



# NETWORK CONNECTIONS

Quarter 3 | 2023

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# A letter from our General Manager/CEO Kent Schimke



Greetings from DRN! Hard to believe that 2023 is half over and we are amid our summer construction season.

**Construction Update**—Our crews have been busy plowing and placing fiber across the territory. All the cables that were ground laid over the past winter because of gopher damage have been repaired and reburied. Contractors are working on and will be finishing up this fall the Lisbon to Horace transport project. Weather conditions have been optimal for construction thus far and our crew and contractors are taking full advantage in getting fiber in the ground. Please remember to call the business office if you need service or planning on needing service, we'll get an order started and get the fiber placed.

**New Employees**—We have had two new employees join DRN's team within the last month. Cole Saylor and Kayce Deering. We are excited to have them on our team providing our customers with a greater experience.

DRN, like many other companies, has been struggling to recruit new employees. Not so many years ago, DRN would receive numerous applications for one career posting. NTCA, the rural broadband association of which we are a member, has partnered with Northwood Technical College to offer remote workforce training opportunities exclusively for NTCA members. Building and maintaining robust broadband networks requires a range of skills, expertise, and experience. We are hopeful this partnership will help with the employee shortage. In the meantime, DRN will continue to "home-grow" our employees as we have in the past and are currently doing with Cole and Kayce.

**NPS**—Earlier this year, we initiated a customer satisfaction survey known as Net Promoter Score (NPS). The two-question survey asks customers to rank their experience with DRN on a scale of 1-10 and to provide comments. The NPS survey is emailed to customers after they connect to a new service or initiate a trouble report. If you receive a survey, we ask you to take a couple of minutes to complete.

The responses will help DRN improve and sustain a viable Cooperative for you, our members. So far, we have had over 200 responses with a NPS of 9.2. According to a web article, "Telecom NPS Benchmarks and CX Treads in 2023" by Cvetilena Gocheva, the median Net Promoter Score for telecommunications companies was 3.1. I'm extremely proud of DRN's 9.2 ranking but realize there is always room for improvement.

**Employee Engagement**—Not only do DRN employees take great pride in providing its members and customers with great customer service, they also are committed to serving the communities in which they live. For DRN's 2nd quarter service project, employees donated pillows, books, toiletry items, and stuffed animals for Sleep Tight Bags. Sixteen bags were assembled and then donated to local domestic violence shelters—Kedish House, Ellendale: Abuse Resource Network in Lisbon and Safe Harbor of Aberdeen. These Sleep Tight bags are given to children at a time of need and transition.

**Annual Meeting**—Please mark your calendar for DRN's Annual Meeting, Thursday, Oct. 19, 6 p.m. at the Ellendale Public School. This is your meeting to learn more about your Cooperative and elect directors. Myron Yagow, Dan Barton, and Ralph Greer are current directors up for re-election. The Nominating Committee will meet at the end of August and if you are interested in running for a director position, please contact our office for additional information.

**Picnics** — Forman and Forbes are the locations of the DRN customer appreciation picnics this year. These picnics are a highlight of the summer for me. I enjoy seeing new and familiar faces alike. DRN ReditTech staff will be in command of the grill and service lines preparing some amazing burgers and brats. Please bring your appetite! I hope to see you there.

Thank you for your continued patronage. Enjoy the rest of the summer and have a Happy 4th of July!

# DRN READITECH WELCOMES NEW HIRES AND INTERNS

DRN ReadITech has welcomed five new members to its team since May. These individuals are all looking to advance their careers and make an impact while working for DRN ReadITech.

Cole Saylor, Ellendale, has been appointed as an Outside Network Operations Specialist. Cole graduated from Ellendale High School and is now excited to start working to develop his skills for his position. Over the past few summers Cole has been working on construction around the area. Outside of work his interests are playing/watching sports and hanging out with his friends.

Jaden Santjer, Aberdeen, has joined the team as an IT Administrative Assistant in our ReadITech Aberdeen office. During her high school days, Jaden was heavily involved in Future Business Leaders of America the Speech and Debate teams. She will be attending Northern State in the fall to begin a B.S. in Sports Marketing and Administration. In her free time, Jaden enjoys shopping, hanging out with friends and family, reading, and helping at different church events.

Kayce Deering, Ellendale, recently joined the team as a Technical Support Analyst. She and her husband, Nick have one son and live outside of Ellendale where they have cattle, dogs, horses and several outside cats. Kayce enjoys crocheting, camping, audio books, music and being with family and friends.

Nickolas Seefeld, Ellendale, has returned this summer as a Facilities Maintenance Assistant. Raised in Ellendale, Nickolas has always been an active member when it comes to representing his town as he is now a member of Legion Post 137. After graduating from EHS in 2021, he joined the Army and currently attends UND. In his free time, Nick enjoys being outdoors, fishing, hiking, and traveling to the Rocky Mountains.

Jaden Strobel, from Fargo, has been selected as the Marketing Intern for the summer. Jaden is entering his final year of college at North Dakota State University where he will graduate with a bachelor's degree in business administration. In his free time, he likes to spend it golfing, hunting, or at the lakes with friends and family.

Victor Ngoubayo, originally from Cameroon, Africa moved to Fargo this year and has been selected as the IT Intern-Programmer/Development. Victor obtained his education and skills through BSC and MSC in Network/Telecommunication/Computer Science, AI-Machine Learning and has a strong background in law enforcement from working for the DoD US-Army Research Lab.



**Cole Saylor**



**Nickolas Seefeld**



**Jaden Santjer**



**Victor Ngoubayo**



**Kayce Deering**



**Jaden Strobel**

## NEW LISTINGS

### Crete 753

Ja-Fra Enterprises .....753-7349

### Ellendale 349

Wayne A Klipfel .....349-2489

Dakota Plains Credit Union.....

.....349-5261

### LaMoure 883

Conner Hammond .....883-5408

### Lisbon 683

Maxine Atkins .....683-4603

### Milnor 427

John S Warner .....427-9314

Soggy Paws Pet Resort & Day Spa

.....427-9370

### Oakes 742

Oscar Kvigne .....742-5429

Gerald Ferm.....742-5819

# WELCOME TO DRN!

# Making A Difference in our communities

As a cooperative, DRN plays an important role in making a difference to improve the communities we serve through volunteer efforts and monetary contributions.

## \$1,000 to Kulm Friendship Club

DRN recently donated \$1,000 to the Kulm Friendship Club. The donation will go towards a kitchen remodel project.

## \$3,000 to Ashley Sports Club

DRN recently donated \$3,000 to the Ashley Sports Club. The donation will help the organization purchase a wrestling mat.

## EMPLOYEE GIVING

### Riding for Dreams Receives Casual Friday Employee Funds

DRN employees have made the commitment to support their favorite local non-profit organizations by paying \$2 to wear jeans on Friday. In quarter one, employees selected Riding for Dreams to donate the funds to. A check for \$200 was recently presented to the organization.



Riding for Dreams board members accept the donation from DRN's Haylee O'Brien.



Left: Kedish House

Below: Abuse Resource Network

Right: Safe Harbor



### Sleep Tight Bags

DRN employees quarter two service project was to purchase and assemble sleep tight bags to donate to local abuse resource centers in our area. A total of 16 bags were put together by employees - five bags and a \$240 donation was made to the Kedish House, Ellendale; six bags were donated to the Abuse Resource Network in Lisbon; six bags and extra items were donated to Safe Harbor in Aberdeen, SD.

# OUTSTANDING CAPITAL CREDITS

The following customer accounts have outstanding capital credits. If your name or business is listed or you have information regarding a name below, please call DRN at 877-559-4692 or 701-344-5000.

Justin Aamodt  
Celeste Aberle  
Jed Aberle  
Shirley Aberle  
Abdinoor Abi  
Josh Abney  
Shafea Adbih  
Rebecca Affolter  
Rena Alber  
Trisha Alber  
Zakariah Ali  
*All That Pizzazz*  
Linda Allard  
*American Employment Agency*  
Brad Amundson  
Ervand Andersen  
Irvin Andersen  
Anita Anderson  
Cody Anderson  
Margo Anderson  
Todd Anderson  
Bernice Arens  
Brandon Arion  
Jeremy Arlien  
Robert Arnold  
*Ashley Tribune*  
*Ashley Clinic PCTINSA*  
Doris Aspelund  
Reuben Aucamp  
Vincent Awender  
Vernika Azure  
Sara Bailey  
Tanner Baker  
Sandra Banks  
Robert Barr  
Raymond Barrett  
Wyatt Baumbach  
Mark Baumgartner  
*Coffee Bean*  
*Bear Creek Gravel Inc*  
Cody Becker  
David Bedker  
Brandi Bell  
Darren Benneweis  
Gwen Bergh  
Michael Berman  
Donald L Bernhardt  
Cole Berntson  
Vicki Berreth  
Ebony Berube  
*Beste Mor Guest Inn*  
*Beverly Anne Assisted Living Center*  
William Bibow  
Lori Binsfeld  
Buffy Bishop  
Dillon J Bishop  
Jacob Bollum

Perry Bollum  
Casandra Bonde  
Trevor Borell  
Amanda Borger  
Richard C Bosse  
Jeff Bowman  
Jesse Brademeyer  
Philip D Brademeyer  
David Brandner  
Tamara Brazell  
Erickson Brothers  
Minus Broussard Jr  
Lori Brown  
Wade G Brown  
*B-Sam's*  
Paul Buchholz  
Scott Buchholz  
Lori Burley  
Randall Burton  
Jerrold Busche  
Michael Busche  
*Butcher Block Inc*  
Ruth Carlblom  
Ted Carlson  
Ronald Carman  
Tara Carrol  
Nora Ann Carter  
Brett Christopherson  
Mathew Claeys  
Jacob Cline  
Judy Clow  
Matthew Clubine  
Edward Coddington  
Brenda Cofell  
Robert Cofell  
Gerald Coleman  
Tyler Colgrove  
*Wilbur-Ellis Company*  
Ronald Corliss  
Richard Counts  
Ronald Cross  
Mike Dahlen  
Derek Dahlgren  
*Dakota Off Road*  
Rebecca Dalstein  
Carol Danuser  
Gerald Robert Danuser  
*Davita Oakes Dialysis Center*  
Daniel Dawson  
Hope Dawson  
Terry Day  
Dennis Decker  
Dan Delahoyde  
Bob Delzer  
Tyler Desherlia  
Barbara Dick  
Shea Dick  
Tatum Diegel

Fred Dittenber  
Evan Dittus  
*Diversified Crop Insurance*  
Kellen Dockter  
*Dollar General 3772303*  
Justin Domine  
Michelle Donaldson  
Jack Dorich  
Todd A Dormanen  
David Duncan  
Casey Durhiem  
Nicole Eastman  
David Eberle  
Lawrence Ebner  
*Edward Jones 105*  
Benjamin Elhard  
Richard Elijah  
*Elijah Holding LLC*  
Cory Enger  
Dayna Engst  
Janel Erickson  
Rodney Erickson  
Ernesto Espana Jr  
Lambert Family  
*Farmers Inn Cafe*  
*Courtney Farms*  
Hayley Fenner  
Jace Ferderer  
Ervin A Fischer  
Gail Flemmer  
Edgar Fletcher  
Shahn Fletcher  
Sandra Flihs  
Collin Fluke  
Nicholas Foertsch  
Kevin Forsman  
Connie Foster  
*FPL Energy-ND Wind*  
William Franklund  
Nicholas Fregien  
Shantel Froelich  
Bev Froemke  
James Fuchs  
Jay Fuher  
Michael Gaarder  
Josh Gackle  
Mark Gainor  
Jolee Gamache  
Amelia Garces  
Ronee Garland  
Renee Garness  
Brandy Garton  
Elma Gayman  
Reanna Geiszler  
Sheila Gerard  
Michael German  
Megan Gertmenian  
Jaysen Gettel

Cameron Gilbertson  
Heather Gillespie  
*Glaesmann Heating & AC*  
*Good Sam 6260*  
Beau Goolsbey  
Samantha Goulet  
Craig Greene  
Betsy Greenley  
Judith Greenley  
Andrew Greenmyer  
Joseph Greer  
Karly Groettum  
Bill Gulleson  
April Gutierrez  
Peregrina Gutierrez  
Jacob Haag  
Alexandra Haakenson  
Dakota Haanen  
Adam Haberman  
Kalee Hack  
Linda Haefs  
Patricia Hall  
John Halling  
Michelle Hamilton  
Rita Hamman  
Jessica Handley  
Sy Hansana  
Kris Hansen  
Steven Hanson  
Cheryl Haring  
Crystal Haring  
Lisa Harney  
Todd Harris  
Jered Hartman  
Troy Hartman  
Christie Hasenpflug  
Rick Haussler  
Justin Haverluk  
David Hay  
Heidi Hedstrom  
Heidi Hegle  
William Hehn  
Zach Heidenreich  
Alvina Heidinger  
Keith Heidinger  
Alec Heier  
Paul Heigh  
Jeremy Heinrich  
Diane Hellman  
Jen Henricks  
Jordan Henricks  
Kathleen Herbst  
Robert Hernandez  
Ronna Hesby  
Nicole Hicks  
Clinton Hieggelke  
Tabitha Hildebrandt  
Jeremy Hill

# OUTSTANDING CAPITAL CREDITS

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If your name or business is listed or you have information regarding a name below, please call DRN at 877-559-4692 or 701-344-5000.

Paul Hinnen  
Mike Hoaby  
Izaiah Hoelscher  
Brad Hoistad  
Elizabeth Holen  
Robert Hoskin  
Austin Howard-Brasel  
James Howe  
Mary Hruby  
Eugene Huber  
Brady Hurt  
David Hutslar  
Kathryn Igou  
*Spacenet INC*  
*Inteliquent*  
*Island Park Motel*  
Lucas Jacobson  
Melissa Jansen  
Juan Jansen Van Vuuren  
Josh Janssen  
Larree Janssen  
Sara Jara  
Blair Johnson  
Brandon Johnson  
Corey Johnson  
James D Johnson  
Jay B Johnson  
Nathan Johnson  
Norman E Johnson  
S J Johnson  
David L Jones  
Sean Jones  
James Jorgenson  
Donovan Juelff  
Andrew Justesen  
Marek Kaluza  
Frieda Keller  
Kenny Kelsen  
Adam Kennelly  
Natalie Kiefer  
Phillip King  
Cody Kinzler  
Ty Kirby  
Aleisha Kiser  
Sophia K Jar  
Alexander Kleich  
Adam Kleinsasser  
Marvin Klettke  
Harry Klever  
Candice Klipfel  
Jordan Klipfel  
Marjane Klundt  
Robert Knight  
Joel Knipple  
Kyle Kniss  
Joseph Koch  
Andy Kolff

Carolyn Konrad  
Hunter Krank  
Aaron Kratz  
Leslie Krenz  
Anthony Kretowicz  
Tyler Kuehn  
Kerry C Kuno  
Blake Kuska  
Marlin Kusler  
Roger Kussatz  
John Kutschinske  
Norma Lacher  
Steve Lambert  
Jon Langeliers  
Don Langsdon  
Cody Larson  
Tim R Larson  
Richard Lauderdale  
Ardis Leach  
Pauline Lee  
Stephani Lee  
Ali Lehr  
Donald Leigh  
I Leppert  
Karen Liebold  
Kasey Lien  
Caroline Lindgren  
Kari Lindgren  
*Lisbon Inn & Suites LLC*  
*Little Dreamers Daycare*  
Eugene Livingston  
*Imanaged LLC*  
David Locken  
Kurth Lommen  
Jeff Long  
Garreth Lott  
Gena Lott  
Stan Lovett  
Dusty Lukes  
Jim Lukes  
Doniven Lynnes  
Gary A Lynnes  
Martha Macleod  
Simon Maddock  
Jessica Madrid  
Xasmine Madrid  
Abigail Magee  
Rachel Mager  
Alisha Maier  
*Edgeley Mail*  
Eric Mairs  
Madison Mairs  
Benjamin Makay  
Laurel Mallberg  
Kevin Malone  
Susanne Malstrom  
*Marion Community Cafe*  
Chase Martin

Cory Martin  
Oscar Martinez  
Amber Martinson  
Korey Martinson  
Matthew Masset  
Brandon Matheny  
*Matt Trent Construction*  
Tyler Matthews  
Hazel Mattice  
Jordan Matzke  
Shannon McCain  
Christina McCleary  
Scott McDermott  
Ashley McDonald  
Jake McKinnon  
Lindsey Mehlhoff  
Frantz Mehu  
Jessica Melom  
Michael Mercado  
Cory Meyer  
Jarod Miedema  
Aj Miller  
Ian Miller  
Mitchell K Miller  
Florence Mitzel  
Timothy Mixon  
Kim Mlnarik  
Kowsar Mohamud  
*Motor Vamp Engineering*  
Monica Muhs  
Kit Mund  
Martin Mwarabu  
Nicholas Navedo  
John Nehlich  
Ben Nelson  
Brady Nelson  
Dale Nelson  
Lance Nelson  
Leif Nelson  
Tristan Nelson  
Zach Nelson  
Menwoe Neyamenee  
Pam Nicholson  
Alicia Nitschke  
Jay Noot  
*Northern States Power*  
*NP Solutions Inc*  
Bruce Nylander  
Delbert Obenauer  
Nathan O'Brien  
Aaron O'Clair  
Heather Olmsted  
Danielle Olson  
Dorothy Olson  
Kyle Olson  
Leroy Olson  
Nadine Olson  
Bruce Ordahl

Lori Ordahl  
Ruby Orduno  
Daniel Ortiz  
June A Osterberg  
Kelly Owen  
Travis Paeper  
Ruth E Palensky  
Maria Parent  
Dustin Parks  
Cole Patten  
*Pembina Cochon LLC*  
Allen Person  
Courtney Person  
G Robert Person  
Sherril Pesek  
Zvonko Peterkovic  
Anders Peterson  
Brandon Peterson  
Christopher Peterson  
Cole Peterson  
Dan Peterson  
Morgan Peterson  
Preston Peterson  
Thatcher Peterson  
Deborah Pflager  
Richard Pherson  
Diane Pierson  
David Pleinis  
Jeff Pletcher  
Melissa Powers  
Kelly Preston  
Steven Prince  
James Pryer  
Emily Ptacek  
Cheryl Puhr  
Trevor Pulscher  
Carson Quam  
Rachel Boe Quandt  
*Quick Flow Drain Services*  
Kim Rasmussen  
Andrew Rath  
Jerri Rau  
Justin Rau  
Yirgalem Reath  
*Reenie's Repeat Boutique*  
Dave Reinke  
Nathaniel Reinke  
Cory Reiser  
Lillian Remson  
Tim Retzlaff  
Cole Revier  
Alan Richardson  
James M Riddle  
Richard Roeker  
Bruce Roerick  
Erica Rogers  
James Rogers  
Joseph Rogers

Sadiqullah Rohani  
*Rome Research Corp*  
Jenessa Roney  
Mary Ronning  
Kylie Rozeveld  
Cody Runyan  
Warren L Runyan III  
Cody Rupp  
Thelma Ruzsa  
Mark Ryberg  
Carolyn Ryckman  
*S & S Dakota LLC*  
*Sagenet*  
Dylan Salazar  
Brayden Salzer  
Lorna Sand  
James Savage  
Rebekah Scallon  
Renata Schaffer  
Nathan Schilling  
Brad Schlenker  
Gordon Schlenker  
Richard Schlosser  
Todd Schmadl  
Ronald Schmidt  
Layne Schmit  
Edwin Schneider  
Jerry Schneider  
Adam Schultz  
Cliff Schulz  
Deanna Schumacher  
Tanner Schumacher  
Shawn Schwandt  
Duane Score  
Nicole Score  
Brandon Scott  
Thomas Scott  
Susan Seelye  
Robert Senger  
Jonathan Seyer  
Danny Shaw  
Lexi Shaw  
Gloria Shelton  
Tony Shelton  
Kaitlyn Shockley  
Bruce Shockman  
*Shopko Stores #552*  
*Shopko Stores #581*  
Tracy Siebels  
Linda Siewing  
Hunter Sitte  
Phillip Sitter  
Brandon Skjefte  
Dawn Skog  
Jeremy Skoglund  
Robin Skoog  
Heather Smidt  
Austin Smith  
Brandon Smith  
Ethan Smith  
Greg Smith  
Susan Smith

Susan Smith  
William Smith  
Mark Sommerland  
*Spacenet*  
Noel J Spear  
Bruce Speidel  
Walter Spiese  
Tim Spitzer  
*St Francis Medical Center*  
Rosa St. John  
Jared Stadlman  
Harlen Stahl  
Austin Staley  
Dylan Stearns  
Jim Steele  
Kaden Steiner  
Clete Steinwand  
Chris Stephens  
Benjamin Stevens  
Josh Stewart  
Timothy Stickel  
*Stitch An Image*  
*Stitch An Image LLC*  
Chris Stoppleworth  
Robert Storbeck  
Wyatt Stordahl  
Jason Strand  
Jenifer Strand  
*Strand Gard Stewardship, LLP*  
Ann Strander  
John Stroh  
Marcie Strutz  
Dawn Sukut  
*Jud Supermarket*  
Ernest Surerus  
David Swarts  
Cole Sweet  
Michael Tangen  
Katie Tanner  
Joseph Tarrow  
Christopher Taylor  
Anthony Terentieff  
Nevada Tergesen  
Kelli Terrell  
*The Lunchbox Bakery*  
*The Lunchbox Eatery*  
Josh Theademan  
Brent Thielges  
Terry Thompson  
Shelly Thoreson  
Bryson Thorpe  
Ryan Tillerias  
Samuel Tillma  
Daniel Timmersman  
Custom Timpani  
Ashley Torres  
Tanner Tougas  
Larry Toyne  
Waylon J Triepke  
*Triepke Crop Insurance Agency*  
Levi Trigger  
*Trinity Lutheran Church*

Tempest Trone  
Evan Twa  
*US Bank*  
Tyler Ukestad  
Norman Ulness  
*Uncle Dean's Tavern LLC*  
*USDA-Forest SVC*  
*Sheyenne Range*  
*USDA-FSA-Lamoure*  
*USDA-FSA-Sargent*  
*USPS/Granite*  
Elizabeth Van Aarde  
Marco Van Wyk  
Joe Vasquez  
Blake Velderman  
*Vestas American Wind*  
Sharon Vie  
*Viking View Resort*  
William Vlk  
Dennis Vorster  
Robert Wadholm  
Caleb Wagner  
Kevin Wagner  
Katherine Wald  
Paul Waldner  
Tom Walsh  
Richard Walters  
Gracious Weah  
Walter Webster  
Jason Weigel  
Taylor Weight  
Travis Weikum  
Frank Welder  
Steven Widener  
Alexis Wiederholt  
Jeff Wiek  
Matthew Wilhelmi  
Cara Wilke-Kees  
Dougie Wilson  
Roosevelt Wilson  
Harlen Witt  
Jon Wold  
Ted Wolff  
Don Worley  
Scot Worrel  
Mitch Wurzer  
Tina Wurzer  
Todd Wurzer  
Mark Wyckoff  
Luke Yohe  
Jeremy Young  
Dan Ziegler  
Timothy P Ziegler  
Lee Zimbelman  
Lorraine Zimbelman  
Derek Zimmerle  
Justina Zundel  
Kyle Zundel  
Richard Zundel  
Stephen Zundel

# OAKES OFFICE REMODEL PROJECT

The DRN Oakes office will undergo a building remodel project the end of July. Due to the construction, the office will be unavailable to customers.

A temporary office location will be at Southeast Region Career & Technology Center in Oakes. Please drop payments, equipment, etc. off here during business hours.

We are excited to update our Oakes office to better serve members with their technology needs.

Watch our Facebook page for more updates.



# SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS FOR DRN'S 2024 CALENDAR

DRN is reaching out to the community for help in creating its 2024 calendar. We are looking for photographs showcasing the culture of North Dakota and highlight the different seasons throughout the year: winter, summer, spring, and fall.

Submissions are limited to 10 entries per person, and each photo should be submitted with a name and address. The selected photos will be featured in next year's calendar, and the winners will receive a \$25 credit to their DRN account.



Please email high-resolution photos to [marketing@drtel.com](mailto:marketing@drtel.com), subject: Calendar Photos, by Tuesday, Aug. 1.



**YOU ARE INVITED TO**

## DRN's Annual Member Appreciation Picnics

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 1**

**5-7 p.m.**

**City Park, Forbes**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2**

**5-7 p.m.**

**City Park, Forman**

**Burger | Brats | Chips & Refreshments**

*Join us for complimentary food, fun and fellowship!*

ELLENDALE, ND  
**Dickey County**  
**FAIR & RODEO**  
July 6-9, '23

**SAFETY CAMP**

**JULY 07 2023** 9-11 AM

DRN ReadITech, Dickey County Farmers Union, and NDSU Extension - Dickey County are hosting a Safety Camp on Friday, July 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. during the Dickey County Fair in Ellendale. The Safety Camp will be held in the Archery Building and will include the following stations where people of all ages can participate in a 10-15 safety session:

1. Grain Bin Safety
2. Food Safety
3. Sun Safety
4. Internet Safety
5. Basic First Aid
6. Home Alone Safety
7. Car Seat Safety



# DRN CHANGES TELEVISION OFFERING IN 2024

Effective January 1, 2024, DRN will no longer offer television service to new customers. For decades, DRN has offered a television service with a wide variety of programming. However, over the past 5 years, there has been a major shift in the way consumers watch television as more people are consuming their entertainment via streaming. This shift along with aging television equipment, DRN made the decision to continue to offer television service to current customers but not to new customers.

“DRN’s Board of Directors and leadership team has been discussing the lifespan of DRN TV service for a couple of years. Several factors led to the decision to slowly exit the television service business. One was the fact some of the equipment used to provide television service is approaching the end of life. Another factor was statistics are indicating consumers are disconnecting from traditional TV service and opting for streaming services. In 2014 DRN had 4,634 television customers and today we currently have 3,187” said Kent Schimke, CEO/General Manager.

The percentage of streaming households in rural America is 63% with 78% of all U.S. household subscribing to at least one or more streaming services. In the past ten years, over 35 million viewers have disconnected from cable and the projections are this figure will drop further over the next few years to less than 50 billion by 2027.

“DRN will continue to offer television service to those who currently subscribe. However, if they disconnect for any reason, the customer will not be able to reconnect the TV,” according to Schimke.

To learn more about streaming TV and what services are best for you and your family, visit DRN’s My Bundle TV at <https://mybundle.tv/drtel/start>. DRN will be hosting streaming TV classes this fall. Please watch for additional information in the newsletter, website, social media, and local newspapers. Contact our customer service team at 344-5000 for any questions or concerns.

**“DRN’s Board of Directors and leadership team has been discussing the lifespan of DRN TV service for a couple of years. Several factors led to the decision to slowly exit the television service business.”**

**Kent Schimke**

## DRN ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR OCTOBER 19

Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative’s (DRN) annual meeting will be on Thursday, October 19 at Ellendale Public School. A meal will be served for members from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. The meeting will follow at 6 p.m.

Nominations by petition are due by September 29, 2023. For more information contact Janell Hauck, marketing manager at 344-5000.

This year the following districts and Board members are to be voted upon:



Ralph Greer  
District 2



Myron Yagow  
District 6



Dan Barton  
District 9



**Mark your calendar and join us for DRN’s Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 19 in Ellendale.**

# 2023 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

DRN ReadiTech is proud to support continuing education and reward the hard work of area high school graduates. The Board of Directors approved 22 scholarships in the amount of \$500 to graduates of schools within the DRN service territory, two scholarships within the ReadiTech Fiber service area, one to a student enrolled at Southeast Region Career and Technology Center and one enrolled in business at Trinity Bible College.

“Young people are a valuable asset to our communities and we are pleased to have established a scholarship program to help with the cost of a continued education program,” said Kent Schimke, CEO/General Manager. DRN has been providing scholarships for over 20 years. “As your local broadband service provider, it is our pleasure to award a \$500 scholarship to the following winners,” said Schimke.

The DRN ReadiTech scholarship program supports area high school seniors who plan to attend an accredited two-year or four-year college, or a vocational-technical school after graduation.



Christopher Pfeifle  
Ashley



James Schumacher  
Ashley



Olivia Nitschke  
Edgeley



Dylan Carlson  
Edgeley



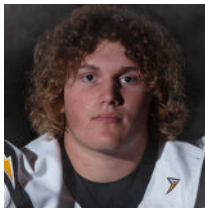
Brynn Gibson  
Ellendale



Trent Tiegs  
Ellendale



Grace Mahin  
Kulm



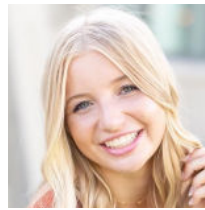
Noah Klusmann  
Kulm



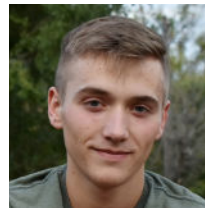
Connor Johnson  
LaMoure



Emersyn Laney  
LaMoure



Gracia Rolf  
Lisbon



Gavin Walton  
Lisbon



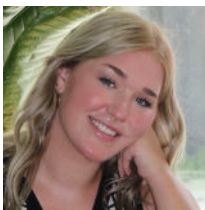
Sage Gusaas  
Litchville-Marion



Gaven Van Bruggen  
Litchville-Marion



Isabella Ferderer  
North Sargent



Claire Anderson  
North Sargent



Aspen Hill  
Oakes



Laikyn Roney  
Oakes



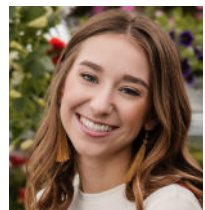
Abigail Erickson  
Sargent Central



Gaven Christianson  
Sargent Central



Samantha Meehl  
Oakes (SRCTC)



Jessica Neidviecky  
Central Cass



Ella Erickstad  
Horace



Hannah Appel  
Trinity Bible

**SLOW OR NO INTERNET**

Try

- ☐ Checking the network for legacy devices.
- ☐ Kicking your neighbors off your Wi-Fi

Do it all with the DRN ReadiTech Wi-Fi app.

9:41  
Legacy Wi-Fi  
This device uses an older technology that can impact performance of your network. Consider getting a newer device or see if there are wireless options available.  
Date: October 1, 2022 7:45  
Source IP: 192.168.1.33

# 7 Reasons you need ExperienceIQ content controls in your home



Kids average 7 hours a day on a screen (1)



27% of children who spend 3 or more hours daily on social media exhibit poor mental health (2)



50% of parents are extremely concerned about children seeing explicit content and wasting time on apps (3)



66% of parents think parenting is harder today because of devices and social media (4)



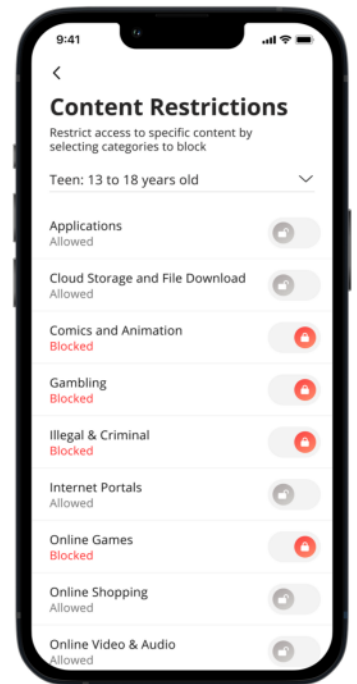
50% of parents want more control over their children's video gaming time (5)



26% of US employees work from home and need to prioritize their bandwidth (6)



The average household has over 25 connected devices competing for bandwidth (7)



## Ready to take control and steer your Wi-Fi experience?

Order ExperienceIQ today.  
(701) 344.5000



1) Kids average 7 hours a day on a screen

2) <https://influencermarketinghub.com/social-media-addiction-stats/>

3) <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/12/15/explicit-content-time-wasting-are-key-social-media-worries-for-parents-of-u-s-teens/>

4) 66% of parents think parenting is harder today because of devices and social media.

5) <https://www.theparentingdaily.co.uk/article/2022/03/14/parents-want-more-control-over-online-gaming-time>

6) <https://www.zipplia.com/advice/remote-work-statistics/#:~:text=26%25%20of%20U.S.%20employees%20work,U.S.%20companies%20are%20fully%20remote>

7) <https://techjury.net/blog/zoom-statistics/#gref>



This institution is an equal-opportunity provider and employer.



PO Box 69  
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Happy 4th of July!  
**Freedom.  
Independence.  
Security.**

Also found in ProtectIQ® from  
DRN ReditTech!

[drn.coop/wifi](http://drn.coop/wifi)

