

Photo by Jerry Walter



RINGER

DECEMBER 2022



*Merry Christmas And
Happy New Year!*

NOTE: NCC will be closed on Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd so that our employees may spend time with their families over the holidays. After-hours support is available 24/7 by calling our office number 568-3331 and NCC employees are on call if needed.

ProtectIQ Features

(GIGASPIRE BLAST SYSTEM REQUIRED)

What is ProtectIQ?

A network-level security service that protects ALL devices connected to your Wi-Fi. **If it's connected, it's protected!**

How does ProtectIQ keep my home network safe?

- Proactively monitors your home's incoming traffic and automatically blocks anything suspicious.
- Blocks attempted visits to known harmful websites, presenting users with a browser message indicating that the website is not available.
- Provides an active security monitoring service that uses a large and constantly growing database of threats (database is updated weekly).
- Uses intrusion prevention settings (IPS) to monitor, notify, and prevent activity such as hackers trying to gain access to the local video content (Wi-Fi connected doorbell or baby monitor), virtual meetings, and other streams.
- Actively terminates data transfers before a malicious payload is delivered to any vulnerable network device.
- Notifies users whenever a security issue is triggered, with details about the device that was attacked, where the attack came from, and when the attack occurred.

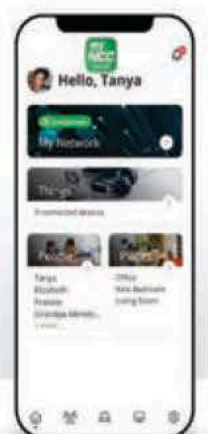
Protect IQ

Smart devices need smart security!

ProtectIQ protects all of your WiFi connected devices from harmful or suspicious network activity. If it's connected, it's protected. PLUS, Protect IQ is FREE when you download the easy-to-use myNCC Connect mobile app. Go to www.nccray.com/myncc-connect to download the FREE myNCC Connect mobile app, and for more information about Protect IQ. Add ProtectIQ on to the app by calling us at 701-568-3331.



GET PROTECTIQ FREE FOR SIX MONTHS!



NCC to Purchase Portal Service Area from RTC Networks

NCC is pleased to announce that it will be purchasing the Portal Telephone Exchange from RTC Networks. The agreement has been approved by the Board of Directors of both cooperatives. The transaction is expected to be completed by the end of 2022, pending approval from the Federal Communication Commission (FCC).

“We are excited for the opportunity to serve the Portal Exchange. NCC and RTC Networks have a strong business relationship, and we are working together on a plan to transition the Portal customers to the NCC network. We will be contacting Portal customers before the end of the year to share information on the conversion and to answer any questions,” said Jeremy Becker, NCC's General Mgr./CEO.

Shane Hart, RTC Networks' General Manager/CEO stated, “RTC Networks has only operated the Portal Exchange for a few months after we acquired it through our purchase of Midstate Telephone, LLC. We feel it is in the best interest of the Portal Exchange members to be served

by a provider that has technicians living near them, and NCC is the obvious choice as they already serve that area of North Dakota. RTC Networks has enjoyed a terrific working relationship with NCC, for many years, and we are confident that they will provide the Portal Community with the great service experience that its telephone and broadband Internet customers expect.”

RTC Networks is a cooperative which was formed by its member owners in 1951. Headquartered in Parshall, RTC Networks also has customer offices in New Town, Stanley, and Watford City. RTC Networks provides fiber-based internet, phone, video, business phone systems and surveillance cameras throughout its service area in west-central North Dakota, including the communities of: Garrison, Max, Kenmare, New Town, Beach, Medora, Stanley, Watford City and Alexander. Visit RTC.coop/about for more information.



2023 NCC Calendar



Photo by Joanne Ellis

Thank you to all who participated in our Calendar Photo Contest. We received many, many beautiful photos. All photos that were submitted to the contest were previously posted on the NCC Facebook page. Members can pick up a free calendar or large wall calendar at the NCC office in Ray.

Congratulations to the winners whose photos are featured in the new NCC Calendar. All winners will be mailed two calendars.



FOUNDATION FOR
RURAL SERVICE

FRS Grant Winner

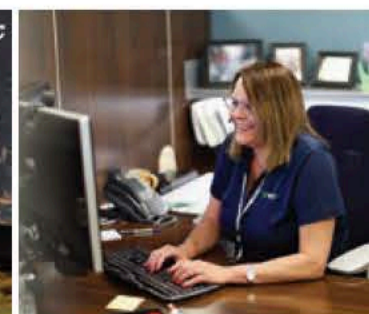
– NCC Celebrates with Ray High School –

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), the philanthropic arm of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association, has announced the recipients of 31 grants totaling over \$142,000 to support projects in communities served by NTCA members.

NCC is pleased to announce Ray High School as one of these grant recipients. Ray High School received \$1900 to begin a program that will allow students to gain the credentials needed to become an EMT. According to Eric Viall, instructor at Ray High School, ‘The goal is to help recruit personnel into rural EMS volunteer organizations.’ ‘As a member owned cooperative, NCC is committed to supporting our communities, and we are happy to support worthwhile projects such as this that will have an impact to the students of Ray Public School and the Ray area emergency services,’ stated Jeremy Becker, NCC GM/CEO.

“The community grant program is particularly exciting because FRS multiplies the support NTCA members are already providing in their communities resulting in a larger impact for local schools and nonprofit organizations,” said Pam Becker, Executive Director of FRS. She continued, “In addition to contributions from this year’s 24 partnering NTCA companies, we are also grateful for extra support from Farm Credit East, CoBank and its funding of the Virtual Living Room program, Womble Bond Dickinson, and the Carri Bennet Rural Economic Development Grant Fund.”

 **NCC**
...AT WORK...



NCC has Unclaimed Retired Capital Credits for individuals and businesses. These cooperative members may have moved out of the area without leaving a forwarding address or they may no longer be living. Go to www.nccray.com/capital-credits for an updated list. If you are one of these former cooperative members (or the administrator of their estate), or know of anyone on the list, please have them call NCC at 701.568-3331 or email ncc@nccray.com. Please keep your mailing address current with us so we are able to mail you any future general capital credit retirements.

AABERG PAUL S	CRAYS PERRY	GOULET JOSEPH M & LINDA	KINGSTAD LORENS	NELSON NORAL	SCHUMACHER JOAN L
ADAMS JUSTIN	CROSSEYED BUCK	GRANT JULIUS	KINGSTON ERIC	NELSON OPAL	SECURITY DIVISION
ADCOR DRILLING INC	CZAP DAVE & NYLA K	GRAUPE ELEANOR	KJELSHUS ROBERT	NESS ORVILLE	SELZLER TERRY & SHARI
AGNES CHASE	CZECH MICHAEL	GRAVES DON & LINDA	KLASSEN KEVIN	NESSON GATHERING	SHEEHAN MICHAEL & KAYLEE
ALDERTON JARED	DAG CONSULTING LTD	GREGOR DAVID	KNAPP DONALD	NEWMAN GLORIA	SHELDON ARDITH
AMBRIZ FELIPE	DAHL ARNE & ANNE	GRENORA FOOD MKT	KNELS LARRY & DIANE	NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES	SHINAGLE RICHARD
AMUNDSON BERTHA & GARY	DAHL BOB	GRENORA MEAT LOCKER	KNIGHT HEATHER	NILSEN WANDA JEAN	SHORT STEVEN
ANDERSEN RICHARD LEE	DAHL JOHN	GROSS SHAUN & SHANTEL	KNUDSON DOROTHY J	NJOS (THIEL) BETTY	SILLJER T
ANDERSON BOBBY	DAHL MARION	GROVE MARK & JACQUELINE	KOCH ELSIE	NOLTE GERALD	SIMPSON FLORENCE
ANDERSON CHESTER J &	DAKOTA BASIN	GRUBB CLARA	KOCH PIPELINE CO LP	NORDMAN ARNOLD MRS	SKAARE LYLE
ANDERSON KENNETH	DAKOTA TELECOMM	GULLICKSON JERREL JR	KRAFT DAVID & LYLE	NORTHSIDE II CAFE	SKABO MATT
ANDERSON MICHAEL	DANIELSEN PETER G	GWEN'S SEWING	KRAFT MIKE	NORTHWEST CON	SKY BLUE ENTERPRISES
APACHE CANADA LTD	DANIELSON CARL W	HAAVIG CYNTHIA L	KRUEGER MYRON	NW SOLID WASTE COUNCIL	SLAAEN ROBERT
ARCHER IKE	DAN'S PRODUCTION	HAGEN JAMES & KIM	KVANDE AUDREY	NYREEN MARIA	SLETTE THORFIN & ROSE
ARCHER SCOTT	DAUENHAUER HENRY	HAIDER NORMA	KYLLONEN THOMAS & AUDREY	OAS LAWRENCE	SLETVOLD TODD
ARNSTAD JUSTIN & LISA	DAVIS BILL & SUSAN	HAIR FASHIONS	LADUCER JEFF	ODOM ZACHARY	SMITH ALBERT
ASLESEN ASHLEY	DAVIS CALVIN	HAKIM SHIRIN	LAMARR BEA L	OIEN JOHN MRS	SMITH FLORENCE
AT&T	DAVIS VERN	HALLA TRUCKIN & HOTSHOT SRVC	LANG DERYCK	OILIND SAFETY ENGR	SMITH JOSH
AXELSON INC	DE PAZ YOLANDA	HAMILTON SHARI	LANGBERG CODY	OLSON ARNOLD & ALDA	SMITH TERRY & CINDIE
BACKEN RUEBEN	DEMOE DEAN	HANSEN DON & BETTY	LARSON CLIFF	OLSON CAROLE	SNELL HENRY
BAETH KIRK & LISA	DENTEN BRADLEY	HANSEN FRED E	LARSON LEONA	OLSON DAWN	SOGARD OLIVER & MAVIS
BAIRD LOWELL	DICKSON SCOTT & ALYSON	HANSEN IRENE	LARSON LESTER & PAT	ORMISTON NORMAN	SONDAG MARK & JODY
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BAKER DAVID	DILWORTH BRIAN	HANSON DEVONNE	LEAVITT ROBERT & DONNA JO	ORTIZ JOSE	SOWITCH LORENZ (MUTTS)
BAKER ED	DILWORTH CYNTHIA	HANSON LISA	LEE ARTHUR S	ORTIZ NADIA	SPANN WILLIAM
BAKKEN JYL	DIVIDE ABSTRACT CO	HANSON OLGA	LEE JUNE	ORYX ENERGY	SPARKS JOHN R
BALD EAGLE CONSTRUCTION	DOBSON DANNY	HAPIP GEORGE OR KEITH	LEE RICHARD C	ORYX ENERGY COMPANY	SQUIRES KENNY
BARNETT JIM	DOCKERY HEAVEN	HARGOVE MARK	LEMIRE DAVID	OWAN ABE	STALNAKER CHARLES
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BEAR PAW ENERGY	DODGE VERNON	HARSHBARGER VINCE	LERBAKKEN SYLVIA	PAPINEAU DALE & LORIE	STARR WAYLAN & RANETTA
BEIGHLEY NORMAN REV	DOFNER DENNIS	HARTSOCH VERLAND	LEUPP HANNAH	PARKER SHATIA	STENBAK HOWARD
BELOVED INC	DONAUER JAMES	HELLERVIK OILFIELD	LOCKEN JEREMY C	PARKS GARRICK & HEATHER	STENSOS JIM
BENSON J D	DOUBLE M ELECTRIC (OPC)	TECHNOLOGIE	LONEY ROLAND	PARSHLEY WALT & JUDY	STEWART BRETT
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BERG MYRNA	DULLUM RANDY & TARA	HEMSTREET DENNIS	LONG ELMER	PAVEK HARVEY & ARDIS	STEWART RODNEY
BERGET M MARIE	DUME GABRIEL	HENDERSON C A	LORENZEN LAWRENCE	PAYNE MEGHAN	STIEHL HIENEI
BERTRAND ADAM	DUNCAN MICHAEL	HENDERSON RICHARD &	LUCY KOLLEEN	PEDERSEN HARVEY H	STOCKSLAGER TRISTA
BESSINGPAS MIKE	DUNCKLEY JAMIE	HERNANDEZ ISRAEL	LUCY KOLLEEN	PEDERSON KAREN	STONE RICHARD H
BITZ CAMERON	DUNN WILLIAM & ERICA	HERREID ARVIE A	LUND BENNIE & ANN	PETERSON DEPT STORE	STROMGEN CARL
BJERGAARD FLOYD	DVORAK PHIL	HERRERA CARLOS	LUTTRELL KATLYN	PETERSON ELTON	SUNDIN LEONORA
BLACK DEBORAH	EAKER CHAD	HERSETH DOUG	LYLES STANLEY	PETERSON GAIL	SWANSON VAUGHN
BLACKFORD ROBERT	EARSLEY MONROE	HEUER EMMA	MAGEDANZ HAROLD	PFEIFER ROBERT	SWENSON CONNIE
BLEECKER RAYMOND	EBERLINE BOB	HEXOM EUGENE	MAKOUTZ R	PIPER STACEY	SWENSON LAURIE
BLY KATHY	ECKERT CRYSTAL	HEXOM STEVE	MALLOY THOMAS	PLACID OIL CO	TATE THOMAS
BLYTHE BRENDA	EDGERLY CHAD	HILL CAROL	MANEGOLD CHERYL	POE EURETTA	TERNQUIST MARY M
BNSF RAILWAY-TELECOM	EDGERY CHAD	HILL FRED	MARCHANT RICHARD	POPPLER FRED & AGNES	THE OFFICE BAR
BOBO CHRISTY	EDWARDS JANE	HOFF GREG & MELISSA	MARDEN ADAM & CASSANDRA	PORTAL SERVICE CO	THIELEN WARD
BOE CONNIE	EGGART JARED	HOLLENBECK THANE & SARA	MARDEN TAMMY	PRAIRIE AG SALES SRVC INC	THOMPSON JOSHUA
BOOKOUT SHANE	EICHMANN GEORGIA	HOLTEN KEVIN	MARMON RAMONA (STORDALEN)	PRICE CHARLES	THOMPSON KYLE
BRANESKY BAILEY	EKSTROM MABEL	HOME HEALTH CARE	MARTENS ROBERT H	PRICE RAY & DARLENE	THOMPSON MARTIN
BRATLIEN HELEN	ENGET DORA A	HORNER PATRICK & GLENNA	MARTIN ARTHUR MRS	PRIMARY FUELS	THOMPSON ROBERT E
BRATRSOVSKY JOHN	ENGET ORRIS	HOROB CLENTON (CHIP)	MARTINSON LEONARD & CONNIE	PROSSER MAXINE	TIMM ROY & LUCILLE
BREWER BILL	ENSIGN OIL & GAS INC	HUBER ROGER	MATTHEW LEVI	PRUETT DILLAN	TIMS JEFFERY & ROSA
BROWN DOUG & TAMMY	ERHARDT CLARENCE	HUGHES JOE & SHEILA	MCCLOUD BETTY	PYATT MARK	TODD CHARLES
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BRUNS ELECTRIC	ERICKSON TAMARA	HURTADO JUAN	MCGILLIS LAURA	QUALITY OILFIELD SERVICES	TRACEY JAMES
BRYAN REGINA	EVA'S	HUSHKA KALE	MCKINNEY COLE	QUALLEY LYLE & PAT	TRAGO JOHN
BUCHHOLZ, DAVID	EWALD CLANCY	HYSJULIEN DOUG & LAURIE	MCKITTRICK TYLER	QUANBECK ORLIN E	TROTTIER NEIL
BUCKLAND JEREMY	FALCON SUSAN	IMSLAND DUANE	MEDICINE LODGE RANCH	QUARNE MARY LOU	TROUTMAN TIMOTHY & MELANIE
BURCHILL CARL	FARMERS EQUITY ELEV	IMSLAND ELMER	MEHUS CLIFFORD	QUARNE RANDY	TRUEAX JOHN & TERESA
BURKE ABSTRACT CO	FASSBENDER DONALD	INRCH	MEJIA DANIEL	R & M PUMPJACK SERVICE	TURCOTT CASSIUS A
BURROUGHS SHELLY	FENSTER MILTON	IOWA CREDIT UNION	MELBY BARBARA	R J L OIL & GAS LTD	UMC PETROLEUM
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BUXTON ROBERT	FERRELL TRANSPORT	JAKSCHT JAMES	MENDENHALL KIRK	RAAD MARION	UNITED PARCEL SERV
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CAPWELL HEATHER	FORTHUN DARRELL	JENSEN CASEY	MILLER RANDY	REED BRIAN	USDA NATIONAL FINANCE CTR
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CARRIER JOSEPH E	FRANTZICK DUANE	JOHNSON ANSELM	MISCHKE HARRY	RINDAHL EDWIN	VANBERKOM DONNA
CARTER JOHN & NORMA	FRAZIER RICHARD & CAROL	JOHNSON BRODY	MITCHELL CODY	RINGSAKER CHRISTINE	VANBERKOM PATRICIA L
CEYNAR RICHARD & LINDSEY	FREBORG MIKE & CINDY	JOHNSON DOUGLAS & LIBBY S	MOBERG BERNARD	RIVER CITY DEVELOPMENT	VAUGHT JOHN & KERI
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CHRISTIANSEN TAM M	FUGLESTAD EDEL	JOHNSON HILDAGARDE	MONSON WILLIAM	RUBY MARISSA	VOLZ ELIZABETH
CHRISTOPHERSON PRESTON	GAFKJEN ELEANOR	JOHNSON LAWRY	MOORE ARIANE	RYDBERG BERT	WALLER LANCE & JAKKIE
CIVINSKI MARY IRENE	GAFKJEN NORMAN E	JOHNSON LEROY & SHARON	MOORE JEREMY	SAEN LINDA	WALLIN DAVID
CLARK ERIC	GANJE DOUG	JOHNSON MARILYN	MORAN KEVIN	SALA MAVIS	WARD WILLISTON
CLARK KEVIN	GARAAS ROGER & SHARON	JOHNSON MARK	MORENO ROEL	SALAS EDUARDO	WARE BARRY
CLUB RAY - RAY CAFE	GARVIN DARRELL & KIM	JOHNSON MARY L	MOREY CLARENCE & MICKEY	SALINAS EDEN	WEIGEL HAROLD
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COLUMBIA OIL & GAS	GENERAL ELECTRIC	JONES GESSIE	MORRIS SANDY	SAMEDAN OIL CORP	WHITE JOHN & STEPHANIE
COMSTOCK JESSE & SARAH	GIALANELLA ANTHONY	JORDAN LINDSAY	MOSS BARBARA	SCANLAN JOLI	WIETERMAN RED
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CONTINENTAL GRAIN CO.	GILBERTSON INA MAE	J-W MEASUREMENT COMPANY	MYERS EDNA	SCHAFFER MATT	WILLIAMS JACKIE
CORTEZ PEYTON	GILBERTSON PARTNERSHIP	KASSNER DELORES	N C A	SCHIEPP MASON	WILLIAMS JAMIE & LORI
COTE DARRYL	GOHRICK DARREN & SHERI	KELDON OIL CO	NABORS WELL SERVICES CO	SCHIELE WINIFRED	WILLIAMS JOHN
COTE DAVE	GOMEZ BRENY	KELLEY RUSSELL	NEAL RICHARD	SCHLAG ALLEN	WILSON LARRY
COTE SHEILA	GOOD SAMARITAN	KELLY LORRAINE	NEFF DAWN	SCHLUMBERGER WELL SRVC	WITHEY BRIAN
COURTNEY JERE	GORDER RODNEY	KERCADO ANTHONY	NEHRING PATTY	SCHMITZ JOHN	WYOMING RESOURCE CORP
CRAFT DAVID	GORDON BILL & PAT	KINASZ DEVIN	NELSON AMOS ESTATE	SCHRICK COLTON	ZENK MICHELLE

– Digital Gifts Guide –

Just because you can't be home for the holidays doesn't mean you can't give your friends and family the perfect present. Virtual gifts offer something for everyone, and can be delivered straight to their inbox in an instant. Today, we're sharing the best digital gifts for everyone on your list. If you are more of a visual learner, watch our latest Tech Tip video at www.nccray.com/category/tech-tips to follow along with tech expert Katie.

✓ Give the traveler in your life the gift of a new language. Choose an online language course or platform, like Babbel or Rosetta Stone, and send them a subscription to help them prepare for their next adventure.

✓ If your friend is a lifelong learner, gift them a subscription to an online learning platform like Skillshare or Masterclass, where they can explore thousands of topics like cooking, photography, web design, and more.

✓ Every bibliophile knows that there's no such thing as too many books. Gifting someone a subscription to Audible will give them access to an endless library of audiobooks, many of which are read by the authors themselves.

✓ A Nintendo Switch Online subscription is the perfect gift for the gamer in your life. A subscription will let them play exclusive games, plus popular titles like Mario Kart and Among Us, online.

✓ Hook up the homecook in your life with a private, virtual cooking lesson from The Chef & The Dish. Over the course of roughly two hours, a professional chef will help them create a three-course meal, walking them through each recipe step-by-step.

✓ Or, give the gift of fitness! A gift card to FYT (Find Your Trainer), will let someone you love schedule sessions with a personal trainer right from the comfort of their own home.

As you can see, some of the best gifts are the ones you won't find under the tree. From gift cards, to subscription services, to interactive experiences, when it comes to digital gifts, the possibilities are virtually endless.

Important Notes

- **NCC Advanced TV and NCC Video rates** and the local broadcast fee will go up the first quarter of 2023 based on the annual programming fee increases from the Cable TV networks and the local networks retransmission agreements. Details will be available in a future bill message and newsletter.
- **Be sure to keep your address current with NCC** so you don't miss out on any future capital credits! Call us at 701-568-3331.



SIGN UP TODAY!

Sign up and play at: ncc.pickitchallenge.com

It's football season and NCC is hosting a Pick-It Bowl Football Challenge this year! All customers are invited to participate in this fun online contest. You can play by signing up on our website ncc.pickitchallenge.com, filling out your bracket, and checking in after the big games to see how many points you earned. The best part? You can play NCC's Bowl Challenge with your friends and neighbors and have the chance to win great prizes, all for free!

The first bracket games start Friday, December 16 with the championship game on Monday, January 9th. Get in the game with the Pick-It Bowl Football Challenge from NCC.

NCC is Your Local Provider of Internet, Telephone, TV and Security Monitoring and Surveillance services!



Report Trouble: 611
Email: ncc@nccray.com
Ph: 701-568-3331 or 800-245-5884
Directory Assistance: 411
Call Before You Dig: 811
Newsletter Editor: Angela Schepp
Design: lori@leutzgraphics.com

Business Hours: M-F 8am to 5pm.
NCC Message Center will take calls outside of these hours.

Make a payment anytime by using Secure Pay 1-888-816-8068 or SmartHub www.nccray.com or download the app.