

inter face

JUNE 2022

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WE WISH EVERY GRADUATE A BRIGHT FUTURE

West Central Telephone is proud to see the accomplishments of our area's students. We can all look forward to a bright future knowing these young people will apply their talents toward helping to make the world a better place. Congratulations, graduates!



Weaver and Pulju Re-elected at Annual Meeting

The 72nd annual meeting was held May 16 at the Sebeka High School Auditorium. Board president Bruce Kinnunen talked about the growth of the cooperative over the past five years, which included adding over 1,100 members in rural Wadena and Staples. This growth prompted a shift in board representation of the members from telephone exchanges to districts. Members are now represented by districts. Kinnunen closed his report by announcing that just under \$500,000 in capital credits will be paid to members this year.

CEO Chad Bullock discussed the financial health of the cooperative, updated the membership on upgrades to the network and highlighted the full lineup of managed technology solutions available to the region.

Brent Christensen, President of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance, gave his perspective of the state of our industry. He also announced that Sebeka High School senior Eion Ness was awarded a special \$2,000 Jon Tollefson Technology Scholarship through the MTA (Minnesota Telecom Alliance) Foundation.

Robert Weaver, Secretary of the Board representing District 2 and Dave Pulju, Vice President of the Board representing District 5 both ran uncontested, and as such, will remain on the board for another three years.

Door prizes were awarded after the meeting. The grand prize of one year of phone service plus 100 Mbps unlimited Internet, valued at \$895, went to the Menahga Senior Citizen's Center. Alvin and Pat Schwartz won a 55" Samsung SmartTV and Mike Mattson won an Amazon Echo bundle. Many other prizes were given out. Sebeka High School student Tom Huhta provided the music before and after the meeting.





Julia Besonen



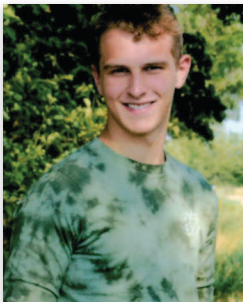
Jamie Hahn



Gavin Kiser



Alessandra Matson



Eion Ness



Madison Schmitz



Hope Shepersky



Kylynn Warmbold

Eight \$1,000 Scholarships Awarded

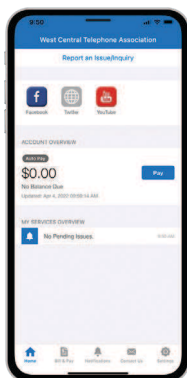
We recently reviewed applications from area high school seniors. The committee awarded eight students \$1,000 scholarships each. Congratulations to Julia Besonen, Jamie Hahn, Gavin Kiser, Alessandra Matson, Eion Ness, Madison Schmitz, Hope Shepersky and Kylynn Warmbold.



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