



Volume 15 Issue 7
July 2020

THE CONNECTION

Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc.

KTC Construction Update

Summertime is a very busy time for KTC Construction. Of course, depending on the weather, so is every other time of year! This crew is very aware of the weather due to the nature of their work; they are the “diggers” of the company! The current pandemic has done nothing to slow them down, as they work outside.

The directional boring crew works all over the state, often times for weeks at a time! They have done work for municipalities, utilities, and individuals. The machine they use is able to dig under streets and other areas with minimal disruption to the ground below. Water lines, electric lines, and gas lines around the state have kept them busy year-round!

KTC Construction crews also install water lines and cattle waterers all over the area, in barnyards, feedlots, and in the middle of pastures. They do water lines to new construction sites, and repairs on water and sewer lines all over the area. And speaking of water, these are the same guys that install and service underground sprinklers to keep those lawns nice and green!

As Kennebec Telephone is coming to nearly full completion of Fiber Optics to all of our rural customers, getting them the same speeds that their town friends have, plowing in the fiber to the “last mile” is a priority for KTC Construction.

Say hello to our crew!



Matt Collins



Justin Collins



Jake Janssen



Jack Miller



Chris Schwartz



Robert Thompson



Jadeon Biggers



Jade Collins



McCall Gamos



Tim Boysen



Corbin Lingemann



Travis Love

4th
of
July

We will be closed
on Friday, July 3rd for
the Independence Day Holiday.

Please call our After hours
number if needed



869-2424



Summertime, and the Grilling is Easy!

We've all been cooped up for way too long; it's time to get outside and see friends! Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc.'s "wiener wagon" and picnic table are ready to hit the road for a party at your

business, home, farm, church, or wherever you are having a good time! The table also has some great umbrellas- to keep the sun at bay!

If you're looking for more, we also have a Beanbag board set that can up your outdoor FUN game! This party on wheels can be reserved by calling 869-2220.



*Say Hello to New
Charley's Store
Manager
Michelle
Langenbau*

Look who's back Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc.!

Michelle Langenbau took the reins as Store Manager this month.

Michelle is a lifelong Kennebec resident, and she loves the smalltown atmosphere and finds its a great place to raise kids.

Prior to working at Charley's, she was employed at Titles of Dakota, BW Insurance, and Agtegra. Her first job was with KTCI, she was hired by Delores Johnstone back in 1988!

Michelle has been happily married to Rusty for 22 years. "I like to spend time outdoors, whether it's sitting along the bank fishing, or around a bonfire with the family. Their family includes Chris & Bethany and their three kids, Sophia, Skyler and Savin.

Harley and his fiance Ashley, Brittany and her fiance Michael- both weddings this August. And Brooke, a 2020 LHS graduate.



Michelle on KTCI's 1989 SD Centennial Float with Tyrone & Tobi Miller



Hayden Schelske, Powercom Apprentice Electrician, has been part of the KTCI family for five years He is seen here receiving his bonus check from Powercom Manager, Chaz Bower.

Hayden started working with Powercom during his Senior year in High School, worked part time through his education at Mitchell Technical Institute, and then joined the company full time upon completion of his program.

KTCI began the Loyalty bonus, as an incentive to retain staff. Every five years worked, employees are eligible for the next step up on their bonus check.

Congratulations, Hayden!

Kennebec Telephone pays Gross Receipts to local schools

Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc. recently paid the 2020 gross receipts taxes in the amount of \$118,132.76 to Lyman County, \$12.96 went to Mellette County, and \$12.00 went to Tripp County. Kennebec Telephone is taxed at a rate of four percent of the gross receipts. The tax is paid to the county in which the revenue was generated. Then the county disburses these taxes to the school districts in the county based on the revenue generated by customers in each school district.

Lifeline



Overcoming the digital divide & opening doors to opportunity

Lifeline Telephone Assistance Programs are available for qualifying subscribers. These programs provide a monthly service discount on telephone and qualifying broadband services. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available with the Lifeline Program.

To Qualify for Lifeline, subscribers must either have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- *Medicaid
- *Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- *Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- *Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit

A subscriber living on Tribal lands and is eligible for Tribal Linkup and Tribal Lifeline. They may also qualify for Lifeline by participation in any of the above-listed qualifying assistance programs or one of the following Tribal-specific federal assistance programs:

- *BIA General Assistance
- *Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- *Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met)
- *Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Tribal subscribers may also qualify if the household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

KTCL's voice and bundled broadband services are Lifeline-supported services. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline Program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year.

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household. A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully, make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine, imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

The services described above are offered to all customers in KTCL's service area. If you have any questions regarding our service, please call our office at 869-2220. You are also welcome to visit our business office at 220 S Main Street in Kennebec, SD.

This notice is posted in accordance with South Dakota Public Utilities commission order IC97-092 and pursuant to 47 United State Section 214 € and 47 Code of Federal Regulations Sections.



The Build Dakota Scholarship Fund was established to assist in overcoming the workforce shortage South Dakota faces. While the original \$50 million fund has made and will continue to make a significant impact by providing students with training in high-need

technical areas, industry partners help to extend the benefit across the state even further.

STM Benefits for Industry:

- Stretch the Million (STM) partnerships are a win-win for students at Lake Area Technical College and for participating industry.
- All Students accepting a Build Dakota Scholarship must agree to work in that field in the State of South Dakota for three years upon graduation from a technical college.
- Students with a STM partner commit to work for their STM partner for the three years upon graduation from Lake Area

Technical College.

- The overall goal of the Stretch the Million (STM) program is to add even more skilled employees to the critical needs workforce pipeline in South Dakota.
- Each year more than fifty companies partner with Lake Area Technical College through Build Dakota!

STM Benefits for Student Scholars:

- Businesses sponsor students, committing to pay a portion of their program expenses. Build Dakota picks up the other portion. The student earns a full-ride scholarship in a high-demand field!
- Students secure employment prior to graduation.
- Students gain valuable on-the-job training and part-time employment while in school (or during the summer) by working side by side with their sponsoring employer.

<https://www.builddakotascholarships.com/>

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After Hours Please Call 869-2424

KENNEBEC TELEPHONE CO., INC.  **More than "just" a telephone company!**



- *Install & repair water lines, sewer lines, and hydrants.
- *Excavation
- *Sell & install tire tank, Ritchie, Cobett, and Geothermal waterers
- *Directional boring
- *Gravel hauling
- *Demolition work



- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Residential | Network wiring |
| Commercial | New build |
| Agricultural | Renovation |
| Overhead and | Locating |
| Underground electric | |
| Line work | |



For all your car, Pickup and Semi needs
Oil Changes, Tires, Hydraulic hoses
Full service NAPA Auto Care Center!



NAPA Auto Parts Store
For all your Car, Pickup and Semi needs!



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|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Security systems | Key systems |
| Video Monitoring systems | PBX systems |
| Networking | Smart home applications |
| Computer repair | |

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. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.