A NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT F&B COMMUNICATIONS

Connections

JULY/AUGUST 2024

Scholarship Recipient

Congratulations to our 2024 F&B scholarship recipient, Isaac Wilhelm, of rural Calamus. He was also selected as a recipient of a Foundation for Rural Service $2,500 scholarship in partnership with F&B. He recently graduated from Calamus-Wheatland and plans to attend Iowa State University to major in agronomy. His parents are Rebecca and Adam Wilhelm.

103 N. Main St. / P.O. Box 309
Wheatland, IA 52777

Office Hours: M–F 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Office Closure:
Independence Day – July 4

Phone Numbers:
Business Office:
(563) 374-1236 or (563) 574-1236
After-Hours Trouble:
(563) 374-1238 or (563) 574-1238
Internet Tech Support 24/7: 1-888-832-4322
Technology Solutions: (563) 374-1322

Visit Us Online: www.fbcom.net

Like Us on Facebook:
facebook.com/FBCommunications

F&B COMMUNICATIONS

Rural Broadband Helps Close the Digital Divide

The digital divide refers to the gap between people who have access to modern information and communications technology and those that don't. Sadly, some rural areas lack access to affordable high-speed internet, which is why efforts to expand rural broadband through new fiber networks are vitally important.

Rural broadband has a huge impact on communities by providing opportunities including these:

Economic Development – High-speed internet is essential for rural businesses to remain competitive and attract new customers.

Health Care – With the increasing popularity of telemedicine in rural areas, high-speed internet can connect patients to timely medical assistance.

Education – Students in rural areas can interact with other classrooms across the world, take part in online courses, and go on virtual field trips.

Quality of Life – High-speed internet provides access to online entertainment, online shopping, and social media, which helps people stay connected to friends and family.

As a proud member of NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association, F&B actively supports advocacy for rural broadband.

Fiber Internet is the Gold Standard

Fiber internet has long been considered the gold standard for data transmission since fiber-optic cables offer unparalleled speed and reliability. This technology is the great infrastructure story of the 2000s, just as railroads and electricity grids were for the previous two centuries.

What makes fiber-optic cables so much better than traditional copper cables?

Virtually Unlimited Speed Capacity – Fiber is by far the fastest of all broadband technologies, with 10 Gbps networks now commonplace and 25 Gbps networks on their way. (To put that in context, 1 Gbps is roughly equivalent to 1,000 Mbps.) Fiber internet is so fast because, unlike other internet options that rely on electricity, it uses light for data transmission.

Can Support Advanced Technologies – Due to their security, scalability, and unlimited bandwidth potential, fiber-optic cables are being chosen to support advanced technologies such as 5G, Big Data, and IoT that rely heavily on real-time data collection and transfer.

Higher Network Reliability – Unlike copper cables that can lose a connection due to temperature changes and harsh weather, fiber-optic cables routinely offer reliability levels of 99.999%.

Better Design for Data Transmission Over Long Distances – Overall, fiber's design is simply better for data transmission over long distances than the electrical signals of copper cables. Fiber-optic cables can also carry more bandwidth than similarly sized copper cables and are immune to interference because there are no electrical signals in use.

More Energy Efficiency – Fiber-optic cables transmit data more efficiently, resulting in reduced power requirements for data transmission. This not only leads to cost savings but also contributes to a smaller carbon footprint.

Higher Security – Fiber-optic communication technology transmits data via pulses of light, which are harder to tap or intercept than the electrical signals used by cable internet or the wireless signals used by satellite internet.

F&B continues to expand our fiber-optic network to bring fiber internet to customers in more areas. Visit www.fbcom.net to learn more.