

THE NETWORK

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STAY CONNECTED REMOTELY

You and your family may be wondering how to stay in touch with your friends and family while practicing social distancing. Despite the distance, friends and family are never too far thanks to the many virtual communication apps on the market, plenty of which are free to use.

Zoom has been common in the workplace for video and audio conferencing, webinars, and chats, but it has seen some recent popularity with people moving to social networks to keep in touch.

Unless you're a business, the free version of Zoom is probably all that you'll need. According to the website, the basic, no cost plan features unlimited one-on-one video conferencing calls, and even group calls of up to 100 people for up to 40 minutes at a time.

WhatsApp, the hugely popular free messaging app owned by Facebook, also features video and voice calling — all at no charge. Recently, WhatsApp entered

into a collaboration with the World Health Organization, launching WHO Health Alert, keeping users up to date on new coronavirus developments, straight from the source.

Google has had its own communication and messaging platform since 2013 with Google Hangouts, free for anybody with a Gmail account.

Simply sign in, and you'll have access to messaging, video calls and voice calls. The application ties in pretty seamlessly with the rest of Google's suite of apps and programs.

Skype is one of the original video-conferencing programs, but that doesn't mean it's outdated. The free app is owned and operated by Microsoft, and like the competition, messaging, voice and video calls are included for free.

All of these are available on desktops and mobile devices. Search for them in your web browser or the Google Play Store.

FREE PUBLIC WIFI

We are offering free public WiFi locations to assist students and others without Internet access. The free WiFi locations are accessible from our parking lots so those using it can access it from the safety of their vehicle.

NVC Corporate – 2211 8th Ave NE,
Ste 1101, Aberdeen

NVC – 1812 6th Ave SE, Aberdeen

NVC – 1316 E 7th Ave, Redfield

JVT – 235 E 1st Ave, Groton

The NVC/JVT public WiFi access
locations are available 24x7.

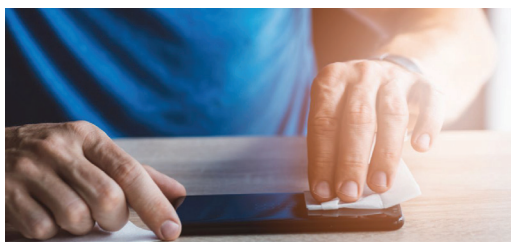
KEEPING YOUR DEVICES CLEAN

Limiting the spread of coronavirus not only means washing your hands often, but also cleaning smartphones, laptops and tablets. Studies have found COVID-19 may be able to survive on some surfaces for up to nine days, which may include your favorite devices.

Your smartphone is the device you handle constantly and often press to the side of your face, which means that any bacteria, virus or other germ that makes its way onto your phone or case could easily transfer to your skin.

Avoid using aerosol sprays and bleaches, and don't spray cleaner directly onto your smartphone. Instead, use a Clorox wipe or isopropyl alcohol wipe.

If your case is made of safe-to-wash materials like TPU/silicone and hard plastic, give the case a good rinse in warm water and let it air dry. If your case is made of leather or other luxury materials, try looking for



cleaners specific to your material.

Turn the device off before cleaning it. Grab a moist cloth and another cloth for drying. Wipe down the front, back and sides of the phone, but be careful of any openings. If you use a wipe of any sort make sure it has less than 70% alcohol. Use the dry cloth to wipe away any excess.

Many companies sell UV lights or sanitizers you put the device in as it cleans it. Simply search your web browser for cell phone sanitizer, and you'll find a long list of options. If you're a Shark Tank fan, you've maybe heard of PhoneSoap. They sell a host of products from UV sanitizing devices to screen cleaners.

Phones have always been breeding grounds for germs and other bacteria, so these are great habits to form for the future.

NEW MEMBERS

United Church of Christ	Columbia	396-2412
Dakota Brush/Harper Brush	Groton	397-7337
Wattier Mark & Gaye	Conde	382-5331
Olson Lee & Tracy	Frederick	329-2767

THE NETWORK

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\$89.95
/ month



**JAMES
VALLEY**
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

GRAND GIVEAWAY

Congratulations to Cory Appl, who won a \$200 Allevity gift card in our Grand Giveaway! Cory is pictured with employee Brent Hanson.

Wondering how to register? No problem, because there's no purchase or registration, just winners! Each month we will randomly select one of our "grand" residential customers to win. Maybe our next winner will be you!



ANNUAL MEETING POSTPONED

In response to coronavirus (COVID-19) and social distancing, we have made the decision to

postpone our annual meeting that was originally scheduled for Thursday, June 4th.

Please look to future newsletters for more information regarding our annual meeting.

PROGRAMMING UPDATES

Cable TV customers can now watch in theater movie titles at home as they have been released early to Video on Demand.

On your remote, select VOD or ON DEMAND, then Just In/Rentals.

The default PIN is 0000. As they are considered Premium VOD, each rental is \$20.

Amazon has opened free access to many of their original kids' titles. To access the titles, users must sign in with a valid Amazon account, which is free. Available titles will vary based on location.

UPDATE YOUR EMAIL

Please feel free to contact us to update your email and ensure we have the email address you use the most often in our system.

We use email addresses to send important messages on our products, possible upgrades, hours, etc.

We will not sell or share your email address to any other company.

LIFELINE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

Lifeline is a federal program that provides a monthly discount on home phone, cell phone or internet service to eligible low-income households. If you qualify, the Lifeline assistance program provides a \$9.25 credit on your monthly

internet service or a \$7.25 credit on your monthly home phone or cell phone service.

Only one discount is available per household on either your home phone, cell phone or internet service. For more information or to determine eligibility, please visit the Lifeline National Verifier at www.checklifeline.org.

Manage your DVR with the Manage My TV App

Call us for details.



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CYBERCRIME INCREASES

During difficult times there can be an uptick in cybercrime. Cybercriminals capitalize on growing fears sending emails preying on fears.

According to research by the Aspen Institute, the US has seen a 400% increase in cybercrimes targeting seniors.

You may have seen warnings from federal agencies recently, but government agencies and antivirus can only go so far to protect you from cybercrime.

Here are some of the most common and dangerous Internet crimes to be aware of.

Identity theft goes beyond just Social Security numbers and credit accounts. When someone steals

personal login credentials, data or photos, they can attempt to pass as you for a number of nefarious reasons.

Cybercriminals often masquerade as trusted entities like tech support operators or even as family members or government organizations to gain a senior's trust, especially during times of worry.

Be very cautious opening emails or taking calls from an unknown source. Email scams are one of the most basic weapons in a scammer's arsenal. They're easy ways to spread malicious links to phishing sites and malware, and they serve as the perfect vehicles for malicious attachments that can harm your computer.

The Internet isn't the only way people are being targeted. Scammers are also using robocalls to spread

disinformation about coronavirus and offering free test kits. Don't pick up calls from unknown numbers. Federal and local agencies will leave a message with any information they want out.

Ransomware is a cybercrime that uses your data to extort you for money. It's almost exclusively a virus that infects your system and locks up your files for good — unless you pay.

JVT Tech Home can protect your desktop and mobile devices. Tech Home Protect and Protect Plus plans combine leading software for anti-virus, password management, and online file backup with world-class support.

Protect covers 1 desktop and 1 mobile device, while Protect Plus covers 4 devices, desktop or mobile. **Contact us today and your first 2 months are free!**