

the progress

NEWSLETTER

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PARK REGION
Mutual Telephone Co.

Park Region Telephone
PO Box 277 100 Main St.
Underwood, MN 56586

218.826.6161
800.247.2706

Office Hours
M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM



Otter Tail Telcom
230 West Lincoln
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

218.998.2000
888.716.8837

Office Hours
M-F 8:00 AM-5:30 PM

Valley Telephone
Browns Valley, MN 56219
Call 800.247.2706
for 24 hour service.

OR
simply dial 611 to reach
your local office!

www.parkregion.com

Lighting up the **Future**

Annual Meeting and Customer Appreciation Event

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016
UNDERWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

5:00-6:30 PM Registration

- Registration - SW Entrance
- Lion's Pork Chop Dinner - Commons Area
- Coffee & Cookies with the Board of Directors - Gym
- Entertainment & Product Demonstrations

6:00-7:30 PM Kids' Area

- Movie, Popcorn & Prizes for Kids Ages 4-12

6:30 PM Annual Meeting

- Announcement of Director Elections
- Financial, General Manager & Youth Reports



Change in Process

No ballots were mailed out this year with our 2015 Annual Meeting Notice. This is due to a bylaw change that was voted on and adopted by the members at last year's Park Region Mutual Telephone Company's annual meeting held on April 16th, 2015. This bylaw change read as follows: "In the event there is only one candidate duly nominated for election to a Director position (whether by committee action or petition), the single candidate nominated shall be deemed elected by acclamation as an unopposed candidate, and no member voting shall be required for such uncontested Director position. The official notice of the Annual Meeting of the Members shall state the name of the candidate elected by acclamation and the individual presiding at the Annual Meeting may announce that the uncontested candidate was elected by acclamation, and that no vote was required. Each elected Director shall take office at the end of the Annual Meeting.



Hey Kids!

Meet Dora on June 10th

Dora will be joining us in Fergus Falls and Underwood on Friday, June 10th! Watch our Facebook page for more details!

The Future for High-Speed Access in Rural MN

In recent Minnesota news, a report from the Governor's Broadband Task Force outlines the status of broadband in our state.

The report finds that in Minnesota, 99 percent of urban areas have access to high-speeds while only 47 percent of rural areas have such access. Internet speeds often vary drastically for rural next-door neighbors depending on their provider—many are entirely without broadband access.

Fortunately Minnesota's coops, like Park Region Telephone, stand out as being rural leaders.

Network Funding

The costs to connect a home or rural business via fiber-optics can range from \$1,500 to \$10,000, sometimes even more when geographic elements like lakes, ponds, and streams are common.

To continue our example, let's assume that the installation costs are \$5,000 for an average home – this requires a \$5 million investment for each 1,000 homes connected. In addition to this capital expense, operational costs need to be covered with monthly cash flows, including: wages, interest payments, maintenance, power, equipment, hardware, underground locating services, and wholesale costs.

Your cooperative is committed to making sure you continue to have access to advanced services. Management and your board of directors are planning for the future to meet your needs, while remaining fiscally responsible as we build your network.

Thank you for choosing Park Region Telephone and Otter Tail Telcom!



Go Green: Pay Phone Bills Online

Why? Help save natural resources by paying online.

- Easy, fast and secure
- Pay immediately, schedule a payment or set up Auto-Pay
- Print receipts, view payment history and more

Pay on the Go with PSN Payments App available in the App Store™ and Google Play™.



Call us at 998-2000 or go to www.parkregion.com for more information.

We Accept:



Welcome to the Team

We are pleased to introduce our newest team member at Park Region Telephone. James Wooton joined our Internet Department in January, working as a Data Network Technician.

James brings a variety of IT experience in hardware/software installation and repair, networking installation/maintenance and security, plus technical customer support with large and small companies. He holds an AAS degree in Computer & Network Technology with a Sys Admin emphasis, and a degree in Aeronautics.

James is married to Elizabeth and they recently moved to a hobby farm near Fergus Falls. His hobbies include playing guitar in bands and recording music in his home studio, working toward his private pilot's license, 3-wheeling, computers and technology. Welcome James!



Lifeline Link Up

You may qualify for discounted telephone service if your income level falls below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or if you are currently receiving benefits under one or more of the following programs: Medicaid, food stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) Federal Public Housing Assistance, or the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

For more information about the FCC Lifeline/Link-Up Program, call one of the following numbers:

Otter Tail Telecom Customers

1-866-290-1730

Park Region Telephone Customers

1-866-290-1721

Valley Telephone Customers

1-866-290-1729

New Listings

ASHBY

Flewellen, Lowell & Dawn.....747-2068
Frank, Charlie.....747-2953

BATTLE LAKE

The Rusty Nail.....864-2600

BROWNS VALLEY

Gavin, Curtrice.....695-2505
Prigge, Dan & Vonnie.....694-2800
Reneville, Neda.....694-2634

DALTON

Davenport, Chris.....589-7012

ERHARD

Peasley, Carrie.....842-5134

FERGUS FALLS

A-1 Wayne's Pawn & Second
Hand Store.....998-3030
Birkholz, Janice.....998-2909
Johnson, Wesley.....998-3329
Manteufel, B & A.....998-4809
Metcalf, Todd.....998-4751
Pittenger, Jim.....998-2195
Schreiber, Donald.....998-1215

MAINE


Abbott, Tyson.....495-2014

UNDERWOOD

Bearinger, Jesse & Nicole.....826-6236

VINING

Sandoval, Julio & Marisol.....769-4115



MOVIES
in the
PARK

THURSDAY NIGHTS
following
CONCERTS in the PARK

Take our survey and vote for your favorite movie to be shown this summer at Roosevelt Park.

www.parkregion.com



Hurry! Survey ends soon!

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