

The Connection

Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc.

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Manager's Moment.... Rod Bowar

Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc., like most of the area businesses, encourages its staff to be involved in the community. I would like to say we are extremely proud of all the volunteer activities the members of our staff are involved in.

The list of organizations is long, but includes: churches, Chamber, T+C Club, Lions, Fire departments, 4-H, Modern Woodmen, and youth baseball just to name a few. I also don't want to forget probably the biggest item that doesn't require an organization; just being a good, considerate neighbor.

In this and future newsletters we will be highlighting some of our staff's involvement in the community.

Like others in our small communities, these folks take time out of their schedule to volunteer do these activities. This is what makes our community great and also keeps our community going.

Once again I want to say thank you to all our staff, along with all the other members of our community, that donate their time so graciously to volunteer activities. It does not go unnoticed!!

Kennebec Firefighters Assist in Battling Black Hills Fires

Kennebec Telephone Company would like to thank the firefighters that have given up their time to travel to assist with all the recent wildfires.

KTCI employees: Rod Bowar, Chaz Bowar, Jake Longville and Adam Grubl, along with other KFD volunteers, have taken one or more three day shifts on fires in the southern Black Hills.



Congratulations to the "Lyman Rookies," Champions in the Bob Haley Rosebud League Tournament. Coached by KTCI Plant Manager Matt Collins and Assistant Coach Grady Floyd. Pictured are, standing L-R: Grady Floyd, Colton Collins, Damian Abrahamson, Stratton Eppard, Toby Estes, Ryker Choal, Gunner Johnson, and Matt Collins. Kneeling, L-R: Sam McClanahan, Cash Langdeau, Shiloh Mowry, Blake Brodrecht, and Galen Garreaux. *Photo Courtesy of Randi Diehm*



Lifeline... do you Qualify?



Lifeline and Tribal Lifeline are government benefit programs that provide discounts on monthly telephone service for eligible, low-income consumers to help ensure they have the opportunities and security that telephone service affords, including being able to connect to jobs, family, and 911 services. Lifeline and Tribal Lifeline are supported by the federal Universal Service Fund (USF).

What Benefits are Available Under the Lifeline and Tribal Lifeline Programs? These programs provide discounts on monthly telephone service (*wireline or wireless*) for eligible consumers. These discounts average **\$9.25** per month, and may be more depending on the state. Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Lifeline/Tribal Lifeline service at the same time. That is, eligible low-income consumers may receive a discount on **either** a wireline or a wireless service, **but may not receive the same discount on both services at the same time.** Additionally, only ONE Lifeline or Tribal Lifeline service may be obtained per household. “Household” is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address as one economic unit. An “economic unit” is defined as “all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household.” Lifeline support is available to eligible, low-income consumers living in group living facilities. Lifeline applicants must prove when initially enrolling in the program that any other Lifeline/ Tribal Lifeline recipients residing at their residential address are part of

a separate household.

In some cases, Lifeline/Tribal Lifeline also includes Toll Limitation Service, which enables a telephone subscriber to limit the amount of long distance calls that can be made from a telephone.

In addition to Tribal Lifeline, Tribal Link Up is also available to eligible, low-income consumers living on Tribal lands with a one-time discount of up to \$100 on the initial installation or activation of a wireline or wireless telephone for the primary residence. Tribal Lands Link Up also allows consumers to pay the remaining amount that they owe on a deferred schedule, interest-free. Federal rules prohibit eligible, low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Link Up discount at a primary residence. Eligible consumers may be eligible for Link Up again only after moving to a new primary residence. Link Up support is only offered to carriers who are building out infrastructure on Tribal lands so not all carriers may discount their activation fee.

Enhanced benefits are provided to low-income consumers who live on a federally recognized Indian Tribe’s reservation.

For more information on these programs, you may call our office, or check out <http://www.fcc.gov/guides/lifeline-and-link-affordable-telephone-service-income-eligible-consumers> on the web.



Time to send the kids back to school!

The “home phone” is yours again!

**Unlimited Long Distance-
only 21.95 per month**



What's the 411?

Kennebec Telephone company is currently in the process of setting up community information lines for both Kennebec & Presho.

The main number will be listed in the phone directory, and could be used on the city's website, facebook page or any print material that promotes the city.

This is not a "voice mailbox", callers will not be able to leave messages. But it is an auto attendant information center. When called, you will first get a main greeting, then choose from which organization you need information. For example: "Welcome to the KennebecCommunity Information Line! For Church information press 1, Thank you for calling the Kennebec church line; press 1 for

the Kennebec Lutheran church; and you may get: Thank you for calling the Kennebec Lutheran Church information line, services are held at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings.

Organizations choosing to participate will be given their own passwords to record their own unique messages. These messages may be changed at any time.

Hours of operation, meeting dates & times, special events, service times for churches, contact information, the options are wide open! For more information on getting your group on the information line, please call 869-2220.

Internet/computer classes Planned for Presho Library

Looking to expand your "tech-knowledge"? The Presho Library and Kennebec Telephone Company are working together to sponsor some classes that might be right up your alley!

With all the new devices available, the web is fast becoming the "younger generation's" main mode of communication. And our aim is to make it a little less scary! There are no dumb questions, if you don't get it there's a good chance someone else may also be having the same issue.

Plans are in the works to have an organizational meeting on August 15th at 7 pm at the Library. Space, and access to computers is limited. If you're interested in attending, please call either KTCI at 869-2220 or the Presho Library 895-2443.

Welcome New Employee

Dennis Streit



Dennis Streit has joined the staff at Kennebec Telephone Company. Dennis grew up in Kennebec and is a Lyman High Alum. Prior to his return to Kennebec, Dennis worked at ELM Locating based in Parkston, SD.

When he's not working, Dennis enjoys...sleeping, who doesn't! He also likes to hunt and fish.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Occasionally my cable picture goes all staticky. Is there anything I can try to fix this problem before I make a service call?

A: If just one TV is staticky, there are a couple things you can try before calling us. First check that all the connections are secure... from the box to the tv. Next, try powering down the cable box by unplugging it for 30 seconds. Turn it back on and see if everything goes back to normal. Next step... call our office.

Q: Does Kennebec Telephone have an office in Pierre?

A: Yes but it is under the name Technology & Communications Specialists or TCS. We have a technician based out of there to take care of the area.

Q: Is Kennebec Telephone installing security systems?

A: Yes, however we prefer to call them monitoring systems, because for our area the more practical use is to monitor temperature, freezers, water levels, and things of this nature. We can also install video monitoring systems that record. These can be great for preventing vandalism.

*Our mission is to provide the highest quality
 telecommunications and information
 service to our customers at an affordable price.
 We will strive to offer prompt, friendly,
 and dependable service along with the latest technology
 to attain the highest possible customer satisfaction.*

If you would like more information or
 have questions about anything
 in this newsletter, feel free to contact us at
 605-869-2220.