

The Local Connection



Fall 2006
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Cozy up with Cable Television

Falling leaves, cooler temperatures and less daylight indicate that autumn is here.

Fall reminds us with snow flurries and hard frosts that summer is over and winter will soon be here.

Autumn also prompts us to begin to think about what our winter activities will be when darkness comes earlier in the evening.

One option might be the entertainment that cable television from METC provides.

Learn with programming from The Discovery Channel, The History Channel or The Learning Channel.

Engage your hobbies with Home & Garden TV, the Outdoor Channel or Speed Channel.



Maybe the **children or grandchildren** need something to watch - try Disney Channel, ABC Family or Nickelodeon.

Sports fans, there is something for you too - Fox Sports Midwest, ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPN Classic.

Want movies? We have channels with movies like: Lifetime, FX, USA, TBS & WGN, on top of our premium movie channels HBO, HBO Plus, Showtime and Cinemax.

Benefits

- 51 channels with our basic package
- 10 'Local' channels included FREE
- Local radar channel & TV guide channel
- Excellent local customer service & installers
- Premium movie channels available from HBO, HBO Plus, Showtime & Cinemax

Whatever your television needs . . . we can fill them with cable tv!

Customer Service Corner

If you have any Fall landscaping or outdoor work, please call before you dig, so underground utilities can be located.

Besides keeping you safe, you will avoid the possibility of having to pay damages.

Call ONECall at least 48 hours before you dig at 811 or 1-800-292-8989.



Proudly serving the communities of Elk Horn, Marne, Brayton, Kimballton, Exira, Audubon & Atlantic



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Exira Appreciation BBQ

It has been nearly a year since METC introduced itself as a telephone provider choice to the community of Exira. As a thank you to the community, METC hosted a Customer Appreciation Picnic in August to celebrate. It was a fun, yet informative evening for our customers and our staff. We appreciated all who attended and we enjoyed answering questions about our services. We hope you enjoyed it too!

As always, we invite our customers and prospective customers to stop by our office or give us a call with any questions you may have. We have an eager staff to serve you and provide a vast array of telephone, cable tv and Internet services available to meet all of your communication needs.



Condo update

Local construction crews have been busy in the north end of Elk Horn, working on new 2-bedroom condos on Bornholm Street. METC is developing five lots between High Street and N.E. First Street in the northeast part of town. The plan is to build 3 buildings, each housing 2 dwelling units. There will be room for 2 additional buildings in the future.



Congratulations Bruce!

On August 16th Bruce Poldberg celebrated 30 years with Marne Elk Horn. In his honor, we had a cake and coffee celebration.

Congratulations Bruce and thanks for 30 years of service!



Danish Immigrant Museum & Family History Genealogy Center

The Danish Immigrant Museum was started 13 years ago to preserve and collect artifacts of Danes in North America, according to Terri Johnson, the Museum's Assistant Director. Three years later, in 1996, the Family History and Genealogy Center was started to help Danes research their family beginnings.

With 20,000 square feet of space and over 35,000 artifacts, the Museum attracts visitors from all over the U.S. The

History Center, located on Main Street in Elk Horn, is celebrating its 10 year anniversary.

"The conference calling service is great! And we really need high speed Internet for almost everything we do," said Terri. "The staff at Marne Elk Horn treats us so well whenever we need anything."

For more information on the museum, visit their website at www.danishmuseum.org.

Right: The front of the Danish Immigrant Museum is located on 20 acres just west of Elk Horn. The rolling setting reminds many visitors of Denmark.



Left: The entrance to the museum shows a Danish family and reads "Your visit to the Danish Immigrant Museum is a journey . . . across oceans, across time".

What's Ahead

Janell Hansen
General Manager



The Importance of Universal Service

speed connection makes many online services such as taking courses online, telecommuting, accessing tele-health services, and e-commerce possible. It also makes it possible for you to stay connected to your

loved ones around the country and around the world.

Rural telephone companies have been and continue to be pioneers in providing broadband to subscribers. METC has invested significantly in broadband infrastructure with DSL, wireless high speed, fiber optics and equipment. We are making the investment in broadband knowing it will be critical to

America's future economic base and to that of our subscribers.

Over 80 years ago, Congress embraced a philosophy that has stood the test of time: Universal Service. This policy enabled telephone service to stretch from one end of the country to the other. Now, broadband is required just as voice was 80 years ago. METC is able to provide you with the quality products and services you deserve because of Universal Service.

The Universal Service Fund is a funding mechanism that enables rural telephone companies to implement the necessary infrastructure to meet your telephone and broadband

needs. Every telephone company contributes to the fund so that all Americans can benefit. New technologies that exist today such as voice service via cable TV networks and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) have not been required to contribute to the fund, yet they use the networks of telephone companies to provide their services. We believe that everyone must pay their fair share to support the Universal Service Fund.

Keeping you connected is important to us...And it's important to you. To learn more about how you can help ensure that you are connected, visit www.keepamericaconnected.org.

We have all heard of high speed Internet, but do we really know how it can benefit us? This advanced technology service is available from METC through DSL and wireless service.

Americans today increasingly rely on advanced communications systems to meet their economic, safety, security and entertainment needs. A broadband or high

In observance of the holidays, our offices will be closed

Thanksgiving - Thursday, November 23 • Christmas - Monday, December 25 • New Years - Monday, January 1

In memory of Leroy Pedersen

By Janell Hansen

METC lost a dear friend August 6, 2006. Leroy Pedersen had been on the Marne & Elk Horn Board of Directors since 1991, and served as secretary of the board when he passed away after a year-long battle with cancer.

The board will certainly feel his loss for a long time, but will also feel his presence when they move the company forward, as Leroy would want them to do.

Leroy was a very strong community supporter. He was a lifelong member of the Better Elk Horn Club. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Salem Lutheran Home,

Danish Windmill, and Danish Immigrant Museum. Leroy received a volunteer award from the Danish Immigrant Museum for 1000 hours of volunteer work. He was a shareholder and board member of the AmericInn Motel and Suites of Elk Horn.

Leroy worked hard for METC and was always thinking of ways the company could do things for the communities we serve. He encouraged the board to support the non-profits with donations and grants. He liked to read up on the latest changes in the industry, and attended the annual Iowa Telecommunications Association conventions in

Des Moines each year to pick up valuable information. Leroy was recently very instrumental in moving forward on the condominium project in Elk Horn financed by METC.

Leroy leaves behind his wife of 55 years, Clara, two daughters, Cindy and Jody and one son, Kelly. He had 3 grandchildren, who provided hours of storytelling for Leroy. I would like to join the employees and board of directors and express my sympathy to his family and my gratitude to them for giving Leroy the time to spend so generously at METC. He was a good friend and will be missed by many.

Leroy worked hard for METC and was always thinking of ways the company could do things for the communities we serve.

Board Spotlight



Leroy Pedersen
April 4, 1930 - August 6, 2006

Visit Us
4242 Main Street
PO Box 120
Elk Horn, IA 51531
M-F 8:00am–5:00pm

Contact Us
Phone 712-764-6161
Fax 712-764-2773
Email metc@metc.net

On the Web
www.metc.net

Internet Tech Support
1-866-764-6161

After Hours Repair
712-764-6161

Payment Info
You can submit your payment via

- Mail
- Walk In
- Drop Box
- Auto Bank Deduct
- MasterCard & Visa

Your local connection to it all



Home Schoolers Tour

When Nadine Kading called our office asking if she could bring her home schoolers group of over 15 students to visit METC, we were pleased to welcome them to our office. We enjoyed the very attentive group of children of all ages and the parents that came for the tour.

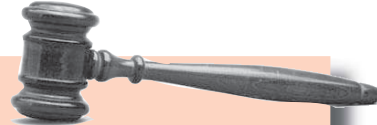
We appreciated the opportunity to give students and adults a behind the scenes peek at what METC does and who we are. With the ever changing world and the technology that goes along with it, we believe it is important for today's children and our customers to gain an understanding about these services and how they are brought into their homes.

Please feel free to contact us if you or your organization would like a chance to see what makes METC tick! We would love to show you around!!

Pictured: James Bieker, METC Central Office Technician leading the tour.



Newly Appointed



Appointed by the board October 16, 2006, was Terry Petersen, of Elk Horn. Terry brings to the board a good business background, as he currently manages Insurance Services, Inc., in Elk Horn.

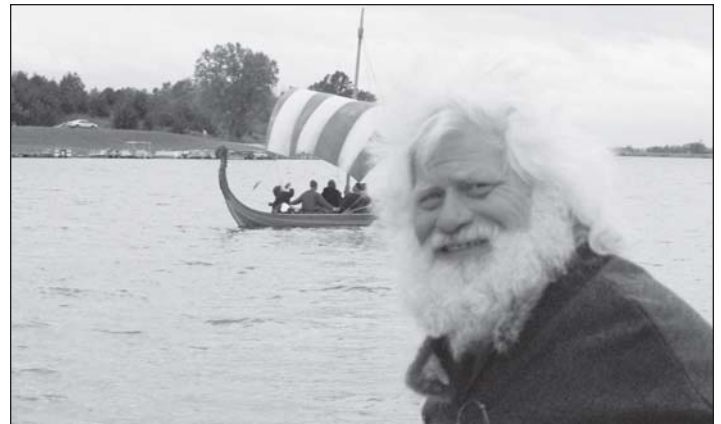
Terry is an EHK graduate and says he is looking forward to working with the METC board. He and his wife, Leigh Ann, have two children. Terry will fill the late Leroy Pedersen's board position.

Dream of Viking Longhouse Coming True

Thirty years ago Harvey Sorenson's crazy dream of reconstructing an 1848 Danish Windmill in Elk Horn was in full swing. It took one year and 300 volunteers to rebuild and restore the now 158 year old mill back to life.

Now, the Danish Windmill Board of Directors is ready to embrace a new project of building a 900 A.D. period Viking Longhouse on the southeast part of the mill property in Elk Horn.

For ten years everyone has enjoyed Viking encampments at Tivoli Fest and other times during the year sponsored by the Danish Windmill. The board decided that there was a need for a year round Viking Longhouse as a new project for Elk Horn to entice more visitors and encourage more



school tours. The Viking re-enactors encouraged the board to move forward and with their assistance they hope to get started this fall.

Many of the logs, timbers and other materials are being donated. The Board hopes to have volunteers and donations to help with the project which should be completed by late Spring 2007.

On Sunday, September 24th a groundbreaking ceremony was held on the mill grounds. Halvor Sornson, the son of Harvey, took the first swing of the Viking long ax into the ground. For many of the local residents, the building of a Danish Viking Longhouse rekindles the same spirit of adventure they had 30 years ago when building the Danish Windmill.