

Viaero 4G network expands

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Viaero Wireless's 4G network recently expanded with upgrading into southwest Nebraska counties of Chase and Perkins, which border Phillips County in Colorado.

Viaero spokesperson Lisa Murray said last week that the 4G service in Imperial, Neb., and the surrounding area has been fully tested and is now operational.

While 4G service for higher speed has been operational in the northeast Colorado area since last November, Viaero continues to offer unlimited data, which Murray highlights as a tremendous value.

She emphasized the importance of being educated on data usage, as well as the advantage of unlimited data to avoid overage charges.

For instance, she estimated that movie streaming involves approximately 1 GB of data use per hour and music streaming requires approximately 60 MB of data use per hour. The new unlimited rate plan is a complement to the 4G faster speed, she added.

4G, which is the latest wireless technology available, increases data speeds on the Viaero network up to 20 times the speed of the former service provided, according to Murray.

Because of their network configuration, Viaero customers can talk on the phone while also accessing the Internet. That's not possible with all wireless networks.

Viaero owner Frank DiRico of Fort Morgan said the company has invested more than \$70 million over the past two years to upgrade its operating systems to 4G in many areas of its rural coverage region.

Viaero owns its cellular towers and specializes in providing service specifically in rural areas in Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas.

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DiRico noted that rural areas don't get the full attention of national carriers, so the 4G upgrade fills the coverage gap for needed high-speed wireless data networks.

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