

The Local Connection



Winter 2008
Volume 7
Issue 1

Escape your Everyday

When you need to get away, there are many options from which to choose. You can plan a trip, read a book, participate in a hobby, watch a movie, plan your garden or just do something outside your ordinary routine.

As winter settles in, the urge to Escape Your Everyday seems to get stronger, so we are here to help in three different ways.

First, by Escaping Your Everyday, you can help further support our community because we will make a \$10 donation to one of three local community organizations for every qualifying sign up through April 30th. You can even choose which of the three groups gets the donation.

Second, we have products that can help you Escape Your Everyday: Cable TV for movies and entertainment; Internet for research, communication and entertainment and certainly the telephone to connect you to friends and family.

From now through April, sign up for Cable TV or HBO, Cinemax or Showtime and get FREE Installation AND 2 months FREE on your choice of HBO, Cinemax or Showtime. In addition, subscribe to High Speed Internet and you will pay only the price of dial-up Internet for the first two months.

Third, our staff is one of the best in our industry. Escape Your Everyday by

allowing them to serve you. Collectively they have over 120 years of telecommunications, Internet and cable TV experience. Call on us with your communications related challenge. We are your friend in the communications business.

So, if you need High Speed Internet to plan your cruise or if you just want HBO to escape with a movie for a few hours, we are here to help. And remember, you will be helping to earn money for one of three local organizations. Now you have an excuse to Escape!



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Customer Service Corner

- **New Directory**
Watch for our new directory coming out in March. Please check your listing and let us know if there are corrections to be made for next year.
- **CPNI Reminder**
If you want to change your account contacts due to new CPNI rules, complete and return form, stop in or call the office to make changes.



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



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

Hansen elected to lead Iowa Telecommunications Association in 2008

Marne Elk Horn General Manager Janell Hansen was elected to Chair the Iowa Telecommunications Association (ITA).

Her tenure began at ITA's 111th Annual Convention held in Des Moines November 4th-6th and will run for one year.

"Being elected Chair is certainly an honor, and yet I couldn't do it without all the other members serving on the board and committees."

"This is truly a group of smart and engaged individuals. My

purpose is to keep us moving along the positive path we are on," stated Janell.

"I would like to thank the board for allowing me to serve on the board and as chair. It is certainly a time commitment, but with that time spent comes great amounts of education."

The ITA provides 142 members, who serve customers in mostly rural Iowa with telephone, Internet and cable television services, with industry education and legislative and regulatory support.



Top: Janell Hansen is introduced by ITA President Dave Duncan. **Left:** Chair Hansen addresses the ITA convention.

Annual Stockholders' Meeting Monday, February 25th at Elk Horn Town Hall Stockholders will receive more information by mail in the coming weeks

Business Spotlight: Cahoy Pump, Marne

Cahoy Pump Service loves their new home in Marne

Cahoy Pump Service is a unique business located in Marne. The main office is in Fredericksburg, Iowa which is north of Waterloo.

Working for municipal utilities,

ethanol plants and a variety of industries, Cahoy drills new wells, rehabilitates existing wells and performs well inspections. They perform these cutting edge services with their skilled employees, as well as working with hydro geologists when necessary.

The company was started in 1922 by the Cahoy family. Since then, son to son, the business

has grown and competes with national competitors. They feel their main advantage is their family owned status and true company teamwork from ownership on down to each employee.

Cahoy has four employees in Marne and 10 in Fredericksburg. They completed their new building in Marne in January of 2007, moving from their former location in Atlantic.

"One day I heard a story on the radio about Marne giving away lots for homes and wondered if they'd be willing to work with a business," stated Operations Manger, Tom McLaren. Fortunately for him

and Marne, they were able to make the project work.

"We are very happy in Marne; the taxes are about 25% of what we were paying, we own our own building and our high speed Internet is about 10 times faster!"

Working primarily in 5 states: Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri, it is important for Cahoy to stay connected. When they built their new building, they used Marne Elk Horn for all their communication wiring.

"We have been very happy with Marne Elk Horn, especially their great service. Whenever we call, they get on it!"

Congratulations, Cahoy Pump, on your new home in Marne and welcome to the area!



Tom McLaren, Operations Manger (left) and Tim Gessert, Foreman, at Cahoy Pump Service in Marne.

What's Ahead

Janell Hansen
General Manager



It's time to blow our horn

and those of our industry were solid in their belief that doing the right things and being a strong community partner was the expectation, not the exception. So, humility is sort of part of our company DNA.

Being a locally owned and operated company allows decisions that affect our customers, our schools and our communities to be made by people that completely understand the situation. In turn that leads to better decisions and better service.

to serve you and solve your communications challenges.

Finally, as a company, we view it as our duty to support the communities, organizations and people that make up our regional community.

This year we will be promoting many different local organizations and charities that make our community strong. Not only do we support many of them with our money, but we support them with our time as well. We hope you will consider doing the same.

We are not good at blowing our own horn. In fact, I feel inclined to ask for your forgiveness even before I blow the first note. Why we feel this way is not surprising given our industry upbringing.

Today the difference is we have competitors at every turn, so it is important for us to show our customers the value and benefit of doing business with us. And there are many benefits to you, your family, your company and our community.

Another benefit of being local is our employees. Their knowledge and experience are outstanding. In fact, they are often sought out by their peers in the industry for advice, so obviously we are pleased to have them here everyday

The founders of our company

Do Not Call Registry stops unwanted calls

The National Do Not Call Registry gives you a choice about whether to receive telemarketing calls at home.

Register your home or mobile phone numbers for free at www.donotcall.gov or by calling their toll free number 1-888-382-1222.

After registration, unsolicited calls should diminish in about 30 days. All unwanted calls

should cease within 90 days because callers are required to check the registry quarterly.

There are exceptions to the types of calls which can be made to you including: calls on behalf of political organizations, charities, surveyors and companies with whom you've done business or with whom you've made inquiry or submitted an application. For more information, visit the Do Not Call website at www.donotcall.gov.



**NATIONAL
DO NOT CALL
REGISTRY**

- Created in 2003
- Regulated by the FCC & FTC
- Registration is FREE

Clemson enjoys serving on the METC board

Bryan Clemson is a busy man. Not only has he served on the Marne Elk Horn Board for 6 years, he and his wife Shari raise 5 boys and farm near Brayton.

"Marne Elk Horn has and continues to be very community oriented and likes to promote its communities," stated Bryan, "It is really a pleasure to serve on the board."

When asked what stands out in his mind about METC, Bryan said, "It is evident that the past board members and management made wise decisions. We are still benefiting from them".

When he was originally asked by the nominating committee to run for the board, he thought he would give it a shot because he was always very impressed by Marne Elk Horn as a company.

"It is evident that the past board members and management made wise decisions. We are still benefiting from them."

He stated that the technology is very interesting to learn about and it is challenging to keep up with all the changes. He enjoys his co-board members, working with management and the entire staff. "They are all great!"

Bryan keeps busy on his farm growing corn, beans and alfalfa, along with raising cattle and chickens with the boys.

Dillon, 18, Aaron, 17, Emmet, 14, Garner, 12 and Jarrid, 9 are all home schooled and keep busy with various activities.

Board Spotlight



**Bryan Clemson
Board Member**

Thanks Bryan, for your contributions to our board and for all you do for our customers!

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



Area organizations receive donations

The Marne & Elk Horn Telephone Company made year-end donations this year to several local organizations according to Janell Hansen the company's general manager.

"Our Board of Directors believe strongly in the value of making annual investments in our communities. We work every year to give grants and donations back to the community in a variety of ways," stated Hansen.

The company supported the city libraries in Exira, Kimballton, and Elk Horn with a \$250 donation each. METC also gave a \$1000 check to the Danish Windmill for the Viking Hjem, a \$1000 check to the Danish Immigrant Museum, and \$500 to Salem Lutheran Homes.

In addition, the company continued their annual gifts of \$600 each to the area fire departments and rescue squads in Elk Horn, Kimballton,



Kimballton Library



Danish Immigrant Museum



ExEH Library



Viking Hjem

Marne, Brayton, and Exira. Marne Elk Horn also supported the Family Crisis Support Network in Atlantic with a donation of \$500.

Danish Immigrant Museum
Janell Hansen and John Mark Nielsen, Museum Executive Director.

Shown in photos:
Kimballton Library
Bernard Kaltoft, METC Board of Directors Member, Rose Anne Poldberg, Kimballton Librarian, & Janell Hansen, METC General Manager.

ExEH Library
Jo Christofferson, Elk Horn Librarian, Janell Hansen, and Sandy Bauer, Exira Librarian.

The Viking Hjem
Janell Hansen and Bill Rollins, Danish Windmill Board Member.

Upcoming Events . . .

February

- 2 Exira State Large Group Speech
- 2 EHK JH B BB Tourney (here)
WR Sectionals - Oakland @12pm
- 4 EHK HS Honor Choir
- 12 Early Dismissal EHK/Exira @12:30pm
- 14 Exira HS Pops Concert @7:00pm
- 18 No School EHK & Exira
- 26 JH Vocal Contest in Griswold

March (cont.)

- 24 No School for Exira & EHK
- 28 Exira HS One Act Plays @7:00pm

April

- 4-7 EHK DC Trip
- 21 Exira JH/HS Spring Concert @7:00pm
- 26 EHK & Exira Prom
- 29 Exira JH Musical @7:00pm

March

- 4 EHK Pop Concert @7:30pm
- 13 Exira RHC Band Concert @ A-C
- 17-18 EHK & Exira P/T Conferences
- 20-21 No School for Exira & EHK

