

Office Closed

West River Cooperative Telephone Company's office will be closed Monday, May 27th for Memorial Day.



Tyler Heil is going to Washington, D.C.

Tyler Heil, Lemmon, won a FREE trip to Washington, D.C. by writing an outstanding 500 word essay discussing the advantages of keeping a landline phone. Tyler will join 100 other high school students (ages 16 or 17) from across rural America to learn about the role telecommunications play in rural communities. West River Cooperative Telephone Company is proud to be sponsoring Tyler to attend the 18th annual Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour on June 1 - 5, 2013, in Washington, D.C.

The trip will focus on the 374-5208 legislative and regulatory decisions made in Washington, D.C. that affect the telecommunications industry. Students will learn about the career opportunities the telecommunications industry has to offer.

The tour provides a forum for teens to meet and interact with their peers from other rural communities as well as key legislative, regulatory and government figures. On the tour, Tyler will enjoy visiting the U.S. Capitol, Supreme Court, National Cathedral, Smithsonian Institute, Arlington Cemetery, Roosevelt and Lincoln Memorials, Washington Monument and several other landmarks around the Nation's Capitol.

Tyler is the son of Tim and Delilah Heil of Lemmon, SD, and he will be a junior at Lemmon High School. Congratulations Tyler! WRCTC hopes you enjoy your trip.

According to Tyler, one of the many important reasons to keep a landline is family safety. He wrote, "landline phones offer additional protection to families around the country...many security systems today are wired through the landline telephone to automatically call for emergency personnel in situations where they are needed like burglary or fire. In these cases, going without a landline phone is sacrificing a family's safety."



on facebook

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Cooperative Day for KIDS!

West River Cooperative Telephone Company and Grand Electric are hosting a COOPERATIVE DAY FOR KIDS!

All children are 244-7459 welcome to join us for a fun-filled day of learning about cooperatives, playing games, jumping in the bounce house, watching electric safety demonstrations and MUCH MORE!



**FRIDAY
6/21/13
10 am - 2 pm
at
WRCTC &
Grand Electric**



FREE LUNCH
hot dogs, chips
and a drink will be
served at 12 pm

**Free Games
Safety
Demonstrations
Bounce House
Popcorn**

Upgrade or Add a New Service and Receive...



kindle fire

Upgrade your phone 456-2131 service to **ActPak IP, ActPak VP or ActPak VIP** & receive a *Kindle Fire!*

Upgrade to **ActPack VIP or VP** with the **Digital Tier** & receive a *Kindle Fire HD!*

Already Have WestNet DSL?

Upgrade your Internet speed to 6 Mbps & receive a *Kindle Fire HD!*

Already have Cable TV?

Upgrade to the Digital Tier & 375-3475 receive a *Canon® Digital Camera!*



A two-year contract is required for all promotions. Services not available in all areas. Some restrictions apply. ActPak abbreviations are as follows: V = Video (basic cable television); I = 4 Mbps high-speed Internet; P = Phone service with 150 long-distance minutes and 4 calling features. Promotional offers end June 28, 2013.

5th and 6th Graders Visit WRCTC

The Bison 5th grade and 6th grade classes visited WRCTC to learn about the telecommunications industry. Trevor Fisher, Lead Central Office Technician, and Eric Kahler, Journeyman Combination Technician, gave the students a tour of the central office and explained how the telephone and Internet services travel from the central office to each of their homes. The students were given an in-depth look into the recently installed new switch and how it works compared to the old switch. Trevor and Eric showed them what fiber optic cable looks like and explained how the fiber optic strands carry voice and data as fast as light (186,000 miles per second!)



Trevor Fisher shows the 6th grade class a fiber optic strand, which is made of glass.

throughout our network and to the rest of the world without a time delay. The technicians explained how important it is to call 811 before you dig since the fiber optic cable is very expensive to repair. They also discussed what kind of schooling is required to become a telecommunications technician. To conclude the tour, the students were shown a map of our service territory.



Eric Kahler listening to a question from the 5th grade class concerning telecommunications.

New Employee



West River Cooperative 456-3202 Telephone Company and Grand Electric welcome Jeannie (Jean) Reiff to the employee group! Jeannie started on April 8, 2013, as a part-time Accountant. Some of her responsibilities include accounts payable, general ledger balancing and scanning documents 788-2909 and checks.

Jeannie attended Sibley Ocheyedan High School in Sibley, IA and Southeast Vo-Tech in Sioux Falls, SD. She and her husband, Lyle, have three children

Logan, Channing and Addisyn, and they reside in Bison. In her free time, Jeannie enjoys reading and spending time with family. Welcome Jeannie!

Call Before You Dig



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

Planning a home improvement job?
Planting a tree?
Installing a fence or deck? WAIT! Here's what you need to 257-2178 know first:

Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling **811** before each job. Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call – even small 376-5873 projects like planting trees and shrubs.

New WRCTC Members

Bison, Meadow, Sorum

Blazey, Salli 244-5491
 Harkins, Jess & Mary 244-5254
 Vanderpool, Khayen & Bridget 244-7139

Buffalo, Camp Crook

Brown, Sterling 797-4443
 Clanton, William & Andrea 375-3995
 Latham, Darwin 375-3576
 Shinabarger, Warren 375-3235

Lemmon

Dietz, Meagen 374-4298
 High Horse, Jerome 374-4297
 Reede, Marla 374-4299
 Rosenberg, Carol 374-9926
 Skjoldal, D. 374-4294
 Turning Point Christian Center 374-4295

Newell

Clements, Tristan & Jackie 456-3568
 Klynsma, Linda 456-3528
 Solem, Dori 456-3664

Nisland

Weiker, John & Diane 257-2861

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

Ten telephone numbers were hidden in last month's newsletter, and all TEN members found their number! Those members who hunted and found their number were: Ryan Beer, Lemmon; Justin Kerr, Camp Crook; Doug Lewton, Bison; Dwight Reede, Newell and Blanche Sands, Lemmon. 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 May 22, 2013.**

\$10
bill credit

4th Graders receive South Dakota Books



Students in Newell looking through their new books.

Did you know Faulkton, SD is known as the "Carousel City?" Or that Clark, SD celebrates Potato Days every summer with several "spudsy" events including



Students in Buffalo line up for a picture with their new books.

mashed potato wrestling? The 4th graders in Bison, Buffalo, Lemmon and Newell just learned these fun facts. WRCTC recently provided a copy of the book entitled *My South Dakota Book - Hometown Snapshots* to each 4th grade student to take home. The book simulates a fun, photographic road trip of 33 South Dakota 374-4271 towns and their interesting landmarks.

The book was published by SDN Communications out of Sioux Falls, SD of which WRCTC is a member. The project grew from a request 375-3782 by SDN's member companies. We hope this book will provide the students with the cultural and historical value of the small communities within this wonderful state and all the attractions they have to offer.

Local Graduation Schedule



May 12	2:00 p.m.	Lemmon
May 18	2:00 p.m.	Bison
May 18	2:00 p.m.	Buffalo
May 19	2:00 p.m.	Newell

Congratulations to the Class of 2013!