

THE FIBER FOCUS

April 2026

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MISSOURI 811

PLANNING A SPRING PROJECT?

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG!

Call 811 Before You Dig

Spring projects often mean digging for gardens, fences, or landscaping. Before you start, remember to call 811 to have underground utility lines marked. It's free, easy, and it's the law. April is National Safe Digging Month, a reminder for everyone to take a few minutes to locate underground utilities before starting a project. Calling 811 helps protect you, your property, and important services like fiber, electric, and water lines. Before you dig, call 811 or visit missouri-811.org/ to submit a locate request. A quick step now can prevent costly damage, service interruptions, and serious injuries.

2026 Nominating Committee



The Board of Directors Nominating Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, at 6:00 pm via conference call for the upcoming Election of Directors. Directors will be elected during the Annual Meeting of Members on June 17, 2026, which will be held "LIVE" on NEMR's Facebook page.

Directors seeking nominations for the upcoming election are:

▪ **Zone 1 – Shane Bradshaw**

The Nominating Committee members are Jamie Triplett, Larry Stephenson, and Shayla Vestal. Carla Norris will serve as the alternate. NEMR will send an email in May with instructions on how to vote. We urge every member to vote online and receive a \$10 bill credit. Plus, your name will be entered in a drawing for cash prizes.

The annual meeting booklet will be mailed to all members in early June. This will be the 69th Annual Meeting of Members.

Nothing But Net & NEMR Spirit!



The Kirksville Lady Tigers had plenty of spirit in the stands during their sectional game thanks to the student section waving NEMR foam fingers. We were proud to help cheer on the Tigers and see the student section showing their school pride. Congratulations to the Lady Tigers on a great season!

New Face at NEMR: Welcome, Jocelyn Perez Cruz!



NEMR is excited to welcome Jocelyn Perez Cruz as our newest Customer Service Technician! A Milan High School graduate, Jocelyn earned her Associate's Degree from North Central Missouri College and is currently working toward her Bachelor's Degree through the University of Central Missouri. In her free time, she enjoys being outdoors, playing cards, embroidery, and spending time with family and friends. Jocelyn shared, "I am excited to start my NEMR journey and look forward to helping NEMR connect with new communities as we grow." Welcome to the NEMR family, Jocelyn!

D.C. Bound!

NEMR Youth Tour Winners Announced

NEMR hosted its Youth Tour dinner on March 12 at Colton's Steakhouse in Kirksville to select students for the 2026 Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Four outstanding students attended as finalists: Kasen Lindquist of Green City, Caylei Romore of Memphis, Charlotte Tallman of Downing, and Brynlee Wesley of Queen City. During the evening, students introduced themselves, shared why they wanted to attend the trip, and answered questions from the NEMR Education Committee.

After careful consideration, the committee selected Charlotte Tallman, daughter of Trenton and Erin Tallman of Memphis, and Brynlee Wesley, daughter of Joshua and Maria Wesley of Queen City, as NEMR's 2026 Youth Tour representatives. Charlotte and Brynlee will travel to Washington, D.C., June 1-5 with NEMR Youth Tour Coordinator Gracey Gordon. They will tour historic landmarks, meet legislative officials, visit the FCC, and connect with students from rural communities across the country.



L to R: Kasen Lindquist, Caylei Romore, Charlotte Tallman, and Brynlee Wesley



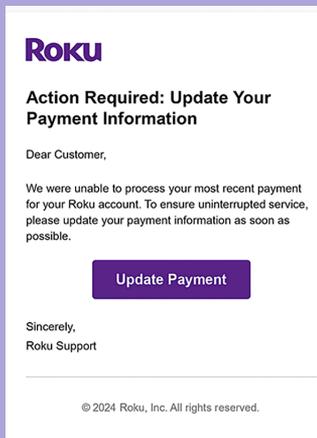
Charlotte Tallman



Brynlee Wesley

Don't Fall for Roku Scams

A recent phishing scam targeting Roku users has been circulating and has already affected thousands of people since the beginning of 2026. In this scam, customers receive messages claiming to be from Roku saying their payment information must be updated to avoid service interruptions. The message may look convincing, but it is designed to trick users into clicking a link and entering personal or financial information. If you receive a message like this, do not click the link or provide any information. Roku will not ask you to update payment details through suspicious emails or text messages. If you are unsure about a message, go directly to the official Roku website or app to check your account.



Realtor Referral Program

Congratulations to Derald Riekeberg of Stephens Real Estate, winner of the NEMR prize at the Northeast Central Association of Realtors! Realtors play a key role in connecting homeowners to reliable internet. Through June 19, our Realtor Referral Program rewards both the homeowner and realtor with a \$25 incentive when NEMR Fiber service is installed.

Happy Easter!

Sunday, April 5, 2026



New Directory Listings:

Robinson HVAC- 660-488-6629
Toohill, Steven- 660-766-2205
Young, Clarence- 660-874-4767



Michele Gillespie, CEO
Board of Directors



Rick Kent
Jim Kigar
Mark Grgurich
Dennis Fechtling

Shane Bradshaw
Kenneth Hauk, Jr.
Junior Bertram



It's Faster! It's Fiber! It's NEMR!



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