NEW Local Content Available NOW on Channel #244!

Midstate Communications is excited to once again partner with our local schools to feature local content and events on Midstate Digital channel 244. As part of our commitment to our local communities, we will be airing local sporting events, concerts, plays, and events relevant to our local customers. Currently we are working with the Platte/Geddes, Kimball/White Lake and Chamberlain School Districts to broadcast events from these schools and communities. It is our hope to continue to broaden our offering to provide local content from all the corners of our service areas.

Celebrate 60 Years of Service!

Midstate Communications is celebrating our 60th year of service to our member owners on Thursday, October 4, 2012 at the Kimball High School Auditorium. We are asking all of our member owners to help us celebrate this very special occasion.

We are pleased to announce Comedian/Ventriloquist Gary Wick as our entertainment. Gary has performed around the world — from Europe to Asia and across the USA — for twenty years. He has performed for hundreds of large and small corporations, national conventions, cruise ships, fairs and festivals, theme parks, colleges and comedy clubs. He has been a featured act with national comedians and entertainers such as Marie Osmond, Gary Lewis & The Playboys, REO Speedwagon, Kenny Chesney, Jeff Carson and many, many others. He and his characters have appeared on numerous TV and radio commercials. His Clarence Duck and Gramps will have you in stitches with fast-paced one liners, humorous stories and original comedy routines. All clean material!

Live USD & SDSU Games on Midstate Digital 244!

If you love watching Coyote or Jackrabbit sports you can now watch them from the comfort of your home, LIVE, on Midstate Digital Cable channel 244. Midstate has recently signed a new agreement with Midco SportsNet to carry the following USD and SDSU sports programs on our Digital Cable Package. Watch for more schedule information on our website and Facebook page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Matchup</th>
<th>Sport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9-15</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>University of California-Davis vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-21</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Indiana Purdue-Fort Wayne vs. USD</td>
<td>Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-29</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Illinois State University vs. USD</td>
<td>Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-6</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Western Illinois University vs. USD</td>
<td>Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>6 PM</td>
<td>North Dakota State University vs. USD</td>
<td>Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-27</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Youngstown State University vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-30</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Iowa State University vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-17</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>USD vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Creighton University vs. USD</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-29</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Western Illinois University vs. USD</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-19</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Moorhead State University vs. USD</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-30</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>North Dakota State University vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>North Dakota State University vs. USD</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>4 PM</td>
<td>SDSU vs. USD</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-24</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>University of Nebraska-Omaha vs. USD</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-26</td>
<td>4 PM</td>
<td>North Dakota State University vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-31</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>USD vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-2</td>
<td>4 PM</td>
<td>University of Missouri-Kansas City vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-9</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Oakland University vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-14</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Indiana University-Indianapolis vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-16</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Western Illinois University vs. SDSU</td>
<td>Basketball  (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-23</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Western Illinois University vs. USD</td>
<td>Basketball  (W)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meeting Agenda:

Meeting Age nda: 6-7 pm ....... Customer Appreciation Meal served by Platte Food Center
7 pm . . . . . Business Meeting 7:45 pm . . . . . Entertainment Prize Drawings
Door prizes will be drawn at the conclusion of the business meeting. You must be present to be eligible for prize drawings and grand prize.

Important Dates to Remember...

Mark the following dates, regarding our billing schedule, on your calendar. Bills are mailed the last business day of each month, and payment is due on the 20th of the month. Paying on time saves frustrating calls and unwanted late fees.

** Last Business Day of Each Month
Bills mailed out from Midstate’s office
** 5th of Each Month
Discount of all accounts with a 30 day balance.
** 20th of Each Month
Bills are due in Midstate office 12:00 p.m.
** 20th of Each Month
Overdue notices mailed out and late fees will be applied to all delinquent accounts.

Important Dates to Remember...

Trivia~Trivia~Trivia
What are the 4 main characters’ names on “The Golden Girls?” (You can watch “The Golden Girls” on WE TV which is Digital Channel 168!)

*Deadline to enter is the 15th of the Month. All correct entries will be entered into a drawing for $10.00. Submit your answers by: 1) Writing your answer on a piece of paper with your name, address and telephone number, and mailing to our Midstate office at PO Box 48, Kimball SD 57355 or 2) Go online to our website at www.midstatesd.net and click on the Trivia link in the bottom left corner and submit your answer online following the online instructions. Trivia submissions will not be taken by telephone.

And the Winner is...
Congratulations to Eileen Cards! She knew the name of the lead role in the TV Series “Monk” is played by Tony Shalhoub!

Computer Scams...

Attorney General Marty Jackley says another computer scam has surfaced in South Dakota. Jackley says legitimate computer repair businesses reported the scam after being asked to fix personal computers with security problems. When the repair businesses ask how the problems occurred, computer owners say the trouble developed after they received a telephone call from someone posing as a representative of a well-known computer company.

The attorney general says the fake security experts ask to gain remote access to people’s computers to prevent security threats. He says the bogus experts then ask for personal identifying information or download malware into those computers. Jackley says people should be wary of such calls and remember never to give personal identifying information to an unsolicited caller.

Follow us on Facebook... www.facebook.com/ midstatecommunications

In October 2012 Midstate signed a new agreement with Midco SportsNet to carry the following USD & SDSU games on Midstate Digital channel 244. As part of our commitment to our local communities, we will be airing local sporting events, concerts, plays, and events relevant to our local customers. Currently we are working with the Platte/Geddes, Kimball/White Lake and Chamberlain School Districts to broadcast events from these schools and communities. It is our hope to continue to broaden our offering to provide local content from all the corners of our service areas.

Visit our website and Facebook page.

October 2012

Midstate
COMMUNICATIONS

Volume 19 • Issue 10

MESSENGER

120 E. First, P.O. Box 48, Kimball, SD 57355 • (605) 778-6221 • Fax: (605) 778-8080

MESSENGER
Three Brian Meyer Scholarships Available for 2013 Spring Semester

The South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) is now accepting applications for the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship. Three scholarships, in the amounts of $1,500, $1,000 and $500, will be awarded for the 2013 spring semester.

The scholarships are available to applicants who have completed at least two semesters of course work at an accredited post-secondary school in South Dakota and reside in an SDTA member company service area. The scholarships can be used at any post-secondary educational institution in South Dakota including public and private universities as well as technical schools.

Applicants must complete an application, write a short outline of their career plans following completion of their post-secondary education, and submit a brief essay on the future of small town South Dakota and what can be done to enhance the quality of life in rural areas through the use of technology. Also required are a copy of the applicant’s most recent transcript and at least two letters of recommendation. The deadline to submit an application for the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship is October 19, 2012.

For more information on the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship, contact any post-secondary institution financial aid office, the SDTA at 605-224-7629 or ginig@sdtaonline.com. The application is also available online at www.sdtaonline.com.

SDTA membership is composed of the state’s member-owned cooperatives, privately-owned, municipal and tribal telecommunications companies which collectively serve almost 80% of the state. Members of the South Dakota Telecommunications Association are: Alliance Communications (Garretson); Beresford Municipal Telephone; Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority (Eagle Butte); Faith Municipal Telephone; Fort Randall Telephone (Wagner); Golden West Telecommunications Companies (Wall); Interstate Telecommunications (Clear Lake); James Valley Telecommunications (Groton); Kennebec Telephone Company; Long Lines (Jefferson); Midstate Communications (Kimball); RC Communications and Roberts County Telephone Coop (New Effington); Knolloy Community Telephone (Irene); Santel Communications (Woonsocket); Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone; Swiftel Communications (Brookings Municipal); TrioTel Communications (Salem); Valley Telecommunications (Herreid); Venture Communications (Higmore); West River Cooperative Telephone (Bison); West River Telecom Cooperative (Hazen, ND); Western Telephone (Faulkton).

Computer Help in Your Home

Do you wish someone was sitting beside you when you work on the computer to help you thru that pop-up that just showed up on your computer screen? Did you click on something on your computer screen and now things look differently? Do you wonder if your computer is protected from viruses or if your anti-virus is up-to-date? The Midstate IT team can help you with all of the above. We have the ability to connect remotely to your computer, with your assistance, and we can help you through your computer questions. You will think you have your own computer tech right in your own home sitting next to you! Here are some comments we have received from customers that have received assistance from our IT Team:

• “Very satisfied with all the excellent professional help that I received today. Mike was very patient with me in answering my questions, as I’m just ‘so-so’ in computer knowledge. Saved me from having my computer completely crash.”
• “Lori is great to work with. I’ve appreciated her help over the years. I’m not very techy and she gets me through. Thanks!”
• “Thank you for making this so easy”
• “Thank you so much for your help—I do appreciate Midstate and glad to have it locally.”

You can have your own IT department too. Give Midstate a call today at 605-778-8028 with any computer concerns you have. Whether you purchased the computer thru us or elsewhere, we are here to help you. Give us a call today!

Connecting All of Us

Relay South Dakota provides telephone accessibility to people who are deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-disabled. Relay South Dakota is available 24-hours a day, 365 days a year, with no restrictions on the length or number of calls placed. Relay South Dakota provides state-of-the-art technology; a full range of features and highly trained, professional Communication Assistants (CAs) to ensure that users are able to communicate easily and effectively—every time they place a relay call. All calls are strictly confidential and no records of any conversations are maintained. Use Relay South Dakota when you need to be heard and understood on the phone! www.relaysd.com.

Four main types of equipment provide the relay services:

• Teletypewriter (TTY) phones all communications by typing text messages. TTY is required at both ends of a conversation to communicate.
• Amplified phones are designed for those with hearing issues and the powerful speakers enable the listener to hear easier.
• captioned phones allow the user to listen and read captions from the speaker on the other end. When dialing the phone it automatically connects to a FREE captioning service as it dials out.
• Accessories include headsets, amplified phone ring signalers and ringers.

To apply for this equipment or to review additional options go to www.relaysd.com/TEDP. The Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (TEDP) is managed by South Dakota Department of Human Services with services provided by Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD). In South Dakota, TEDP is funded through a surcharge of 15 cents per phone line. Qualifying South Dakotans who have hearing loss or are speech-disabled are provided these services at no charge.

Mobile Broadband Carries a Hefty Fee and Inconsistent Speeds...

If you’re looking for mobility with your internet service, use caution before signing up for a mobile broadband plan through cell phone companies.

Mobile Internet speeds are slower than Internet over fiber optics and most times DSL. Your speed will vary dramatically with a cellular provider depending on the number of customers using the wireless service. While the advertised mobile speeds claim to be 4 Mbps to 12 Mbps, actual speed tests show results closer to the lower end of that range.

Plus, mobile Internet prices are notably higher, and there are monthly user caps. Nearly everything you do online, from sending a text-only emails to video chatting, consumes bandwidth. You don’t have to do much before your wireless broadband bill skyrockets. If you stream only five hours of high-definition video from Netflix, for example, you will consume about 10 GB, which would cost you around $80/month.

By comparison, Midstate residential customers can receive UNLIMITED Internet usage with up to 10 Mbps download speed for only $34.95/month.

If you want the freedom to use your Internet service throughout your home, simply hook up a wireless router to your network. Midstate offers wireless routers for purchase. Call Midstate today for more information on wireless routers or to sign up for Midstate Quick Connect Internet.

Midstate Communications’ Offices will be Closed on Monday October 8th in observance of Columbus Day.

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