

Office Closed

West River Cooperative Telephone Company's office will be closed Friday, July 3rd for Independence Day.

Happy 4th of July!

[facebook.com/WRCTC](https://www.facebook.com/WRCTC)

Scholarship Winners

West River Cooperative Telephone Company (WRCTC) and Grand Electric Cooperative teamed together for the 14th year to award \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors from area school districts. Winners have been awarded their certificates at the Academic Awards programs at their respective schools.

Graduating seniors receiving the \$500 scholarships are: Harding County School District – Harley Mollman, son of Craig Mollman and Jennifer Wickstrom, Buffalo; Lemmon School District – Katie Sackmann, daughter of Jeffrey and Carla Sackmann, Lemmon; Bison School District – Kiana Brockel, daughter of Kelvin and Jean Brockel, Shadehill; Faith School District – Teigen Grubl, son of Shane and Launa Grubl, Red Owl and Newell School District – Millie Hanson, daughter of Mike and Michelle Hanson, Nisland.

WRCTC and Grand Electric sponsor this scholarship program to help serve as an investment in the economic future of our rural area. 456-1835 It is used to recognize and encourage the academic achievements of students.



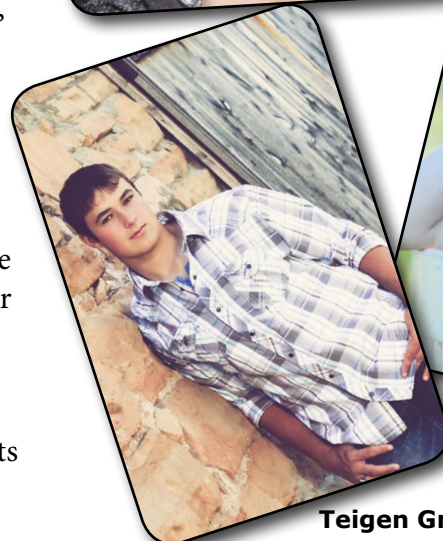
Harley Mollman



Katie Sackmann



Kiana Brockel



Teigen Grubl



Millie Hanson

inside this issue

CPNI Information	2
Directory Photo Contest	2
Lifeline Program	3-4
Skjoldal Resigns	3
811 - Know What's Below.....	4
New Members.....	4
Find Your Phone #	4

**Congratulations to these outstanding students.
WRCTC and Grand Electric wish you the best of luck!**

CPNI: What it Means to You

What is CPNI?

Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) is data 244-5569 collected by telecommunications carriers. This information includes the time, date, duration and destination number of each call as well as your long distance carrier. It can also include calling features such as VoiceMail or Call Waiting.

What information is not CPNI?

Information such as your name, address, telephone number and non-telecommunication services including Internet or Cable Television is not considered CPNI.

How am I protected?

Telecommunication companies must keep your information confidential. When you call in with questions about your telephone account, the FCC made it mandatory that you 866-4426 be “authenticated” prior to discussing details of your account.

Can I add an authorized user to my account?

In order to add an authorized 375-3171 user to your account, you must contact your telephone company and request an additional user form.

What if I have more questions?

Please contact our office at 777 or 605-244-5213.

2016 Directory Photo Contest This year's theme is “WILDLIFE”

Snap a photo capturing our local wildlife and you could win \$100! Deadline to enter is August 14, 2015. Entries may be emailed to westriver@sdplains.com or mailed to WRCTC, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620.

- **1st Place – \$100**
- **2nd Place – \$50**
- **3rd Place – \$25**

RULES: The photo must be an original taken by a WRCTC member. Wildlife must be alive and unharmed in the photo. Photos must be of local wildlife within WRCTC's service area and include the location where the photo was taken. Each customer may submit TWO photos. Photos may also be submitted on a computer disc or e-mailed as a jpeg or pdf file. The photos must be in full-color and will not be returned to the customer. Submission of the photo releases all right of ownership of the photo and authorizes WRCTC to publish the photo on the directory cover, or use as WRCTC desires, allowing proper acknowledgement to the photographer. The photographer who captures first place will see his/her photo on the front cover of the 2016 directory and will be awarded a \$100 cash prize; second place will receive \$50 and third place will receive \$25. Employees and Directors are not eligible.



Lifeline: Affordable Telephone Service for Income-Eligible Consumers

Background

Lifeline is a government benefit program that provides discounts on monthly telephone 376-3248 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 is supported by the Federal Universal Service Fund (USF).

What Benefits are Available Under the Lifeline Program?

Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic monthly local telephone service. An eligible customer will receive a discount of \$9.25 per month. Federal rules prohibit eligible low-income consumers from receiving more than ONE Lifeline service per household. That is, eligible low-income consumers may receive a Lifeline discount on either a wireline or a wireless service, but may not receive a Lifeline discount on both services at the same time. Additionally, only ONE 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 may demonstrate when initially enrolling in the program that any other Lifeline recipients residing at their residential address are part of a separate household.

Lifeline can also include Toll Limitation Service, which enables a telephone subscriber to limit the amount of long distance calls that 257-2718 can be made from a telephone.

Link Up provides 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 972-4573 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



Susie Skjoldal Resigns



Customer Service/Marketing Supervisor, Susie Skjoldal, resigned from her position at WRCTC, effective April 22. Susie began her career at Grand on June 17, 1996 as a Secretary which then changed to the title of Customer Service Representative in 2004. She celebrated 15 years in June of 2011 and a few months later in November, was promoted to Customer Service Supervisor, overseeing the Customer Service Representatives.

Susie's kindness and compassion 456-1984 for others and her bubbly personality will be greatly missed at the Cooperative. She was a dedicated employee who balanced her life on their ranch north of Bison with her second home here at the office for nearly 19 years. We wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors.

(continued on page 4)

New WRCTC Members

Bison, Meadow, Sorum

Stateline Construction, LLC	866-4460
Zoller, Laurie	244-5256

Buffalo

Bowen, Oliver	375-3865
Bruce, David & Cathy	375-3868
Madsen, Trent	375-3180
Marron, Julia	375-3160
Hanson, Cheyenne	797-4654
Schell, Tim (Tenant)	972-4591

Lemmon

Dauwen, Stefanie	374-4294
Dietz, Meagan	376-4298
Hammer, Joanne	374-4367
Holdsclaw, Leanna	376-4427
Modern Expressions Fabric	374-4431

Newell

Dunn, Lynn	456-2273
Fehr, Jessica	456-3659
Steffe, Dirl & Vicki	456-3729
Yost, Delwin & Susan	456-3365

Nisland

Kessel, Quinn	257-2892
Shaykett, Brodie	257-2894
Tope, Milton	257-2893

**HELP is only a phone
call away (24/7 Support)**

SDPlains Help Desk 888-464-9513
WildBlue Help Desk 888-212-5370

Find Your Phone Number

Ten telephone numbers were hidden in last month's newsletter. Those members who hunted and found their number were: Larry Strickland, Belle Fourche; Dale Pies, Vale; Jerry Nelson, Buffalo; Wade Hofer, Meadow; Lola Hedstrom, Bison and Kevin Deschamps, Newell. Hidden in this issue are ten new numbers. If you find YOUR number, all you have to do is notify our office. The \$10 will then be deducted off your telephone bill. New connect numbers do not count. **Deadline is June 22, 2015.**

Lifeline (continued)

may discount their activation fee. Enhanced benefits are provided to low-income consumers who live on a federally recognized Indian Tribe's reservation.

How Do I Qualify for Lifeline Discounts?

The Lifeline program is 788-2953 available to eligible low-income consumers in every state, territory, commonwealth, and on Tribal lands. You must be eligible to enroll. To participate in the program, consumers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the federal Poverty Guidelines or participate in one of the following assistance programs:

- Medicaid 374-5314
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Head Start (Tribal lands only if eligible)
- State assistance programs (if applicable)

When you qualify for any of the above programs, you must complete a Lifeline Assistance Application. For more information, please contact our office at 605-244-5213 or 777.



**Call
Before
You Dig**

**Don't assume you know what's below.
Protect yourself and those around you.
Call 811 every time.**