

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
JUNE 1, 2010**

Company: Splitrock Properties, Inc.  
dba Alliance Communications

Address: 612 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
  
PO Box 349  
  
Garretson, SD 57030

Telephone number: (605)594-3411

Company contact: Shirley Flanagan or Amy Ahlers

Study Area Code: 391657

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution.\* (See attached advertisement(s).)
- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.\* (See attached letter.)
- \*\* Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website. ([www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline-app.pdf](http://www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline-app.pdf))
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- \*\* Other (describe): Alliance does not publish its own directory. The Information is published by DEX.

\*Required



Dear Alliance Communications customer:

**Lifeline, Link Up and Toll Limitation Service support** provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service. **Note:** Telecommunications carriers cannot charge a Lifeline customer federal USF fees on the local service portion of the telephone bill.

*What type of discount is available?*

**Lifeline** assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive discounts of \$6.50 and \$1.75 each month.

**Link Up** reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive a 50 percent discount off of the one-time costs associated with initiating telephone service, up to a maximum of \$30. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200.

**Toll Limitation Service (TLS)** support allows eligible consumers who wish to avoid incurring long distance fees to choose toll blocking or toll control at no cost.

*How do I know whether I am eligible?*

Eligibility for Lifeline, Link Up and TLS support varies by state. Individuals who reside in states that have their own discount programs qualify for federal Lifeline, Link Up and TLS support if they meet the eligibility criteria established by their state. In states that do not provide state support, an individual is eligible if he or she participates in one of the following programs:

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program

*See reverse side for more information.*

*Speak and you'll be heard.*

In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines:

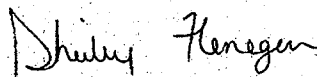
**2009 Lifeline Total Household Income Limits  
(135% of the Federal Poverty  
Guidelines)**

Including yourself, your household has:	Total Household income is at or below:
1 person	\$ 14,621
2 people	\$ 19,670
3 people	\$ 24,719
4 people	\$ 29,768
5 people	\$ 34,817
For each additional person, add	\$5,049

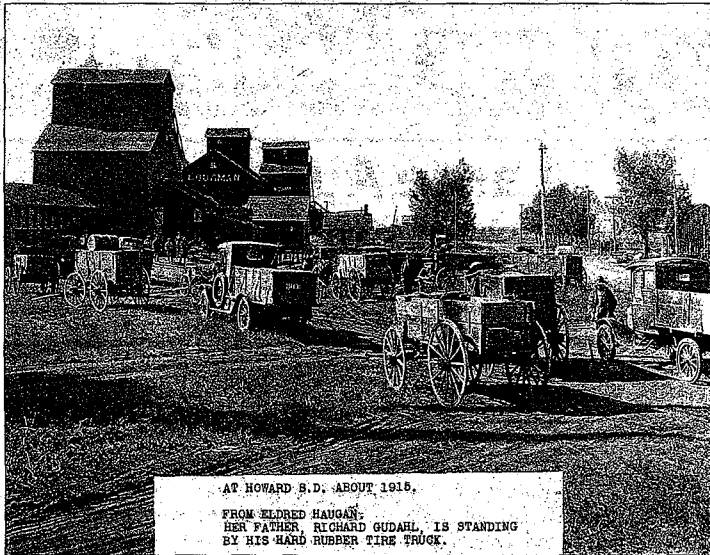
***How do I apply to receive Lifeline, Link Up and TLS support discounts?***

To receive an application for the Lifeline, Link Up and TLS discounts, please contact Alliance Communications by dialing 611 from any phone with Alliance service or call 1-800-701-4980. You can download the application at [www.alliancecom.net/pdf/Lifeline\\_App.pdf](http://www.alliancecom.net/pdf/Lifeline_App.pdf).

Sincerely,



Shirley Flanagan  
Customer Service Manager



AT HOWARD S.D., ABOUT 1915.  
FROM ELDRED HAUGAN.  
HEN FATHER, RICHARD GUDAHL, IS STANDING  
BY HIS HARD RUBBER TIRE TRUCK.

Submitted Photo

This old photo, circa 1915, was discovered recently at the Miner County Rural Life Museum as new displays were being set up. Looks like waiting in line at the elevator is a time honored tradition!

## Hard to Beat / Green Valley 4-H club minutes

Hard to Beat/ Green Valley 4-H Club met on November 1 in the Armory at 4:30 with nine members present. President Levi Hattervig called the meeting to order, Flag salute was led by Thad Walter and the 4-H pledge was led by Derick Burghardt. The treasurer's report was given by Ben Walter, as Tanner Miller was absent. Derick Burghardt gave the secretary's report. Our roll call was to bring socks for the sock arch at the Extension Office doorway during the Christmas season. A total of 24 pairs of socks were donated by the members.

Old business, we received a thank you for our donation of \$30 to the 4-H Foundation. Members also signed a thank you for the t-shirts that are donated at State Fair by Farm Credit Services to all that show livestock at the Fair. Lucas Hattervig gave a report on giving his Character Counts speech at the grade school. He gave the speech to each of the grades three through six.

This was the speech he gave at the Sioux Empire Fair this past

summer at the State Character Counts speech contest. Several teachers gave him rave reviews on the speech.

New business a committee of Hanna Peterson, Log Hattervig, Jessica and Derick Burghardt was set-up to decorate our tree at the Courthouse for the Enchanted Christmas season and deliver the socks for the sock arch. The committee will also take down the tree after Christmas over.

Our club has three of its members up for 4-H king this year. They are Thad Walter, Levi Hattervig, and Ben Walter. Good luck to them at recognition event tonight.

Club members will also help Katie Haak serve a soup supper before the Recognition Event. She is raising money for her trip that she won for top state horsing judge this past year.

It was brought up to go bowling at Village Bowl. Mitchell for our January meeting. Our leaders will check on this and report back.

Our next meeting will be November 22, 2009 at the 4-1 Building 6:00 p.m., potluck meal. Members are to bring a guest and their family who might be interested in joining our club. Roll-call will be a Christmas tradition you do in your family.

Meeting was adjourned and members watched Log Hattervig give a demonstration of "Christmas Balls." Each member then made some Christmas balls to use on our tree at the courthouse.

Hanna Peterson, Reporter

### Low-Income Telephone Assistance

#### Link-Up

Link-Up assists qualified low-income residents in obtaining basic telephone service by providing reduced connection charges for basic phone service by 50% or \$30, whichever is less.

#### Lifeline

Lifeline assists qualified low-income residents by providing a monthly credit on their telephone bill in an amount up to \$8.25.

To be eligible, an application must meet income-based criterion currently defined as at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines OR participate in at least one of the following:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income
- Food Stamps
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- National School Lunch Program
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

The Telephone Assistance Program (TAP) is available for Minnesota residents and is designed to make telephone service accessible to qualifying low-income residential households. Through this program, eligible households will receive a monthly discount on their telephone service.

#### How do I apply?

Federal law requires Alliance Communications to verify that you are eligible to receive the Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP credits on your telephone bill. To apply, Alliance needs you to do the following:

1. Fill out an application form. Call 1-800-701-4980 to receive an application, or go to [www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline\\_app.pdf](http://www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline_app.pdf).
2. Provide proof that you are eligible for the Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP programs. You will need to photocopy any cards or other documentation that proves you are eligible to receive the credits. You also may stop by our Baltic, Brandon or Garretson office with your completed form and proof of eligibility, and we will make a photocopy of your proof of eligibility for you.

**IMPORTANT:** Participating in Medicare does NOT qualify you for the Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP credits.

3. Return the form and your proof of eligibility to Alliance Communications, P.O. Box 349, Garretson, SD 57030. Or you can stop by our Baltic, Brandon or Garretson office if that is more convenient.

#### Could I become ineligible?

When you no longer participate in any of the qualifying public assistance programs, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP. You are obligated by law to advise Alliance Communications that you are ineligible.

#### For more information

If you have questions, contact Alliance Communications by dialing 611 or call 1-800-701-7980.

## Copier Available



We're dedicated to your pet's good health!

Preventative veterinary care, surgery and emergency care

**Teresa Roster, DVM**

**605-246-2854**

Conveniently located in the middle of nowhere  
4 3/4 S of Epiphany or 7 1/4 N of I-90, exit 350 on Hwy 25

## HOWARD COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

208 S. Main 772-4574

Lori Kollmann, PA-C  
Shelly Selland, CNP Mondays and Tuesdays  
Toll Free Number 1-877-875-9909

### November - December DOCTOR'S SCHEDULE

SERVICES AVAILABLE ON A SLIDING FEE SCALE  
Our Sliding Fee Program offers reduced prices on office visits and all other services provided in the clinic as well as the Prairie Winds Dental.

- Nov 19.....Dr. Wayne Wetzberger, Internal Medicine
- WED. Nov 25.....Dr. Aaron Prestbo, Family Medicine
- Dec 3.....Dr. Laurel Jennings, Family Medicine
- Dec 10.....Dr. Richard Sample, Family Medicine
- Dec 15.....MAMMOGRAMS
- Dec 17.....Dr. Wayne Wetzberger, Internal Medicine
- WED. Dec 23.....Dr. Aaron Prestbo, Family Medicine
- WED. Dec 30.....Dr. Laurel Jennings, Family Medicine

Early clinic hours on Fridays beginning September 25 through the assistance of TELE-HEALTH. Horizon's Dr. Lance Lim will be seeing patients starting at 7:30 a.m.

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Visit our web site [www.horizonhealthcare.org](http://www.horizonhealthcare.org)

### Ad / copy deadline reminder...

All ads and articles must be in our office by 10:00 a.m. on Monday preceding publication date.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Thank you. The staff of the Pioneer.

### Weather

by James McCain

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Nov. 10	57	34	0
Nov. 11	55	43	0
Nov. 12	55	49	0
Nov. 13	45	43	0
Nov. 14	48	31	.04
Nov. 15	48	21	0
Nov. 16	51	22	0

### Market Report

Howard Farmers Coop

As of Monday, November 16 close, the market prices were:

Corn	3.42
Beans	9.01
Oats	2.14
Spring Wheat	4.89
Winter Wheat	4.80