

# The Local Connection



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## Keepin. It *goin'*

Whether it is being involved with the school district, local economic development or with another local organization, we are Keepin it Goin' to build strong communities!

The same goes with our products. No matter if it is the everyday maintenance or the brand new equipment, we work every day (and sometimes at night) to make sure you have the best products and services!

Thanks for all you do to Keep it Goin' in our communities!



### Customer Service Corner

- **metc.net gets new look!**  
We've given our website a new look for spring, adding valuable information about our products, communities, applications, coupons and more. Looking for something you can't find? Let us know!
- **Online Security**  
SecureIT and Online Backup are reliable products giving you automated protection and storage. Stop in or check our website for more info.

**Bundles**  
Sign up for Telephone, Cable TV and/or Internet in a Bundle and  
**\$Save\$**

**Internet**  
Sign up for High Speed Internet and Get  
**1Mb for \$39<sup>95</sup>**

**Voice Mail, Caller ID or SecureIT Plus**  
Try These or Others  
**FREE for 3 Months**

*We care about our communities . . .*

Because we care about our communities, we will donate \$10 for every new cable TV or high speed Internet service signup during our 'Keepin It Goin' promotion. You have the opportunity to choose where the funds will be donated.

Towns included are Elk Horn, Marne, Brayton, Kimballton, Exira, Audubon & Atlantic.

**Choose from:**

- Public Library
- Fire Department
- Swimming Pool

**We're proud to help Keepin It Goin' in our communities!**



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



Offer valid May 1 through July 31, 2009. Some restrictions apply. Not all products and services available in all areas. Try Voice Mail, Caller ID, SecureIT Plus or any Calling Features FREE for 3 Months. Call or visit our office for full details.

Phone • Internet - High Speed & Dial-up • Cable Television • Cellular

## METC named state Board of the Year



**Front L to R:** Terry Petersen, Merlyn Knudsen & Bernard Kaltoft. **Back L to R:** Gary Larsen, Devin Moeller, & Bryan Clemesen. **Not Pictured:** Terry Madsen.

At the Iowa Telecommunications Association (ITA) annual meeting in November, 2008, the Marne Elk Horn Board was named 'Board of the Year'.

"The METC board has been very active in the industry for many years and they understand the benefit of having their staff involved in many Association activities," stated Dave Duncan, President of ITA.

This is a great honor and one that we were very proud to accept.

### Exira 4th of July Schedule

#### Friday, July 3

8:00am Fun Run/Walk  
4:30pm Community Club Barbeque  
6:30 Kiddy Parade  
9:00 Main Street Dance

#### Saturday, July 4

9:00am Foot Races  
10:30 Annual Parade  
2:00pm Entertainment (Gazebo)  
3:30 Kid's Tractor Pull  
9:45 Grand Fireworks Display

#### Sunday, July 5

10:30am Ecumenical Church Service  
2:00pm Alumni Coffee  
Blues Amusements on the Midway Friday and Saturday  
Sponsored by the Exira Community Club

## Business Spotlight: Danish Windmill in Elk Horn

Danish Windmill uses technology to the fullest to attract people to the area

Who would expect a Danish windmill in the middle of western Iowa? Fortunately, for Elk Horn, some hardworking citizens made it happen in 1977, creating an unforgettable area tourist attraction.

The Danish Windmill has established itself as a 'must-see' Iowa tradition. The Mill was an actual working mill, built in 1848 in Denmark.

Since its move and reassembly in Elk Horn in 1977, the mill has brought close to two million people to the area. Today, technology is generating even more interest, along with extra sales for the gift shop.

Lisa Riggs has been the manager since 1977 and knows that it is important to keep up with the ever-changing ways to let people know about the iconic structure.

the doors that computers would open."

"Today our website generates fifty percent of our gift shop sales. People can search for us via search engines, they can find information about area attractions & lodging and we are even working on a Twitter feed and Facebook page. Through it all, Marne Elk Horn has been there."

The Mill is also an official Iowa Welcome Center. One of the

requirements is that the site have wireless Internet.

"We have a sign on the Interstate that advertises the Mill and mentions our wireless service," stated Lisa, "We see people sitting in their cars using our service. We certainly use technology to the fullest thanks to Marne Elk Horn."

Faye Farley packs up a windmill for shipment. Their website, [www.danishwindmill.com](http://www.danishwindmill.com), generates 50% of their sales.



**L to R: Employees Ann Nielsen, Faye Farley and Manager Lisa Riggs inside the gift shop.**



## What's Ahead

Janell Hansen  
General Manager



# Proud to be part of our communities

communities where we live. I know this is true because I witness it in action every day.

Certainly, we take our responsibilities as a telecommunications and entertainment company seriously. However, our board and our staff understand that we have a strong role to play as a member of our regional community in western Iowa as well.

As a company, we are happy to be involved in projects both big and small. Sometimes we are required to take the lead and other times we play a supporting role. Sometimes the need is for money and other times the key is the investment of time. METC is committed to our communities and this is just one more way we try to show it.

As individuals, we are involved in more ways. Staff and board

members are invested in activities for the school, youth programs, local government, community development, churches and the fire department – just to name a few.

Although everyone says it differently, all are involved because they care about the people in the community.

Thanks for letting METC be part of your family, and for being part of ours.

Communities are like families. We work and celebrate together. We look out for one another. Sometimes we disagree. But, everyone wants what is best for the

## Elk Horn Swimming Pool receives grant from INS & METC



The Elk Horn Swimming Pool recently received a \$750 grant from Iowa Network Services with a \$750 matching grant from METC to be used for the pool's slide project.

INS created the grant program to increase its service and support to the communities it serves through rural telephone companies.

Shown at left are Jill Madsen, METC Office Manager; Layna Himmelberg and Allison Buckholdt, EH Pool Board members; and JD Sievert, INS Representative.

**Survey Says . . .**

- Thank you for responding to our recent customer survey! Here are a few highlights:
- 96% of you are very satisfied or satisfied with METC overall, and nearly 98% are very satisfied or satisfied with our customer service.
- More than half would like us to offer more computer training.
- We are evaluating the results, so please look for more info soon.

## Annual Stockholders' Meeting very well attended this year

On Monday, February 23rd, Marne Elk Horn Telephone Company held its annual shareholders' meeting. This year was well attended with 135 shares represented by 82 shareholders.

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, Terry Petersen (Elk Horn) and Merlyn Knudsen (Kimballton) were re-elected to a 3 year term. 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.

Tom Cannon, representing Danish Mutual Insurance, receives a drawing item from Board Member Gary Larsen.

General Manager Janell Hansen reviewed financial information and the year's progress of the company. The company is in excellent financial shape to weather the challenges and move forward. Thanks to all who attended.



**Top Center:** A large group attended the Annual Meeting.  
**Top Right:** General Manager Hansen reviews the financials.  
METC has 315 shareholders who hold a total of 472 shares. Shares can be obtained through a sale from a current shareholder, or transferred from a family member.

**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  
 - Online Bill Pay  
 - Drop Box  
 - Auto Bank Deduct  
 - MasterCard, Visa & Discover

**Your local connection to it all**



**Check out Channel 99!**

Local events calendar, local ballgames and more!

DVD's of programs available at METC office

## Don't miss Elk Horn's Tivoli Fest May 23-24

### Saturday, May 23

8am Opening Ceremonies  
 M&M Fun Run  
 9-4pm Food Stands Open  
 10-4pm Danish Walking  
 Street Vendors & Quilts  
 All Day BBQ Cook-Off Contest

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  
 9-12pm Great Imposters Band in City Park

### Sunday, May 24

12-3pm Various Activities and Entertainment at Mill Stage  
 • Jack Daley Music  
 • Kimballton's Folk Dancers  
 • Storyteller  
 • Viking Sagas & Treasure Hunt

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).

## We've Increased Your DSL & Wireless

# Internet Speeds!

New speeds & prices effective May 1, 2009



### DSL Changes

Old	New	Price
512k/256k	1Mb/256k	\$39.95
512k/512k	1Mb/768k	\$44.95
1Mb/256k	1.5Mb/256k	\$49.95
1.5Mb/512k	2Mb/512k	\$69.95
1.5Mb/1Mb	2Mb/1Mb	\$89.95
3Mb/1Mb	3Mb/1Mb	\$99.95

Same Price!

New Price!

### Wireless Changes

Old	New	Price
512k/256k	1Mb/256k	\$44.95
1Mb/256k	1.5Mb/256k	\$49.95
1.5Mb/512k	2Mb/512k	\$69.95
1.5Mb/1Mb	2Mb/1Mb	\$89.95
3Mb/1.5Mb	3Mb/1Mb	\$99.95

Same Price!

New Price!

DSL service available in Elk Horn, Kimballton, Marne, Brayton & Exira. Wireless service available in Atlantic & rural Exira. Some restrictions apply. Service not available in all areas.

## Upcoming Events . . .

### May

- 5 EH-K HS Spring Concert
- 8 State Large Group Contest
- 10 Mother's Day
- 13 Baccalaureate @7pm
- 14 Award & Class Night for EH-K/Exira @7:30pm
- 17 Graduation EH-K/Exira @2pm
- 19 Last Day of School for EH-K
- 21 Last Day of School for Exira
- 22 Grand Opening of "Victor Borge" @ Danish Museum
- 23-24 Tivoli Fest in Elk Horn
- 25 Memorial Day

### June

- 9 Salem Lutheran Homes Charitable Foundation - Staley's Chicken Supper @5-8pm Kimballton Town Hall Talent Show @6:30
- 20 Sankt Hans Often "Burning of the Witch" at Danish Museum @Dusk
- 21 Father's Day

### July

- 4 Fourth of July Celebration in Exira

