

*Happy Mother's Day!*  
Sunday, May 9th

KEEPING YOU...

# In Touch

April 2021 ■ Volume 45 ■ Number 489

## 2021 SDTA Scholarships!

The South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) will be awarding four scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 for the 2021 fall semester. **The deadline to apply for the SDTA Memorial Scholarships is June 15, 2021.** Applicants must:

- ✓ Have a high school diploma or GED equivalent
- ✓ Be majoring in a degree/program or field of study that is useful in the telecommunications or broadband industry or which significantly relies on the use of broadband services and related technologies (examples of majors eligible for this scholarship can be found at [sdtaonline.com/sdta\\_scholarships.php](http://sdtaonline.com/sdta_scholarships.php).
- ✓ Must be a member /customer of or have a parent or legal guardian who is a member/customer of an SDTA member company. Previous SDTA Memorial Scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply.

Applications are available online from any South Dakota post-secondary institution, student financial aid office, the SDTA office or any SDTA member company. Email the completed application to: [karasemmler@sdtaonline.com](mailto:karasemmler@sdtaonline.com), or mail to SDTA, PO Box 57, Pierre, SD 57501. Or an application can be completed online at [sdtaonline.com/sdta\\_scholarships.php](http://sdtaonline.com/sdta_scholarships.php)

## 2021 Director Elections Scheduled:

In accordance with the bylaws of the cooperative, director elections have been scheduled for three districts. Election notices will be mailed to each member in the districts where an election is to be held. Any person who qualifies under the cooperative's bylaws may run for the directorships including incumbent directors. District Director Elections are scheduled as follows to elect one director from each district:

June 3rd .... District 4 .... Gettysburg and Lebanon Exchanges

June 10th .... District 7 .... Britton Exchange

June 8th .... District 8 .... Cresbard, Faulkton, Hoven, Onaka & Tolstoy

Should there be only one petitioner in any district, the scheduled election will be canceled. Cancellation notices will be published in local newspapers. Members should refer to the election notice for meeting details such as time, place, and petition deadlines. Please call 605-852-2224, if you have questions concerning the elections.

## Texting 911 from Your Wireless Phone is available:

The 911 text service is available in all but one county (Todd County). 911 texts and phone calls will be routed to local 911 dispatch centers. "Text-to-9-1-1 should only be used in an emergency when you can't call 911," said SD Safety Secretary Craig Price. Price said texting 911 would be "good to use" if speaking would put the caller in danger or if the caller is deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired. He also issued these tips:

- Don't text and drive. Text only if cannot call 911.
- In the first text message, send the location and type of emergency.
- Text in simple words as a brief message using no abbreviations or slang.
- Be prepared to answer questions and follow instructions from dispatch.
- A voice call to 911 is still the best & fastest way to dispatch.

**For details visit [text911sd.com](http://text911sd.com).**

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## Universal Telephone Services Are Available!

Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, "Universal Telephone Service" means basic telephone service is available to all consumers. Universal telephone service is voice grade access to the telecommunications network, including local usage, touch tone calling, single party service, access to emergency 911 services, access to operator services, access to directory assistance, access to long distance telephone service and discounted services to qualifying low-income consumers.

### Venture's current charges for the Universal Telephone Service are:

- Basic Monthly local residential service, no time limit on calls: \$18.00
- Touch tone calling service
  - No additional charge
- Access to emergency service
  - No additional charge (Note: where applicable, County 911 tax collected by Venture Communications)
- Access to operator services
  - No additional charge
- Access to directory assistance-per call \$.85. (Note: If you call a long-distance company for assistance, there may be a charge from that carrier)
- Access to long distance telephone companies - \$6.50 (Note: Monthly flat rate mandated by the FCC)
- Residential access recovery charge - \$3.00 (Note: Monthly flat rate mandated by the FCC)
- Low income monthly discounts to qualifying consumers - \$5.25; Enhanced Lifeline is also available (Note: Toll blocking is available upon request.)

If you have any questions on Universal Services, please call Venture toll free by dialing 1-800-824-7282.

## FIND THE ROCKET FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN



### We're giving away a \$200 Visa Gift Card!

Venture Communications recently launched our stellar new web-site at [venturecomm.net](http://venturecomm.net), and somewhere on it, we've hidden a rocket image. It could be anywhere, so stay alert as you explore.

**EASY TO ENTER** - When you find the rocket, simply click on it to fill out the entry form for the prize drawing.\*

**DRAWING IS MAY 12** - We'll draw the winner of the \$200 Visa Gift Card on May 12, 2021. It could be you, but only if you enter, so start your rocket search today.

605-852-2224  
[venturecomm.net](http://venturecomm.net)

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\*Only one entry is allowed. Must be a Venture customer to win.  
Venture Communications is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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## New VOD Releases!

### VIDEO ON DEMAND



Tune in to Venture Digital TV  
Channel 11 to view 30 second trailer  
clips of the new monthly video on  
demand releases each month.

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PO Box 157 ■ Highmore, SD 57345

605-852-2224 ■ [venture@venturecomm.net](mailto:venture@venturecomm.net) ■ [www.venturecomm.net](http://www.venturecomm.net)

Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. ■ Monday - Friday



# FIND THE ROCKET

FOR YOUR  
CHANCE TO **WIN**

Explore the new [venturecomm.net](http://venturecomm.net)



# YOU COULD WIN A **\$200 VISA** **GIFT CARD**

Venture Communications recently launched our stellar new website at [venturecomm.net](http://venturecomm.net). It offers easy access, easy answers, and easy shopping. Plus, it also provides an easy way to register now for a chance to win a \$200 Visa Gift Card!

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