

What's Inside:

- What happened to "Dial Tones?" Change is a good thing, right?
- Is Cyberspace a safe place for your kids? Tips for protecting your kids on the Internet.
- Interested in a free cell phone? Find out how you can get one from James Valley Telecommunications.

And much more...



Tips for Protecting Your Kids on the Internet



The Internet can be a wonderful tool and toy for kids. They can get help with homework, play games, or chat with children around the world. Whether at home, in the library, or at a friend's house, your child is likely to be online these days. What are the guidelines to be sure they stay safe in Cyberspace? Here are just few tips:

- 1) Since kids often are more adept at computer use than their parents, they love to play teacher to the grown-up. Ask your child to show you some of the tricks he's learned about using the Internet. Let him take you on a visit to his favorite web sites. Check in periodically under the guise of perfecting your own skills.
- 2) Know that it's harder to control your children's Internet use outside the home. Libraries are struggling with how to restrict the Internet sites children can access on library computers while still providing full access for adults. Some are installing filters or requiring parents to provide written permission for children to use library Internet services. Ask about your library's policy and also that of your child's school.
- 3) If your child is on any social networking sites (Facebook, Myspace, Twitter), be on their friend list. Also, check their settings to make sure they are private. This ensures only friends can see their information. Remind your kids to never share passwords with anyone besides you.
- 4) One of the most effective strategies for keeping your child safe on the Internet is to place your computer in the family room or kitchen rather than in the child's bedroom. He'll be less tempted to access inappropriate material if he knows another family member could walk by at any moment.
- 5) Create a list of favorites for your child and ask them to use those sites only. If they have one they would like to add to the list, check it out yourself first to be sure it's safe.
- 6) Most importantly have conversations about Internet safety with your child. Make them aware of the dangers, but also show them the advantages of using the Internet safely.

Introducing the Network (formerly Dial Tones)

Welcome to the first issue of The Network, your James Valley Telecommunications monthly newsletter. You'll notice that this issue arrived in your mailbox separate from your James Valley Telecommunications bill. You can look forward to future issues arriving this same way. Sometimes change is a good thing. And here at James Valley Telecommunications, we embrace CHANGE. Change to the number of HD channels we offer (now over 25), change to speed at which you can connect to the Internet (up to 14 Mbps), and change in how we interact with you, our valued member (through social networking, enewsletters and local events – Calling for Cash, anyone?). And we didn't think changing the name was enough, so while we were at it, we gave the newsletter a facelift. You'll recognize our fun loving cast of characters from our advertising materials. So, go ahead, make yourself comfortable, and enjoy this issue of the Network.

Thanks for being an James Valley Telecommunications member!

Questions or Comments?

Please contact us, we'd love to hear your feedback or story ideas for the Network.



Refer-A-Friend:
If a friend signs up for ANY James Valley Telecommunications service, you'll receive a **\$25 credit** on your next bill. Just have your friend mention your name when they sign up & we'll take care of the rest!

JAMES VALLEY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
235 E. 1st Ave.
PO Box 260
Groton, SD 57445
605.397.2323

Recent Calling for Cash Winners



Dwayne Lerew
January 19th
Northwestern vs. Ipswich



Jane Stellner
January 26th
Doland/Redfield vs. Gettysburg



Denise Punt
January 30th
Roncalli vs. Warner



Pictured are Tom Agnitsch, United Way Executive Director, James Groft, CEO and Tanya Berndt, CFO.

James Valley Telecommunications receives "Give from the Heart" award from the United Way of Northeastern South Dakota

The "Give from the Heart" award is presented annually to the top three companies with the largest increase in employee giving over the previous year. This year James Valley Telecommunications received the first place award for increasing our giving by 51.6%. This award takes the entire company working together and we want to thank everyone for all of their effort. United Way of Northeastern SD helps fund 41 programs through 19 health and human service organizations that serve six counties in northeastern SD.

Sign up for a cell phone plan
and receive a **FREE** cell phone

for only

\$49.95
mo

(Choose from 13)



New Members

Antonsen Travis & Angela	Groton	397-3008
Belden Greg	Groton	397-2929
Bonn Cody	Ferney	395-6503
Clark Mary Anne	Groton	397-5331
Long Jeff & Mary	Groton	397-2009
McGannon Todd	Conde	382-5501
Meyer Brent	Columbia	396-2702
Osterman Jason	Andover	397-2503
Rolie Tisa	Frederick	329-2184
Vetter Mike	Doland	635-6557

Notification of Rate Increase

Although we prefer not to have to increase the rates for our customers, recent programming fees and equipment costs have increased as much as 9% which means we are simply forced to have to pass on some of that cost to our members. This is the first time in our history that we have increased rates for broadband Internet. We have recently upgraded our backbone connection to the Internet allowing us to offer increased speeds and ensures continuous availability along with upgrading speeds from 256k to 768k to as high as 14Mb. ESPN360, Disney Connection, and Soapnet will remain available at no additional cost to you.

We appreciate you being a James Valley Telecommunications member and look forward to providing you with superior local service, a variety of programming options, and the fastest Internet speeds possible.

Please view your February bill for information on how this rate increase may affect your service. And, as always, please feel free to contact us should you have any questions.



SAVE THE DATE!

54th Annual Meeting

June 3, 2010

Groton High School

2010 Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship

James Valley Telecommunications will be awarding five \$500 scholarships this year to area seniors whose parents or legal guardians are members of the cooperative.

Scholarship applications have been forwarded to the guidance counselors at area schools. Applications are also available online at www.jamesvalley.com.

The deadline for returning the scholarships to James Valley Telecommunications office is April 1, 2010.

Seniors must be attending an accredited college, university or vocational school in South Dakota in the fall of 2010. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required. As part of the application process, all students shall submit a short essay of 500 words or less answering the question, "How would your life change if you had to live without cell phone or internet for one month?"

2010 Directory Update

James Valley Telecommunications is in the process of getting ready to publish the June 2010 phone directory. Please take a moment now to check your listing in the 2009 directory. If you would like any additions or changes to your existing listing in the white pages, please call 611 to make sure these changes are incorporated in the next phone book.

You may want to consider adding information such as a PO Box, an email address, or a cell phone number. There is no charge to list a PO Box in the same community as your 911 address. If you have a cell phone from James Valley Telecommunications, you can also list your cell number at no charge.

Additional line listings (email addresses, non-James Valley Telecommunications cell phones, lake cabins, etc.) are \$1.00 per month. There is a one-time \$5.00 fee to change your current listing.

THE DEADLINE FOR PHONE DIRECTORY CHANGES IS MARCH 15, 2010.

Phone Directory Photo Contest

Winner Receives \$50 Credit!

James Valley Telecommunications is having a photo contest for the 2010 phone directory cover, with entries due on March 15!

The photo must be taken by a James Valley Telecommunications member and should be labeled with a description and the photographer's name.

Photos will not be returned, and James Valley Telecommunications reserves the right to reject any and all photos. A release form is required for any winning photo that contains pictures of children under the age of 18.

Send all photos to:

James Valley Telecommunications
Attn: Photo Contest
PO Box 260
Groton, SD 57445

Or drop off your entry at our office.

HD + DVR – A match made in TV heaven.

Watch your favorites shows – when you want to – with a crystal clear high definition picture.

High Definition (HD) service allows you to view high definition programming on your HD compatible television set through the use of a set-top box that is connected to your TV.

Digital Video Recorder (DVR) service functions like a VCR except it uses a built-in hard drive to store movies and recorded programs rather than a VHS tape. With just the touch of a button, you can schedule your DVR to record your favorite shows one time, every day, or every week. Your DVR also allows you to fast forward, rewind, and pause your shows while you are watching it.

Call us today or stop by to learn more about HD + DVR services.

601 KUSD-PBS HD
602 KELO-CBS HD
603 KDLT-NBC HD
604 KTTW-FOX HD
605 KSFY-ABC HD
606 TNT HD
607 UNIVERSAL HD
610 ESPN HD
611 ESPN 2 HD
615 NFL NETWORK HD
616 SPEED HD
617 FOX SPORTS NORTH HD
618 GOLF HD
619 VERSUS HD
620 A&E HD
621 DISCOVERY HD
622 DISCOVERY HD THEATER

623 HISTORY HD
624 TLC HD
625 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC HD
626 ANIMAL PLANET HD
627 DISNEY HD
628 SCIENCE HD
629 FX HD
640 HD NET
641 HD NET MOVIES
643 STARZ! HD*

*must subscribe to Starz!

HD Channels requires James Valley Telecommunications Expanded View Cable TV service. Installation of HD equipment required. Service not available in all areas.