



Webster-Calhoun
Cooperative Telephone Association

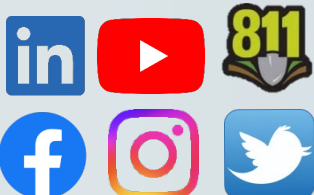
Connections

December 2023

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Happy Holidays!



Welcome!

We're happy to welcome Hunter Sorenson to WCCTA!

He is a graduate of Southeast Valley and continued his education at Iowa Central, graduating in 2023 from the HVAC program. Hunter lives outside of Callender with his girlfriend, Chyann.

Hunter looks forward to learning new things and helping people have the best experience with their WCCTA services.



Holiday Office Hours

Webster-Calhoun Cooperative Telephone Association closed for Christmas on Monday, December 25th and closed for New Year's Day on Monday, January 1st, so employees can enjoy time with family. As always if you need immediate assistance outside regular business hours, please contact support at:

Main Office (Business Hours)	(515) 352-3151
Telephone Technical Support	(515) 352-5000
Internet Technical Support	(515) 352-7000
WCDTV Technical Support	(515) 352-4000
Tech Home Support	(877) 373-3320
Iowa One Call	811

Nominating Committee

The Board Member Nominating Committee meeting for 2024 will be held on Thursday, January 4th, 2024, at 11:00AM at the WCCTA office.

Contact Daryl Carlson, General Manager, at (515) 352-3151 for more information.

The Kid's Spot Receives Ripple Effect Grant Funding

Webster-Calhoun (WCCTA), along with our technology partner Aureon, have awarded grant funding to the Kid's Spot childcare center in Lake City, IA. WCCTA donated \$5,000 which was then matched by Aureon through the Ripple Effect economic development match-funding program for a total of \$10,000 in awarded funding.

The Kid's Spot has been providing a vital service as a licensed childcare provider in Lake City since 1992. With many employers within Calhoun, Sac, and Greene counties, local childcare needs have become essential to the workforce. Still in its original location, the Kid's Spot has been unable to meet the growing childcare demands of the community due to lack of facility space and other necessary amenities.

Read the full article by visiting our blog online here >>> <https://www.wccta.com/post/grant-awarded-to-the-kid-s-spot>

Television Contract Negotiations

Over the years, Webster-Calhoun has negotiated programming agreements for our customers behind the scenes with no disruptions. We value our customers and their experience with our television service; however, we can't say network and TV station owners share the same attitude. To the big guys, their only concern is making the most money they possibly can.

Every three years TV providers, like Webster-Calhoun, are required by law to receive permission from local broadcasters to retransmit the free over-the-air signals from ABC (5), CBS (8), NBC (13) and FOX (17) to our customers. It is free to you over an antenna, and it makes it convenient for you to view it like any other channel on our line-up.

These networks have continued to ask for more money each time contracts are re-negotiated, and we do our best to negotiate the lowest rate possible. Unfortunately, if WCCTA says no to high rates and drops channels, customers are unhappy and when rates continue to rise, customers are frustrated. This creates a no-win situation for all involved.

2024 Foundation for Rural Service Student Scholarships Opportunities

The foundation annually awards scholarships to graduating high school students for their first year of college or vocational school. All applicants require partnership with an NTCA member, like Webster-Calhoun, to be eligible.

More information can be found here >>> <https://www.frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships>

Applications for 2024 Scholarships must be submitted by February 16th, 2024.



ABOVE: Pictured are (Left to Right) Ethan Pitt, IADG Ripple Effect; Rebecca Smith, Kid's Spot Co-Director; Maria Blair, Kid's Spot Board Member; Allison Mernka, Kid's Spot Co-Director; Nicole Bixestine, Kid's Spot Board President; Marcie Boerner, WCCTA.

BELOW: New classroom added as part of the expansion project.

