



# CONNECTIONS

www.omnitel.biz  
connect.omnitel.biz



## HAVE A VERY, VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

All of us at OmniTel Communications hope your Christmas wishes come true. May you enjoy plenty of festivities with family and friends, delight in the season's sights and sounds, and treasure every gift with a grateful heart. This time of year is also a beautiful opportunity to celebrate what makes our communities some of the very best around—including having neighbors like you!

### Nora Springs Location

608 E Congress St.  
641-749-2531

**Business Hours:** Monday – Friday  
7:00 am to 6:00 pm

**Lobby Hours:** Monday – Thursday  
8:30 am to 3:00 pm

### Rudd Location

641-395-2531

### Truro Location

641-765-4201

**24/7 Technical Support and  
After-Hours Repair Service:**

1-877-666-4932

**24/7 OmniTel SecurePay:**

1-844-886-9804

**Visit Us Online:** [www.omnitel.biz](http://www.omnitel.biz)

**Email:** [question@omnitel.biz](mailto:question@omnitel.biz)

**Fiber Registration:** [connect.omnitel.biz](http://connect.omnitel.biz)

**Facebook Page:** [facebook.com/  
omnitelcommunications](https://facebook.com/omnitelcommunications)



COMMUNICATIONS



## FASTER INTERNET ON YOUR WISH LIST?

Make your holiday merry and bright with an upgraded internet package from OmniTel. Our internet speeds go up to 1 Gig, backed by excellent service from our local (and very friendly) team.



COMMUNICATIONS

**Call 1-877-666-4835  
to upgrade today.**

## WHY A GUEST WI-FI NETWORK MAKES SENSE

When people visit your home, one of their first questions is likely to be, "What's your Wi-Fi password?" If your response is to give them the password for your main Wi-Fi network, you may want to think again. Revealing this information could pose a network security risk, since guests might accidentally download a malicious program or connect an already infected device to your network.

A better approach is to set up a guest Wi-Fi network with its own password. A guest Wi-Fi network is essentially a separate access point on your router, which allows visitors to access the internet without compromising the security of your main Wi-Fi network.

There are other benefits of having a guest Wi-Fi network. You can create a simpler password for guests that's shorter and easier for them to remember. You can also put a limit on the speed/bandwidth available to your visitors while you enjoy maximum performance and speed from your main Wi-Fi network.

OmniTel Communications can help you set up a guest Wi-Fi network as part of our OmniFi Managed Wi-Fi service. Call 641-749-2531 for details.



# DIRECTV STREAM SERVICE AVAILABLE FOR OMNITEL CUSTOMERS

Have you heard about OmniTel's relationship with DIRECTV to offer DIRECTV STREAM<sup>SM</sup>? DIRECTV STREAM provides the best of Live TV and On Demand with easy and simplified pricing. This is a great solution for customers that prefer simple self-setup, cloud DVR, and enjoying entertainment at home and on the go. Simply put, OmniTel, with DIRECTV STREAM, works toward making technology accessible, useful, and fun.

Why DIRECTV STREAM you ask? It's everything you want from TV. Minus all the things you don't. It's Smart, Simple, and So Much More. DIRECTV STREAM lets you watch your favorite entertainment in one place. Bringing together movies, news, and live sports.



Best of all, there's no annual contract required and no hidden fees. You can stream anytime, anywhere in the U.S. on your phone, tablet & TV.

### Key DIRECTV STREAM Product Highlights

- OmniTel high speed internet is required. (8Mbps per stream is recommended by DIRECTV for optimal viewing.)
- DIRECTV STREAM starts at \$69.99/month (65+ channels) with the best of live TV and on-demand content with cloud DVR and an interactive guide. No annual contract. Additional packages and premiums available. Upgrade to get unlimited hours of Cloud DVR. Prices subject to change. Service subject to DIRECTV STREAM terms and conditions (see [directv.com/legal/](https://directv.com/legal/)).
- DIRECTV will bill for DIRECTV STREAM and provide product support. Any customer post-sale questions/support should be referred to 1-844-567-2367.

Sign up for DIRECTV STREAM and choose your desired video package at <https://connect.omnitel.biz/> or call OmniTel at 1-877-666-4835 for more information.



## NEW, COMPLETELY MOBILE MEDICAL ALERT DEVICE

“Help! I’ve fallen, and I can’t get up.”

Are you concerned about the safety of a loved one living alone? Do you worry they’ll fall and be unable to reach a phone? Of the 35 million Americans over 65, about 1 in 3 will fall each in a given year. Seniors are hospitalized for fall-related injuries 5 times more often than are for other injuries, and 50% of those who fall require assistance from someone else to get up.

OmniTel’s Medical Alert system provides peace of mind to families and helps seniors live independently. In the event of an emergency, help is just the push of a button away. The two-way voice pendant connects your loved one with a 24/7 call response center, and depending on the situation, the center will then alert medical personnel or call your contact list (friend, neighbor, or relative) for assistance. In the past, our standard Medical Alert system came with a base station and a pendant for use in and around the home, with a range of 600 feet.

There’s something new to share. We now offer a device upgrade that’s ideal for seniors who want to have fall protection even when they’re out and about—taking walks, shopping, traveling, and so on. A new, completely mobile Medical Alert pendant is available to our Medical Alert subscribers. It features:

- 4G LTE cellular service powered by Verizon’s nationwide network
- Exceptional voice quality with adjustable speaker and microphone
- Assisted GPS and Wi-Fi location services
- Water-resistant design
- 96-hour battery life



**Please call OmniTel Communications at 1-877-666-4835 to upgrade from your current Medical Alert device to this new completely mobile model. Device fee, activation, and monthly monitoring fees apply.**

## PREPARE FOR HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING WITH RECIPE WEBSITES

You may have family recipes that you serve year after year for holiday meals. But it’s always fun to mix things up a bit and try new dishes. Recipe websites put fabulous food ideas at your fingertips.

**Here are some popular ones to visit for inspiration:**

### **All Recipes ([www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com))**

Estimated to have over 25 million visitors each month, All Recipes is easy to navigate and features thousands of recipes and meal preparation videos.

### **The Food Network ([www.foodnetwork.com](http://www.foodnetwork.com))**

You’ll find an outstanding database of recipes and videos, as well as clips and episodes of past televised Food Network shows.

### **Yummly ([www.yummly.com](http://www.yummly.com))**

You can personalize your recipe search by choosing your favorite cuisines, indicating food allergies and ingredient preferences, and describing your level of cooking skill.

### **Epicurious ([www.epicurious.com](http://www.epicurious.com))**

It’s quality over quantity on Epicurious. Expect to see handpicked and trusted recipes from renowned food magazines and individual chefs.

### **Tasty ([tasty.co](http://tasty.co))**

Primarily focused on recipe videos, Tasty shows how easy it can be to whip up delicious items such as Grilled Cauliflower Tacos and Croissant Breakfast Pizza.



## OMNITEL COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS GRANTS

Giving back to others has always been an important part of who we are at OmniTel Communications. OmniTel's Charity Grant Program was established to positively impact the quality of life in the communities which we serve.

**During the first and second quarters of 2022, the Board of Directors of OmniTel Communications awarded grants to the following organizations:**

### 1st Quarter of 2022

Rudd Historical Society, Greene Jaycees, Riceville Post Prom, Riceville Community School, Nora Springs Impact Group, Riverside Youth Sports, Floyd County Fair, Warrior Wrestling Mat Club, St Peter Lutheran Church, St Ansgar Historical Society, Mitchell County Ducks Unlimited, Iowa Draft Pony Hitch Association, St Ansgar Recreational Trail Committee, RRRM After Prom and Patchwork Pals Quilt Guild.

### 2nd Quarter of 2022

Central Springs Ag Ed Boosters, Rudd Commercial Club, Carson Community Rodeo, St Ansgar Booster Club, Riceville Community Club, Cub Scout Pack 119, Nora Springs Fire Department, The Bridge Church Men's Ministry, St Charles Old Settlers Committee, Nora Springs Historical Society, Mitchell County Agricultural Society, City of Floyd, St Peter Lutheran Church, Write Design and Riceville Summer Recreation.

We invite public and private nonprofit organizations to submit applications for funding to help with specific projects and events in your community. Greatest consideration is given to the projects and events that benefit the most people.

Grant applications can be found at [www.omnitel.biz](http://www.omnitel.biz). All applications are reviewed at the first board meeting of each quarter. Completed applications may be submitted at any time during the year.



You probably don't think about your router unless your Wi-Fi isn't working well. But nothing lasts forever, including a router.

If you lease a router from your internet service provider, check with them on whether it's time for new equipment. If you own your router, however, you'll need to pay attention to several factors to determine if replacement might be needed:

- **Your router's age** — The average lifespan for a router is about five years. Upgrading every five years allows you to take advantage of improvements to wireless speeds, efficiency, range, and network security. But this isn't a hard-and-fast rule. You may want to upgrade more frequently if you like being on the cutting edge of technology or you put your router through heavy use.
- **Connection issues with Wi-Fi network** — You may experience a loss of your internet connection or difficulty connecting to the internet. Poor connectivity could be a sign that your router is nearing the end of its useful life (provided you've ruled out other causes such as network outages or modem issues).
- **Worsening Wi-Fi range and speeds** — Like poor connectivity, worsening Wi-Fi range and speeds can be signs that your router is starting to fail.
- **Weak connections in some rooms** — Is your Wi-Fi connection strong in some places but weak or nonexistent in others? Consider upgrading to a mesh router, which uses multiple devices to extend the range of your network and spread a steadier signal throughout your entire home.
- **Running hot** — It's normal for routers to get a little warm when working, but if yours is too hot to touch comfortably, it's overheated from being overworked. Older routers weren't built to sustain all the internet-connected devices many households use today.
- **Lacks needed features** — It may be time to replace an older router if it lacks important features found in today's models, such as Wi-Fi 6 and WPA3, the latest generations of Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi security, respectively.

**Don't want to think about Wi-Fi issues? Router maintenance and replacement is included in our OmniFi Managed Wi-Fi service. For details, call 641-749-2531.**