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*Keeping You*  
**CONNECTED**

*January/February 2021*



**CEO Message, pg. 5**  
Battery Backup Information, pg. 4  
Featured Community- Turner, pg. 7

Published for members of

**TRIANGLE**  
COMMUNICATIONS



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## OUR COVER

Congratulations to Andrea Keller of Harlowton for submitting the Grand Prize photo in Triangle's Annual Photo Contest. Andrea's photo of adorable twin lambs in a field of green received the most votes on Facebook and by mail.

## Holiday Closures

**New Year's Day**  
Friday, 1/1/21

Please call **1-800-332-1201**  
24/7 to report any phone  
or Internet issues.



## FEATURES

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## CONTACT US

**Call** 406.394.7807 or 611 or 1.800.332.1201  
**Pay by Phone** 1.888.815.1040  
**Website** www.itstriangle.com  
**E-mail** www.itstriangle.com/contact-us  
**Visit** Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm, 2121 Hwy 2 NW  
**Write** PO Box 1220, Havre MT 59501  
**24/7 Internet Tech Support** 1.877.730.8215

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**Triangle Mobile** 2121 US Hwy 2 NW, Havre  
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**in** linkedin.com/company/triangle-communications

## WHO'S WHO AT YOUR COOPERATIVE - TOM METCALFE



I have had the pleasure of working with Tom Metcalfe during his entire eight-year career at Triangle Communications. When I asked him what his main job responsibilities are, he responded,

"I'm sort of a jack of all trades involving digital marketing." This includes web development, video production, social and digital.

Before he was hired as Triangle's Digital Media Specialist in 2012, Tom was an Intern in the Marketing Department. He made quite an impression and has been a great addition to the Triangle team. The videos he creates highlighting the communities we serve are amazing. Check out Tom's work at [www.itstriangle.com/montana-building-montana](http://www.itstriangle.com/montana-building-montana).

When Tom is not working, he enjoys remodeling his home, woodworking, fly fishing and spending time with his wife and kids. Cooking for family and friends is something Tom also enjoys. His signature

dishes are his secret Traeger smoked pull pork technique or homemade New York style pizza.

Thanks, Tom, for being a good sport and answering my crazy questions. You are a great co-worker, and I really want a slice of your pizza next time we get together.

*By Denise Kovacich, Communications Specialist*

## MYSTERY PHOTO AND TELCO QUIZ

*Two Lucky Subscribers Per Issue Will Win \$25!*

We received 82 entries that correctly answered correctly with one of the 3 factors to consider when deciding on an Internet speed and the Mystery Photo was a portion of the Phishing button from the Phishing E-mails article on page 6.

Congratulations to Duane Scott and Darel Hauge who were randomly drawn to receive a \$25 credit on their next Triangle bill.

Try your luck with this issue's quiz and mystery photo shown on the right.



### Two Chances to Win!

#1. Name one of Triangle's Payment Options:

---

---

#2. Mystery Photo (right):

---

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

My Triangle phone number is \_\_\_\_\_

Yes! I want to receive e-mail notifications about special events or deals in my area. My e-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries must be received by February 5, 2021 to be eligible for the drawing. Please return this slip with your payment or mail to: Newsletter, Triangle Communications, PO Box 1220, Havre MT 59501. You can also submit your answers at [www.itstriangle.com/telco-quiz](http://www.itstriangle.com/telco-quiz).



## SWAP AND SHOP

Welcome to our Swap and Shop! Feel free to post and find classifieds from other members!

### 7000 Watt Honda Generator

Nice to have on hand for power outages.

Electric start and 114 hours. Asking \$4,000, call 406.654.2756

### House For Sale

Two-story, 24'x36' house with 4 bedrooms and one bath to be moved. Call 406.654.2756 for price and pictures.

### Wanting to Buy

Looking for a 1972 Chevy Cheyenne, 3/4-ton automatic 4x4 truck. The more original parts the better but will consider projects. Call 406.459.2074.

### 2002 GMC 2500 HD Duramax Diesel

Crew cab 4x4, rebuilt engine, and drive train with receipts. Includes heated leather seats and mirrors, onboard air compressor with horns, 2-speed on-demand high idle, grill guard, trailer brake controller, and more. Also, have 4 studded snow tires, P235-50R-18 mounted on GM wheels. Call 406.390.0629 or 406.265.4026.

### Gooseneck Trailer

Donahue 18-foot Gooseneck stock trailer. New paint and tires. Call 406.326.2287.

### 1962 Avion Trailer

Twenty-seven foot, 1962 Avion project trailer.

Asking \$500, call 406.399.3620.

### In Search Of

Wanting a large breed pup prefer less than six months old. Call 406.399.3620.

### 1974 Versatile Tractor

1974 850 Versatile tractor serial# 850-050194 and 9N tractor with loader, non-running. Call 406.355.4298.

### Wanted to Buy

Women's bike at least a 3 speed. Call 406.547.2266.

### Indian Spirit Roadmaster

2003 Indian Spirit Roadmaster with 1500 S&S engine, Baker 5 speed transmission, and only 3,900 miles. Very well maintained, price is firm. Contact Larry at 406.239.3797.

### Buildings For Sale By Owner

Located in Harlowton, MT on the corner of Central Ave and Hwy 12. Property is made up of six lots (24,150 sq. ft.) with two buildings. Buildings #1 is a storefront, shop and warehouse totaling 4,248 sq ft. Building #2 is 1,246 sq. ft. Asking \$350,000 for all, not willing to split up. Will consider all reasonable offers. Call Larry at 406.239.3797 or message for more information and/or pictures.

### Property For Sale In Harlowton

Within walking distance of Harlowton business district and schools. Seven improved lots, one with a concrete pad for trailer house. Nice lawn, shade, fruit trees plus a large garden area, and 653 sq. foot garage/shop. Asking

\$75,000, call Larry at 406.632.5847 or 406.239.3797.

### Stainless Steel Drop Visor

Two-inch stainless-steel drop visor comes with brackets. Fits a 2009 Kenworth or newer. Asking \$150, call 406.357.4282.

### Dayton Generator

Dayton generator, set 25000 KW PHI. Includes PTO driveline. Never used, asking \$1,600. Call 406.376.3268.

### Snow Dogg Snow Plow

Plow has a 7 1/2 foot straight blade, like-new condition. Equipped for a Ford 3/4-ton pickup but could be fitted to something else. Cost \$4,175 ten years ago, will take \$2,000. Call 406.378.3233.

### Jiffy Ice Drill

Model 30 Jiffy ice drill. Used but in good shape, made in the USA. May be seen in Fort Benton, call 406.622.3605.

### Brand For Sale

Quarter Circle R Lazy S. Cattle left rib, horse left shoulder. Electric branding iron included. Brand is currently registered in Chouteau County, MT. Call 406.737.4232.

### 1969 Chevy C-10 Long Box Pickup

Straight, original 92,500 miles with 396 engine. Has new wheels, tires, seat and carpet; minor rust. \$6,000 firm call 406.572.3445.

### 720 John Deere Row Crop Tractor

Runs great, has Pony motor and two (2) brand

new tires on the back (never used 15-5-38). Asking \$6,500, call 406.669.3183.

### Handmade/Homemade Drift Boat

16-foot drift boat with solid oak, ship-lap floor out of an old schoolhouse. Built in 2004, has hunter green sides and big trout decals on the back. Asking \$2,570, call 406.669.3183.

### Honda Trail 110

Honda Trail 110 motorcycle, starts and runs good. New battery, chain, sprockets, tires and is titled. Asking \$800, leave message or text 406.350.0055.

### 1997 Pontiac Bonneville

Well maintained 1997 Pontiac Bonneville, great road car. \$4,000 OBO, call 406.372.3276.

### Property For Sale in Loma

Opportunity for small-town living with wildlife and fishing access. For sale at a bargain price, 4 lots and 4 buildings originally housing a second hand and antique shop. Call 406.739.4361.

### Cadillac Deville

1995 Cadillac Deville V-8, 4-door. Asking \$1,575, call 406.326.2287.

### 1967 Ford Thunderbird

This classic car runs great, has a clean interior, and is in good condition with some minor bodywork required. Asking \$8,000, call 406.357.4282. \$1,575, call 406.326.2287.

## COMMUNITY CROSSWORD

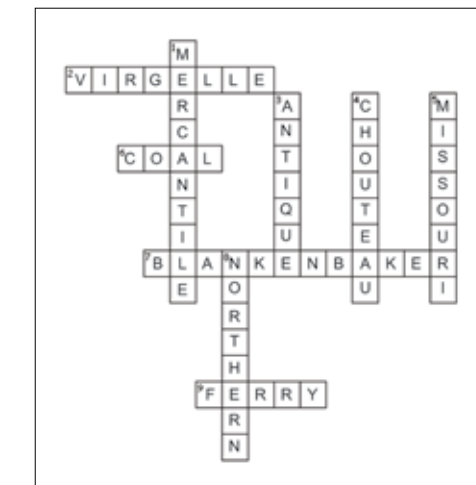
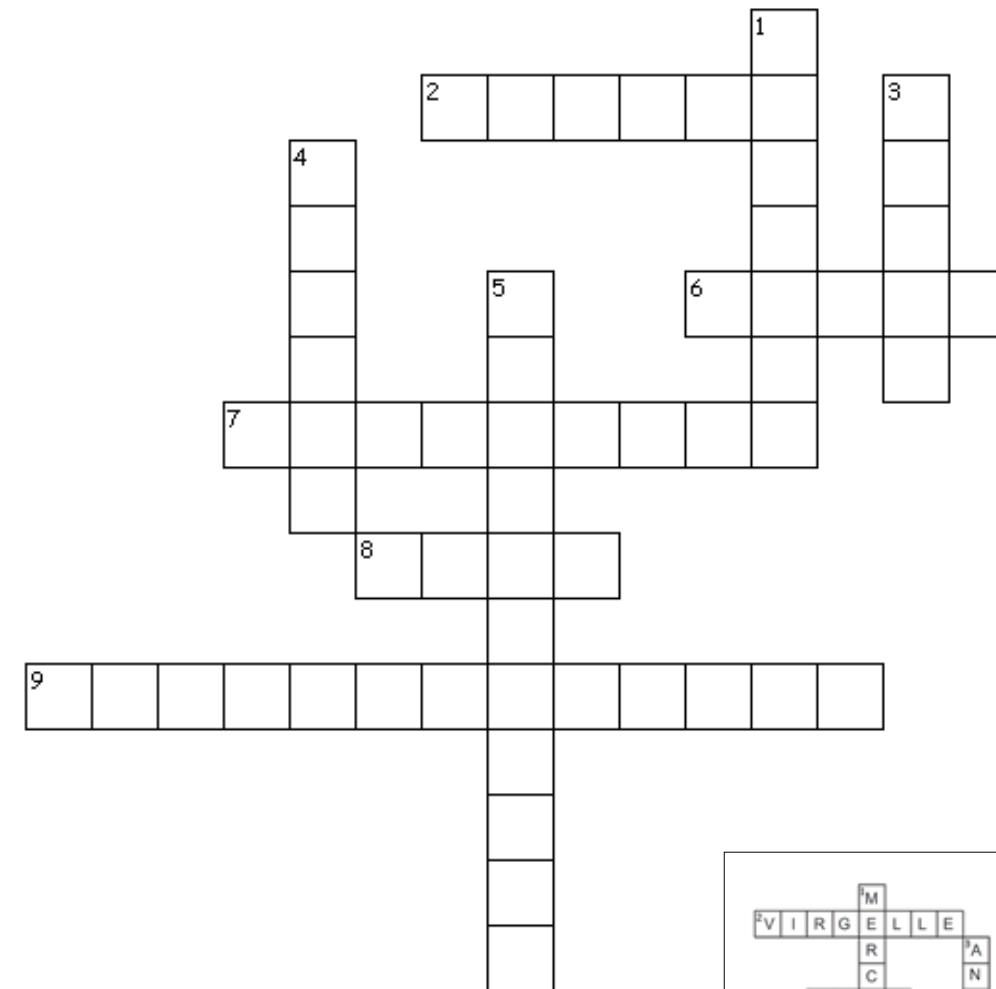
Featuring Martinsdale, MT

### Across

- Martinsdale sits at the base of the Crazy, \_\_\_\_\_ and Little Belt Mountains.
- Martinsdale was a sheepman's town, boasting two of the biggest \_\_\_\_\_ ranches in the state.
- Martinsdale \_\_\_\_\_ was built in 1938-1939 and named after the neighboring town.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Family Museum is located on the sprawling ranch includes the family home filled with turn of the century art and furniture
- Martinsdale was originally known as \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of Franklin J. Gaugler who built the mercantile and hotel in 1876.

### Down

- Martinsdale is located in \_\_\_\_\_ County.
- The Musselshell \_\_\_\_\_ flows past Martinsdale
- Charles M Bair and Grace Stone \_\_\_\_\_ are two famous early residents of Martinsdale.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was renamed after Montana's delegate to Congress, Martin Maginnis, in 1878.



## ANSWERS

For the Nov/Dec Community Crossword, Virgelle, MT



## COOKS CONNECTION

Dishing Up Montana's Best Recipes

Thank you to everyone who has shared their recipes, keep them coming!

If you have a favorite recipe of any kind that you would like to share, we would love to have it.



### Your recipe could appear here and earn a FREE GIFT!

Photocopy, print or type your favorite recipe and send it in one of the following ways:

Mail to Newsletter,  
PO Box 1220, Havre MT 59501  
or  
E-mail: [newsletter@itsTriangle.net](mailto:newsletter@itsTriangle.net)

## RECIPE

### Brunch Bake

Submitted by Diane Leibel of Malta, MT

#### INGREDIENTS

½ medium onion, chopped  
1 cup chopped ham  
12 eggs  
½ cup each cheddar and mozzarella cheese, shredded  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1 tube of buttermilk biscuits  
½ cup chopped chives

#### DIRECTIONS

In a medium size bowl mix eggs until well blended. Add onion, ham, cheese, salt, and pepper. Mix until combined well. Put buttermilk biscuits in a greased 9" x 9" baking pan. Pour egg mixture on top. Sprinkle chives over egg mixture. Bake 30-35 minutes at 350°.

## RECIPE

### Cheeseburger Pie

Submitted by Joette Woods of Chester, MT

#### INGREDIENTS

1 ½ lb. ground beef seasoned with salt and pepper  
1 small onion, diced  
¼ cup Worcestershire sauce  
½ cup ketchup  
2 Tbsp mustard  
½ cup diced banana peppers (can use relish)  
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese, set aside

#### CRUST

2 cup Bisquick  
1 cup milk  
1 egg  
1 tsp. garlic powder

#### DIRECTIONS

Brown beef with onion, add sauces and banana peppers or relish. Mix and set aside. Spread burger mixture into a 9x13" pan, layer top of burger with 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese. Pour crust mixture over hamburger and cheese. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes.

## RECIPE

### Chocolate Cookies

Submitted by Erin Ramberg of Chinook, MT

#### INGREDIENTS

1 ½ cups sugar  
½ cup butter  
2 eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
½ cup baking cocoa  
2 cups flour  
1 tsp. baking soda  
½ tsp. baking powder  
¼ tsp. salt  
1 cup sour cream  
½ cup chopped nuts, optional

#### CREAMY COCOA ICING

2 2/3 cups powdered sugar  
1/3 cup baking cocoa  
1/3 cup butter, softened  
3-4 Tbsp milk or cream

#### DIRECTIONS

In a mixing bowl, cream together sugar and butter; add eggs and vanilla. Beat until well blended. In another bowl combine cocoa, flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt. Add dry ingredients into creamed mixture alternating with sour cream. Stir in nuts, if desired. Chill dough for 1 hour. Drop dough by teaspoonful onto cookie sheets, bake at 350° for 12 minutes. Cool on wire racks. Frost with frosting of choice or use the recipe below. Yield: 3 Doz.

Frosting: Combine all ingredients until nice and creamy. Frost cooled cookies.

## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SPOOFING CALLS

Have you ever answered a phone call or text because you knew the name on the caller ID only to find out that is not the person on the other end? The caller will start asking you for your personal information and to identify that your number is an active line. They might start pressuring you for information. This is called spoofing. According to the FCC, "Spoofing is when a caller deliberately falsifies the information transmitted to your caller ID display to disguise their identity."



Scammers take advantage of victims by playing on their fears. If you suspect a call is a scam, hang up immediately. Scammers will also spoof mobile numbers using them to text scams. The FCC has recently received reports of COVID-19 text scams. Be wary of texts advertising a COVID-19 cure, free testing for COVID-19 and pharmacy scams.

#### Here are a few tips to avoid being spoofed:

- **Be aware.** Scammers can spoof phone numbers, emails, and texts.
- **Be suspicious.** Scammers will try to pressure you, use intimidation, or make the offer sound too good to be true.
- **Do not respond.** Doubt calls or texts from unknown numbers or emails if they seem suspicious.
- **Do not click.** Delete messages with links in text messages.
- Be suspicious. Question the authenticity of offers asking for insurance or doctor information.
- **Don't let pressure get to you.** Do not let anyone pressure you to share information or to make a payment immediately.
- **Ask to call people back.** If the caller says they represent a company or government agency. Hang up and call the number on your account statement or check their website.
- **Discuss Spoofing with Family and Friends.** Scammers target seniors so make sure you warn parents and grandparents.

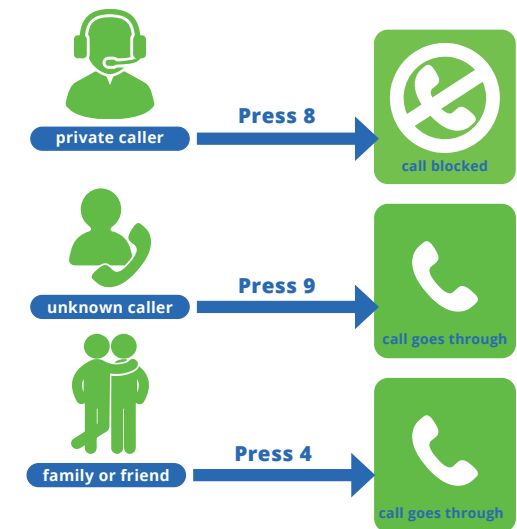
If you have been a victim of a spoofing scam, report it to the FCC on their website, [www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov).

## BLOCK ANNOYING CALLS NOW.

Get Telemarketer Call Screening Today!

Intelligent call screening service that blocks unwanted calls & learns who your friends are. Enjoy your phone again!

### You Are In Control!



Call Today!

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TRIANGLE COMMUNICATIONS

## FEATURED COMMUNITY- TURNER

If you have ever been to Turner, MT you will understand why the region is called Big Flat. The area has deep roots in agriculture from farming to ranching. The school also has a cool mascot of the Tornadoes. Tornado pride is evident throughout the small community located 12 miles south of the Canadian Border.

Big Flat Grocery is a source of pride in the community and a fellow cooperative. After the formerly private owned grocery store closed, community members missed having access to groceries. They banded together to form a cooperative to bring a grocery store back to the Big Flat. Big Flat Grocery officially opened its doors in 2014. Since opening their doors the cooperative has made many improvements to their building. They continually add to their line of products and services which now includes serving pizza, hot items from the fryer and fresh baked cookies.

When she is not spending time working on the family ranch, Tricia Kimmel operates two businesses in Turner. Kimmel Kreations offers graphic design and print production in North Central Montana. Her other operation is Tricia's Trader, a bimonthly publication covering activities in Chouteau, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, and Phillips counties.

Grabofsky Aviation is located at the Turner Airport. You can fly in to have minor and major aircraft maintenance completed, fabrication and they can also complete your annual airplane inspection. You are guaranteed to have

beautiful views of the Big Flat area as you access the Turner Airport.

A trip to Turner should include a stop at Image 'N' That Salon & Foxy Nail. You can make an appointment for a haircut, new hair style, manicure, or pedicure. Denise Watkins & Susan Fox will greet you with a smile and if requested, make you a latte to enjoy during your appointment. As a bonus, if you stop by on a Friday morning you can join the crew for a latte, baked goodie and a great visit. Stop by the gift shop to purchase a gift or to stock up on all your hair care supply needs.

CHS Big Sky is another cooperative located in Turner. As an agriculture community, CHS plays a big part in supplying fuel, propane, chemical and feed to the area ranchers and farmers.

A visit with a local resident who described the next business as the Walmart of the Big Flat. Turner Supply Company has an impressive list of services offered from a mechanic shop, auto parts supply, plumbing materials, general farming supplies etc. to meet the needs of the community.

McGuire's Shop is located a short drive down the road in Hogeland. McGuire's shop has been a staple in the community since in 1974. Local farmers and ranchers have relied on the shop to keep their machinery and semi's in top working order. They are also a dealer for the A M Rod Weeder and chemical.



## BACKUP POWER CUSTOMER ANNUAL NOTICE

Backup Power for Residential Voice Telephone Services during Power Outages: For many years, your home telephone would allow you to stay connected to emergency voice services during a power outage. However, if your residential voice telephone service is provided using fiber optics or fixed wireless rather than the traditional copper based line, then your residential voice telephone service requires backup battery power to continue functioning during an outage. To avoid a disruption of home voice service during an outage - and to maintain the ability to connect to 911 emergency services - Triangle Communications provides you with a battery for backup power for your residential voice telephone service at the time of the initial installation at no additional cost.

**What Your Battery Can - and Can't - Do for You:** The backup battery provided by Triangle Communications for powering the fiber optic or fixed wireless network terminal allows you to continue to use your home voice services during a power outage. Without a backup battery or alternate backup source such as a generator, customers with fiber or fixed wireless based residential telephone service will not be able to make any calls, including emergency calls to 911. The only way to maintain the ability to use your telephone is by using some form of backup power.

Our backup battery does not provide power to any services other than voice. All Internet services are turned off in the network terminal after 5 minutes of power outage to better conserve battery power for voice service. Home security systems, cordless phones, medical monitoring devices and other equipment will not run on a residential voice telephone backup battery.

**Replacement Options:** As previously noted, a backup battery has been provided by Triangle Communications during the initial installation. However, the battery provided by our company may need to be replaced every two or three years or when the battery is no longer functioning.

- [Triangle Communications provided replacement backup batteries](#) - Triangle Communications will provide and install at no cost to you, a replacement backup battery, upon appointment, when it becomes known that the battery needs to be replaced. If you have any questions, please call 1-800-332-1201, or email [techsupport@itstriangle.net](mailto:techsupport@itstriangle.net). Additional spare backup batteries to be stored in your home may be purchased from our company. Our 8 hour backup batteries cost approximately \$30 each and can be purchased at our warehouse location in Havre, Montana or one can be shipped directly to your home, for an additional charge.

- [Third Party provided spare backup batteries](#) - You may also purchase additional spare backup batteries to keep on hand in your home through many of your local retailers such as Best Buy or on-line. Please contact our company and we will gladly provide you with the information you need to ensure that you purchase a quality battery model that meets the requirements for powering your network terminal.

**Expected Backup Power Duration:** Backup batteries are expected to provide at least 8 hours of standby power. The backup battery should give you at least 2 hours of talk time. If you feel that is not enough time, you may extend your standby power by purchasing from our company or a third-party additional spare 8 hour batteries.

A 24-hour battery back-up unit is also available for an additional charge. This unit will provide 24 hours of standby power and at least 5 hours of talk time. If you feel that this is a better option for you, this unit can be purchased from our company for approximately \$240.00.

**Instructions for Proper Care and Use of Your Battery:** Please follow the more detailed instructions included with your battery for proper use, storage and care of your battery to ensure that it will function as needed during a power outage. If you do not store your battery correctly, it may shorten its useful life. Environmental factors such as temperature can shorten your battery's useful life. We recommend that you store your battery above 41°F and below 104°F. These batteries are rechargeable. They will not last forever and should be replaced every 2 to 3 years, or when your device starts to make a loud beeping sound. That sound means that the battery is depleted, and must be replaced. You should also periodically, as described in the instructions included with your battery, remove and test your battery to verify both the operation of the backup battery and its condition.



*The picture to the left is a photo of a Cyber Power batter back up. This applies only to our members who are connected to the fiber optic cable.*



# PAYMENT OPTIONS TO MEET YOUR NEEDS

Manage your account. Your way.

-  **Online Bill Pay**
-  **Mail Your Payment**
-  **Paperless Billing**
-  **Auto-Pay**
-  **E-Check**
-  **SmartHub®**
-  **Night Drop**  
\*Havre and Big Timber only
-  **Pay By Phone**  
1-888-815-1040

See our website or call our Billing or Credit Team for more information.



1.800.332.1201 | [itstriangle.com](http://itstriangle.com)



Craig Gates, CEO

## CEO MESSAGE

Happy New Year! I hope this finds you safe and healthy as we enter 2021.

As I am writing this, the Triangle Communications (Triangle) office remains closed. Our employees are still working for you and we continue to put safety first. Most of our office employees have transitioned to working from home. With our lobby being closed, we have had questions on how members can make their payments. There are several ways other than in person. The graphic to the left of this message shows you Triangle's convenient payment options. I know those with school age children understand

the challenges parents face being tech support, teacher, and parent. Triangle has been proactive in reaching out to schools in our service areas to help both the schools and the students receive access to the Internet to continue with online learning.

Triangle's 2020 Fiber to the Home upgrades wrapped up in Whitewater, Reed Point, a portion of Big Timber and most of Stanford. Thank you to the members in those areas for your time and patience during the construction and cutover portion of these projects. We are now focused on our 2021 Fiber to the Home upgrades in Denton, Molt, northern portion of South Malta, a portion of Big Timber and finishing Stanford. Members in those areas may soon be contacted by Triangle employees to obtain easements for these projects. We will keep you updated as we move forward.

Triangle continues to take precautions to keep you and our technicians in the field safe. Please be prepared to answer questions about the health of members of your household. Our employees are asking these questions at my direction. We ask this as our employees may encounter members of your household during the service call. Triangle's technicians who visit your home to install or repair service will be furnished with personal protective equipment and disinfectant to keep both parties safe. We will continue to follow these guidelines as long as they are required.

If you are interested in signing up for any of Triangle's services, please give us a call at 1-800-332-1201 and talk to a member of our Customer Experience Team. They are ready to help you with all your communications needs. Our website, [www.itstriangle.com](http://www.itstriangle.com), is also a great source of information on what Triangle has to offer. In closing, I know we all want this new year to bring us back to some semblance of normal. I hope we can look forward with optimism that the safety measures we take today will benefit us in the future. Be safe!

## MAKING SURE YOUR PAYMENT IS APPLIED CORRECTLY

Each day Triangle receives large number of payments. Once the payments are opened and sorted by company, the bill statements accompanied by checks are run through a machine which reads the statement and the check. This process allows us to post payments to our members' accounts quickly.

Here a few other tips to making sure your payment can be processed quickly:

Enclose the payment stub with your payment.

- Please **DO NOT** staple, tape or paper clip your payment to the payment stub. Staples and tape can cause problems with the machine and those payments must be processed separately.
- If there are special instructions for your payment(s), please make note on the payment stub or write a note on a piece of paper but **DO NOT** attach to the stub.
- Please use blue or black pen. Other colors can not be read by our payment processor.
- Phone, Internet and mobile phone payments can be paid with one check, but please send the payment stubs or write all the account numbers on the memo line on your check.
- If you are paying an amount different than what is on the stub, please be sure to write the amount you want applied to the account on the stub.
- Hill County Electric payments must be paid by a separate check



2020 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED!



1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE  
Andrea Keller



2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE - Steve Leitner



4<sup>th</sup> PLACE  
Ali Molyneaux



5<sup>th</sup> PLACE  
Elizabeth Dingman



6<sup>th</sup> PLACE  
Jill Conover