

# In Touch

NOVEMBER 2023



## November is National Gratitude Month

Since Thanksgiving takes place in November, it's not surprising the month was chosen to highlight the importance of gratitude to all of us. After all, practicing gratitude has been proven to positively impact psychological and physical wellbeing.

Venture Communications is grateful for our customers, who are also our friends and neighbors. What are you grateful for today?

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24/7 Support

**Office Hours**  
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. CST

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**Visit Us Online**  
[www.venturecomm.net](http://www.venturecomm.net)

**venture**  
communications  
cooperative

## Upgrade family gatherings in a huge way

Venture Communications encourages you to dream big as you prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday. Give this year's celebration a ginormous upgrade by expanding your menu, your guest list, and your streaming enjoyment.

Know what can make a huge difference in streaming? Signing up for our fiber internet! It provides the speeds required for you and your guests to experience optimal streaming of football games, movies, and more.

**Call 605-852-2224  
now for bigger speeds**

*Happy  
Thanksgiving!*

**Our office will be closed  
November 23rd.**





## What to Know About Phishing, Vishing, and Smishing

To outsmart criminals, stay informed about common threats:

**Phishing** – It's an email that appears to be from your financial institution or another company with which you do business. It asks you to click a link that takes you to a legitimate-looking webpage, where you're directed to enter information such as your account number, password, or Social Security number. Don't bite! It's a scam to steal your personal data. Reputable companies never gather information this way.

**Vishing** – This is phishing over the phone—the "v" is for voice. The criminals call you, claiming to be from your bank or another institution you trust (such as the local court system calling about jury duty). As in phishing, they're after your personal information. Simply hang up.

**Smishing** – Short for SMS phishing, smishing uses text messages to lure you into clicking fraudulent links or download infected apps on your phone. Never respond to text messages or automated voice messages from unknown numbers on your mobile phone.

# Highlights from the 66th Annual Meeting of the Cooperative

The members of Venture Communications gathered together on Wednesday, September 13th, 2023, in Highmore, SD for the 66th Annual Meeting of the Cooperative. Members and guests enjoyed a noon meal prepared by Gypsy Nosh and entertainment by the Company Cowboys.

Vice-President Ron Simonson called the 2023 annual meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. Wayne Brock led the membership in prayer. Vice-President Ron Simonson led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. The members approved the notices as read along with the minutes of the 2022 annual meeting. Brian Bergeleen of Wessington Springs, Kyle Gilmour of Highmore, John Hoffmann of Wessington, and Ron Simonson of Roslyn were reelected to three-year terms on the Venture Communications Board of Directors.

Vice-President Simonson gave a brief overview of the 2023 general retirement. He also thanked the membership and Venture team for their loyal support to Venture Communications.

The new manager of Venture Communications, Fay Jandreau, gave a little talk about his family and his background in the industry. Manager Jandreau updated the members on the operations of Venture and the progress in regard to the rural Beadle County project. He also expressed his sincere appreciation to the members, directors, and Venture team past and present for their continued dedication and service to the cooperative.

Controller Janelle Jessen gave a report on the 2022 financials. The membership approved the financials as presented. A cooperative legal report was given by Attorney Bailey. There was no old or new business brought before the membership. Vice-President Simonson asked the membership for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

After adjournment, bingo was played for prizes. Shae Husted was the grand prize bingo winner of \$350.00 cash.

## Try This Approach to Buying Holiday Gifts for Kids

Holiday gift shopping can easily turn into a stressful experience when you try to buy everything you think your kids "must" have. To simplify the process, some families have adopted the saying, "Something they want, something they need, something to wear, and something to read." This encourages parents to give just four gifts per kid—one per category. By doing so, more thought can go into the selection of each item, and the experience will hopefully be more rewarding for everyone.



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