

GRISWOLD Connections

SPRING 2013

Annual Meeting is April 2

Griswold Cooperative Telephone Company Annual Meeting will be held April 2, 2013, at the business office of Griswold Cooperative Telephone Company, 607 Main St. in Griswold. More details will be mailed soon to each stockholder.



Contact

Griswold Cooperative Telephone Co.
607 Main Street / PO Box 640
Griswold, IA 51535
Phone: 712-778-2121

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 am to 12:00 pm and
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Email us at gctc@netins.net

Visit us online at www.griswoldtelco.com



BROADBAND NETWORK EVOLUTION PROJECT: Fiber to the Home Update

In October, North Central Service construction crews finished placing ducts and pulling fiber in the towns of Elliott and Grant. Crews moved to rural Elliott, burying fiber in the rural areas. Upon completion of construction in rural Elliott, toward the end of October, they started in rural Grant. Rural Grant construction was finished at the end of November. Installation of new service boxes on the side of homes or businesses has been completed in the Elliott and Grant exchanges. Please be aware that the new service box installed on the side of your home or business may appear to be loose but further work will take place later and then the box will be secured.

Fiber splicing, battery installs, and testing of equipment have taken place for in town Elliott and Grant and continued into rural Elliott and Grant. 769-2525 This process should have finished mid-February allowing fiber splicers from MP Nexlevel (subcontractor hired by Griswold Telephone) to begin hooking up individual homes and businesses. **Griswold Telephone will contact each Elliott and Grant customer to schedule an appointment or let customers know when we will be in an area.** Once connected to the fiber, you'll be able to take advantage of higher Internet speeds, more IPTV video options, IPTV video for rural Elliott and Grant customers and more.

Please be more cautious than ever when digging. The new fiber is now in service and will be more costly and time consuming to repair. As well, the old copper service is still utilized until each home or business is connected to the fiber. **Call Iowa One Call by dialing 811, before you dig!**

Griswold Telephone wants to keep customers up to date and informed as we progress on the Fiber to the Home (FTTH) project. We are in the beginning stages of our fiber project for the Lewis exchange. We thank those who were able to attend our Lewis Fiber to the Home event in February. Site surveys continue by RVW our engineering firm, and your cooperation is very important for these—thank you. We will provide more details on construction for the Lewis exchange as they become available. Any questions or concerns are welcome by contacting the business office at 712-778-2121.

"We are well positioned to meet your communications needs in 2013 and beyond."





Check Out Our New Website

Check out www.griswoldtelco.com for the most up-to-date information on Griswold Cooperative Telephone Company.

- Descriptions of the services Griswold Telephone offers
- Latest issue of quarterly *Website Compass*, the world's #1 Internet magazine
- All *Griswold Connections* quarterly newsletters
- Customer updates on Griswold Telephone news, projects, specials, and more
- Important regulatory information that could affect services
- Online bill pay or Easy Pay form
- Griswold IPTV Video channel lineup
- Documents and printable forms

If you don't find what you need or you have suggestions, please let us know.

We want to make paying your Griswold Telephone bill easy! Besides paying by check or cash, you can set up Online Bill Pay and pay via our website. Sign up for Easy Pay to have your bill automatically deducted out of your account, or call our business office to make a payment over the phone with your credit or debit card. Call 712-778-2121 for more details on any of these payment methods.

GRISWOLD COOP IPTV VIDEO: Coming to Rural Elliott and Grant

As rural Elliott and Grant subscribers get hooked up to fiber, Griswold Coop IPTV Video becomes a new option that has never been available to rural subscribers before. Griswold Coop IPTV Video offers reliable local service, 86 channels in the Advantage IPTV package including Des Moines and Omaha off-air channels, 45 music channels with the Advantage IPTV package, parental controls, local weather, 18 High Definition (HD) channels, on-screen Caller ID capability, Whole Home DVR, and more.



When we call to schedule the fiber hook up to your home or business, we will be offering you Griswold Coop IPTV Video.

Take a look at what our extensive lineup has to offer:

- Advantage IPTV Video is \$44.95/month and includes your first standard box
- Additional standard boxes are \$4.99/month/box
- DVR boxes are \$7.99/month/box
- HD equipment fee is \$3.00/month
- Installation is FREE with a 12-month agreement
- Movie packages are \$11.99/month/package



We hope you like what you see for Griswold Coop IPTV Video!

New to Griswold Coop IPTV Video: SWRV from Music Choice

SWRV (channel 500) is new to Griswold Coop IPTV Video. SWRV was added as a new channel, in addition to the music channels from Music Choice. SWRV is the first 24/7, non-stop interactive music video network that lets you take control. Each show offers a unique way for you to impact what music videos will play next by voting, rating, or commenting via text message or online at www.swrv.tv. Upload your personal pics or videos for the chance to appear on screen alongside your favorite artists. 778-4310



For 24/7 non-stop interactivity, the hottest music videos, and your chance to be a star, take control with SWRV!

IPTV Video Service Channel Lineup

Advantage IPTV Line-Up

- 1 Griswold IPTV Help
- 3 KMTV 3 Omaha CBS
- 5 WOI Ames-Des Moines ABC
- 6 WOWT 6 Omaha NBC
- 7 KETV 7 Omaha ABC
- 8 KCCI Des Moines CBS
- 11 KDIN (Iowa Public TV)
- 13 WHO Des Moines NBC
- 15 KXVO Omaha CW
- 17 KDSM Des Moines FOX
- 18 ESPN
- 19 ESPN News
- 20 ESPN Classic
- 23 ESPN 2
- 25 Comcast SportsNet Chicago
- 26 FSN-Midwest
- 27 Big Ten Network
- 28 The NFL Network
- 29 Speed Channel
- 30 NBC Sports Network
- 31 Outdoor Channel
- 33 A & E
- 34 USA Network
- 35 TBS Superstation
- 36 WGN Superstation
- 37 ABC Family Channel
- 38 Nickelodeon
- 40 Disney Channel
- 41 Lifetime
- 42 KPTM Omaha FOX
- 43 Sy-Fy Channel
- 44 TV Land
- 45 Comedy Central
- 46 TNT
- 47 FX
- 49 Spike TV
- 50 Boomerang
- 51 Cartoon Network
- 52 Disney XD
- 53 Nick Jr.
- 54 TeenNick
- 56 Nick Toons
- 59 The Weather Channel
- 61 CNN
- 62 HLN (Headline News)
- 63 Fox News Channel
- 65 CNN International
- 72 RFD TV
- 74 BBC America
- 75 Discovery Channel
- 76 TLC
- 77 Animal Planet
- 78 Food Network
- 79 Travel Channel
- 80 Investigation Discovery
- 81 Science
- 82 The Hub
- 83 Destination America
- 84 OWN-Oprah Winfrey Network
- 85 Military Channel
- 88 History Channel
- 91 Lifetime Real Women
- 92 Oxygen
- 93 HGTV
- 95 National Geographic
- 97 QVC
- 98 HSN
- 150 Lifetime Movies (LMN)
- 151 AMC
- 152 TCM
- 177 Hallmark Channel
- 180 C-SPAN
- 181 C-SPAN2
- 200 MTV
- 201 MTV2
- 202 MTV Jams
- 203 MTV Hits
- 204 VH-1
- 205 VH-1 Classic
- 206 WOWT2 Omaha (weather)
- 207 KETV 7.2 Omaha MeTV
- 208 CMT
- 211 KDIN 2 (Iowa Public TV 11.2)
- 215 KXVO 15.2 Azteca Omaha
- 242 KPTM 42.2 MyTV Omaha
- 311 KDIN 3 (Iowa Public TV 11.3)
- 500-545 Variety of all music styles

HD Channels*

- 403 KMTV 3.1 Omaha CBS
- 405 WOI 5.1 Des Moines ABC
- 406 WOWT 6.1 Omaha NBC
- 407 KETV 7.1 Omaha ABC
- 408 KCCI 8.1 Des Moines CBS
- 411 KDIN (Iowa Public TV 11.1)
- 413 WHO 13.1 Des Moines NBC
- 415 KXVO 15.1 Omaha CW
- 417 KDSM 17.1 Des Moines FOX
- 418 ESPN HD
- 429 Speed Channel HD
- 431 Outdoor Channel HD
- 442 KPTM 42.1 Omaha FOX
- 447 FX HD
- 472 RFD TV HD
- 478 Food Network HD
- 493 HGTV HD
- 495 National Geographic HD

*Must subscribe to Advantage IPTV Video Service and requires monthly HD equipment fee.



HBO Movie Package**

- 650 HBO
- 651 HBO 2
- 652 HBO Signature
- 653 HBO Family
- 654 HBO Comedy
- 655 HBO Zone

Cinemax Movie Package**

- 670 Cinemax
- 671 MoreMax
- 672 Action Max
- 673 Thriller Max
- 674 @ Max
- 675 W Max
- 676 Outer Max
- 677 5 Star Max

Starz!/Encore Movie Package**

- 700 Starz!
- 701 Starz! Cinema
- 702 Starz! Edge
- 703 Encore
- 704 Encore Love
- 705 Encore Westerns
- 706 Encore Suspense
- 707 Encore Action
- 708 Encore Drama

**Movie packages extra/month/package.

Commercials to be Quieter Thanks to the CALM Act

If for years you've been thinking that commercials were louder than TV programs, you weren't imagining things. COMMERCIALS OFTEN WERE LOUDER. In fact, enough people complained about this annoying practice that action was taken.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules now require commercials to have the same average volume as the programs they accompany. In the Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation (CALM) Act, Congress directed the FCC to establish these rules, and they went into effect on December 13, 2012. Hopefully, this means you won't have to grab the remote to lower the volume every time a commercial comes on.

But if you continue to hear commercials that seem overly loud, you can file a complaint with the FCC's Consumer Call Center at 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322).



Hidden Number Contest

We have hidden randomly selected phone numbers throughout this newsletter. If you find your phone number in *italics* anywhere in this newsletter, please call our office at 712-778-2121 by March 29, 2013 to receive a \$5.00 bill credit. Last newsletter's Hidden Number Contest winners were James and Amy Hook, Marilyn Stein, and Gerald and Joan Houser.

Good luck and happy reading!

How to Go Green With Electronics

1. Go rechargeable

Of the 15 billion batteries sold each year, most of them are disposable alkaline batteries and only a fraction of those are recycled. Look for electronics that are rechargeable. For removable batteries, lithium-ion (Li-Ion) and nickel metal hydride (NiMH) are cost-effective, green alternatives.

2. Reduce "phantom" loads

Turn off televisions, stereos, computers, and cellphone adapters when not in use. They continue to draw a small amount of power even when switched off. 767-2525 For simplicity, you may want to put all of your electronics and chargers on one power strip so that you can just turn the power strip off when they're not in use.

3. Buy with energy in mind

Doing research on different technologies and their respective energy consumption

can save you a lot in the long run. For example, if you want a flat panel television, look into LCD models, which use much less energy than plasmas. The ENERGY STAR® site will help you identify energy-saving electronic devices including cordless phones, stereo systems, TVs, DVD players, and battery chargers.

4. Recycle responsibly

Let's say you just bought a new cellphone. What should you do with the old one? Whatever you do, don't just throw it in the trash—this risks releasing chemicals into the ecosystem. There are plenty of organizations and charities that recycle and reuse old electronics. If you want a return on your old gadgets, try selling them on an online auction site. 763-4350 Also keep in mind that a growing number of computer manufacturers are adopting take-back programs.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 2013 AND PARENTS!

NetINS and RIITA Scholarship Opportunities

NetINS and Rural Iowa Independent Telephone Association (RIITA) are once again holding scholarship competitions. The NetINS essay topic this year is "How does broadband connectivity and social media create economic opportunities in rural communities?" All eligibility requirements and rules can be found at www.netINS.net/scholarships. Scholarship entries are to be submitted through the website and will be judged on content alone. The judges are not aware of the identity or communities of the participants. Awards will be made in May 2013. **Final deadline for submission is midnight, March 31, 2013.**

RIITA is offering a \$2,500 college scholarship to high school seniors or students currently enrolled in an institution of higher learning. The purpose of this support is to aid students from rural areas across Iowa with financial assistance in order to pursue higher education. Visit www.riita.com, click on "Resources," and then "Scholarships" for more details on eligibility, application instructions, terms and conditions. **Hurry because the deadline is very soon — March 15, 2013.**

