	Wegner Daniel
Dailey Connie	Harn Justin	Malin Carol	R & M Verndale Grocery	Whitaker Lanay
Danielson Jim	Haro Willard	Marjama Mike	Rand Sheila	Wick Lloyd D & Evelyn
Daugherty Ronda & Bill	Harris Kelly	Marlowe Cindy	Randall Julia Ann	Wilcox Harold
Davis Ken	Haugen Jeanmarie	Marquette Melissa	Randall William	Williams Leroy
Davis Anna	Haverinen Bobbi	Martin Instrument Co	Ranua Todd	Wirkkala Tom
Davis Donna	Haviland Lisa	Maves Jerri Anne	Reger Mark	Wittstruck Doug
Dean James & Shaun	Havnos Joshua	Mcdaniel Briannah	Relitz Sharon	Wonders Melanie
Denny Dale Jr	Heegard Sandra	Mcmanigle Curtis	Riddle Raymond	Worms Carol
Devore Joe	Hepokoski Lisa	Meidinger Gerald Jr	Robb Tonya	Yliniemi Ron
Dougherty Betty	Hiitunen Beverly	Menahga Citgo Store Atm	Robbins Mark	Young Billy
Downer David	Hobson Carole	Menahga Snyder Drug	Ronning Robert & Anna	Zimmerman Ruth Ann
Driza Charles	Holmquist Debby	Mensen Betty	Rother Paul	
Duerr Jason	Hoover Robert	Metteer Thomas	Ruhl Brant	
Dumprope Darrin & Vanessa	Horton Becky	Mettler Janice	Runnoe Marlene	

Welcome, New Members

Breitenfeldt Thann	445-5688
Dick Kenneth.....	445-7884
Enberg Katie.....	445-4706
Ewert Joel	445-8879
Hirschey Austin.....	445-9060
Schmith Dale	445-5166
Smith Heather	445-4177
Starr Chelsea.....	445-7641
Thompson Tyler	445-8374
Fudge Billie Jean	472-5942
Koenig Rachel	472-3200
Kuschel Douglas.....	472-3711
Kuschel Levi	472-3774
Sharp Brian	472-6153
Johnson Erica.....	538-0125
Becker Ruby.....	564-8051
Gustafson James	564-8192
Hocking Roger	564-7043
Hodge April	564-6715
Hotakainen Haley	564-1286
Hoverson Seth.....	564-6821
Junes Trinity	564-9964
Koski Dennis	564-4573
Mckechnie Leah	564-1121
Mortenson Daniel	564-4071
Skoog Nathan	564-1913
Smith Kaitlyn	564-0850
Steffen Zachary	564-4671
Wesenberg Ned	564-5302
Ylitalo Cornell.....	564-6634
County 6 Customs	629-1655
Crawford Kelsi.....	837-0187
Frame Ashley.....	837-8108
Kline Dallas.....	837-1343
Koll Ann.....	837-2408
Menard Anne.....	837-5128
Meyer Andrew	837-7628
Nolte Eva.....	837-9285
Peterson Chad	837-9641
Sandberg Jerold.....	837-4571
Schoon Alexander J	837-1725
Soukup Bryan.....	837-7507
Steinke Jeff & Karie.....	837-3115
Whitfield Sandra	837-6086
Wingerter Eric.....	837-6130
Zutter Nick.....	837-1352

Problems Affecting Internet Activity

Everyone complains about “internet” problems occasionally. Did you know it may not be your internet service that’s the problem? It could be your home’s Wi-Fi network, which will undoubtedly hit a snag every now and then. Or it could be an issue with a connected device or app. Here are some of the most common issues.

Slow Speeds – Fixes:

- **Move your router to its ideal position.** For the best signal and coverage, put your router in an open space near the center of your home. The further away you are from your router, the slower your speeds will be. Keep it away from thick walls made of brick or concrete, and make sure it’s not around metal items, which can reflect Wi-Fi signals. Better yet, have one of our technicians determine the best placement.
- **Protect your Wi-Fi network.** If someone nearby is leeching off your network, it can slow down your internet speeds. Set up security for your Wi-Fi network that includes a password.
- **Upgrade your internet plan.** Your current internet plan (which is generally faster with a wired connection) may not be fast enough to support all the users and devices in your home, regardless of how well placed and secured your router may be. If so, you may need a speed upgrade.

No Connection – Fixes:

- **Pull the plug.** Periodically, something glitches and the router or modem (or combination) just stop communicating. There isn’t always an explanation. It just happens. Try disconnecting your router and modem from power, wait at least 30 seconds, then plug them back in.
- **Give us a call.** If the above fix doesn’t work, we can help you get connected.

Wi-Fi Doesn’t Reach Certain Rooms – Fixes:

- **Add a wireless signal extender.** If your home is larger than about 3,000 square feet, getting good Wi-Fi signal throughout can be a challenge. Multistory homes can also be difficult if the router isn’t plugged into the broadband line somewhere on the middle level. These situations may call for a wireless signal extender.

App Freezes or Website Times Out – Fixes:

- **Try deleting app and reinstalling.** Sometimes, apps have bugs that cause them to freeze up or run poorly. Check with the manufacturer of the app if deleting and reinstalling doesn’t help.
- **You may have a virus or malware.** Try cleaning your computer with an anti-malware program like Malwarebytes. Make sure your anti-virus program is kept up-to-date.
- **Update your device.** If you’re still running Vista or Windows 7, more than likely the problem is your computer. The same goes for outdated devices including older iPads, tablets, smartphones, and routers. Technology changes fast, so a device that’s a few years old may already be outdated.

For help with setup and maintenance of your Wi-Fi network, call 837-5151 and sign up for Manage MyWi-Fi for only \$6.95/month.