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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bristow, NE Recognized as a Smart Rural Community<sup>SM</sup>

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company (NNTC) recognized the Village of Bristow, NE as a Smart Rural Community<sup>SM</sup> (SRC) on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Community Hall in Bristow at an open house sponsored by NNTC.

The designation comes from the Rural Broadband Association (NTCA) in conjunction with NNTC. This recognition is presented to those Broadband enabled communities who see an importance of Broadband Internet as a way to connect and grow through the capabilities of expanded online education, remote work, telehealth, ag technology, economic development, government services, safety and security. Bristow, NE is a Gig-Certified capable community enabling technology for all those who live and work there.

About two dozen residents stopped by during the two-hour open house. Sharon Eilers of Bristow brought her famous long johns, cinnamon rolls and cherry-filled donuts. Marlo Johnson, also of Bristow, provided fruit cups, coffee and her cleaning spirit! Bristow residents were invited to enjoy each other's company while NNTC GM Pat McElroy talked about the importance of being part of the cooperative.

"\$372,000 has been paid back right here in Bristow, which is pretty amazing for a town this size," said McElroy.

McElroy recognized the village and presented a The Smart Rural Community<sup>SM</sup> designation award to village board member Gary Flanders.

About NNTC:

*Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company is a telephone, internet and television service provider headquartered in Jackson, NE. NNTC serves 30 communities throughout 24 counties in northeast Nebraska. Founded in 1955, NNTC is one of Nebraska's first telephone cooperatives providing fiber service to 100% of its customers.*

About NTCA:

*NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association is the premier association representing nearly 850 independent, community-based telecommunications companies that are leading innovation in rural and small-town America. NTCA members are leading the technological evolution for rural consumers, delivering robust and high-quality services over future-proof networks that make rural communities vibrant places in which to live and do business. Visit NTCA at [www.ntca.org](http://www.ntca.org).*