



A LETTER FROM MICHELE GILLESPIE, GENERAL MANAGER



Happy New Year! Wow! 2020 was, to say the least, a unique year! Besides dealing with COVID, NEMR employees were BUSY with the last of our exchanges' construction, upgrading transport equipment and new customers who are needing reliable internet. Reliable internet was very important this year due to members working from home and students learning virtually. Our employees delivered! NEMR provided free Wi-Fi at certain locations in all our exchanges to help children in the community that did not have internet access. During the spring/summer months, NEMR signed the FCC "Keeping America Connected" pledge. This pledge allowed customers that were having difficulty paying bills to keep their telecommunications services active.

Construction-Winigan, Pollock and Lemons fiber to the home (FTTH) construction is complete. NEMR crews are still working on cutting over those customers to the fiber optics. They should be finished during spring 2021, making all NEMR exchanges fiber. NEMR also bid on areas outside of our area in the FCC RDOF auction and we won 1 area (7 locations) that borders our eastern Novinger exchange. For safety reasons, a new warehouse was built next to our office. This building will hold all inventory and construction trucks. Our plan is to sell the building across the street in the future. In 2021, Memphis exchange will be upgraded to newer equipment. Memphis exchange was the 1st exchange to receive fiber to the home and the equipment in the central office is now obsolete.

Telephone-In 2018, NEMR gave our members the option of having internet without a telephone line. Over 1,600 members have taken advantage of this option. There are a few disadvantages to "cutting the cord," such as poor cell service, not as reliable 911 response, etc.

High Speed Internet-NEMR is committed to giving our members the speed that you want and need. Sometime this year, NEMR will start offering higher internet speeds up to 1 GIG! The misperception of getting FTTH is that your internet speed will be faster when you get hooked up to fiber. This is not true. If you were receiving 3 Mbps before fiber, you will still be receiving 3 Mbps after fiber. The fiber that NEMR is putting into your homes is so you can get higher speeds if you choose. If you think your internet is too slow, count how many devices you have in your home and divide your Mbps by your devices. For example, if you have 3 devices in your home and you have 3 Mbps, then each device might get 1 Mbps. If you are trying to stream video on one of those devices, you would get buffering.

NEMR TV-The local networks did not disappoint us. NEMR's 3-year contracts were due December 31, 2020. All the networks increased their rates 20-30%! When you see your February TV bill, just remember that it is the programmers who control the costs. Unfortunately, NEMR must pass those excessively high increases on to our TV customers. TV equipment is very costly and subscribers are declining monthly. I am not sure what the future holds for NEMR TV, but we are looking at different options.

A BIG thank you to all NEMR employees for keeping our members connected and working through these uncharted times! NEMR is committed to giving our members the highest quality service at the most affordable cost. **Wishing you all a healthy and happy 2021!**

Switching to paperless & autopay billing gets you a \$50 bill credit and a chance to win one of two Amazon Fire HD tablets.

Do something great for the environment and your bank account. With paperless and autopay billing, you will receive your monthly bills from us electronically plus never worry about paying late.

- Save \$1 a month on your NEMR bill.
- Save time paying your bills.
- Save money on stamps and checks.

Promotion ends January 31st, 2021

To go green and save green, visit www.nemr.net. Click on "Bill Pay" to setup your account.

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The BUZZZZZZ

GO FULL SPEED AHEAD



NEMR TELECOM WISHES YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR! If you received new internet-connected devices for Christmas — such as tablets, laptops, smartphones, streaming equipment, smart home solutions, video doorbells, and home security systems — you may need a new internet plan as well.

Upgrading to faster internet will enable you to use many devices simultaneously without experiencing slowdowns and buffering. We offer a range of plans with speeds up to 100 Mbps.

**CALL 660-874-4111
TO START THE NEW YEAR WITH NEW INTERNET**

Service availability and internet speed will depend on location. Certain restrictions apply.
Contact us for details.

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\$2500 Scholarships
High School Seniors Apply
<https://www.frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships>

MeTV

Now Airing on Channel 23

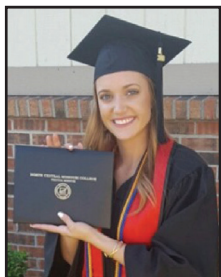
nemrTV Local & Select Vu

We no longer carry WGEM CW channel 18

CABLE TV RATES INCREASE

NEMR must raise TV rates beginning February 1, 2021, to offset the never-ending programming increases. Listed are new monthly rates, Select Vu \$113.82, Local Vu \$45.14, Variety Tier \$119.22, Choice Vu \$161.41, Ultimate Vu \$162.45, HD Basic \$1.98, Cinemax \$10.18, Starz \$13.47 and Showtime \$18.16. HBO prices did not change. Tavern Sports new price will be \$225.82/mo. NEMR prices the TV service to just cover costs. We all hate rate increases but they can't be avoided in our video services. Complain to your US Representatives and US Senators that video laws need to change to address these never-ending programming rate increases.

NEMR TELECOM SCHOLARSHIPS



NEMR Telecom now accepting applications for **two-\$500** Scholarships. To learn more about requirements and to apply visit www.nemr.net and click on Scholarships/DC Trip.

- Field of study must be geared toward telecommunications, computer science or a trade related field in telecommunications.

Apply today! Deadline is Friday, March 5th, 2021

New Directory Listings

Boyer, Beth	465-2449
Ostermeyer, Rick	488-5991
Adams, Linda M & Doyle	692-4779
GC Styles	874-4155
Furgason, Troy	874-4772
Geortz, Dorothy A	883-5503
Johnson, Jennifer	947-2118
LA Medical LLC Fax	947-4091
LA Medical LLC	947-4191

Find it online at...
localsolution.com



*Wishing everyone a
Happy New Year!*
We are Closed
New Year's Day

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