

In honor of Memorial Day,
Venture Communications will be closed on Monday, May 31st.
Have a safe and enjoyable day with your family and friends.

KEEPING YOU...



In Touch

May 2021 ■ Volume 45 ■ Number 490

SD Regional Telephone Directory Advertising

Melissa Swartz



The 2021 South Dakota Regional Telephone Directory advertising campaign is now underway. Melissa Swartz from Pinnacle Publishing will be traveling the Venture Communications area during the month of May to give Venture business customers the opportunity to advertise in the white and/or yellow pages. The 2021 directory will be delivered in November with a directory advertising deadline of June 1st. Customers who wish to discuss advertising with Melissa should contact Janice or Amy at 605-852-2224.

Advanced Phishing *Hidden* in Plain Text

Cybercriminals are using advanced tactics to disguise dangerous malware as harmless text files. Using a phishing email, the bad guys try to trick you into downloading a file attachment named "ReadMe_knl.txt". Typically, files ending in .txt are plain text documents that can be opened in any text editing software. But in this case, the cybercriminals use a trick called Right-to-Left Override (RLO) to reverse part of the file name. The true name of the attached file is "ReadMe_txt.lnk.lnk". It is not a plain text document, but actually, a command that instructs your computer to download the bad guy's malware. Once the malware is installed, cybercriminals have complete access to your system. They can access everything from your browser history to your cryptocurrency wallet, and they can even take photos using your webcam. Advanced phishing tactics can be intimidating, but you can stay safe by practicing the tips below:

- ✓ Never click a link or download an attachment in an email that you were not expecting.
- ✓ Cybercriminals can disguise anything, even file types.
- ✓ When in doubt, reach out to the sender by phone to confirm the legitimacy of the email.

REMINDER:

Scholarship Deadline!

The deadline to apply for the SDTA scholarship is June 15, 2021. Applications are available from any South Dakota post-secondary institution student financial aid office, the SDTA office at 605-224-7629 or info@sdtaonline.com, or any SDTA member company. The scholarship can also be completed online at sdtaonline.com/resources/sdta-scholarship.

Stop, Look, and Think. Don't be fooled.
Venture Internet Team

venture
communications



Prevent

utility service disruptions in your neighborhood

One-third of U.S. homeowners (33%) have been affected by a utility service interruption during the COVID-19 pandemic.*
*CGA 2021 Omnibus Study

Always contact 811 before digging to avoid service disruptions caused by damaging buried utilities.



Notice of Forfeiture of Property Rights:

Notice is hereby given that the persons or entities listed below have outstanding capital credit checks issued in 2014. The amounts of these outstanding checks will be forfeited to Venture Communications Cooperative (formerly Sully Buttes Telephone Cooperative) six months after the first date of publication of this notice unless money is claimed and proper evidence.

- Agns
- Birdsall Sand & Gravel Co.
- Boys & Girls Clubs of the Glacial Lakes
- Dfas-Pe/fpd-ditco Branch
- Dow Chemical
- Florida Power & Light
- Heartland Red Roofs LLC
- Igt-Online Entertainment Systems Inc.
- Dr. William Lone Fight
- Long Hollow Dev Corp
- Norlight Inc.
- P. Selzer

Your Vote Counts!

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.

Watch the *State Track Meet!*

Venture Communications, in cooperation with South Dakota Public TV (SDPB) is proud to bring you live limited coverage of the Boys and Girls State High School Track Championships on May 27th – 30th:

- Class AA Sturgis Channel 401
- Class A Spearfish Channel 400
- Class B Rapid City Channel 399

New VOD Releases!

VIDEO ON DEMAND



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Venture Communications is an
equal opportunity provider and employer.

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