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# The BUZZ

## THE GROWING LIST OF SRC COMMUNITIES



Milan



Lemons



Queen City

NEMR, a Smart Rural Community Provider, added more communities to NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association's Smart Rural Communities (SRC) list. Congratulations to the Milan, Lemons, and Queen City communities.

Each community received a certificate of recognition and a metal sign with the SRC logo, city name, and the NEMR logo. NEMR plans recognizing more communities and will have photos in the November issue of The Buzz. To learn more about what it means to be a Smart Rural Community, visit: [nemr.net/smartruralcommunity](http://nemr.net/smartruralcommunity).

### CONGRATULATIONS!

The "Back to School Giveaways" winners are Jenna Dover of Unionville and Jessica Yardley of Green Castle. Jenna won the Dell Laptop Computer and Jessica won an Apple iPad. Enjoy ladies!



### NEMR AWARDED RECONNECT GRANT

NEMR will receive nearly \$9 million from the USDA ReConnect Program. This is a Rural Development investment that will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet in parts of Schuyler and Scotland counties. "We are excited to bring high-speed internet to the rural communities in and around the Downing exchange," said Michele Gillespie, NEMR CEO. "Keeping the people of rural America connected with reliable, high-speed internet brings new and innovative ideas to the rest of our country and creates good-paying jobs along the way," said USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. The project will begin after the USDA gives all approvals. This could take a year or two. For more information visit: [www.usda.gov/reconnect](http://www.usda.gov/reconnect).

### E-SOLUTIONS NEWSLETTER HAS A NEW NAME

The E-Solutions electronic newsletter is now called **E-Buzz Monthly**. On September 15, 2023, NEMR emailed the first edition of the E-Buzz Monthly newsletter to all customers that have an email listed on their account. If you did not receive the newsletter, please check your spam folder. If it is not in spam, call the office and make sure we have your most current email address on file.



### PHOTOS WANTED FOR 2025 SEASONAL CALENDAR

At NEMR, we believe that every season in North-east Missouri has its own unique charm and beauty. Whether it's the vibrant colors of fall leaves, the heavy snowfall of a cold winter, the blossoming flowers of spring, or the sunny days of summer, we want to see it all through the lens of our customers. NEMR is creating a 2025 monthly calendar and we need your photos! Let's begin with fall photos. Send your fall photos to [contest@nemr.net](mailto:contest@nemr.net). The best photos will be used in the calendar. Eventually, we'll ask for winter, spring and summer photos.

#### SEND US YOUR BEST SHOT!

NEMR is creating a calendar for 2025 and we need YOUR help!

Email your photos to [contest@nemr.net](mailto:contest@nemr.net)

#### NEW DIRECTORY LISTINGS

Ballanger, Kiley Chey	660-488-5133
Rigdon, Mary	660-766-2782
Randall, Angela	660-866-2389
Arzola, Lina C	660-874-4414
Brubaker, Cordell	660-883-5321
Baker, Loren B	660-883-5521
Mt Moriah Church	660-945-3171



It's Faster! It's Fiber! It's NEMR!

# PUTNAM COUNTY FAIR BOOTH WINNERS

Lawn Chairs	Cooler	Apron/Cutting Bd	Headphones	Water Bottle	Blanket
Peggy Martin	Tammy Perkins	Carol Ertel	Kinley Ballard	Kaden Bratz	Ezra Wilcox
TJ Payne	Sandra Wallace	Tony Bunnell	Cooper Lewis	Layden Dimmitt	Macklyn Overton
Linda Clark	Terry Clark	Kathleen Kimmel	Cory Chapman	Tucker Lewis	Caydence Garr
Brenda Stottinger	Pat Brundage	Elbert Rogers	Allison Phillips	Aran Neighbors	Royce Wells
Brandon Sells	Dottie Stuckey	Jill Payne	Nash Bachman	Athena Cossolotto	Brynlee Wesley

## YOUR COOPERATIVE IN ACTION



Pollock Parade



QC-Pioneer Days



Memphis Golf Tournament



Putnam Co. Fair



Green Castle Labor Day Parade



Scotland Co. Football

NEMR actively engages, serves, and gives to the communities of our members. Our employees and their families enjoy tossing candy to the kids along the parade routes, serving in concession stands, giving away free stuff at fairs and football games, and engaging in numerous community-oriented activities. This involvement showcases our deep-rooted commitment and our enduring connection to the communities we serve. As we celebrate National Co-Op month, we want to thank our loyal members. **NEMR is giving away five \$20 bill credits in October.** All members will be entered in the random drawing. The winners will receive a \$20 credit on their December bill. Thank you for supporting your local cooperative. We will see you at your next event!



## CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month. Malicious sites, phishing scams, and hackers are just a few of the threats you face online. Below are some practical tips you can use to stay safe online. Don't let the fear of hackers keep you from enjoying your internet!

**If It Looks Phishy... You're at Risk of Getting Caught**

Carefully review who's sending you an email and look for red flags like misspelled words and incorrect email addresses.

**Look For The Lock**

Always check if a website is secure by looking at the URL.  
<https://> SECURE  
<http://> NOT SECURE

**Take Two Steps To Sign In**

Two-factor authentication requires password entry and a code sent to your mobile device or email to sign in.

**Keep Those Devices Updated**

Updating your devices reduces the likelihood of exposing information to hackers or scammers.

**Keeping your devices up-to-date is crucial:** Microsoft has officially eliminated support for Windows 8.1. We urge all customers still using the unsupported software to update to a newer operating system such as Windows 10 or 11. If this is not an option for you, we recommend not using the old device online and purchasing a newer model for web usage. NEMR has several customers using SecureIT for antivirus protection for PCs, and while it is not recommended to use Windows 7, 8, and 8.1, we will continue to support them through December 31, 2023. If your computer gets a virus, you can spread it to your friends and family. Stay safe online!

Michele Gillespie, CEO

### Board of Directors

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NEMR is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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