

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
JUNE 1, 2012**

Company: West River Telecommunications

Address: 101 Main St W  
Hazen ND 58545

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Telephone number: 701-748-2211

Company contact: Ranae Schmidt

Study Area Code: 605

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

  X   Advertise in media of general distribution.\* (See attached advertisement(s).)

  X   Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.\* (See attached letter.)

  X   Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.

  X   Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website.  
([http://www.westriv.com/subscribers/assistance\\_programs.htm](http://www.westriv.com/subscribers/assistance_programs.htm))

       Company's information posted on USAC website. *-NO longer ON website.*

       Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Required

# **General Lifeline/Link-Up Advertisements**

# WRT Plans Local Events for Lifeline Awareness Week

Access to local emergency services and community resources is vital to all residents. A local phone can make the difference between social connection and complete isolation.

WRT is reaching out to those who need phone service but can't afford it. During the nationwide "Lifeline Awareness Week," September 12-16, WRT will promote the Lifeline and Link Up Programs, which offer discounts to help residents gain access to basic local telephone service.

Telephone customers who are eligible for certain public assistance programs, or who meet income requirements qualify for these federal programs. Lifeline provides a discount on basic telephone service of at least \$8.25 per month, while Link Up provides a 50% discount on the initial charges to hook up primary telephone service.

WRT is planning to provide information and outreach throughout our service area in conjunction with National Lifeline Awareness Week. Area dates & times listed below. WRT encourages you to attend if you think you are eligible, know of someone who is in need of assistance or would simply like to learn more about the programs. Information is readily available at the WRT offices in Hazen, Beulah and Mobridge the entire year. Additional information is available on WRT's website ([www.westriv.com](http://www.westriv.com)) or by contacting WRT at 748-2211.

- Monday, September 12th
  - McClusky - Union Grill, 9 am to 10 am CT
  - Turtle Lake - Bev's Café, 11 am to 12 pm CT
  - Underwood - Underwood City Hall, 1 pm to 2 pm CT
  - Washburn - Lewis & Clark Café, 3 pm to 4 pm CT
- Tuesday, September 13th
  - Flasher - Fitterer Oil, 10 am to 11 am CT
  - Selfridge - Cenex, 12 pm to 1 pm CT
- Wednesday, September 14th
  - McLaughlin - Cenex, 10 am to 11 am MT
  - Fort Yates - Food Distribution Office, 1 pm - 2 pm CT
- Thursday, September 15th
  - Hebron - Wagon Wheel, 10 am to 11 am CT
  - Glen Ullin - Farmers Union, 1 pm to 2 pm CT
  - Elgin - Our Place, 2 pm to 3 pm MT

Corson / Swiss Co  
News Messenger  
9/8/2011

Albany, Minn. for many years.  
 Gary is survived by his wife  
 Sharon of Avon; mother, Lois  
 Seiler of Herreid; children,  
 Will (Jill), Seiler of Albany;  
 Stephanie (Kevin), Lex of An-  
 ken; Iowa, Marie (Ben), Lentz  
 of Minneapolis, Minn., Karri  
 Kenny, Stodolka of St. Joseph,  
 Minn., Nikki Christen of Lind-  
 strom, Minn., Katie (Andrew)  
 Beckmann of Sartell, Minn.,  
 Karla Christen of Avon, Ben  
 Christen of Albany; siblings,  
 Deb (Randy) Ritter of Sioux  
 Falls, Julie Schmidt of Sturgis,  
 Sherman Seiler of Aberdeen;  
 grandchildren, Emma Seiler,  
 Alex Seiler, Maggie Seiler,  
 Katie Lex, Addie Lex, Payton  
 Hiltner, Justin Stodolka, Zach  
 Stodolka, and Jake Stodolka.


He was preceded in death by  
 his father, Don on Oct. 9, 2004,  
 and brother, Willie on June 30,  
 1964.

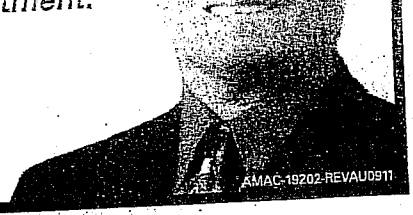
## North Carolina

Leah Mack, Laura Bissett, and  
 Brittany, James and Hannah  
 Bissett.

She was preceded in death  
 by her mother, Catherine Ca-  
 dotte; two brothers Clarence  
 J. and Gilbert D. Cadotte; one  
 sister, Kathleen Cadott; her  
 maternal grandparents Benja-  
 min and Rose Cadott; mater-  
 nal grandparents George and  
 Emily (Ruff) Cady, and several  
 aunts and uncles.

to schedule an appointment.

**Avera**   
**Medical Group**  
 Pierre



AMAC-19202-REVAU0911

**When "That will never**

*Mobridge TV  
 9/7/11  
 Corson/Sioux News  
 9/8/2011*

1932 and [redacted] 53. In February, 1957, Evelyn married Aljoe Agard, also a former Tribal Chairman, and from this union seven children were born: Cynthia, Kem James, Alfred, Susan, Charles, Bessie and John. Evelyn worked for the Standing Rock Head Start Program as a teacher's aide and also worked as a dorm matron for the Fort Yates High School until the dorms closed down.

Evelyn was a homemaker and a very good cook who enjoyed cooking and baking for her family & friends. She loved to sew by hand and make gifts for others. She enjoyed playing bingo, having family gatherings, attending powwows and listening to KLND. One of her greatest joys was spending time with her children, grandchildren and great

Evelyn will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her including her children, Dellis, Joette, Cynthia, Kem James, Susan, Charles, John, and Bessie-Marie Agard all of Ft. Yates, ND along with 29 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren; a Huynka daughter, Beverly (McKay) Grey Water, Spirit Lake Reservation, Fort Totten, ND and a Hunka son, Sonny White, Three Affiliated Tribes, Whiteshield, ND and other extended family & friends.

Evelyn was preceded in death by her husbands, Whitney J. Agard and Aljoe Agard; sons, Duane, Willard and Alfred; step-son, Mike; two grandsons and one granddaughter.

Thunder Hawk, both of Cannon Ball, two brothers, Wallace "Butch" Thunder Hawk Jr., Bismarck, and George Thunder Hawk Sr., Cannon Ball; 20 grandchildren; Felicia (Ramone) Addington, Tyson and Travis Alkire, Raylene, Kelcie, and Eagle; brothers, John Thunder Hawk and Michael Thunder Hawk Sr., grandson, Jaycee Elk.

Teton times 9/17-14/2011

## Ivan Howard

Funeral services for Ivan Howard, 47, of Eagle Butte, SD are pending with Stout Family Funeral Home, Mobridge. Ivan entered the spirit world from his home September 3, 2011 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**WRT**  
748-2211

**NEED HELP PAYING FOR PHONE SERVICE?**

To find out more information contact WRT at 748-2211 or stop by the following:  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH**  
Cenex, Selfridge 12-1pm CT

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14TH**

- Cenex, McLaughlin 10-11am MT
- Food Distribution Office, Ft Yates 1-2pm CT

WRT is an equal opportunity provider. Call 748-2211. www.wrtv.com

### McLAUGHLIN MISSION STATEMENT

To guide all learners to their full potential – culturally, emotionally and physical

McLaughlin School District  
Board of Education Meeting  
Business Office Conference Room  
McLaughlin, South Dakota

September 1, 2011  
5:00pm Mt. time

- I. Call to order
- II. Approval of agenda
- III. Welcome Visitors
- IV. Building project update.
- V. Consider Approval of Contracts
- VI. Adjourn

All Obituaries should be faxed, e-mailed, mailed or brought to the office at 411 3rd Avenue East or sent to:

### TETON TIMES

P.O. Box 563

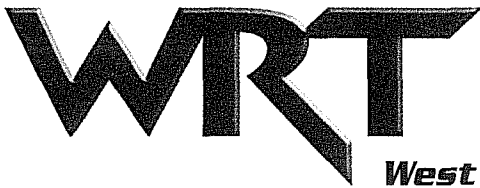
Mobridge, SD 57601

Fax: 605.823.4808

E-mail: production@teton-times.com



**Letter and Other Information to Inform  
Existing and New Customers of the  
Availability of Lifeline/Link-up**



West River Telecom

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April 30, 2012

Dear WRT Customer:

**Lifeline, Tribal Link Up, and Toll Blocking** is available from West River Telecom. These programs 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 as a portion of their telephone bill.

***What type of discount is available?***

**Lifeline** assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive at least \$8.25 per month in discounts.

Eligible residents of Indian reservations or tribal lands can receive \$21.95 in Lifeline support, but must pay at least \$1 for basic monthly service.

**Tribal Link Up** reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service to qualifying consumers residing on Tribal Lands and covers 100% of the charges (up to \$100) of the customary charge for commencing telecommunications service. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200.

**Toll Blocking** support allows eligible consumers who wish to avoid incurring large long distance fees to choose toll blocking or toll control at no cost. Also, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

***How do I know whether I am eligible?***

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 (FPHA) or Section 8
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Head Start (income eligible)

*(Continued on back)*

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

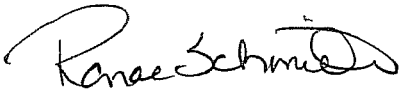
**2012 Estimated Income Requirements for a Household at or Below  
135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines**

Persons In Family Unit	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$15,080	\$18,860	\$17,361
2	\$20,426	\$25,542	\$23,504
3	\$25,772	\$32,225	\$29,646
4	\$31,118	\$38,907	\$35,789
5	\$36,464	\$45,590	\$41,931
6	\$41,810	\$52,272	\$48,074
7	\$47,156	\$58,955	\$54,216
8	\$52,502	\$65,637	\$60,359
For each additional person, add	\$5,346	\$6,683	\$6,143

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

To apply for Lifeline, Tribal Link Up and TLS discounts please contact WRT at 845-3100.

Sincerely,



Ranae Schmidt  
WRT Customer Service Manager



WRT News & Dec. 2011

WRT offers Lifeline and Link Up telephone assistance programs for qualifying low-income subscribers who are not receiving a Lifeline discount from another provider.

**LIFELINE:** Can save you at least \$8.25 on your monthly phone bill for primary local telephone service. This applies only to primary telephone service in the home where you live. Toll Restriction is also available at no cost to eligible customers.

**LINK UP:** Can save you 50% of the initial charges to hook up primary telephone service.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** Anyone qualified under one of the following economic assistance programs qualifies for Link Up & Lifeline:

- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- Medicaid
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) aka Food Stamp Program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

**TRIBAL LANDS LIFELINE & EXPANDED LINK UP:**

Residents of tribal lands may be eligible for Tribal Lands Lifeline and Expanded Link Up. Tribal Lands Lifeline provides primary local telephone service for \$1.00 a month for eligible persons. This does not cover costs for long distance, E-911 charges, optional features, taxes and other applicable state/federal-mandated fees. Toll Restriction is available at no cost to eligible customers. Expanded Link-Up offers assistance with telephone service hook up costs.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** Residents of tribal lands participating in at least one of the following programs:

- National School Lunch (NSL) Program's Free Lunch Program
- Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX Medical)
- State Supplemental Assistance
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) aka Food Stamp Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- BIA General Assistance Program
- Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Head Start (only with income qualifying standard)
- You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

**YES!**  
**you can**  
**afford**  
**telephone**  
**service**



WRT understands how vital the telephone is to everyday life — help is available for those who can't afford telephone service. Lifeline and Link Up programs can help eligible people with part of their telephone costs.



For more information, call WRT at 748-2211 or visit one of our local offices in Hazen, Beulah, or Mobridge.

# Welcome Packet

**LIFELINE:** Can save you at least \$8.25 on your monthly phone bill for primary local telephone service. This applies only to primary telephone service in the home where you live. Toll Restriction is also available at no cost to eligible customers.

**LINK UP:** Can save you 50% of the initial charges to hook up primary telephone service.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** Anyone qualified under one of the following economic assistance programs qualifies for Link Up & Lifeline:

- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
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- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) aka Food Stamp Program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
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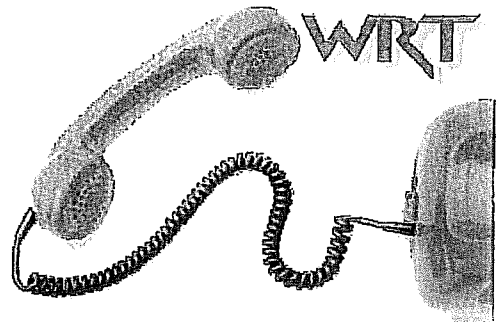
## **TRIBAL LANDS LIFELINE & EXPANDED LINK UP:**

Residents of tribal lands may be eligible for Tribal Lands Lifeline and Expanded Link Up. Tribal Lands Lifeline provides primary local telephone service for \$1.00 a month for eligible persons. This does not cover costs for long distance, E-911 charges, optional features, taxes and other applicable state/federal-mandated fees. Toll Restriction is available at no cost to eligible customers. Expanded Link-Up offers assistance with telephone service hook up costs.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** Residents of tribal lands participating in at least one of the following programs:

- National School Lunch (NSL) Program's Free Lunch Program
- Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX Medical)
- State Supplemental Assistance
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) aka Food Stamp Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
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**YES!**  
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**WRT understands how vital the telephone is to everyday life — help is available for those who can't afford telephone service. Lifeline and Link Up programs can help eligible people with part of their telephone costs.**



**For more information, call WRT at 748-2211 or visit one of our local offices in Hazen, Beulah, or Mobridge.**

# **Lifeline Link-up Advertisement in Company Directory**

# HOME TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE

*Can't Afford Telephone Service? Link-Up and Lifeline Programs May Be Able to Help*

## Lifeline

Can save you at least \$8.25 on your monthly phone bill for primary local telephone service. This applies only to primary telephone service in the home where you live. Toll Restriction is also available at no cost to eligible customers.

## Link-Up

Can save you 50% of the initial charges to hook up primary telephone service.

### Who is Eligible?

Anyone qualified under one of the following economic assistance programs qualifies for Link-Up & Lifeline.

- National School Lunch (NSL) Program's Free Lunch Program
- Medicaid
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program) aka Food Stamps
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program

You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

## Tribal Lands Lifeline & Expanded Link-Up

Residents of tribal lands may be eligible for Tribal Lands Lifeline and Expanded Link-Up. Tribal Lands Lifeline provides primary local telephone service for \$1.00 a month for eligible persons. This does not cover costs for long distance, E-911 charges, optional features, taxes and other applicable state/federal-mandated fees. Toll Restriction is also available at no cost to eligible customers. Expanded Link-Up offers assistance with telephone service hook up costs.



### Who is Eligible?

Residents of tribal lands participating in at least one of the following programs:

- National School Lunch (NSL) Program's Free Lunch Program
- Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX Medical)
- State Supplemental Assistance
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program) aka Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- BIA General Assistance Program
- Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Head Start (only with income qualifying standard)

You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

### For More Information

To apply or see if you qualify, call WRT at 748-2211.

WRT INFORMATION

<p><b>South Dakota Public Utilities Commission</b>  <b>500 East Capitol</b>  <b>Pierre, SD 57501</b>  <b>605-773-3201</b></p>	<p><b>North Dakota Public Service Commission</b>  <b>600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408</b>  <b>Bismarck, ND 58505-0485</b>  <b>701-328-2400</b></p>
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# **Lifeline Link-up Information on Company Website**

**Members****Support & FAQ****WRT Newsletters****Watch TV With WRT****Local Links****Policies & Forms****Internet Speed Test****Assistance Programs****Contact WRT****Phone****Business Office**

Local Number.....748-2211  
 Out Of Area....1-800-748-7220

**Internet Technical Support**

Local Number.....748-2213  
 Out Of Area....1-877-362-7310

**Telephone Repair Service**

Local Number.....748-6700  
 Out Of Area....1-800-748-7227

**Email WRT**

WRT understands how vital the telephone is to everyday life. Help is available for those who can't afford telephone service—through Lifeline and Link Up Assistance Programs eligible people can receive help to pay part of their telephone costs.

**Lifeline**

Can save you at least \$8.25 on your monthly phone bill for primary local telephone service. This applies only to primary telephone service in the home where you live. Toll Restriction/Limitation is also available to qualifying customers at no charge.

**Link Up**

Can save you 50% of the initial charges to hook up primary telephone service.

**Who is Eligible?**

Anyone qualified under one of the following economic assistance programs qualifies for Link Up & Lifeline.

- National School Lunch (NSL) Program's Free Lunch Program
- Medicaid
- Food Stamps program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program

You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

**View Federal Poverty Guidelines****Download Lifeline/Link Up Application****Tribal Lands Lifeline & Expanded Link Up**

Residents of tribal lands who qualify for regular Lifeline are eligible for Tribal Lands Lifeline and Expanded Link Up. Tribal Lands Lifeline provides primary local telephone service for \$1.00 a month for eligible persons. This does not cover costs for long distance, E-911 charges, optional features, taxes and other applicable state/federal-mandated fees. Toll Restriction/Limitation is available to qualifying customers at no charge. Expanded Link-Up offers assistance with telephone service hook up costs.

**Who is Eligible?**

Residents of tribal lands participating in at least one of the following programs:

- National School Lunch (NSL) Program's Free Lunch Program
- Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX Medical)
- State Supplemental Assistance
- Food Stamps Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- BIA general assistance
- Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Head Start (only with income qualifying standard)

You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

**View Federal Poverty Guidelines****Download Tribal Lands Lifeline/Expanded Link Up Application****To Apply/For More Information**

Mail completed application to WRT, PO Box 467, Hazen, ND 58545. If you are applying based on income, please remember to include a copy of proof of income with your application. For questions or assistance please call WRT at 748-2211.

**Estimated Income Requirements for a Household  
 at or Below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines**

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.
1	\$14,702
2	\$19,859
3	\$25,016
4	\$30,173
5	\$35,330
6	\$40,487
7	\$45,644