

The Communicator

News from your local coop to keep you connected.

May 2020

When Life Gives You Lemons...



We are living through the old saying, “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade.” Staff at SGC are doing their best with the challenges presented by COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure the safety of our staff, their families, our customers and community we have split up our staff so not all employees are working together under the same roof.

With the STAYHOME MN order directed by Gov. Walz, SGC is limiting contact with customers until this order is lifted. We are still here to help you, taking your phone calls and troubleshooting via video chat, which has proven to be productive and fun for both staff and customers.

Keep Americans Connected Pledge

Spring Grove Communications has taken the “**Keep Americans Connected Pledge**” and opened up **FREE Wi-Fi** at the following locations in Spring Grove:

- Viking Memorial Park
- On Main Street in front of our office

The name of the FREE Wi-Fi is SGC Free

We hope this helps anyone in need of internet access during the COVID-19 pandemic, who may not have access to internet elsewhere.

Annual Meeting Update

We were so disappointed when we had to make the decision to postpone the Spring Grove Communications’ 2020 annual meeting. We were looking forward to having the meeting on a Saturday morning and serving Dad’s Belgian Waffles. At this time, a decision has not been made as to when we will hold our annual meeting due to the STAY HOME MN order. We will notify all members once a date has been set.

#gotSMARTTS

Are you looking for a new computer? Whether it be a laptop or desktop we may have just what you need. We currently have a few computers in stock for that quick turn-around need. Give us a call or check out our Facebook post to see if what we have in stock is just what you need. We are also here to help with all things technology related; such as setting up your Smart TV, Wi-Fi through your entire home, Alexa devices, email, Fire Stick set up, to name a few. Start with us for all your technology needs and questions!

Let's Chat!

There are many different types of video chat programs available. Some of the more popular programs are Facebook Messenger, FaceTime, Google Duo, and Google Hangouts. All are easy to use and of course can be a lot of fun during this time of social distancing. Some fun things you can do with video chat is read to a family member, set up a breakfast, lunch or dinner date with friends or family through chat, host a social hour, the options are endless. You just need to use your imagination and make it happen!

2020 Telephone Directory



Congratulations to Stephanie Gulbranson!

Stephanie is our 2020 directory photo contest winner. Stephanie received \$50 in Spring Grove Dollars.

Here is the story behind the photo: MANY years ago, Anthony was trimming horses for Evelyn Roy in Mabel. After trimming, he bought a \$5 ticket from her for the tractor raffle at Hesper-Mabel Steam Engine Days. He completely forgot about the raffle ticket until someone stopped him at Steam Engine Days and told him he was the winner of the restored 1947 8N Ford. He laughed because it cost him more to fill the tank on the tractor than it did to buy it!

The tractor has pulled many wagons throughout the years at the farm with our late friend Jed Wohlgenuth at the wheel. Brakes have always been questionable on those tractors, which made those rides a little more interesting. Brakes or no brakes, we have all had some good memories with “Anthony’s \$5 Tractor.”

SGC would like to THANK everyone who submitted an entry. We had a lot of beautiful pictures and it was difficult to choose just the right one. We will have a directory photo contest again for our 2021 directory so keep snapping those pictures.

Things To Do:

With many events and activities cleared from our calendars, what is there to do? Here is a list of activities to occupy your time:

- Complete a puzzle: The more pieces the better! Feeling extra saucy? Take on a Rubik’s Cube. More of a word person? Crossword puzzle!
- Start a journal or blog. Sure, it can be about the coronavirus, but it could also be about a specific interest from chess to cheese.
- Watch all the really long movies you’ve avoided until now.
- Download Duolingo, or a similar app, and teach yourself a foreign language.
- Sit down and read a book.
- Play cards or board games with your family.
- Get outside and go for a walk.

#COOPSTRONG

Are you Ready for Severe Weather?

Spring will soon lead into summer and both seasons come with storms. Are your electronic devices prepared? Spring Grove Communications recommends all devices should be plugged into a reliable surge protector. How do I know if my surge protector is reliable? Be sure it truly is a surge protector, rather than merely a power strip. Surge protectors offer a level of protection to your devices against power spikes. On the label, in fine print, you will find ‘suppressed voltage rating’. Spring Grove Communications requires our equipment in your home is protected by a surge protector. This includes routers and set top boxes. And we highly recommend you protect your equipment as well, including your desktop computer, laptops and tablets. These devices may be on the counter charging and should be unplugged before the storm or verify they are plugged into a surge protector. Spring Grove Communications has surge protectors in stock. Is it time to upgrade yours?