



TELEUWHAT

APRIL/MAY 2011

PBTv Adds 15 New HD Networks *now with over 40 HD networks available*

Paul Bunyan Communications has added 15 more networks in high definition to PBTv HD service.

“We’ve been concentrating on increasing our high-definition line-up the past couple of years. The cost to add HD equipment is decreasing plus the technology to receive and distribute has advanced,” said Brian Bissonette, Paul Bunyan Communications Marketing Supervisor, “We are excited to increase our level of service with 15 more networks in HD recently and we’re also expecting to add Fox News HD as soon as we can get everything in place.”

PBTv HD is delivered in the widescreen 16:9 format that provides a picture with a resolution over ten times that of standard television and the 4:3 format.

The new networks can be found on the following channels:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 604 TBS HD | 764 TRAVEL CHANNEL HD |
| 608 TNT HD | 772 TRU TV HD |
| 616 SPIKE HD | 808 CNN HD |
| 648 TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES HD | 812 HEADLINE NEWS HD |
| 668 COMEDY CENTRAL HD | 850 CMT HD |
| 720 CARTOON NETWORK HD | 854 VH1 HD |
| 728 NICKELODEON HD | 864 MTV HD |
| 752 DIY HD | |



Bill Payment Options

Paul Bunyan Communications makes it easy for our members and customers to pay their monthly bill. There are several different methods you can use, the cost to you depending upon the method used. They include:

FREE & EASY OPTION!

EASY PAY THROUGH PAUL BUNYAN COMMUNICATIONS

Easy Pay will automatically pay your bill directly from your bank account or credit card account each month. Your total bill will be deducted on the bill's due date or the next business day. You can sign up for this at any Paul Bunyan Communications office or call us and we can fax or mail you a registration form. There is no charge for Easy Pay service.

U.S. MAIL

Still the most common method of payment, you can mail us your payment through the United States Postal Service.

ONLINE THROUGH OUR PAUL BUNYAN COMMUNICATIONS WEB SITE

You can pay your bill by credit card anytime, 24 hours a day/7 days a week by using My Account through the Paul Bunyan Communications web site. There is no charge to register, use, or pay your bill with My Account.

ONLINE THROUGH YOUR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Many financial institutions offer online bill pay service to customers. This option would have you pay bills through the online system they provide. Be sure to check about the options available and their cost, if any.

BY PHONE

You can call us and pay your bill over the phone using your credit card. This can be done during regular business hours. If our Bemidji or Grand Rapids is not a local call from your location, you can avoid long distance charges if you use our toll-free number 1-888-586-3100

IN PERSON

You can stop in to our office in Grand Rapids or Bemidji to drop off your payment. We have secure payment drop boxes outside at both locations that are available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. During regular business hours you can bring your payment in to us or at the Bemidji office you can also use the drive through.

If you have any questions about how you can pay your Paul Bunyan Communications bill, be sure to let us know.

Caucus Meetings

There are two seats on the PBC Board of Directors that are up for election in 2011 and caucus meetings will be held to determine nominees to represent districts three and eight.

Directors serve a five year term, expiring in 2016. Once a person or persons are nominated at the district meeting, up to two names are put onto a ballot and voted on by the general membership of the Cooperative. Votes are tallied at the Annual Meeting, and results are announced at that time. Nominees with the greatest numbers of votes from the general membership will be elected Director for the district.

The Expectations of a Director for Paul Bunyan Communications can be found on our web site at or on page 48 of the information section in the 2011 Minnesota Gold Telephone Directory. Article III, Section 2.(b) of the Cooperative Bylaws states the required qualifications of a Director which can be found on our web site or on pages 43-44 of the information section in the 2011 Minnesota Gold Telephone Directory. Please refer to these qualifications when you consider your nominations for a Director to represent your district or consider becoming a candidate yourself.

In addition to being an opportunity to nominate persons to represent your district, your caucus meeting is also an opportunity for you to ask questions concerning the Cooperative.

DISTRICT 3 SQUAW LAKE

Thursday, April 28th at 7:00 pm

Sand Lake Community Center

DISTRICT 8 BEMIDJI

Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00 pm

Paul Bunyan Communications

Videoconference Center in Bemidji



Lifeline, Link-Up and Toll Limitation Service provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain phone service.

Every person in America should have access to quality, affordable telecommunications service. This principle of “Universal Service” has been the goal of the telecommunications industry for decades. In 1934, the federal government codified the goal and reaffirmed it in 1996 by establishing policies for the “preservation and advancement of Universal Service.”

To achieve the Universal Service goal, carriers have access to a fund that is generated by contributions from the telecommunications providers in the United States. Telecommunications companies draw from the fund to provide for programs that support telecommunications services nationwide. Link-Up America (Link-Up) and the Lifeline Assistance Program (Lifeline) are part of the fund’s Low-Income Program and are described in detail below. Toll limitation service is another program available to low income subscribers to help them control what they spend on telephone service.

WHAT TYPE OF DISCOUNT IS AVAILABLE?

LIFELINE assistance lowers the cost of basic monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$10 per month in discounts. Additional state support also may be available.

Eligible residents of Indian reservations or tribal lands can receive up to an additional \$25 in Lifeline support, but must pay at least \$1 for basic monthly service.

LINK-UP reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive a 50% 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 up to \$200.

Eligible low-income consumers living on tribal lands are eligible for an additional discount up to \$70 to cover 100% of the charges between \$60 and \$130.

TOLL LIMITATION SERVICE (TLS) support allows eligible consumers who wish to avoid incurring large long distance fees to choose toll blocking or toll control at no cost.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility for Lifeline, Link-Up and TLS support varies by state. Individuals who reside in states that have their own discount program qualify for federal Lifeline, Link-Up and TLS support if they meet the eligibility criteria established by their state. In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. 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 (LHEAP) |
| FEDERAL PUBLIC HOUSING ASSISTANCE OR SECTION 8 |
| MEDICAID |
| FOOD STAMPS |
| SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) |
| TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) |
| NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH FREE LUNCH PROGRAM |

If you are interested in learning more about these programs, please call the National Exchange Carriers Association (NECA) at 888-627-4255

board meeting highlights

FEBRUARY

Paul Bunyan Telephone's Board of Directors conducted its monthly meeting on February 2, 2011. Also present were CEO and General Manager Paul Freude, Chief Financial Officer Dave Schultz and Attorney Sheldon D. McRae.

- The manager updated the board on our CLEC projects. Construction efforts were discussed.
- Digital video was discussed.
- ILEC construction was discussed.
- Caucus meeting letters were reviewed for the upcoming caucus meeting mailings.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to not attend the NTCA Legislative Conference in Washington DC.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried authorizing management to purchase equipment for an electronics upgrade
- A Revolving Loan Fund Program plan was discussed.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to renew the current donation for three years to the Foundation for Rural Service.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to authorize management to purchase the necessary electronics cabinets for 2011 ILEC construction.
- The CEO/General Manager gave his monthly report and monthly statistics for service orders, trouble reports and access line count.
- Thank you letters and correspondence were reviewed.
- The delinquent accounts and new member lists were reviewed.

MARCH

Paul Bunyan Telephone's Board of Directors conducted its monthly meeting on March 2, 2011. Also present were CEO and General Manager Paul Freude, Chief Financial Officer Dave Schultz and Attorney Sheldon D. McRae.

- The manager updated the board on our CLEC projects. Construction efforts were discussed.
- Digital video was discussed. HD channels were discussed.
- ILEC construction was discussed.
- The Annual Meeting of members and open house for 2011 was discussed.
- A Revolving Loan Fund Program plan was discussed.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve a broadband construction fund check to reimburse general funds.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the low quotes for vehicle purchases in 2011.
- The donation list for 2010 was reviewed.
- The CEO/General Manager gave his monthly report and monthly statistics for service orders, trouble reports and access line count.
- The December 2010 and January 2011 financial reports were reviewed.
- Thank you letters and correspondence were reviewed.
- The delinquent accounts and new member lists were reviewed.



Speedy Chicken Enchiladas

- 1 pound skinless, boneless chicken breast, cubed
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1 C. thick salsa
- 8 6-inch flour tortillas
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cheddar cheese soup

Cook chicken in nonstick skillet until browned and done, stirring often. Add chicken soup and 1/2 cup salsa. Heat thorough.

Spoon about 1/3 cup chicken mixture down center of each tortilla. Roll up tortilla around filling and place seam-side down in 2-quart microwave-safe baking dish.

Mix cheese soup and remaining salsa and pour over enchiladas. Cover. Microwave on HIGH 5 minutes or until hot.

Send us your family's favorite recipes and you may receive a \$5 credit on your phone bill. Only one entry per year, per member will be accepted. Recipes selected randomly. Please include your name and telephone number.

recipes@paulbunyan.net or
Recipes c/o Paul Bunyan Communications
1831 Anne St. NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

Chile Garlic Shrimp

- 1 pound uncooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 (1.6 oz) package buffalo wing seasoning mix
- 5 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- 2 Tbsp. bottled minced garlic
- 1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/4 C. coarsely chopped cilantro
- 2 tsp. lime juice
- 4 lime wedges, for garnish

Rinse the shrimp with cold water and pat dry with paper towels. Add the shrimp and seasoning mix to a plastic bag and shake to coat.

Heat the butter, garlic, and red pepper flakes in a large skillet over medium heat until the butter has melted. Raise the heat to medium-high; when the butter begins to pop and sizzle add the shrimp to the pan. Cook and stir the shrimp until they are bright pink on the outside and the meat is no longer transparent in the center, about 4 to 5 minutes. Do not overcook.

Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the cilantro and lime juice. Garnish with lime wedges and serve hot.

TELEUWHAT

© 2011 Paul Bunyan Communications

Published by
**PAUL BUNYAN RURAL
TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE**
An Equal Opportunity Employer

email: info@paulbunyan.net
web: www.paulbunyan.net

After Hours Repair
(800) 475-8309

BEMIDJI

1831 Anne Street NW
Bemidji, Minnesota 56601
Phone (218) 444-1234
Toll Free (888) 586-3100
Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Paul Bunyan Net

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
NOTE: No walk-in customers after
6:00 pm, phone support only

GRAND RAPIDS

Grand Square
1220 S. Pokegama Ave.
Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744
Phone (218) 999-1234
Toll Free (888) 246-8228

Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Peterson, District 3
Board President
Inger-Wirt, Squaw Lake

Jim Tarbell, District 4
Board Vice President
Cohasset, Deer River, Grand
Rapids

Gary Eklund, District 1
Board Secretary
Blackduck, Kelliher, Northome

Tim Hins, District 9
Board Treasurer
Puposky, Turtle River, Cass Lake

Randy Frisk, District 5
Becida, Bemidji, Laporte
Itasca State Park/Lake George

Vernon Clark, District 6
Ponemah, Redby, Red Lake

Bruce Campbell, District 7
Bemidji, Solway

Jim Sutton, District 8
City of Bemidji



1831 Anne St. NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 27
BEMIDJI, MN

Join us!

**FOR A FREE WALLEYE FEED FROM THE
FAMOUS BEMIDJI FIRE
DEPARTMENT FISH FRY CREW**

**FREE GIFTS • DOOR PRIZES
LIVE MUSIC • FUN FOR THE KIDS**

**Headwaters
Science Center**

QUICKSTART™ TENNIS DEMOS
USTA NORTHERN

**COOPERATIVE
CELEBRATION**

Wednesday, May 25
Bemidji • 4:30 - 7:30 pm

Bring your camera and get photos with
**nickelodeon
DORA
the
EXPLORER™**

*Fish Fry
mmm, walleye*