

# GRISWOLD Connections

FALL 2022



## Watch School Events on GrizTiger Vision

School is back in session. Activities are in full swing. Be sure to watch Griswold Tiger and other area events on KJAN's Video Network! Griswold Communications is happy to help support this video network with KJAN and Griswold Tiger students, who are learning communication and technology skills and bringing school events into our local homes. Visit [kjan.com](http://kjan.com) to check out GrizTiger Vision.

## Contact

**Griswold Communications**  
607 Main Street / PO Box 640  
Griswold, IA 51535  
Phone: 712-778-2121

**Office Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
7:30 am to 12:30 pm and  
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Email us at [gctc@netins.net](mailto:gctc@netins.net)

Visit us online at  
[griswoldcommunications.com](http://griswoldcommunications.com)



## Noble Initiative Foundation Raises Funds for Childcare Center

The Noble Initiative Foundation is a group of local individuals with diverse backgrounds and expertise who donate their time and talents to help build a better future for Griswold and surrounding communities. Its mission is to provide high-quality and accessible childcare, support a strong school system, improve the local workforce, and expand affordable housing opportunities through community-based projects.

The current project of the Noble Initiative Foundation is a fundraising campaign for the Griswold Childcare Development Center, which is projected to open in August 2023. This center will address the lack of childcare in Cass County. An initial survey estimated 84 children under the age of four need childcare, with only eight available spots between area providers. Without adequate and accessible care, rural communities like Griswold struggle to attract and retain young families—impacting the overall economic growth of the community.

Along with many community members, Griswold Communications is a supporter of the Noble Initiative Foundations' efforts to raise funds for the Griswold Childcare Development Center. Nearly 70% of the total goal has been secured as of August 2022, and you can help get the project to the finish line by educating others, volunteering your time and expertise on a sub-committee, and donating to the capital campaign.

**Visit [nobleinitiativefoundation.org](http://nobleinitiativefoundation.org) to learn more, make a donation or inquire about volunteer opportunities. Your involvement matters to Cass County!**





## Download Our eBill Mobile App Today

With the Griswold Communications eBill mobile app, you can safely and securely make payments on the go, view invoices, sign up for auto pay, and more. Download it for free now from the Google Play or Apple store. Current Griswold Communications online users' login credentials will also be used for the eBill mobile app. New users can set up credentials, and if assistance is needed, call Griswold Communications at 712-778-2121.

## National Internet Day Celebrates the Start

On October 29, 1969, a young grad student on the UCLA campus sent the first internet message, "LOGIN," to his colleague at Stanford. National Internet Day on October 29 recognizes this humble beginning to the infinite possibilities we all enjoy today.

778-4615 Griswold Communications is proud to provide fast and reliable blueSURGE internet service to keep you connected.

# What You Can Do With blueSURGE television

As a blueSURGE television subscriber, you can enjoy these viewing options.

**Watch the Iowa High School Sports Network (IHSSN).** It proudly brings State Championship coverage for baseball, basketball, football, soccer, track & field, and wrestling to your television, computer, or mobile device. There are now two channels of IHSSN games on blueSURGE television. Channel 12 and 13 (412 and 413 for HD) will be utilized for future championship events. 769-2590

**Restart programming already in progress with Restart TV.** Along with that, Pause Live TV is an added feature that provides DVR functionality on every set top box. Most but not all channels in the lineup, and/or individual programs, are capable of Restart TV. This capability is indicated on the guide/information bar by a symbol resembling a clock. Pressing the green button on the remote restarts the program.

**Record programming with Cloud DVR.** This network-based storage does not require a DVR set top box. DVR set top box subscribers continue to have recordings prior to Cloud DVR on their DVR set top box. Recordings since Cloud DVR took affect are remotely stored, no longer relying on a set top box. New DVR subscribers will not need a separate DVR set top box installed in the home.

**Call Griswold Communications today at 712-778-2121 if you would like to subscribe to Cloud DVR or have questions about any blueSURGE television feature.**





# Beware of Scary Scams That Take Advantage of the Dead

There are few things scarier than falling victim to fraud, and the experience is made even worse when it takes place while people are grieving a loss.

Cybercriminals will start by harvesting information from obituaries in newspapers or posted online—such as the deceased's birth date, where the person lived and worked, and family members' names—to start building a profile for identity theft. With just a few key details, they can go to the dark web and purchase the deceased's Social Security number and other personal data. This information can be used to do the following:

- Open fraudulent credit card accounts.
- Take out loans.
- Obtain health care through Medicare or other insurance programs.
- File phony tax returns to claim a refund.

Because the dead are unable to monitor their financial accounts and credit reports for unusual activity, they're easier targets for identity thieves. Cybercriminals don't stop there, however, and will go after the survivors following a death, since they're emotionally vulnerable and potentially more prone to manipulation.

Most commonly, cybercriminals will contact the surviving spouse or other family member to attempt an imposter scam. For example, they may make aggressive phone calls to the bereaved, claiming to be an IRS employee and saying the deceased owes tax money. They may even threaten legal action against the bereaved if the outstanding taxes aren't paid immediately.

Another imposter scam uses the ploy of a fake life insurance policy. The call or email will indicate the deceased had a policy that would pay out a large amount of money but was behind on the premiums. To receive the life insurance payout, the family is told they need to make up the premium shortfall, usually via wire or through a prepaid debit card.

Other obituary-scouring swindlers pretend to be long-lost friends or relatives of the deceased and contact surviving spouses out of the blue to supposedly commiserate and reminisce. 767-2606 These fake displays of compassion can later evolve into romance scams designed to steal money.

It's important to be aware of these scams and to share this information with family members who need to hear it.

## THUMBS UP FOR UPDATES!

Follow Us Socially to Stay Up on Things



**Griswold Communications** actively posts on Facebook to share all kinds of community updates with you. They can include:

- Scholarship announcements
- Service outage alerts
- Highlights from area activities
- Product/service changes
- Office closure dates
- Helpful technology tips
- Promotions and giveaways



To quickly access our Facebook page, click on the icon at [griswoldcommunications.com](https://www.griswoldcommunications.com). Then give us a thumbs up and follow us to receive updates.

## Happy Grandparents Day to Grand Folks

Grandparents Day was first declared a national holiday in 1978 by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, it's been celebrated yearly on the first Sunday after Labor Day. It's a grand time for gatherings to honor the vital role played by grandparents in the lives of their families. 763-4301

Griswold Communications wishes all the best to the grandparents in our community on Sunday, September 11. Enjoy your day!



## 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 September 30, 2022 to receive a \$5.00 bill credit. Congratulations to Susan Robertson, the winner from our last newsletter.

**Look now to see if your phone number is hiding in any articles. Good luck and happy reading!**

## A Workstation Shouldn't Be a Pain in the Neck (or Back)

If your household includes a home office and/or student desks, it's important to pay attention to the ergonomics of these spaces to avoid neck and back strain.

### Keep these guidelines in mind:

**Choose a chair that provides lumbar support.** Adjust the height of your chair so your feet rest flat on the floor or on a footrest and your thighs are parallel to the floor. Adjust armrests so your arms gently rest on them with your shoulders relaxed.

**Keep frequently used objects close to you to minimize reaching.** Stand up to reach anything that can't be comfortably reached while sitting.

**Place your mouse within easy reach and on the same surface as your keyboard.** While using your mouse, keep your wrists straight, your upper arms close to your body, and your hands at or slightly below the level of your elbows.

**Make sure there's clearance for your knees, thighs, and feet under the desk.** If the desk is too low and can't be adjusted, place sturdy boards or blocks under the desk legs. If the desk is too high and can't be adjusted, raise your chair.

**Place all screens directly in front of you, about an arm's length away.** The top of the screen should be at or slightly below eye level. Viewing a display should not require significant turning of your neck from side to side or up and down.

**Laptops may require additional equipment.** If you use a laptop, a separate keyboard and a laptop stand may be needed to create an ergonomic setup with everything at the correct height.

**Regularly stand up and move around.** Once an hour, stand up and take a few minutes to walk down the hall, get a drink, look out the window—anything that gets you out of your chair.

**A workstation that's poorly designed isn't the only thing that can give you a pain in the neck. So can Wi-Fi troubles. Griswold Communications offers a wireless router as well as Wi-Fi extenders for blueSURGE internet. Call 712-778-2121 for details.**

