

# The Messenger

120 E. FIRST/PO BOX 48, KIMBALL, SD 57355-0048  
605.778.6221 WWW.MIDSTATESD.NET



## 911 Rate Increase

The State of South Dakota increased the 911 emergency services surcharge from \$1.25 to \$2.00 during the 2024 legislative session, making this increased amount effective 7/1/24 through 7/1/26. Proceeds from the 911 surcharge imposed on all “service users” of telecommunications service, wireless telecommunications service, or Interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol services are to be used for the funding of allowable nonrecurring and recurring costs of 911 systems across the State. Pursuant to South Dakota Codified Laws § 34-45-4 voice service providers are required to collect and remit the 911 emergency surcharges to the SD Department of Revenue and to state such charges in any billing statement, invoice, or receipt.

## Community Grant Awarded



The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), supported by rural telecom companies like Midstate Communications, is dedicated to enhancing life in rural America. Our rural areas face many challenges, FRS and Midstate focus on educational achievement, understanding that the future depends on today’s students.

The Platte-Geddes school district recently received a \$5,000 community grant and joined the South Dakota High School Activities Association’s esports pilot program. This initiative aims to boost student engagement, attendance, and academic performance, while also offering career and scholarship opportunities. The grant reflects FRS and Midstate’s commitment to educational growth in rural areas.

Pictured above: Chad Mutziger (General Manager/CEO), Lantz Brennan (Plant Manager), Lori Lafferty (Marketing Specialist), Alec VanDerWerff, Bob Holleman (Midstate Board Member), Joel Bailey (Superintendent). Photo courtesy of The Platte Enterprise.

# SAVE THE DATE!

## CUSTOMER APPRECIATION COOKOUTS 2024

<p><b>Geddes Community Center</b></p> <p>Tuesday, June 18, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Pukwana Community Center</b></p> <p>Thursday, June 20, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Kimball Midstate Office East Building</b></p> <p>Tuesday, June 25, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p>
---	---	---

Please help us support the local food pantry. Bring your non-perishable items for donation!

# Congratulations

# 2024

CLASS OF

© Cornerstone Group

## HATS OFF TO THE GRADUATES

Midstate Communications is proud of the youth in our serving area. This year Midstate awarded seven \$750 scholarships to high school seniors. The applications are judged primarily on their essay, community, and school involvement. This year's application included a brief letter of recommendation from a community member, teacher, or mentor who knows the student well. The essay question the students were asked was: "If your school administration asked for your input on bringing esports to your school, how would you respond?" Congratulations to the following recipients of the 2024 Midstate Communications Scholarship.

### Chamberlain High School

*Saylor Lippert*  
*Dakota Munger*

### Kimball High School

*Blake Leiferman*

### Plankinton High School

*Carter Briggs*

### Platte-Geddes High School

*Kasen Konstanz*  
*Tristen Petrik*  
*Emerson Ringling*

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) along with support from rural telecom companies such as Midstate Communications awards one-time scholarships to students from across America for their first year of post high-school education. This nationally recognized scholarship received over 1,300 applications from rural communities and 55 students received awards. Tanner Dyk of Platte-Geddes High School received a \$2,500 scholarship from FRS and Midstate Communications.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR IMPORTANT DATES

## JUNE

- June 5** • Disconnect accounts with a 30-day balance.
- June 17** • Board of Director Petitions Due
- June 18** • Customer Appreciation Day ~ Geddes
- June 20** • Customer Appreciation Day ~ Pukwana  
• Bills due by 12:00 PM  
• Overdue notices mailed out
- June 25** • Customer Appreciation Day ~ Kimball
- June 28** • July bills are mailed out and due July 20



We've made exciting upgrades in 2024, including faster internet speeds and the ability to reach us via text for customer service. Now, we want to hear from you! Share your feedback with us by leaving us a review!

Scan the QR Code or visit our website at [www.midstatesd.net](http://www.midstatesd.net)  
Your input is invaluable in helping us improve our services and meet your needs. Thank you for being a part of the Midstate family!



SCAN ME