

December 2018

Cooperative

Connection

QUALITY CONNECTIONS TODAY, TOMORROW, AND ALWAYS

Stocking Stuffers Under \$100

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**Community in Focus:
AF County Market**

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Photo by: Linda Krueger

Marquette  **ADAMS**
Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH

Marquette-Adams prides itself on being the go-to communications cooperative for the members of our communities, which is why every October we take the opportunity to show our appreciation for our members. This year was no exception as we hosted weekly events in our office and handed out countless giveaways and prizes throughout what some customers have called "the best Co-op Month yet!"

Hundreds of our friends and neighbors visited our office throughout the month to enjoy giveaways such as bags of popcorn from It's Poppin, and fresh donuts from Dunkin' Donuts, as well as gifts like calendars, planners and a variety of Marquette-Adams merchandise.

Among the prizes awarded to our participating customers were a 4-pack of Wisconsin Badger football tickets, Video-on-Demand vouchers, Kindle Fire HD Tablet, a Massey Ferguson pedal tractor, and of course our grand prize, a 55-inch Samsung 4K television!

Co-op Month would not be complete without our annual Trick-or-Treat event. We decorated our office, and our staff dressed up to hand out candy to the more than 150 children who stopped by to join in the fun.

We hope that all of our members enjoyed Marquette-Adams' customer appreciation efforts during National Co-op Month, and we look forward to showing our appreciation again in October 2019.

▼ **Kenny McCann, host of Marquette-Adams News, kept customers informed of all the specials and events via Marquette-Adams Facebook page during the month of October.**



CONSUMER TIPS TO STOP UNWANTED ROBOCALLS AND AVOID PHONE SCAMS

- ◆ **Don't answer calls from unknown numbers.** If you answer such a call, hang up immediately.
- ◆ **You may not be able to tell right away if an incoming call is spoofed.** Be aware: Caller ID showing a "local" number does not necessarily mean it is a local caller.
- ◆ **If you answer the phone and the caller — or a recording — asks you to hit a button to stop getting the calls, you should just hang up.** Scammers often use this trick to identify potential targets.
- ◆ **Do not respond to any questions, especially those that can be answered with "Yes."**
- ◆ **Never give out personal information.** This includes account numbers, Social Security numbers, mother's maiden names, passwords or other identifying information in response to unexpected calls or if you are at all suspicious.
- ◆ **If you get an inquiry from someone who says they represent a company or a government agency, hang up and call the phone number on your account statement, in the phone book, or on the company's or government agency's website to verify the authenticity of the request.** You will usually get a written statement in the mail before you get a phone call from a legitimate source, particularly if the caller is asking for a payment.
- ◆ **Use caution if you are being pressured for information immediately.**
- ◆ **If you have a voice mail account with your phone service, be sure to set a password for it.** Some voicemail services are preset to allow access if you call in from your own phone number. A hacker could spoof your home phone number and gain access to your voice mail if you do not set a password.
- ◆ **Talk to a Marquette-Adams representative about available call blocking tools and check into apps that you can download to your mobile device to block unwanted calls.**



Stocking Stuffer Under \$100

TIPS FROM OUR TECHS

PHILIPS HUE WHITE STARTER KIT:

If you have a friend or family member who's looking to start a smart home, a starter kit like Philips Hue's White is the perfect gift. A kit comes with two smart bulbs and a smart-home hub for easy setup. You can use Alexa, Google Assistant, Homekit or the Philips Hue app to turn the bulbs on and off, dim and brighten them, and create scenes.



TANTAN WI-FI ENABLED MINI SMART SWITCH:

A smart plug works with your existing appliances and gives you the ability to turn them on or off through an app. Save your mom, dad, or anyone else from sweating all day over whether or not they left the coffee maker on that morning.



WYZE CAM PAN SECURITY CAMERA:

Now you can buy a top-quality security camera without breaking the bank. The Wyze Cam Pan rotates 360 degrees and automatically tracks and follows motion in your house, and you can control it with your phone or Alexa.



ROKU STREAMING STICK:

Powerful. Portable. Enhanced voice remote. The Roku Streaming Stick gives you smooth streaming with channels that launch in a snap. Easily hide it behind your TV or move it around the house, you can even take it to a friend's. No more juggling remotes, the new voice remote lets you easily control your TV with buttons for TV power and volume. Use your voice to search across top channels by actor, show and more.



PANSONITE 3D VIRTUAL REALITY GLASSES:

Virtual reality is getting bigger and fancier, but it doesn't have to be expensive. The Pansonite supports both iPhones and Android phones, and works with most Google Cardboard apps.



ECHO DOT SMART SPEAKER W/ALEXA:

Echo Dot is a voice-controlled smart speaker with Alexa, perfect for any room. Just ask for music, news, information, and more. You can also call almost anyone and control compatible smart home devices with your voice.





NAME:

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

Test Your Knowledge

Answer these 5 questions and mail them in with your bill for a chance to win your choice of the 6 stocking stuffers found on page 2.

Hint: All answers can be found in this newsletter. Winner will be drawn January 1, 2019. Good luck!

- 1) True or False: Caller ID showing a "local" number definitely means that it is a local caller.
- 2) What gives A-F County Market's General Manager peace of mind?
- 3) What kind of smart phones are supported by the Pansonite 3D Virtual Reality Glasses?
- 4) Name one of the two ways that a local student can access the Marquette-Adams 2019 Scholarship Application.
- 5) What phone number can a customer call for assistance while the Marquette-Adams office is closed for the holidays?

Community in Focus: A-F COUNTY MARKET

In our small communities, the success of local business is vital to our economic growth. Without a thriving business marketplace, our livelihoods would suffer. It is important that these businesses are connected to the world at the click of a mouse so they can grow and prosper; sustaining our economy, and providing us the best available services. It is with this in mind that Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative is committed to serving our business customers with the best in telephone, Internet, and television service at competitive rates and unmatched quality.

A-F County Market, located on the north end of the City of Adams, is a local, family owned business founded on customer service and community involvement. Originally purchased in 1989 as IGA Foodliner, the store was built in its current location in 1998. In 2007, they changed their name to A-F County Market.

Today, A-F County Market provides the community with a one-stop shopping experience that includes a full-line grocery store, quality meats, fresh produce, frozen foods and made-from-scratch bakery and deli items. On top of all that, they also provide floral service, a Kodak digital photo kiosk, a soft serve ice cream shop and an expansive liquor department. And remember, A-F County Market is staffed by your friends and neighbors, so you can always just stop by to say “Hello”!

Marquette-Adams has recognized the invaluable service that A-F County Market provides to the local community, which is why we’re so proud that, in September of 2018, we are able to provide them with the tools that enable them to operate at the level their customers have come to expect from them.

During a recent conversation, General Manager, Rick Pavlik, spoke about the benefits of making use of Marquette-Adams' diverse suite of services:

“The rock-solid phone service makes it easy for our customers to connect with us for special orders, or to get questions answered. Also, the dependable Internet service allows our checkout process to work efficiently by providing a redundant network to our registers that can accept any method of payment.”

“Most importantly,” Rick continued, “the network devices Marquette-Adams put in place now provide us with reliable firewall protection that gives us peace of mind knowing that our store and customer data is always secure.”

Marquette-Adams is pleased to have played a role in assisting yet another locally owned business that meets such a crucial need to our communities. It is in the cooperative spirit that we make every effort to help one another achieve success.

If you would like to find out more about A-F County Market, you can look them up at www.afsupermarket.com. Or you can give them a call at (608)339-6703.



MARQUETTE-ADAMS PLANS TO AWARD UP TO \$12,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS IN SPRING 2019

If you're planning to attend a college university,
technical or trade school in 2019... this opportunity is for you!

Visit www.MarquetteAdams.com for details regarding scholarship requirements and eligibility.

A copy of the official scholarship application is available for download on our website. Or, if you prefer to collaborate with your high school guidance counselor, he or she can also provide you with a copy of the application.

DON'T WAIT. APPLY TODAY!
SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS MARCH 1ST

HOLIDAY HOURS:

Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative's office
will be closed on the following dates:

Monday, December 24: Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 25: Christmas Day

Tuesday, January 1: New Year's Day

Our technicians are always available should a service issue arise, and our 24-hour Technical Support line will remain available during all holiday hours. To reach Technical Support, call (608)586-5910 or (800)497-7887. Have a great winter!



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