

# The Connection



*Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc.*

*happy new year*

*From all Divisions of Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc*

## MANAGER'S MOMENT

with Tom Kulm Charley's Welding & Auto

With the weather continuing to be a bit on the chilly side, the last thing you want to think about is a dead battery!



Batteries last for around three to five years. If your battery falls in that range and you notice unusual symptoms, be suspicious.

Does the engine seem to turn over very slowly when you turn the key? Do you hear clicking or notice the headlights dimming when you try to start the car? Maybe your power windows are sluggish, or you straight-out have a battery warning sign on the dash.

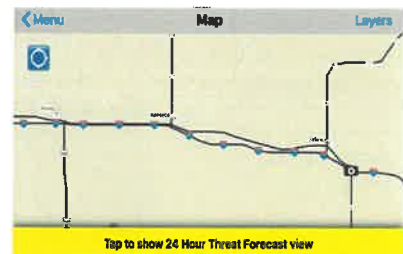
There are a number of steps you can take to avoid winter battery surprises. If possible, keep your car in a garage, offering at least a small bit of insulation from the cold when not in use. Also, keep the terminals clean from buildup and rust by using battery cleaner and protectant spray. Get regular checks as your battery ages, even in the summer months.

Stop into Charley's Welding and Auto Repair during the month of January, and take advantage of our **Winter Check Special** for only \$9.99. With the Winter Check Special, we will test your battery, clean the battery connections and posts and check your vehicles antifreeze!

## Know the Snow before you go!



Call- Check on Line  
Get the App!



# Christmas Party!



Kennebec Telephone Company's annual Company Christmas party was held at Arrowwood Cedar Shore, on Friday, December 6th. Social hour with appetizers was followed by a great meal!

Pictured above is Trusty Mertens receiving his 15 year award from Matt Collins. Sam Sundall recieved his 10 year plaque from Charley's manager Tom Kulm. And Jack Miller received his 5 year award from Matt Collins. Jake Janssen, was unable to make the party also receives his 5 year award this year.

## WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT EVENT 2019



Kennebec Telephone hosted the Lyman High School Senior and Junior classes for their 5th annual Recruitment event on Wednesday, December 18, 2019.

This event stresses the desire to have our youth

attend additional education after they graduate from high school, but to remember that there are opportunities for employment right here in Lyman County, and it should be considered with their other options.

Kennebec Telephone is proud to have 16 Full-time Employees and 10 Part-time Employees that have graduated from LHS. And we currently have 3 LHS students working part time!

ity.

Many of our employees have received financial assistance through the company to further their knowledge and their positions.



Speakers included managers and supervisors from all divisions of KTCI. A slideshow explained what each division of the company does and opportunities that may interest the students, if not now, perhaps at some time in their future.

An added bonus this year, was the Golden West "Fence Posts to Fiber Optics" display trailer.



Questions from the group were encouraged, and

they came up with some good ones. Of course, it didn't hurt that each time they asked a question, their names were entered into a drawing for door prizes.



## New(ish) and Returning Employees



**Corbin Lingemann**  
**Maintenance**

Corbin lives in Chamberlain, he was formerly employed in ND in the oil field. He's a grad of Chamberlain HS, and he enjoys golfing & boating when he has some spare time



**Lee Kercher**  
**Automotive Technician**  
**at Charley's**

A former employee at Willrodt Motors, Lee resides in Oacoma. He enjoys fishing, hunting, and just being outdoors



**Jake Longville**  
**Powercom**

Jake recently returned to Powercom, after a stint at Agtegra. He started at Kennebec Telephone while he was in high school, attended MTI, and returned as an electrician.

## Are you, or someone you know, the next KTCI Employee?

### Automotive Technician Position Available

Charley's Welding and Auto Repair, a NAPA Auto Care Center and a division of Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc., has a full-time Automotive Technician position open to serve the local and agricultural community of Kennebec, SD and other surrounding areas. Duties consist of oil changes, tire repair, hydraulic hose repair, new sales of tires/truck tires/trailers, routine maintenance and repair of various equipment including trucks, trailers, trenchers, loaders, ATVs, lawn equipment, etc., and other duties as assigned. Employee must have a valid driver license, and be able to obtain a CDL. Our community has lots to offer with its many businesses, friendly people, good school, and the exceptional hunting and fishing. What KTCI is seeking is an individual that is willing to work hard and make a difference in providing quality service to our customers. Kennebec Telephone has competitive wages and EXCELLENT benefits! There is a potential hiring bonus available with this position as well! Please submit resume to Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc., P.O. Box 158 Kennebec, SD 57544. If you have questions, please contact Matt or Debbie at 605-869-2220.

## 3G Cell Service "Sundown" Update

You may remember, about a year ago, we were advised that 3G cell service would no longer be available after December 31, 2019. Well, that deadline has been extended, so it's not quite as dire a situation as it could have been. However, the end is still on the horizon; here is the latest scoop.

### **BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2020:**

- Roaming outside the US will not work
- Activating, or switching from one 3g device to another will not be allowed.
- You should not be able to activate a 4G non-HD Device.
- Upgrades from 3G to 4G or 5G devices will be allowed.

### **BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2021:**

All devices will be moved to HD Voice LTE network, the currently used CDMA Network remains

available as-is until December 31, 2020. Any service requests related to CDMA devices may receive limited support and customers are encouraged to upgrade to newer technology.

### **DEVICES IMPACTED:**

3G-only devices, including 3G basic phones and 3G smartphones.

4G LTE smartphones that do not support HD Voice (ex: Apple® iPhone® 5s or prior).

So, what does this mean for you?

It means that as KTC Wireless customer, your 3G phone (old flip phone/iPhone 5 or older/3G Android devices) will work for another year. However, as towers are converted, your service may deteriorate. (Other carriers will have a different timeline- contact your carrier for details). If you have any questions, call us at 869-2220.

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After Hours Please Call 869-2424

## KENNEBEC TELEPHONE Co., INC.

More than "just" a telephone company!

### KTC CONSTRUCTION

A DIVISION OF KENNEBEC TELEPHONE CO., INC.



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

### POWERCOM ELECTRIC & COMMUNICATION

A Division of Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc.

CHAMBERLAIN, SD (605) 234-0528  
KENNEBEC, SD (605) 869-2150

- Residential
- Commercial
- Farm & Ranch
- Overhead and under-ground electric Line work
- Network wiring
- New build
- Renovation
- locating

### CHARLEY'S Welding & Auto Repair



202 S. FOURTH ST.  
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- Oil Changes
- Tires
- Hydraulic hoses
- Full service NAPA Auto Care Center!

### CHAMBERLAIN



134 S MAIN ST.  
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(605) 234-6009

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

### Technology & Communication Specialists

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

*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.*