

Students Ages 16 or 17 - You Could Win a FREE Trip to Washington, D.C.

Join students from across the U.S. for the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Tour to WASHINGTON, D.C. on May 30 – June 3, 2015!

To apply for this trip, please submit a typed 500-word essay with a cover sheet on the following topic:

What industry or opportunity would entice you to return to a rural community after completing your education and why?

All essays must be accompanied by a second page which includes the following information: name, date of birth, school, grade in 2014-2015, recent picture, parent or guardian's name, address, phone number and your e-mail address.

Essays must be postmarked by Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

Please submit essays to:

Attn: Rachel Eggebo

WRCTC • PO Box 39 • Bison, SD 57620

OR email to reggebo@wrctc.coop



Questions? Call 777 or 605-244-5213

Students must be 16 or 17 years of age at the time of the tour and a dependent of a WRCTC member to be eligible.

All Expense Paid Trip for TWO local students to Washington, D.C.!

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Manager's Column
Reed Metzger

Beware of Telephone and Email Scams

Recently, we have received calls regarding telephone and email scams. There are many scams out there that can be very persuasive and cost you a lot of money in the long run. In some cases, the scammers are impersonating computer technical support or the phone company claiming you have unpaid bills or your computer has been infected with a virus. These sneaky predators are searching for private information such as usernames, passwords, bank accounts and credit card information. The 797-4660 best way to protect yourself is to educate yourself on the potential scams and be prepared because it could happen to you.

With tax season in full swing, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has reported that sophisticated IRS impostors are calling people and demanding payment. In some cases, they are even impersonating local law enforcement and threatening arrest unless you send money. They also send bogus IRS e-mails to support the bogus calls. Know this: The IRS will 376-5258 NOT contact you by phone asking for money. They will contact you by mail about tax issues. Therefore, if you receive one of these calls, hang up the phone.

And don't be fooled by what is displayed on your caller ID. Unfortunately, these scammers use phone spoofing, which makes it 456-1460 look as though they are calling from a legitimate company. These numbers are easily attainable via the Internet. If you have any suspicions, the best thing to do is to hang up and contact the company in question directly. For instance, our technical support will not initiate a call regarding a virus unless you have contacted 375-3791 them first and they are doing a follow-up. Also, they will not request any form of payment. Just remember, when in doubt, hang up and check it out.



Monitor your Livestock the Comfy Way

Make your life easier and less stressful during calving season. Did you ever wish you could watch livestock or view the inside of your barn from the comforts of your home? A monitoring system may be just what you are looking for. Installing a monitoring system in your barn or corral allows you to watch what is going on from your home computer, TV or any wireless device, such as a smart phone, laptop or tablet.

WRCTC offers a DVR (digital video recorder), 257-2396 multiple outdoor and night cameras and installation. The DVR makes it possible to check your cameras from computer, tablet or smartphone. Call us today at 605-244-5213 for a free quote to see how we can help!



Save a Bundle with a Bundle

Pick the ActPak that is right for you and start saving!

- **ActPak P** – Unlimited local service, 150 long-distance minutes, choice of up to 4 calling features for \$30.95/mo!
- **ActPak IP** – Unlimited local service, 150 long-distance minutes, choice of up to 4 calling features and 4 Mbps high-speed DSL for \$53.95/mo!
- **ActPak VP** – Unlimited local service, 150 long-distance minutes, choice of up to 4 calling features and Basic cable television for \$73.95/mo!
- **ActPak VIP** – Unlimited local service, 150 long-distance minutes, choice of up to 4 calling features, Basic cable television and 4 Mbps high-speed DSL for \$108.95/mo!

For more information, please contact our office at 777 or 244-5213 or visit us online at www.wrctc.coop.

Some restrictions may apply. For residential customers only. May add an additional Freedom Minutes plan for more minutes. Maximum minutes allowed are 550 minutes. Prices are effective as of April 1, 2015.

Do You Use Your SDPlains Email?

If you are an sdplains Internet customer and use 244-7145 something other than sdplains for email, please contact our office with a current email address where we can send you important notifications as well as our e-newsletter.

This will not affect your WRCTC Internet connection.

Please email us at westriver@sdplains.com or give us a call at 605-244-5213 or 777 so we can update our records.

KBJM Farm & Home Show will be held in Lemmon on March 13th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Swing by WRCTC's booth for some fresh popcorn!

Scholarship Reminder!



There is still time to get your scholarship applications in! Deadline for the \$500 WRCTC/Grand Electric scholarship is March 27, 2015! For more information and an application, please visit us at www.wrctc.coop.

From the Mailbox



Thank you for the wonderful 2-in-1 Dell computer door prize. It works great and we love it!

*Thank you,
Teryl & Nicki Lensegrav,
Meadow
(Winners of the 2014
WRCTC Survey)*

Thank you for the \$25 gift card that we won in the Christmas drawing. It was a great surprise!

*Ralph M. Veal, Bison
(Winner of VISA Gift
Card Drawing)*

New WRCTC Members

Bison, Meadow, Sorum

Ingalls, James & Tashonna	866-4442
Meyer, Will & Jennifer	866-4458

Buffalo, Camp Crook

Bowen, Oliver	375-3865
Hilbert, Joe & Erin	797-4635
Lewis, Richard	797-4462

Lemmon

Campbell, Taggart	374-4413
Dauwen, Braydon	374-4131
Even, Matthew	374-4414
Ham, Darrin	374-9306
Hoge, Bodine	374-7896
Taylor, Amber	374-4227
Tomac, Robert & Betty	374-4412

Newell

Crouse, Robert & Brandi	456-3774
Taylor, Brian & Hollie	456-3669
Trautman, Brad	456-3772
Wilson, Christina	546-3631

Nisland

Coster, Roland & Myra	257-2368
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Change

7/6 Services (Chuck Davis)	from	375-3367
	to	375-3639

ADDRESS CORRECTION

Lemmon Nutrition Site	from	305 4th Ave. W.
	to	711 Main Ave.

Find Your Phone

Ten telephone numbers were hidden in the last newsletter. Those members who hunted and found their number were: Robert S. Anderson, Lemmon; Doug Butler, Lemmon; Judy Dell, Nisland; Jeremiah Heath, Newell; Monte Howrey, Vale; Edna Maher, Lemmon and Ty Richter, Buffalo.

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 March 23, 2015.**

Call Before You Dig Q&A



As spring approaches, so does the construction season. To prevent unnecessary outages or injuries, we ask you to please call 811 before you dig.

Q: What is 811?

A: 811 is the national phone number designated by the Federal Communications Commission that connects professionals and homeowners who plan to dig with their local one call center. Common Ground Alliance members promote the 811 phone 374-3284 number as the first step in the damage prevention process.

Q: How does 811 work?

A: When someone calls 811 in the United States, he or she is connected to the local one call center, where a representative collects information about the caller's planned dig site. The one call center then communicates the information to the appropriate utility companies, which send 375-3265 professional utility locating technicians to identify and mark the approximate location of lines within a few days of the phone call. Once lines have been marked, the caller may dig safely around the marks.

Q: What happens if people 244-7268 don't call 811 before digging?

A: According to the most recent CGA Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) Report, an underground utility line is damaged every six minutes because someone decided to dig but didn't call 811. Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, 456-3026 warrants a call to 811. Installing a mailbox, building a deck and planting a tree or garden are all examples of digging projects that should only begin a few days after a call to 811.