

# Connections

NOVEMBER 2024

## Veterans Day is a Time for Thanks

The men and women who have served, or are currently serving, in our military deserve our wholehearted support. Please join Runestone Telecom in celebrating Veterans Day on November 11th by thanking the veterans you know for their service.

### Contact Us

100 Runestone Drive / PO Box 336  
Hoffman, MN 56339  
Phone: 320-986-2013

Office Hours: M-F 8 am to 4:30 pm

### Office Closures

Nov. 11th, 28th & 29th. On-Call technicians will be available should you experience trouble issues.

Email: [rtaoffice@runestone.net](mailto:rtaoffice@runestone.net)

24/7 HelpDesk for Internet Outages and Technical Support:  
320-986-6655  
[helpdesk@runestone.net](mailto:helpdesk@runestone.net)

Visit Us: [www.runestone.net](http://www.runestone.net)

Find Us:   

### Review Us on Google

Please let others know about your experience as a Runestone Telecom customer. Scan this code and leave a review on Google. Thanks!



# OUR INTERNET HANDLES WHATEVER YOU COOK UP

## Speed and Reliability are the Key Ingredients

As the family chef, you need more than a good stove and the right pots and pans. You also need a strong Internet connection to watch cooking videos, search for recipes, order groceries, and more.

Here's some food for thought: If you experience lagging, pausing, or that dreaded spinning gear, your Internet speed isn't keeping up with the work it's given. It's time for a faster Internet plan, so you can enjoy smooth streaming and uninterrupted video calls on all your devices, whether in the kitchen or any other room. Check out Runestone Telecom's impressive menu of speed options now.

## CALL 320-986-2013 TO DOUBLE YOUR SPEED FOR AS LITTLE AS \$3 A MONTH!

We're happy to help you determine the best speed for your needs.

## Happy Thanksgiving

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday as you celebrate with your loved ones. Our office will be closed November 28th & 29th so we may celebrate with our families. Trouble calls will be handled by our on-call technicians.



Speed availability varies depending on location. Contact us for details.

## Here to Help Our Rural Communities

Runestone Telecom understands how important it is for the residents of our rural communities to have access to dependable, high-speed Internet service. We live and work in those same communities, and we treat our customers as we wish to be treated. When you need help with Internet, you aren't calling someone in another state—you're calling your neighbor, Runestone Telecom. As a co-op, we're committed to giving back to our customers and our communities.

We know you're busy with life, and you don't want to be bothered with a complicated application process or being stuck in a contract. You need your service quickly, and you don't want to have to think about it. Runestone Telecom is here for you with super-fast and reliable Internet service that connects you to life's necessities.

## New Survivor Benefit of the Lifeline Program

Survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and related crimes can now get discounted phone, Internet, or bundled services through the FCC's Lifeline program, due to the implementation of a key provision of the Safe Connections Act (SCA). At the request of a survivor, phone companies must separate phone lines linked to family plans where the abuser is on the account.

**For more information on the Survivor Benefit for Lifeline, visit [www.lifelinesupport.org/survivor-benefit](http://www.lifelinesupport.org/survivor-benefit).**



Samantha Ernst, Grants Management Specialist, and Chris Veldhouse, Outside Plant Manager.

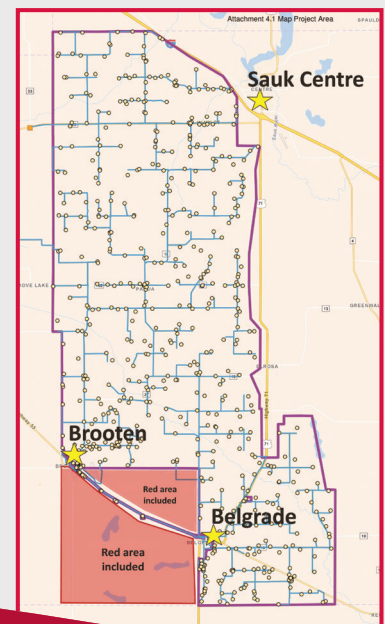
## Fiber to the Home Projects

Runestone Telecom had the opportunity to meet with Samantha Ernst from the Minnesota Office of Broadband Development at our office in Hoffman, MN to discuss progress on the current Fiber to the Home projects.

We're currently working in two grant project areas—in the Herman telephone exchange in Grant County and portions of western Stearns County—which will bring access to affordable and reliable Internet service to homes and businesses. Ernst also visited sites within the Herman-Dumont grant project area, including our new Central Office located in Herman, MN. Construction on these projects was made possible through grant funds received through the Minnesota Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program, partnerships with Stearns County and townships within the Stearns County project area, along with matching funds from Runestone Telecom Association.

## Fiber Optic Internet Coming to Crow Lake Township

We're pleased to announce that Runestone Telecom was awarded a Border to Border Broadband Grant to bring high-speed fiber internet to residents and businesses in Crow Lake Township in Stearns County, MN. This two-year project will begin in the spring, and property owners within the project area will receive letters with more information on what to expect and how to participate in the project. We look forward to serving you!



## Vehicles for Sale on Bid

These trucks are for sale by sealed bid and are parked at Runestone Telecom, 100 Runestone Drive in Hoffman, MN. All bids must be received by November 18th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. The Runestone Telecom Board of Directors reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.



### 2018 Silverado 2500 4WD LT Crew Cab with Topper

- 135,156 Miles on the Odometer
- Vortec 6.0L V8, 6-Speed HD Automatic Transmission
- Stabilitrak - Stability Control with Trailer Sway Control and Hill Start Assist
- Transfer Case, Electronic
- Remote Start, Keyless Entry
- Driver Info - Color Rear-Vision Camera
- Chevrolet MyLink Audio System with 8" Diagonal Color Touch
- USB Ports, Wireless Charging, Bluetooth, Power Outlet
- Power Windows, Driver Express, Power Locks, Air Conditioning
- Airbags: Driver and Right Front Passenger - Front/Side Impact
- Outboard Front and Rear Seat - Side Head Curtain
- Trailing Equipment Package, Rear Park Assist
- Trailer Brake Controller
- Z71 Off-Road Package
- EZ Lift-and-Lower Tailgate
- Remote Locking Tailgate



### 2015 Silverado 2500 4WD LT Crew Cab

- 110,737 Miles on the Odometer
- Vortec 6.0L V8, 6-Speed HD Automatic Transmission
- Stabilitrak - Stability Control with Trailer Sway Control and Hill Start Assist
- Transfer Case, Electronic
- Remote Start, Keyless Entry
- Driver Info - Color Display Rear-Vision Camera
- Chevrolet MyLink Audio System with 8" Diagonal Color Touch
- USB Ports, Bluetooth, Power Outlet
- Power Windows, Driver Express, Power Locks, Air Conditioning
- Airbags: Driver and Right Front Passenger - Front/Side Impact
- Outboard Front and Rear Seat - Side Head Curtain
- Trailing Equipment Package, Rear Park Assist
- Trailer Brake Controller
- Z71 Off-Road Package
- EZ Lift-and-Lower Tailgate
- Remote Locking Tailgate

## Your Router Should Be in the Heart of Your Home

Your home's WiFi will work best if you place your router in a central location—not hidden away in the corner of the basement. Routers send the signal out in all directions, so if it's left in a corner, a significant percentage of your wireless coverage is being sent outside.

To optimize the WiFi signal and keep devices as close to the router as possible, put it in the heart of your home, which means a central spot (not near exterior walls) on the first floor if you have two stories plus a basement.

It's best to mount your router as high as possible to maximize coverage. Also keep it at least three feet from any appliance that sends wireless signals in the same 2.4 GHz frequency range, such as microwave ovens and baby monitors, to avoid WiFi interference.

**Want help setting up your router and managing your home's WiFi network? Call 320-986-2013 and ask about our Managed WiFi service.**



## New Members

### Barrett

Fagre, Dale.....320-528-2272

### Cyrus

McNeill, Beverly.....320-795-2465

### Herman

Grant County

Highway Dept. ....320-677-2347

### Hoffman

Dooley's Petroleum.....320-986-2079

Please note mailing address:

PO Box 34, Hoffman 56339

### Lowry

Quinco Press.....320-283-5151

### Wheaton

Boothby, Gloria E.....320-563-4775

City of Wheaton–Falk

Lodge.....320-563-8174

Fuzzy Cheeks Boutique...320-563-8468

## Channel Update

Bally Sports has rebranded as FanDuel Sports Network effective October 21st, 2024.



## Capital Credit Checks

Capital credit checks will be mailed out November 15th, refunding approximately \$1,660,000 to members. We'll be refunding the remaining portion of 2005 and 20% of 2023. Please make sure we have your current mailing address, especially if you use eBill and paperless billing.

## Thank You to Arvig's BBQ Crew

In September, Arvig's BBQ crew treated us to an incredible feast, and we want to thank them again. From the moment we drove into the parking lot that morning, we knew we were in for a treat! As always, these grill masters truly spoiled us with delicious food, and it was much appreciated.



## Focus on Our Photo Contest

**You could win a \$50 account credit!** Simply submit photos showing how you use your Internet connection in your home or business along with a sentence or two about your online experience and why you love Runestone Telecom. All entries will be entered into a drawing for the \$50 account credit.

### Contest Rules:

- Photos should be clear and of good quality.
- Contest open to Runestone Telecom customers only.
- Each household may submit up to five photographs.
- Photos should be digital, at least 300 dpi, preferably in jpg format. They should not be altered or enhanced and should be taken within the Runestone Telecom territory.
- Written permission from people in photos is required, since photos may be published by Runestone Telecom in print or digital form. Children under 18 years must have permission from parent or guardian.
- No printed photos will be accepted.
- All entries will become the property of Runestone Telecom.
- Submission implies consent to use photos on social media or any other marketing/advertising campaign.



Submit your photos via [feedback@runestone.net](mailto:feedback@runestone.net) or direct message us on Facebook or Instagram. Deadline for entries is Monday, December 2nd, 2024.

## Help Us Stop Hunger in Our Community

In October and November, we're collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations at our Hoffman office to give to our local food pantry. Please designate checks to Grant County Food Shelf and drop off in our office or our after-hours dropbox. Together we can make a difference!