

the connection

Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc.

Manager's Moment "Changes"



I'll hit my 15-year milestone here at Kennebec Telephone this year, and 25 years since I started at Mitchell Technical Institute. By the way, one of the classes I had was TV/VCR repair. I've been doing this for over half of my life. It goes without saying that there have been a few changes over the years. I'm struggling to come up with any of the services that we provide that haven't changed. Some changes have been transparent to the customer, others, have completely changed the service, the way we provide it, or the way it is used. For better or worse? You can decide.

I got my first landline phone line in 1994 when I went to Mitchell Tech. I had a \$20, CORD-ED Radio Shack phone with a separate answering machine that used 2 cassette tapes. My first CATV connection was at that same time. Connect the cable to the TV, and your channels were all there. I got my first cell phone in 1996. It was a Motorola Microtac flip phone. It was awesome as long as I didn't run out of minutes. I think I had 200 minutes per month of talk time, and talking was all you could do on that phone. The first time I got on the internet was in 1998 over a dialup connection. It was at a blazing fast speed of 64 Kilobits/second.

Twenty-five years later. I still have a landline phone, but it's CORDLESS. I have voicemail rather than an answering machine. If I get a message, I get an email notification and a text notification on my cell phone. My cell phone is still a Motorola. It's a touch screen and has unlimited voice, text, and data. My cell phone is a much better computer than the one I used to get on the internet for the first time. Video/CATV is all over the place. We offer RealChoice TV that comes over your internet connection to a Roku device to get High Definition video. If you have the right equipment, there are a vast number of video providers out there for your viewing pleasure. At my home, 6 miles from town, I have 25 Megabits/second internet connection which is our base package on fiber. That's around 390 times faster than a dialup connection.

Where will we be in another 25 years?

Trusty Mertens
CO/Plant Manager



**Shamrock Shuffle-parade-rummage sale-food & fun
Presho, SD Saturday, March 16th**





Rod Bowar, John Hloucha (5 yrs), Matt Collins, (30 years), Adam Frank (5 years), Tiarra Bowar (15 Years), Ike Reumann (15 Years), Veronica Gerard (5 years), and Chris Zirpel (10 Years).



A good time was had by all, at the Kennebec Telephone Company "Christmas" Party, held February 1st at Jet Lanes in Presho. A fabulous meal was followed by the "Years of Service" Awards; recipients are shown above. With bowling, pool, darts, and beanbags available, the party was a great success. Many thanks to



Jet Lanes,
Rod, and the Board of Kennebec Telephone,
 for such a fun evening!

Individual 4G Cell Phone Plans Starting at \$15 per Month!

Still using that old flip phone? 3G service will no longer work in the near future, so it's time for an upgrade!



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Congratulations Drawing Winners!

Kennebec Telephone Company Inc, and Charley's Welding & Auto, would like to say thank you to everyone who braved the "arctic conditions" to attend the Presho Area Chamber's Farm & Home Show on Saturday, February 23rd!

And Congratulations to the winners of our drawings:
From Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc:

- Renee Miller- Roku Ultra Streaming Device
- Gavin Bennett- Amazon Fire Stick Streaming Device

From Charley's Welding & Auto Repair:

- Heather Hoffman-Tool Set
- Will Stanley- NAPA Toy Pickup

If you did not get your prize the day of the show, please stop by Charley's or call 869-6272, and Samantha will get the prize to you.

The latest edition of the KTCI Pocket Phone Directory was also available at the show. If you missed out, or need additional copies, call our office at 869-2220.

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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.

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