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Technology 101

In this issue and future issues, NDTC will help unscramble some of those "technical terms" used in the communication industry that can leave you confused. Today the topic of discussion is television.

Let's talk TV

LCD vs Plasma

LCD (Liquid Crystal Display)

- Thin, flat panel
- Most popular technology
- Inferior contrast ratios
- Best for gaming
- Reduced glare in natural light

Plasma

- Slim profile
- Sizes larger than 55"
- Superior contrast ratios
- Less expensive than LCD
- Plasma glare can be an issue in natural light

Contrast ratios – a TV's ability to show the TV's blackest-black or whitest-white. This is most noticeable in a completely black room. The higher the contrast ratio is, the better the picture.

Whether it's an LCD or Plasma TV, the lighter and thinner models are going to cost more, while the thicker and heavier ones are less expensive. Typically Plasma is heavier and consumes more power than LCD.



Win \$25
Credit from NDTC!

Name: _____

Number: _____

Return this coupon to NDTC to be eligible for the next drawing. Congratulations to:

WAYNE MUSCHA
of Harvey

He was the winner of the credit from the last newsletter issue.

Harvey Update: Fiber-to-the-Premises

NDTC's Fiber-to-the-Premises project in Harvey is in full swing. Throughout the summer months Central Trenching Inc. (CTI), along with Finley Engineering, has been working in the city of Harvey placing fiber to all business and resident locations. Currently they are working in all areas of town, in various stages of construction, splicing, and clean-up.

Once completed, this project will allow NDTC to bring advanced technology to the city of Harvey, including television service and faster broadband speeds. Approximately 951 locations in Harvey will be converted, with a total of over 50 miles of fiber cables. Converting subscribers to fiber is slated to happen later this fall. Harvey residents can look forward to seeing an installer on their doorstep in the very near future.

The crews are taking extra pains to see that the underground contractors, engineering firms, and public utilities companies coordinate their efforts, to result in minimal interruptions for our customers.

Questions or concerns related to construction can be directed to Finley Engineering's local engineer by calling 324-4151.



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Notes from the General Manager

The telecommunication industry continues to change at a rapidly increasing pace. The telephone was the main communication tool of the past: We dialed and we talked. Today it is much more than a voice at the other end. It is also about data, sending text messages, downloading music, videos, and much more. We email, we surf, we chat, we blog. That's communication today.

With the communication needs of our customers in mind, NDTc continues to invest in our fiber optic network and build our infrastructure. Its inception has enabled us to offer increased internet speeds at the same affordable costs. The Fiber to the Home project, which also allows us to provide television service, began three years ago in Devils Lake and has since grown to the communities of Rugby and McVile, and will soon be completed in Harvey. Strategic planning and innovative equipment have also enabled NDTc to offer television service in Pekin and Tolna. The launch of NDTc television has been an invaluable addition to the services we offer. These changes have literally opened the door to unlimited possibilities in a competitive telecommunications market.

As more and more communication trends develop, NDTc will do its best to bring advanced technology to customers in the communities we serve. We are proud of the accomplishments that have been realized this past year, and we look forward to taking the communication needs of our rural area to new levels in the years ahead.



Dave Dircks
General Manager

NDTC Increases Scholarship Awards

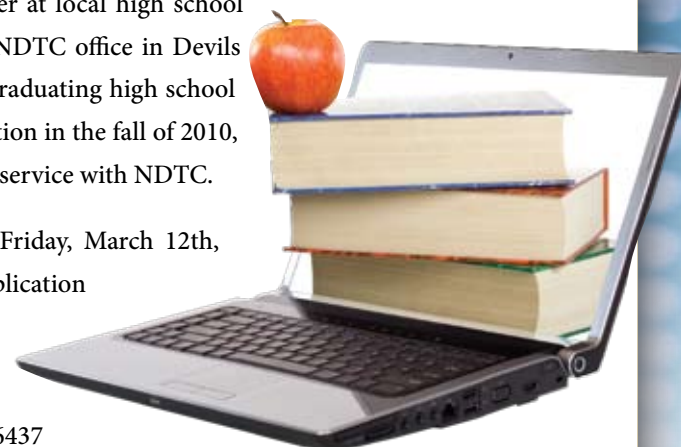
\$7,500 in College Scholarships Available

Over the past ten years NDTc has awarded a total of \$47,000 in college scholarships to eligible graduating high school seniors in our service areas. In 2010 we are pleased to announce that NDTc scholarship awards will increase from \$500 to \$750 each. We believe students are the future leaders of our community, and offering assistance to them for continuing their education is important to our local community.

Applications for the NDTc scholarship will be available in December at local high school counselor offices, on-line at www.gondtc.com, or directly from our NDTc office in Devils Lake. Eligibility requirements are that an applicant must be a 2010 graduating high school senior who will be attending an accredited institution of higher education in the fall of 2010, and the applicant's parent(s) or guardian(s) must have local telephone service with NDTc.

The application deadline for the 2010 NDTc Scholarships will be Friday, March 12th, 2010. We encourage all eligible high school seniors to start the application process early!

Questions regarding the scholarship program can be directed to Lynne Webster, NDTc Human Resource Administrator, at 662-6437 or 1-800-880-4213 x6437.



NDTC Awards \$5000 in Scholarships

NDTC is proud to announce the 2009 scholarship winners. Congratulations to all from everyone at NDTc!

NDTC recently distributed \$5,000 in scholarships to 10 area high school seniors. Each of these students received \$500 to use toward continuing their education through an accredited college, university, or vocational school. This marks the tenth year of the program, with NDTc awards totaling \$47,000 to date.



Amy Swenson
North Star High School
Daughter of Larry & Lisa Swenson



Andrew Backstrom
Maddock High School
Son of Dennis & Priscilla Backstrom



Denage Braaten
Leeds High School
Daughter of Joel & Carol Braaten



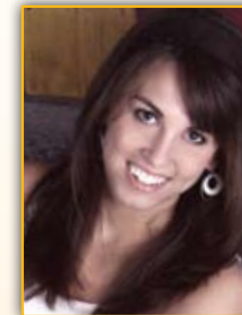
Jandi Schmitz
Harvey High School
Daughter of Doug & Judy Schmitz



Kristine Black
Rugby High School
Daughter of Wes & Karen Black



Natalie Bittner
Devils Lake High School
Daughter of Dean & Heidi Bittner



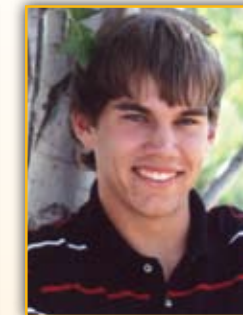
Samantha Hoffart
Harvey High School
Daughter of Colin & Marlene Hoffart



Stephanie Hatten
Devils Lake High School
Daughter of Bob & Sheri Hatten



Trenton Bruner
Drake High School
Son of Blaine & Kimberly Bruner



Tyler Mack
Drake High School
Son of Jeff & Marlene Mack

The winner of the Foundation for Rural Education and Development (FRED) Scholarship was Amy Swenson. She is the daughter of Larry and Lisa Swenson and graduated from North Star High School.



Amy Swenson

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) College Scholarship was awarded to Rachel Nerison. Rachel is the daughter of Justin and Tricia Nerison and Kim Nerison. She graduated from Dakota Prairie High School.



Rachel Nerison



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Office Hours
Mon. - Fri. 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
Repair Center also available
Saturday 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Payment Drop-Offs
NDTC office in Devils Lake
Ramsey Bank in Cando, Rugby, Esmond, Maddock & two Devils Lake locations

To report trouble after hours, call 662.1100 and follow prompts for repair.