

# The Local Connection



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## Come Fly with Us

Think of all the things that fly. Birds, airplanes, superheroes and kites all fly, just to name a few. Generally, we are people that are fascinated by defying gravity.

Flying is fun. Springtime is fun, so we decided to combine the two and 'Come Fly with Us' is the result. In April and May, you can get ½ off your first month of high speed Internet or Cable TV or SecureIT Plus when you sign up for any of those products.

'Flying' can also mean speed, success or escape, and if that is how you define 'flying' we have you covered there too.

With high speed Internet, you'll get information from your family or

the latest pictures so fast it will feel like you are flying.

With SecureIT Plus, you will feel successful by keeping your computer secure from viruses, spyware and adware.

And, with Cable TV, you can enjoy an escape by immersing yourself in an event on television to take you away from it all.

Mention this story and get ½ off your first month of high speed Internet or Cable TV or SecureIT Plus! Some restrictions apply. Call or stop in for all the details and Come Fly with Us!

### Customer Service Corner

- Call ONECall at least 48 hours before you dig at 811 or 1-800-292-8989. Not only will it keep you safe, it's the law!
- We've added 2 new cable TV channels! Lifetime Movie Networks can be found on channel 56 and The Golf Channel on 57.
- SecureIT Plus now includes Parental Controls! Visit our website for more info.



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



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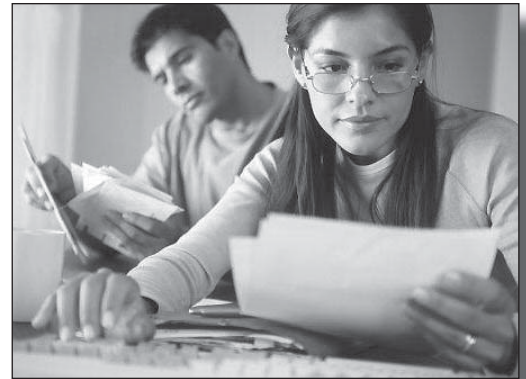
# Ebilling is now available!

Welcome to the convenience and simplicity of our new ebilling solution which is now available! This free online service provides the ability to manage your account any time of the day or night.

To sign-up simply visit our website at [www.metc.net](http://www.metc.net), and setup an account by entering your information and choosing a user name & password.

Once registered, you can take advantage of these convenient features:

- View or print current or past bills
- View payments and current account balance
- Pay one time or setup payments on a recurring basis with a credit card, checking account or savings account
- Monthly notifications are sent via email to let you know when your bill is ready and when payment has been received



Sign up for ebilling today by going to our website at [www.metc.net](http://www.metc.net)! As always, stop by the office or give us a call at 764-6161 if you have questions or need assistance.

## Kimballton's 'Little Mermaid' revitalization project receives donation



Local artist Billy Marples begins restoration on Kimballton's Little Mermaid statue.

Kimballton's 'Little Mermaid' statue will receive a face lift beginning this spring and we are pleased to announce that METC has donated \$2,100 to the effort. The statue, which has sat seasonally on her rock at Mermaid Park on Main Street in Kimballton, will reside there year-round after her restoration.

Billy Marples, a local artist, will restore the statue along with two other regional art studios that specialize in sculptures. The restoration committee has begun a \$29,000 full revitalization project which will include recasting, new plumbing, lighting, brick repair & landscaping. With the help of METC, the committee also received a \$100 grant from INS.

Originally created in 1977 by college students Robert Olsen and Richard Walters of Modesto, California, the statue is a replica of the famous Hans Christian Andersen mermaid statue in Copenhagen, Denmark.

## Business Spotlight: Fajen Lumber in Elk Horn

Larry Fajen had worked at the lumber yard in Elk Horn since 1970 and in 2002, surprised his wife Jan by purchasing it. Since that time, he has spent countless hours making their business a strong one in the community.

Recently, they built a new 60x120 facility. To accommodate the process, they built a 60x60 storage building and moved the contents over while the new building was being built. A major improvement over the old building was the addition of indoor plumbing.

The original lumber yard building, built in the late 1800s is still standing. They plan to remodel it soon to be used for storage.

Fajen Lumber has 8 full-time and 5 part-

time/seasonal workers, up from 3 when they first purchased the business. They specialize in a wide variety of building materials, cabinetry and supplies. Fajen Construction employs 2 full-time contractors who do remodeling, cement work and all types of construction.

The new building also includes a gift shop which offers Terry Redlin prints, linens and products for every room in the house.

Fajen Lumber went from one phone line to five and added a 6-unit telephone system from Marne Elk Horn. They will soon be adding 5 computers and high speed Internet used for online ordering, which has become a necessity. We're happy to have Fajen Lumber as part of our community!



Top: Owners Larry & Jan Fajen  
Bottom: Inside Fajen Lumber

## What's Ahead

Janell Hansen  
General Manager



# Together we can make a difference!

anything you need for your home building, remodeling, or decorating needs here, not to mention gifts, tools, and more!

Fajen's did the general contracting work on our condominium

This is such a busy time of the year - and a busy newsletter! I'd like to concentrate this time on some of the economic development that is going on in the communities around us.

You can see in the article on page 2, Fajen Lumber has been very busy this year! If you haven't had a chance to see their new store - you're in for a big treat! The local area is very fortunate to have this business here. You can buy just about

project and we have been very pleased with their work. But, my thanks won't stop there because there have been many contractors working on this project - local electricians, plumbers, painters, builders, decorators, heavy equipment operators, and more. These contractors have been a pleasure to work with and have done a quality job.



Construction is nearly complete on our 2-bedroom condos on Bornholm Street.

Elk Horn and Kimballton are also working together to bring back the Danish Villages Economic Development Association (DVEDA).

DVEDA was organized a number of years ago to work on several projects, but has been dormant now for over 10 years. The need to actively promote development in the Danish Villages has brought people back to this idea. To date, 66 members have joined DVEDA, and a membership meeting will be held in June

to discuss the direction to take the organization and the communities it serves.

METC works hard to be involved in economic development and our board of directors believes strongly in promoting this in all our communities.

We want all of our communities to prosper and grow, and realize that in rural communities like ours, we all have to work together to succeed. Together we can make a difference!



## Annual Stockholders' meeting

On Monday, February 26th, over 150 shares were represented by Marne & Elk Horn Telephone Company shareholders at the annual Stockholders' meeting. This annual event for the shareholders is an informative meeting, offering financial details, updates on the company's progress throughout the year and discussion of what to expect from METC in the future.

This year, incumbent Directors, Gary Larsen, Terry Madsen and Bernard Kaltoft were re-elected to a 3 year term. Terry Petersen was appointed to fill the 2 year term of Leroy Pedersen who passed away last summer. During the meeting, President Knudsen honored Leroy for his many years of service and presented his widow, Clara, a plaque. METC is very fortunate to have such a hard working and knowledgeable group of individuals on our Board. We thank them for the time and efforts they devote to Marne Elk Horn.



2007 Marne Elk Horn Board Members. Front L to R: Terry Madsen, Bernard Kaltoft & Merlyn Knudsen. Back L to R: Terry Petersen, Devin Moeller, Gary Larsen & Bryan Clemsen.

Left: Over 150 shares were represented at this year's stockholders' annual meeting on February 26th. Two incumbent directors were re-elected to a 3 year term and one was appointed to fill a 2 year term.

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

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712-764-6161

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## Exira Sesquicentennial June 30-July 4, 2007

- June 30** 8am Fun Run (2k, 5k, 10k,) Pancake Breakfast
- July 1** 10:30am Ecumenical Church Services, dinner to follow  
9am-3pm Car, Truck, Motorcycle Show, Antique Tractor Drive, Concessions & Kids Activities  
2pm Alumni Coffee at the Rec. Center  
4pm Horse Shoe Tournament  
5pm Old Timers Softball  
7pm "Flood of 58 Remembered"
- July 2** 7pm Style Show/Pageant
- July 3** 4:30pm Community Club BBQ  
6:30pm Kiddy Parade  
9:30pm Street Dance
- July 4** 9am Foot Races @Exira Elementary  
10:30am Parade  
2pm Gazebo  
3:30pm Kiddy Tractor Pull  
4:30pm Sesqui Original Art, Sesqui Quilt Auction  
Fun and Games in the Park  
8pm Entertainment and Fireworks at High School

Beer Garden available. Midway by Blues Amusement, Inc. For more information, visit [www.exira.k12.ia.us/cookbook.html](http://www.exira.k12.ia.us/cookbook.html)

## Tivoli Fest May 25-27 in Elk Horn

- Friday, May 25**  
6:45pm Prince & Princess Contest
- Saturday, May 26**  
8am Opening Ceremonies  
M&M Fun Run  
11am Tivoli Parade  
12-6pm Various Activities and Entertainment at Mill Stage  
5-8pm Steak & Hamburgers by FFA  
6pm Tivoli Follies  
7:15pm Raffle & Parade Winners  
8pm Exira Community Band Concert  
9:30pm Tivoli Fireworks Spectacular  
8-12pm Concert by 'The Rumbles'
- Sunday, May 27**  
11am-3pm Various Activities and Entertainment at Mill Stage
- Dwight 'Red' Lamb, Fiddler
  - Kimballton's Folk Dancers
  - Storyteller
  - Karaoke with Emily Smith

Danish Windmill, Viking Encampment and Danish Immigrant Museum Family History & Genealogy Center open throughout Tivoli Fest. For full details, visit [www.danishwindmill.com](http://www.danishwindmill.com).

## Upcoming Events . . .

- May** 4 Salem Homes Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at Elk Horn Lutheran Church 11:30am - 12:30pm. May is older Americans' month. Watch for Salem Homes events throughout the month.  
9 EHK early dismissal @ 12:30  
20 EHK & Exira Graduation  
25 EHK last day of school - out at 12:30  
26-27 Tivoli Fest  
28 Memorial Day  
30 Exira last day of school - out at 1:00
- June** 7-9 Museum Board meeting in Omaha  
14 Staley's Chicken Supper to benefit Salem Lutheran Homes Charitable Foundation  
5-8:00pm @ Elk Horn Lutheran Church  
23 Sankt Hans Aften on Museum grounds  
28-29 KRAUKA Viking Band @ the Mill and Museum
- July** 11 Donal Hinely Concert @ the Mill 7pm  
13-14 Crazy Dane Days and Garage Sales  
25 Brian Joens concert @ the Mill 7pm

