



Connected



August 2020

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Board of Director Positions Open

There are two Board of Director seats which are up for election: the Central District seat currently held by Pam Moore of Artesian and the At-Large seat currently held by Kent Swenson. To serve on the board for the Central District, you must be an active Santel member from Forestburg, Artesian, Letcher or Mount Vernon exchanges. For the At-Large position, any active Santel member from any exchange is eligible to run. The recent Coronavirus pandemic has proven how critical Santel services are to our members whether they work from home, take online classes, keep in touch with friends and family, or stay entertained with streaming or gaming. The Santel Board provides support and direction in this technological era. **We encourage you to consider if our board would be a good fit for your talents and interests.**

To run for the Santel Board of Directors, a candidate must obtain at least 15 petition signatures from active coop members residing in the district for which they would serve. An executed Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Qualified Certification Statement must be presented at the Santel office, along with the signed petition, by no later than 5pm on August 25th. Petitions and other paperwork are available at 308 S Dumont Ave in Woonsocket or by calling 796-4411. You may also email to info@santel.coop to receive a copy of the petition or to learn more about the roles and responsibilities that come with being a member of the Santel Board of Directors.



2020 Annual

Meeting Planned

Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc. will hold our 68th Annual Meeting on Monday, September 14, 2020. You will hear from both the General Manager and our Board President, and the Board Treasurer will present the 2019 audited financial statements.

With the current state of the Coronavirus pandemic, we will be holding our meeting virtually. All members will be able to attend online or via conference call. All members will be mailed a full meeting packet in advance so that minutes and financial reports can be reviewed, questions can be submitted and RSVP's can be returned. In the event of an election, candidate bios and ballots will also be sent with the ballots to be returned via mail.



PO Box 67, Woonsocket, SD 57385

Office Hours: 8am-5pm Mon-Fri

www.santel.coop

Email: info@santel.coop 796-4411

Santel is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FiberMaxx Update: Santel's contractor, Ripley's Inc, has been working hard for us this summer. Ripley's is completely done in the towns of Artesian and Ethan, so our Santel staff is finishing our part before customers can be converted. Alpena Town is also complete and crews are working in the rural areas now. Wolsey Town is nearing completion, at which time the crews will move to the rural area. When Santel decided to condense a 5-yr project into a 4-yr project, we knew we'd be busy, but all is progressing nicely and we're proud of the hard work being done!

PVCC Channel Brings Activities to Socially Distanced Residents



During the Covid-19 pandemic, our at-risk elderly community members have been affected greatly. Santel responded to the needs of the residents at Prairie View Healthcare center in Woonsocket by adding an activities channel to their Santel Digital TV package.

Suzanne Hewitt, PVCC Activities Director, reached out to Santel for a solution and we were able to deliver a custom streaming channel just for their location.

Suzanne says “It has been phenomenal; the residents and the staff absolutely love it. Our residents can live stream bingo, participate in karaoke sing-alongs, enjoy birthday parties, trivia and even attend church services all through this new streaming channel. Laughter can be heard down the halls while we live stream jokes.” In the future, Suzanne has several new activities planned including a cooking show and exercise classes.

This channel has allowed each resident to keep their social distance while tuning into the Santel channel to participate in activities and keep in touch with other residents. It helps for them to not feel so isolated during this crisis.

Says Hewitt, “We are so glad that we reached out to Santel. Even the South Dakota Department of Health was amazed at what has been created for the residents at Prairie View Healthcare Center.”



Directory Additions

LETCHER

Dakota Pro Air 248-2314

Eickhoff, Bob 248-9308

MOUNT VERNON

Deinert, Jarod 236-5346

PARKSTON

Lynch, Nick 928-6425

Werning, Lois-Denise 928-3190

WOONSOCKET

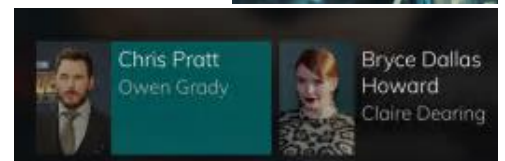
Aviles, Agpito 796-4720

Healing Spirit Psychiatry & Counseling
796-4700

Uecker, Jeremy 796-2468

Digital TV Enhancements

You can now search by movie titles, series or actors and the results will include posters and actor info.



A common concern in the past was that the weather forecast would be cut off if it was too long. With this latest upgrade, you will still see long forecasts end with “...” but now you can press **INFO** to display the hidden part of the forecast.

