



**Webster-Calhoun**  
Cooperative Telephone Association

# Connections

February 2024

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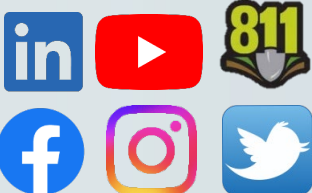
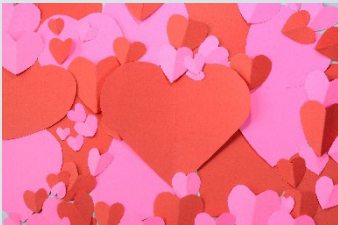
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## Save the Date - Annual Meeting!

Make plans to attend the Annual Meeting of Members for Webster-Calhoun. The meeting will be held at the Southeast Valley High School Gymnasium in Gowrie on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Watch for more information and the voting ballot for your district in the mail in late February.



## Aureon ITC Scholarship Program

The Aureon Scholarship Program is available to students pursuing a STEM-related course of study after high school graduation and residing in a home with service from an Iowa Independent Telecommunications Company (ITC).

The program will award a total of \$10,000. Individual scholarships will range from \$1,000 to \$3,000.

To be considered a candidate for the Aureon Scholarship, please complete and submit the application no later than 11:59 pm on March 1, 2024. Scholarship awards will be announced by late May 2024. Winners will be notified by phone, email, or letter.

More information can be found on our website >>>  
<https://www.wccta.com/student-scholarships>

## WCCTA TV Rate Changes

This year the annual Webster-Calhoun cost increase for TV is significant and much of the increase is based on programming. For WCCTA to offer a service it is important that costs are covered. Multi-year contracts with media giants typically include an annual rate increase for each channel, focusing rates on popular channels while requiring additional less watched channels, as well as dictating what service tier WCCTA can provide specific channels on. That leaves very little flexibility even though WCCTA bands together with other companies to try to increase negotiating power.

WCCTA continues to itemize the charge for over-the-air programming of ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC and CW and their multicast channels on a separate line item on your billing statement. Webster-Calhoun is charged for the over-the-air channels you can get for free with an antenna. Those rates also increased significantly as contracts were renegotiated in 2023. This rate is passed through to our customers as Retransmission fees.

**Effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, TV rates will be:**

**Lite:** \$34.46 + \$12.49 = **\$46.95**

**Standard:** \$34.46 + \$79.49 = **\$113.95**

**Ultimate:** \$34.46 + \$99.49 = **\$133.95**

*Retransmission fees and the TV package price are separate line items on your monthly invoice.*

Even though the world of TV continues to change with streaming, WCCTA works to keep TV service as low as possible giving you the best price up front. No contracts, no gimmicks, no hassles.

## Pick-It March Mania!

Webster-Calhoun is happy to announce our Pick-It March Mania contest for 2024 has returned! Have fun with this college basketball contest for our local communities and enter to win prizes! Your bracket will be available after Selection Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, when participating teams are announced. You can change your picks up until five minutes before the first game. No brackets can be submitted after that deadline.

Pre-register here >>> <https://wccta.pickitchallenge.com>

## Wi-Fi that you'll love!

Not feeling the love with your router? Is it time to break up? We have a solution for you! Before you rush to the nearest box store, consider getting Managed Wi-Fi from WCCTA! Our worry free Wi-Fi is great for customers who hate the hassle of troubleshooting connectivity issues.

Call the office at (515) 352-3151 to talk to our customer service team or visit us online [HERE](#).

