

#### January, 2024 Volume 27/Issue 1



Holiday Giveaway Winners Gigzilla Free Upgrade Black Friday Winner Washington D.C. Trip 2023 Christmas Party Letter from the GM Cooperative in Action Apply for Scholarships

## HOLIDAY GIVEAWAY WINNERS

Congratulations to our random drawing winners: Leslie Prough of Novinger won the Ring Doorbell. Jesus Olan of Unionville won the Roomba, and Aubrey Watson of Unionville won the X-Box! Thank you to everyone who participated. To enter the 2023 Holiday Giveaway, we asked our members the following question: "How has fiber internet benefited you, your family, or your business?" Here are some of the responses:

"At our house my wife works from home, our daughter is a senior in high school taking 4 online college courses, and both our son and daughter do homework on their iPads. Needless to say, we value the quality Wi-Fi from NEMR." -Memphis

"I was able to move back to Missouri and retain my job because NEMR provided access to first-rate, fiber optic internet." -Unionville

"We have a small lake home where my husband can work virtually when we spend time there." -Unionville "The reliability and speed of NEMR fiber have not only transformed our son's academic experience but also enhanced our overall internet usage. It's like having urban internet access while enjoying the tranquility of living in the country." -Glenwood

"NEMR has benefitted my business in many ways. Faster internet, cheaper prices and when and if there is ever a problem, I am taken care of as soon as possible. Being a business my Wi-Fi can't be down long as I depend on the phone line for orders and the internet for my card machine. " -Milan

"Being a transplant to Missouri from NC we aren't able to see our families much so having the reliable capabilities to connect online means so much. Our careers require Internet usage and again the reliability of NEMR Fiber is huge. Also, just because it's worth mentioning, 1 game with college friends in another state as a fun way to stay connected and have ZERO issues doing so with NEMR Fiber. My family and 1 absolutely love the service itself and have been thoroughly impressed by the professionalism of the NEMR team." -Kirksville



Here's to a year of data delight, where streaming is smooth, and uploads take flight.

Happy New Year!

Limited Time Offer: **3-Months Free Upgrade to Gigzilla Speeds** Call for details: 660-874-4111 or visit: www.nemr.net/3-months

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BLACK FRIDAY WINNER!

Britten Hicks of Unionville won free Gigzilla Speeds for the entire month of December!

### WANTED: STUDENTS TO APPLY FOR FRS YOUTH TOUR 2024

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL SERVICE

Hello! I am Justin Simmons, the Office and Internet Technology Manager at NEMR. I am reaching out to seek your assistance. If you are a parent, guardian, grandparent, relative, teacher, or friend of a local high school student, I have an exciting opportunity to share. Encourage them to apply for a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Washington, D.C., fully sponsored by The Foundation for Rural Services and NEMR. This incredible experience is set to take place from June 3 to 7, 2024. Eligible students, aged 15 to 17, can apply online now at www.nemr.net. Simply click on the FRS dropdown button and choose "DC Youth Tour."



Applicants must have parents or guardians with active service with NEMR. For additional details, feel free to give me a call at 660-874-4111. Do not miss this fantastic opportunity! The deadline to apply is January 19, 2024.

# 2023 NEMR CHRISTMAS PARTY



In early December, the board of directors, employees, and their families, celebrated Christmas at Whippoorwill Acres Wedding and Event Venue near Lancaster. Despite the weather, everyone enjoyed a delicious meal by The Store Building, LLC. Lacey Mihalevich Music provided the entertainment. Pictured: The Grinch (Kyle Rogers) & Santa Claus (Destry Knupp)

### YOUR COOPERATIVE IN ACTION

NEMR delivered gifts to local hospitals and clinics to celebrate National Rural Health Day in November. Pictured are employees at the Putnam Co. Rural Health Clinic.



the PC Cafe in Unionville.



Gracey Gordon, Customer Ser- NEMR Employees participated vice, taught a tech workshop at in three lighted parades: Milan, Green City, and Unionville.



NEMR celebrated American Education Week by delivering goodies to schools in our area. Pictured L to R: Putnam, Kirksville Middle School, Northeast Christian H.S., Ray Miller Elementary, & Milan.



NEMR donations in December included money to the Milan Old Timers, United Way of N.E. Missouri, and the Sullivan County Multipurpose Senior Center.

# A LETTER FROM OUR GM MICHELE GILLESPIE

2023 flew! I cannot believe it is 2024. The talk around the broadband industry has continued to be "Internet for All." The State of Missouri was awarded \$1.7 billion for locations the federal government determined to be unserved and underserved. NEMR is looking into areas that border our exchanges to decide if it makes sense to apply for these grants.

Our construction crew had a busy year adding drops for new and existing homes. Over the summer, NEMR provided the opportunity for three local students to intern with our construction crew, two of which are attending State Tech, and the other was hired full-time at NEMR. NEMR is still laying fiber in Kirksville. Also, NEMR was awarded three grants last year, one in rural Putnam County which was completed last year, one for rural Milan which will be started in the spring of 2024, and one for Downing which is projected to start in 2025.

NEMR's TV provider informed us that they are going to quit offering their services mid-year. NEMR is reviewing different options so the board can decide whether they want to move forward with our television service. The local programming is getting so expensive. Every year, they raise their prices at least 10% and sometimes as much as 35%. This is the reason our television prices increase so much each year. A BIG thank you to all NEMR employees for keeping our members connected! NEMR is committed to giving our members the highest quality service at an affordable cost.

NEMR's board and employees wish you a healthy and happy 2024!



#### Michele Gillespie, CEO

Board of Directors Rick Kent Jim Kigar Mark Grgurich **Dennis Fechtling** 

Shane Bradshaw Scott Aylward Kenneth Hauk, Jr. Junior Bertram



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