

# The Messenger

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## Who Gets Your TV Dollars?



**Santa Hotline IS OPEN!**

**605-313-4000**

## CALENDAR

**December 5**

Disconnect of all accounts with a 30 day balance.

**December 20**

Bills due by 12:00 PM  
Overdue notices mailed out

**December 24**

Christmas Eve  
Offices Close at 12 PM

**December 25**

Merry Christmas!  
Offices Closed

**December 31**

January bills are mailed out and due January 20th.  
New Years Eve  
Offices Close at 3 PM

## Coming Soon In 2025!

Get ready for something exciting in 2025 - Midstate is bringing you *Tech Talks!* These fun sessions are your chance to jump into technology with our expert Midstate team. Have questions? We've got answers! Stay tuned for class listings, dates and locations in the Midstate area coming this January!



As more customers shift from traditional cable TV to streaming, one thing hasn't changed: big media companies are demanding higher fees from TV and streaming providers like Midstate. This raises the question: "Where is your money going?"

The image above breaks down your TV bill as if it were a hundred-dollar bill, showing how much each network receives. When media companies negotiate, they can demand higher rates or even pull their channels from your lineup if you don't agree with their rates, causing blackouts. These fees have skyrocketed—cable TV costs have increased by an average of 23.5% per year over the last 14 years. **To put this into perspective, in 2010, a gallon of milk cost about \$3.25. If milk prices had increased at the same rate as programming costs, that same gallon would now cost a staggering \$62.00 in 2024.**

Despite our efforts to keep costs low, we must pass along rate increases from programmers. Starting January 1, 2025, the new monthly rates will be:

Local Choice: \$67.05\*    Basic Choice: \$106.55\*  
Digital Choice: \$114.55\*    Midstate X-Stream: \$109.55

All plans include a retransmission fee of \$38.10 for your local channels. (\*Grandfathered plans are no longer available for new customers)  
To learn more about retransmission fees and how they impact your TV service, visit [www.tvonmyside.com](http://www.tvonmyside.com).

Merry Christmas from all of us at Midstate Communications! It's heartwarming to see the excitement in children's eyes this time of year as Christmas draws near! The twinkling lights in our communities add to the magic this time of year. May your holiday season be filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments with family and friends.



## Cozy Up with 10 Classic Christmas Movies You Can Stream This Year

The holiday season is upon us, and that means it's time to dust off those beloved classic Christmas movies from decades past that warm our hearts and bring back nostalgic memories. Whether you're a fan of animated flicks from your childhood, timeless tinsel-tinged comedies, or heartfelt melodramas, there's a streamable movie to bring out the holiday spirit in all of us.

Below, we present a guide on where to stream 10 of the most cherished, must-watch Christmas films. And you can enjoy all these holiday favorites in pristine picture quality with Midstate Communications state-of-the-art high-speed fiber internet.



1. **It's a Wonderful Life (1946)** ~ Amazon Prime Video
2. **Scrooge (1951)** ~ Tubi
3. **Miracle on 34th Street (1947)** ~ Disney+
4. **A Charlie Brown Christmas (1965)** ~ Apple TV+
5. **The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)** ~ Disney+

6. **Home Alone (1990)** ~ Disney+
7. **Love Actually (2003)** ~ Amazon Prime Video
8. **Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (1964)** ~ Apple TV+
9. **Jingle All the Way (1996)** ~ Disney+
10. **The Santa Clause (1994)** ~ Disney+

### Scholarships Available

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) in cooperation with NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association and its members is offering scholarships to graduating high school students for their first year of college or vocational school. One application covers all FRS scholarships, with amounts ranging up to \$7000. More information can be found on our website: [www.midstatesd.net](http://www.midstatesd.net)



FOUNDATION FOR  
RURAL SERVICE

### NFL On Christmas Day

If you are looking for an NFL football game this upcoming Christmas Day, it won't be on your local stations. Netflix will be exclusively streaming both NFL games on Christmas Day as part of a 3-year agreement with the NFL. Here are the details:

Kansas City Chiefs at Pittsburgh Steelers

12 p.m. CST

Baltimore Ravens at Houston Texans

3:30 p.m. CST

NETFLIX

