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# The BUZZ

March, 2022  
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## AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

helps low-income households pay for broadband service



The FCC's new long-term Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) replaces the temporary Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) and provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers.

Households enrolled in the EBB Program as of December 31, 2021 will continue to receive their current EBB Program monthly benefit during the transition period ending March 1, 2022.

**Get more details and eligibility criteria at [www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp).**

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## March madness

NEMR wants to give 5 lucky customers a **\$20 bill credit!**

To get in the drawing, upgrade to a faster internet plan for one month at no extra cost! We know it's madness but that's what March is for! Give us a call and try our FREAKISHLY FAST or KICKING INTO OMG SPEEDS! Your name will be entered in a drawing for one of five **\$20 bill credits** to be given away at the end of March! Make March your lucky month with faster internet and a chance to win a **\$20 bill credit!**



## TOP TEN SCAMS OF 2021

- Prizes/Sweepstakes/Free Gifts
- Internet: General Merchandise
- Phishing/Spoofing-Email
- Fake Check Scams
- Friendship & Sweetheart Swindles
- Investment: Other (incl. cryptocurrency scams)
- Advance Fee Loans, Credit Arrangers
- Family/Friend Imposter
- Computers: Equipment/Software (incl. tech support scams)
- Scholarships/Grants

Sweepstake scams topped the list in 2021. The basic premise involves a victim being notified that they won a prize or reward, but in order to claim it, they must first send the fraudster money. Victims are often asked for more payments before being able to claim their reward and the cycle continues, never allowing the victim to receive their (likely non-existent) prize. *-fraud.org*

### New Directory Listings

Irvin, Arlen	660-866-2306
Lewis, Samon	660-874-4250
Zimmerman, Wendall	660-945-3001
Bunnell, Tim	660-947-2012
Stuckey, Ron	660-947-2130
Lewis, Harold	660-947-4219
Stevens, Gia	660-947-7055



HBO/Cinemax

Free Weekend

March 10-14th, 2022

nemr TV  
Select Vu & Variety Tier



## HOW MUCH INTERNET SPEED DO I NEED?

One of the most common questions NEMR customer service representatives are asked is "How much internet speed do I need?" Internet connectivity is something of a moving target. The number of connected devices and users are growing quickly, and those devices stay on longer than ever before. Sometimes you are enjoying blazing speeds on your laptop, phone or tablet, and other times, you wonder why your connection is so slow. Suddenly, your video game stalls when someone else in the home is streaming music. Or, you are watching a live streaming program on your smart TV or a movie from a streaming service and it begins to buffer. If your internet cuts off and on frequently and you are having to reboot your router, this may be a sign you need more speed. There are many factors that play into Wi-Fi strength such as distance from the router and interference from walls, appliances, and/or furniture. NEMR suggests the following: First, when connecting a new device, read the bandwidth requirements. Most manufacturers provide speed requirements for the wired or wireless device. Second, count the number of devices you have in your home or business. The average number of connected devices in a U.S. household was 11 in 2019 and more than doubled in 2021 to 25 according to *Deloitte's Connectivity & Mobile Trends 2021 Survey*. A family with 4-6 people and up to ten devices should have a good internet experience with 100/100 Mbps. This does not mean you cannot survive with less speed however, if you are receiving less than 100 Mbps, expect Wi-Fi hiccups. Currently, NEMR's most popular speed is 30/30 Mbps but we do see a trend with new customers selecting 50/50 Mbps and our current customers upgrading to faster speeds too. Eventually, NEMR will be offering Gig internet speeds to keep up with the growing number of internet connected devices. If you have any questions about your internet speed, give NEMR a call.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY NEMR!



2022 is a very special year for NEMR! We will be celebrating our 70th Anniversary as your local cooperative. A big thanks to our members for making NEMR what it is today! Plans are underway to celebrate this milestone. Keep reading The Buzz for upcoming events and giveaways this year.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

NEMR's 65th Annual Meeting will be virtual again this year. Members will be able to watch the board of directors "live" on NEMR's Facebook page, Thursday, June 16th, 2022. Please update your email address if it has changed to participate in member voting and to be eligible for one of the great CASH prizes! Send an email to [helpmail@nemr.net](mailto:helpmail@nemr.net) from the email account you want on file with NEMR. Type in the subject line: "Update my email." Please include your member name, cell phone number, and your landline number, if you have one. *If NEMR has your current email, please do not send it again.* Check The Buzz each month for more information on voting. Members who do not have an email will be able to vote too!

Michele Gillespie, CEO  
Board of Directors

Rick Kent  
Jim Kigar  
Mark Grgurich  
Dennis Fechtling

Shane Bradshaw  
Scott Aylward  
Kenneth Hawk, Jr.  
Junior Bertram

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NEMR is an equal opportunity provider and employer.