THE PROGRESS AUGUST 2022

CAUTION

SPEED BUMP AHEAD

This isn't your typical speed bump in the road, but a speed bump in your overall internet experience. With the increasing number of devices connected to your home network, you may need to increase the speed of your internet connection. To ensure you are subscribing to the right internet speed for your household, consider how many devices are connected, the number of users in your home, and if certain activities require high-bandwidth usage. Our speed calculator can help you bump into the right plan. Visit www.parkregion.com/recommend-plan/ to view what plan is right for you.

Throughout the summer, we are allowing you to bump up your home internet speed to the next package at NO ADDITIONAL COST FOR 3 MONTHS.* Don't delay, contact us today to take advantage of this great deal!

*Customers will be eligible to bump up to the next internet speed package available in their area at no additional cost for 3 months. After 3 months, bill will reflect the new package rate. To avoid a rate change, contact our office prior to the promotion ending. Internet speed bump promotion ends August 31, 2022.



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BEEPING FROM FTTx UPS

To improve access to 911 emergency services, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted backup power obligation rules for any service provider utilizing fiber optic or other nonpowered media to provide voice services to residential homes. The requirements include an obligation to offer subscribers the option to purchase backup power sufficient to operate the terminal located at the subscriber's home for a minimum of 24 hours in standby mode.

If you experience beeping coming from your FTTx equipment, and you still have no commercial AC power, the beeping indicates the UPS battery is getting low. There are three options: (1) Ignore the beeping; (2) Find the UPS and press/hold the "Alarm Silence" button until you hear a short beep. The "mute" LED will be flashing an amber color when it is muted. If you press/hold the "Alarm Silence" button a second time, you will hear two beeps, and the "mute" LED will turn off; (3) Replace the battery by



following the directions at www.parkregion.com/support/battery-replacement/ or an appointment can be scheduled to have a qualified technician replace the battery for a fee of \$100.00. Contact our offices at 218.998.2000 or 218.826.6161 or email sales@parkregion.com to schedule an appointment.

2022 PARK REGION SUMMER EVENTS

Park Region is excited to be planning summer events in each of the communities we serve. Our staff would love for the chance to meet with you, so make plans now to attend these events in your community. Here is a list of events:

Wednesday, August 17th:

- Vining Picnic in the Park
- Vining Movie in the Park

Saturday, August 20th:

Vining Parade

Thursday, August 25th:

• Browns Valley Picnic in the Park

Thursday, September 1st:

- \bullet Underwood/Maine Picnic in the Park
- Underwood/Maine Movie in the Park

Saturday, September 3rd:

Underwood Parade

Saturday, September 10th:

· Dalton Parade

Event times for Picnics in the Parks will be 5:00–7:00pm or until gone, Movies in the Park will start at dusk or approx. 9:00pm, and parades will vary in start times. For more details or any changes, check our Facebook and Instagram pages.

2022 COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

The Foundation for Rural Service is happy to announce that the 2022 Community Grant Program is now accepting applications. The Community Grant Program awards grants up to \$5,000 for nonprofit organizations in our communities doing great work. These grants are an opportunity for NTCA members to amplify the ways we are supporting our communities. Thanks to amazing NTCA memberships, FRS will award over \$155,000 in community grants in 2022. These grants are designed to provide support to a variety of local efforts to build and sustain a high-quality life in rural America. The grants awarded each November support a variety of projects concentrated in four major categories:

Business and Economic Development – Devise a plan to turn your community into a global phenomenon by growing small or existing businesses, developing new ones, and implementing a job creation program that attracts key talent from your community or from skilled individuals interested in relocating to small town America.

Community Development – Develop an outreach program that helps to promote advancing technology skills of your community members, incorporates innovation into learning, raises the visibility of your community's talent and artistry, and places your town on everyone's bucket list as the place to visit.

Education – Support advances in education by helping your school's technology (computers, smart boards, etc.) in the classroom, build resources for curriculum development, strengthen extracurricular activities and programs, and promote distance learning programs.

Telecommunications Applications – Show how you plan to turn your community into a technological powerhouse by promoting the implementation and use of broadband-enabled applications for telehealth, education, government services, safety and security, and efficient energy distribution and use.

As an NTCA member, Park Region encourages organizations in our communities to apply for the Community Grant Program. Applications for the grant program are due to the Underwood or Fergus Falls office by August 15, 2022. Visit www.parkregion.com/about-us/community-donations/ to learn more and to download the application.