



# inter face

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022

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## Have a Very, Very Merry Christmas

All of us at West Central Telephone hope your Christmas wishes come true. May you enjoy plenty of festivities with family and friends, delight in the season's sights and sounds and treasure every gift with a grateful heart.

This time of year is also a beautiful opportunity to celebrate what makes our community one of the very best around — including having neighbors like you!

### Our offices will be closed for the holidays on:

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



## TIME FOR **TURKEY.** TOUCHDOWNS, AND TECH

### FEAST ON THE FUN OF THANKSGIVING

What's not to love about this holiday? Thanksgiving brings together treasured family and friends. Plus, it combines some of our favorite things—enjoying a turkey dinner with side dishes galore, streaming football games for hours and sharing memorable moments via video calls and social media.

If your bandwidth is being gobbled up by the growing number of devices in your home, it's time for an internet upgrade.

**CALL 218-837-5151  
NOW FOR FASTER  
INTERNET**

**Happy Thanksgiving  
to you and yours!**

Our offices will be  
closed November 24.





## Tell Telemarketers What to Do

The National Do Not Call Registry was created to stop unwanted sales calls. It's free to register your home or cell phone number. It can take up to 31 days for telemarketers to remove your number from their call lists. Charities, political groups, debt collectors and survey companies are still allowed to call you.

To add your number to the registry, go to [DoNotCall.gov](http://DoNotCall.gov) or call 1-888-382-1222 (TTY: 1-866-290-4236) from the phone you want to register. If you register your number at [DoNotCall.gov](http://DoNotCall.gov), you'll get an email with a link you need to click on within 72 hours to complete your registration.

## All 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.



## Dangerous Liaisons

Premiering  
November 6  
@ 7:00pm CT

**STARZ**

This is the origin story and early years of narcissistic rivals and ex-lovers, Marquise de Merteuil and the Vicomte de Valmont, who use seduction to control and exploit others.

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# UNLEASH THE JOY OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

**Merry Christmas from Santa Paws and West Central Telephone!** May this season be filled with the kind of joyful moments that make smiles form and tails wag — like neighborhood walks to see holiday lights, cookie baking for furry and non-furry family and delighting loved ones with the gifts they've begged for.

## Holiday Coloring Contest

Children 9 years old or younger are invited to enter the 2022 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. November 25 is the deadline for entries, and winners will be announced the following week.

## 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 5. They'll be delivered to area families before Christmas.

## Just for Fun, Check Out These Holiday Apps

These free apps, available for Android and iOS, are sure to generate smiles for the young (or young at heart) in your family.

### Christmas Sweeper 4

Attention Candy Crush fans! Christmas Sweeper 4 is like your favorite game, except with a Christmas twist. You'll light candles, clear the snow to uncover gifts, catch jumping snowmen, fill up gift bags, drop Santa down the chimney and more creative mischief.

### Elf Yourself

You replace the Elf faces with the faces of up to five people or pets, select a dance theme and this app will create a comical elf dance video. Once completed, you can share the video on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

### Message From Santa!

With this app, your kids can call Santa, get video messages, record a wish list and hear what Santa is doing. There's also a Santa Chatbot that makes it seem like you're talking with the man himself. You can also request a call from Santa, and your children can record a voice message for him.







## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Ted's Trustworthy Hardware

Ted's Trustworthy Hardware is a long-established business owned by Ted Kaufman, with locations in both Menahga and Sebeka. The hardware store, as you'd expect, sells hardware, paint, yard and garden supplies and small appliances including toasters, coffee makers and crockpots. It also sells propane and is the area's Husqvarna dealer for chainsaws and lawn mowers. What makes Ted's Trustworthy Hardware stand out is its large inventory of hardware and other items.

Ted purchased the business from Clarence Makela in 1979. The biggest challenges are competing with the big box stores and online shopping, but having local stores is an asset for the communities. Ted said, "Having a local presence in our smaller communities and being able to provide great customer service and fill a need is great, but the best part of owning the business for me is the people."

If you haven't been to Ted's in a while, stop by Monday – Friday from 8 am to 5:30 pm or Saturday from 8 am – 1 pm at either location. The Sebeka store is at 206 Minnesota Ave SE, and the Menahga store is at 114 Aspen Ave SE. If you're looking for something in particular, give Ted's a call at either 218-837-5012 or 218-564-4121.

Ted's Trustworthy Hardware uses West Central Telephone's phone and internet for ordering products and billing, as well as maintaining its Facebook page (Ted's Hardware).

**Call West Central Telephone at 218-837-5151 to learn more about IT support, internet, and Wi-Fi services for your business.**

### Welcome New Members

Anderson, Stuart & Pat ..... 218-837-8696  
Bella Caffe ..... 218-732-9063  
Coldwell Banker Clack &  
Dennis Real Estate ..... 218-732-3381  
Crabtree, Jeff ..... 218-564-6395  
Downer, David & Elaine ..... 218-837-6059

Hennessy, Scott ..... 218-629-1455  
Johnson, Scott & Diana ..... 218-894-0180  
Moren, Frank ..... 218-564-4148  
Nurnberger, Robert ..... 218-894-3516  
Peterson, Tamara ..... 218-837-5007  
Pothen, Steven ..... 218-631-2086

Savela, Laura ..... 218-837-4778  
Snyder, Anthony ..... 218-631-4138  
SUBWAY ..... 218-564-7827  
Third Street Market ..... 218-732-9063  
Twin Lakes Lodge, LLC ..... 218-564-4148