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The "GM Expression"

by General Manager, Jerry Schneider
A few year-end updates to pass along.
Fiber Construction

- Fiber deployment is now complete in the areas around Endeavor, Oxford and Packwaukee; the villages were done in 2008 and the more rural areas in 2009. Approximately 60% of our households now have fiber deployed to their house and about 20% are operating on that fiber. To get you operating on the fiber - the Optical Network Terminal (ONT) which we attach to the house at the time the fiber drop is put in, needs to be hooked to your home wiring and power. We will contact you to schedule a time to come out and get this done. This work will continue throughout the year.
- Our Construction Contractor, Central Cable, will be completing final touches of clean up on areas needing it in the spring.
- During 2010 & 2011 plans are for construction to continue to the remaining areas in Adams County that do not yet have fiber deployed. Plans are for all customers to be operating on fiber by the end of 2012.
- The fiber infrastructure will insure you have access to the most advanced telecommunications services. Due to the greater bandwidth capacity allowed by fiber, fewer potential problems in delivering your video and Internet needs are anticipated.
- More good news - fiber to the home can actually increase the value of your property.

Enhanced Service

High Definition Television has been available now since July and an increasing number of customers are enjoying it every month. Popular HD channels include: ESPN & ESPN2, Fox Sports, Big 10 Network, NFL Network, Discovery, Outdoor, TBS, TNT, History and A&E.

Pricing Changes

- Due to costs we had to eliminate a multiple service discount on our lower speed High Speed Internet offerings. However, we were able to increase speeds on our Internet packages without raising rates.
- Our pricing on our Long Distance changed to reflect differences in costs on long distance in state versus out of state. We appreciate that over 70% of you choose us as your long distance company and will continue to look at ways to keep our Long Distance rates affordable.
- We are looking at adding additional television packages to give you more choices.
- Remember we are a cooperative and any profits we do make are eventually returned to you – our valued customer and member.

Capital Credits

Capital credit checks related to 1998 service will be delivered in December. If you had service with us in 1998 and don't receive a check in December please give a call to make sure we have your correct address.

If you have questions please give us a call. We can discuss available services: telephone, television and Internet (high speed or dial up) and how they work or answer questions regarding your bill.

**Finally, from everyone at Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative,
we extend our wishes for a Merry Christmas and joyous holiday season.**



Seasons' Greetings





Surfin' Safari

It's 10 p.m. Do you know where your children are . . . on line? Did you realize there are dangers other than the drug dealing stranger down the street or the bully at school? There is a virtual world full of instant messaging, social networking, Googling, Yahooing, blogging and tweeting. All of these can pose a potential danger to your child.

There are many great and useful tools found on the Internet, but parents need to be aware of the risks out there in the online world.

Most of the teens and younger children may be more savvy than their parents, but lack the maturity and life experience. This leaves them more vulnerable to getting into trouble.

Teach your children safe surfing. Keep your computer in a common area of the house. Parents, share your space with your children. Do not let them go online unsupervised.

Keep tabs on your teens as they are risk takers. They may feel they are invincible. Avoid smothering them, but simply take interest in what they are doing. Ask them why they like being on line and to show you their friends.

As with all aspects of a young life, there could be problems and emotional turmoil that your child experiences on line. Cyberbullying can spread throughout the school or town very quickly. It occurs through instant messaging, chat rooms or e-mail. Warning signs of bullying could include loss of interest in school, a sad or depressed appearance or a loss of appetite. Protect your children and emphasize good judgment in Internet use.

SITES OF INTEREST

http://www.sundials.org/registry_frame.php

This site was submitted by Richard Landes of High Tech Welding in Westfield where the Sundial was built. Richard Landes and Steve Carlton are the designers. Richard asks that anyone wishing to view the Sundial close up please call him at (608) 296-3461. Be sure to check out all of Wisconsin's seven locations. This sundial is located about four miles north



of Westfield on County Road M and North 300 yards on the West side of 4th Avenue.

The photographs here do not do justice to the Sundial. According to Richard, the Sundial is ten feet tall and can be viewed from a distance.

<http://www.personalbest.com/extras/special09>



A healthy personal life can also help you control stress and meet challenges at work more successfully.

[Http://nsc.org/alive25](http://nsc.org/alive25)

This young driver intervention program, available in English and Spanish, zeroes in on drivers between the ages of 15 and 24 – the group most likely to be involved in fatal collisions.



A Touch of Humor

Submitted by Charlie Cotter, Elgin, SC

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, New York scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the New Yorkers, in the weeks that followed, a California archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story in the LA Times read: 'California archaeologists, finding traces of 200 year old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a hundred years earlier than the New Yorkers.'

One week later, The Coon Valley Journal, a local newspaper in Wisconsin, reported the following: After digging as deep as 30 feet in his pasture in Coon Valley, WI., Ole Olson, a self taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Ole, has therefore concluded that 300 years ago, Wisconsin had already gone wireless.

Thank Heavens for Ole

Marquette-Adams Halloween Surprise

Will the REAL Plant Manager please step forward!?!

We all had a good time with this one!





2010 Vital Scholarship Information

High School or Home Schooled Seniors, if you are planning to attend a university, trade or technical school, please contact our office for a scholarship application.

Applications will soon be available to High School Seniors in the Marquette-Adams Telephone serving area. There will be twelve \$1,000 Scholarships offered this year.

Scholarships will be available at the Guidance Counselor offices, on line at <http://www.maadtelco.com> and at Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative in Oxford. The deadline for turning in your scholarship applications will be March 8, 2010.

The following specific guidelines must be met. The student and parent, guardian and foster parent must be a permanent resident in the Marquette-Adams Telephone serving area. The parent or student must have dial tone, Internet service or long distance service with the Cooperative.

The scholarship must be filled out properly, typed via word processor or typewriter and returned to the office by the deadline.

Once the Scholarship Committee has made their selections from the qualified applications, the high school will be notified and the certificate presentation will be made on awards night.

Upon completion of the first semester, the student will need to turn in the grades received along with the second semester's registration. The check would be made out to the school, but sent to the scholarship winner.

Congratulations Mike Backus!



Mike was the winner of our Co-Op Month drawing for a car cooler. Mike's winning entry was: The word "Cooperative" means to me, top service, fair prices and being treated as a valued customer. Good work Mike!



This office will be closed for Christmas on Thursday December 24 through Sunday December 27, and Friday January 1 thru Sunday January 3, 2010. This office will also be closed for President's Day, Monday February 15.

Making Life Safer – Talking Telephones

When it comes to helping your family stay safe during emergencies, it may be a smart call to "keep the cord."

Landline or "corded" phones work in power outages and never need to be charged. Experts say that makes them one of the best ways to call for help or to simply stay in touch with people when bad weather or other emergencies hit.

Additionally, the lines are instantly traceable, meaning emergency personnel can locate someone who calls 911 for help, even if he or she is unable to speak. Conversely, the location of a cell phone can't always be tracked.

Keeping Talk Cheap Another important fact is landlines could help save families money. Providers often offer discounts for landline service when combined or "bundled" with other services such as Internet or television. Of course, you do not need to pay for cable or Internet to use a corded phone – a key difference between landlines and "digital" phone (or VoIP) service. These services require a broadband Internet connection to function, possibly adding to a household's costs but also meaning that when Internet service goes down, the digital phones no longer work.

Additionally, corded landlines are essentially a fixed cost. They have no overage charges for minutes used or airtime allowances. Those savings can quickly add up.

Local Service In many parts of the country, you can even get landline service from your local cooperative's nearby office – that would be Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative, Inc. For instance, members of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association have employees who live in the communities they serve and who have a vested interest in providing a quality product.

For more information about landlines, how they might save you money and even help keep you safe, visit www.ntca.org.

The bathtub was invented in 1850 and the telephone in 1875. In other words, if you had been living in 1850, you could have sat in the bathtub for 25 years without having to answer the phone.

~ Bill DeWitt, 1972

Some callers didn't like using the early phone booths because the doors would get stuck, forcing users to fight their way out.

One of the first telephone answering machines was developed in Switzerland during the 1950's. It took three days to install.

I have always wished that my computer would be as easy to use as my telephone. My wish has come true. I no longer know how to use my telephone.

~ Bjarne Stronstrup

For your Information: Taco Bell is not a Mexican Telephone Company!



The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative, Inc. wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Joyous New Year:

Al, Steve, James, John, Diane, Ken, Richard, Jerry, Arnie, Patty, Jodi, Judy, Patty, Lori, Lori Lynn, Tara, Michelle, Denise, Mark, Jason, Tyler, Shane, Jeff, Tim, Shannon and Mike.

New Customers

Berberich, Andy	608-584-4748	Feldner, Daniel	608-584-4688	Otto, Tracy	608-584-4590
Bergh, Aaron	608-587-2116	Fredricks, Randall & Barbara	608-586-5220	Paape, David & Katie	608-589-5347
Breitenfeldt, Mike	608-589-5384	Hering, Josh	608-586-5121	Reichhoff, Kelly	608-586-4946
Brown, Myron	608-584-4656	Holmes, Dennis	608-584-4684	Riedner, Amanda	608-589-5191
Cavanaugh, Kristine	608-586-4864	Hoven, Gerald	608-586-5282	Rode, Wayne	608-584-4733
Clements, Richard	608-584-4697	Knuth, Larry	608-586-4961	Siemionkowski, Donald	608-586-5505
Cintron, Christopher	608-584-4796	Kral, Martha	608-586-5165	Sky Blue Dreams, Inc	608-586-5225
Collins, Leonard	608-584-4787	Last Chance Restaurant	608-586-5211	Smith, Lucas	608-589-5516
Conrad, Julia & Clifton	608-586-5303	Lloyd, Josh	608-586-5254	Taylor, Charles	608-587-2378
Daniels, Michael	608-586-6030	Maynard, Mary	608-584-4657	Wedde, Violet	608-584-4495
Dean, William & Karen	608-586-5173	Mazzuca, Krystal	608-584-4799	Wilke, David	608-586-4766
Dehli, Colin	608-584-4600	Merit Advantage, Inc	608-586-4807	Zillmer, John	608-586-4740
Escoto, Katie & Victor	608-587-2156	Moore, Eddy & Ida	608-584-4781		
Fay, Steven	608-584-4809	Olson, John	608-584-4681		

Watch for your information in the mail for the Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative, Inc. Annual Meeting to be held March 20, 2010.

A New Floral Shop... Expressions in Bloom Floral & Fine Arts 140 W Ormsby Street Oxford 608-586-6200



Our community truly welcomes this full service Floral & Fine Arts business which opened in November of 2009. This cleverly designed shop is owned and operated by Lisa Bignell. Lisa offers her expertise in fresh floral arrangements for all occasions as well as both blooming and foliage live plants. Other productions include silk

arrangements, holiday plants, holiday decorating items, and delivery services.

Other extraordinary items and gifts offered from local artists will include natural soaps and lotions, hand painted products, hand-made jewelry, framed photos and more.



Lisa's plans include offering classes such as painting, women's self defense and decorating.

Coming to Oxford with over seventeen years of experience as well as management, Lisa senses the need for a florist in the area. Expressions in Bloom will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Help Fill a Child's Christmas Stocking

This is the final call for Christmas toys. By the time you receive this newsletter, the deadline may have gone by. We will still get the toys distributed to either Marquette or Adams County. If you so desire to donate to give a child a Merry Christmas season, please do so as soon as possible. We are accepting new and unwrapped toys or monetary donations. Thank you in advance.



A New Business... Sky Blue Dreams 136 W Ormsby Street, Oxford • (608) 586-5225 • www.skybluedreams.net

We warmly welcome a new business in downtown Oxford. The business is run by three wonderful ladies, Jill Bachmann, Roxy Larson, and Jane Govoni as pictured from left to right.

Classes are available for **Weight loss**. This class has been running for a year in the Lake Delton Dean Clinic. A **Pain Management** class with a different class every month is offered for those in need.



Yoga is provided for adults on Monday nights at 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. The children's yoga class is held Wednesdays at 3:15 p.m. for 30 minutes.

Hypnosis is done for stress management, smoking, weight loss, fears, a more positive attitude, insomnia, sports enhancement, public speaking, test taking, and with a doctors referral, pain management, fibromyalgia, pre and post surgical procedures, blood pressure control and many more subjects to enhance your health and well-being.

Sky Blue Dreams has three nationally Certified Hypnotists and Jane is a Board Certified Hypnotist.

This beautiful atmosphere has unique gifts to inspire and make you feel good!

Gina Naumann will be available for **Massage** appointments one day a week and Dan DeForest from Baraboo will be available for **Acupuncture**.

Sky Blue Dreams believes life can be filled with joy, hope, laughter and love.

