

Midcontinent Sells Local Systems to BEK

BEK Communications Cooperative announces that Midcontinent Communications has sold their local systems in the areas of Napoleon, Linton, Wishek, Lehr, Zeeland and Wilton to BEK.

With this transaction, BEK Communications has obtained TV, Internet and/or phone services from Midcontinent in these areas.

In mid August, Midcontinent sent notification letters to the customers affected by this sale. In turn, BEK Communications is working to switch these customers over to the BEK network during the migration period through mid December.

By the end of September, BEK will have visited each of the six locations listed above. During these town visits, customers affected by the Midcontinent sale were encouraged to join BEK representatives for lunch and talk about their services. Customers were given the opportunity to ask questions and voice their concerns. They were able to review their specific services with a BEK employee and learn how the transition will affect them. Many scheduled a BEK installation before leaving. All customers will need to be transitioned to BEK by December 15, 2008 in order for service to continue.



Dates to Remember

- | October 1
October Bills Mailed
- | October 3
Tailgate Party in Linton
- | October 13
Columbus Day, observed
- | October 14
Disconnect Day
- | October 16
Tailgate Party in Steele
National Boss Day
- | October 21
Reminder Notices Mailed
- | October 24
United Nations Day
- | October 31
Halloween – Treat the Spooks!

**BEK Communications
Cooperative
56th Anniversary
October 3, 1952**



One Swift Click Could be Painful!

The Internet is a wonderful tool. You can go places quickly and easily in a short time. There is data, music, movies and other content that can be downloaded and shared simply by the click of a button. However, you must be aware that with that content, a copyright may be attached.

Did you know?

If you are downloading or sharing FREE files, chances are they could be illegal.

If you are downloading or sharing movies, music, or other content illegally, you are subject to violation of copyright laws. This unauthorized copying and distribution constitutes copyright infringement under Section 106 of the U.S. Copyright Act.

Sometimes this activity is unintentional. You may not be aware of default settings that are allowing you to share with others without your knowledge.

If a content provider notifies BEK about illegal downloading or sharing activity, the accuser will be notified to halt this infringing activity right away. If the illegal activity continues, Internet service with BEK will be terminated immediately and legal action may be enforced by the copyright owner.

Be sure to share this information with your employees. These rules apply to home and office Internet usage.

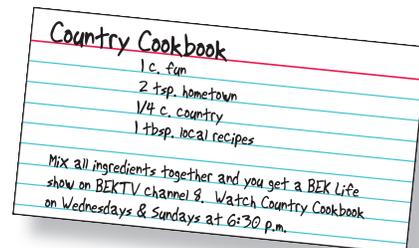
For more information, see the "Terms and Conditions" of BEK Communications Cooperative by visiting our website at www.bektel.com.

Look What's New at BEK



We have found the perfect recipe, and when you combine all the ingredients you get "Country Cookbook," a new show on BEK Life – Channel 8.

Tune in to "Country Cookbook" to watch Pat Hieb of Steele, N.D. team up with BEK Broadcasting to create the most amazing dishes right from her kitchen. Pat takes you on a culinary journey that explores south-central North Dakota. Many of the recipes featured on the show are taken from area cookbooks designed by local churches and organizations throughout our region.



"Country Cookbook" airs Wednesdays and Sundays at 6:30 p.m. each week only on BEKTV, channel 8.



bektel.com Upgrades

BEK Broadcasting offers DVD's for sale of local sporting events and special BEK Life productions. You can purchase copies of the live broadcasts of your favorite games

through your local high school. Now, you can also order your DVD's online at www.beksports.com. Click on "DVD Sales." Or from the BEK website, www.bektel.com, click on the BEK Sports/BEK Life logo at the bottom left corner of the homepage and then click "DVD Sales." Choose the DVD's you want to purchase, choose your payment option and the DVD's will be mailed to you.

The BEK Sports calendar is also available at www.beksports.com. If you or your group has decided to participate in broadcasting games/events, you can access this calendar and register to work the different positions needed to help in the broadcast. If you want to work for an organization, you can choose the organization you wish to work for. Click on "BEK Sports Calendar"; this calendar looks like a calendar and it includes event worker registration. It contains the sporting events that will air on BEKTV, channel 8. From BEK's homepage, www.bektel.com, click on the BEK Sports/BEK Life logo at the bottom left corner and then click on "BEK Sports Calendar." Once you select an event, there is now a spot to "Click here to register."



Jordan Hassler

On a blistering day in July 2007, hundreds of people gathered in Sterling, N.D. for their 125th celebration including their first ever mud run. The mud run announcer for the day was Jordan Hassler. These people were not familiar with Jordan, his style or his skills.

On a platform for several hours under a sweltering sun, Jordan delivered an exciting play by play of the event. A grateful spectator witnessed first hand what Jordan Hassler was all about and could not resist the temptation to let us know. She left the following recorded voice mail message: "Hi, my name is Sherry Wilson and I'm just over here watching this mud run and I wanted to let you guys know at BEK, that your announcer is doing an awesome job and I hope you guys are paying him enough money because if I was looking for a man to do what he's doing, I would hire him right now!" Sorry Sherry, this man's already taken.

Hired by BEK in June 2006, Jordan Hassler began a journey in uncharted waters. At that time, BEKTV was in its infancy and BEK Broadcasting, the division Jordan would be responsible for, was just appearing on the horizon. BEK Communications was buzzing with activity in preparation of delivering digital TV to its members. What sets BEK apart from its competitors is the offering of local content, primarily local high school sports. So BEK needed to find an employee to help implement this concept. Jordan Hassler fit the profile. He loves being in front of a camera and he loves calling and directing games. Jordan is responsible for the operational duties of BEK Broadcasting including scheduling, purchasing equipment and basic oversight of everything that happens. BEK offered him a unique challenge and he took the lead and ran.

Area students have been a big part of BEK Broadcasting from the beginning. BEK not only delivers local content, it focuses on educating a team to fill the spots of broadcasting an event. One of the people instrumental in providing them step by step instruction in camera operations, audio, instant replay, graphics and commentary is Jordan. "I think the best part of working with the students, area individuals and non-profit groups is getting to see the look on their faces when they do a good job," says Jordan. "Working with such a diverse group of people is great. The ones who really enjoy it, just light up when they get a chance to play with the technology."



As Live Event Director, Jordan begins each season with scheduling. Volleyball, football, basketball, wrestling and baseball fill the appropriate time slots. Co-workers J.R. Havens and Ashley Portra work closely with Jordan and the schools to develop an interesting broadcast schedule. They focus on spreading out games all over the territory with the basic concept to get each local team on the air at least once whether it is at home or on the road. They also look for match ups between two area teams to ensure better viewership.

Jordan finds friends wherever he goes. He and the students are on a first name basis with high fives in passing. He finds working with the coaches very rewarding. He says they see the value in what BEK Broadcasting is doing and they are very cooperative. Some have even agreed to wear a microphone during a game, which brings the broadcast to another level.

Jordan was just 16 years old when given the chance to be a radio personality for Clear Channel Radio in Minot. Three years later he left Minot to attend college at the University of Mary where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. While attending the U of Mary, he worked as a Color Commentator for the University of Mary Football and Men's and Women's Basketball for Cumulus Broadcasting on Super Talk. He also played football for the U of Mary for two seasons.

Jordan was born and raised in Minot, N.D. He is a middle child with older brother Zac and younger sister Holly to share the spotlight. He loves the outdoors, including hunting and fishing.

Jordan has always said he's "Livin' the Dream." Can you look at him and not believe it?

Are You Interested in a Vacation Plan?

Now you can go on vacation or extended trips and not worry about what to do with your phone, high speed Internet and TV services.



BEK Communications offers a Vacation Rate Plan for customers who wish to temporarily discontinue their telephone, high speed Internet and TV services, but retain their directory listing and email account. Any calling cards assigned to your telephone account can be used while you are on vacation status.

Vacation Rate Plans are as follows:

Telephone, Internet & TV Service

Vacation Rates:

- * \$25.00 to go on vacation
- * No monthly local service charges
- * No reconnect fee

For High Speed Internet:

- * Any applicable modem lease charges will be suspended until service comes off vacation status.

For High Speed Internet and TV Services:

- * Any term agreements will be extended the number of months your service is on vacation status.

When using BEK's Vacation Plan, all services will be included. You may choose to place your service(s) under the vacation rate plan for a minimum of one month or a maximum of 12 months.

BEK also offers a seasonal plan for those customers who wish to be automatically put on vacation on November 1 and taken off vacation on May 1 of each year. The above fees will apply.

To sign up for a vacation plan, call BEK toll free at 1-888-475-2361.

Important Notice Regarding Digital Television Transition

On February 17, 2009, local off-air TV stations will cease broadcasting in analog and switch to digital signals.

'Analog' TV sets not connected to cable, satellite or other pay TV service (in other words, TVs that use an antenna or rabbit ears for over-the-air TV) will need a digital converter box after Feb. 17. Most newer, 'digital' TV's (LCD, plasma, or DLP) have the tuner needed to receive the digital signal, so a converter box will not be needed.

'Analog only' TVs connected to BEKTV service will continue to work after the transition and will not need a converter box. 'Analog only' TVs also should continue to work as before to receive low-power, Class A or translator TV stations and with gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players and similar products.

The federal government is offering discount coupons for viewers who need to purchase converter boxes for analog TV sets. **More information about the DTV transition is available at www.DTV.gov or by contacting BEK at 1-888-475-2361. For discount coupons, visit www.dtv2009.gov or call 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009).**

BEK is required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide this notice to our customers every month until March 2009.

NEW MEMBERS

- | Kintyre - Braddock
Buerkle, Kacy 332-6335
Weigel, Chris 332-6631
- | Linton
Backhaus, Ronald & Evelyn ... 254-4007
Johnson, Tamara 254-4001
Knapp, George & Sharon 254-4034
Mills, Dwayne & Farrah..... 254-4024
Roemmich, Ross & Monica ... 254-4039
- | McKenzie - Menoken
Border States Paving..... 673-3143
Diaz Gonzalez, Alberto
& Andrea 673-3153
- | Regan
Reimann, Ronald & Mary.... 286-6215
- | Steele
Anderson, Marin 475-2015
Lutz, Bertha A. 475-2019
Pfennig, Jo..... 475-2014
- | Strasburg - Hague
Bergen, Peter 336-7167
Fuhrer, Gloria..... 336-7101
Keller, Joleen 336-7257
Looyenga, Wilma 336-2602
Mittleider, Mark 336-7215
- | Tappen - Dawson
Crystal Springs - Lake Isabel
Stangland, Crystal & Duane ... 327-8316
- | Tuttle
Larson, Perry 867-2801
- | Wilton
Haney, Shauna 734-6124
- | Wing - Arena
Casavant, Deborah..... 943-2365
Docker, Ronald & Joan 943-2408
Sible, Amy 943-2365
- | Wishek
Bettenhausen, Roger..... 452-2639
Grenz, D. E. 452-2106
Kimble, Robert & Robin 452-2152
Schlenker, Flora 452-2109
Steel, Paul 452-2158
Waelhof, Robert 452-2140
- | Zeeland
Ormat Nevada Inc. 423-5533

1-888-475-2361

bekcomm@bektel.com





What's so Great About a Co-op?

Since 1952, BEK Communications has been operating under the cooperative philosophy. So BEK is a co-op; is that popular or glamorous? Is it screaming from the headlines of magazines or special news reports? Probably not. Are people as proud to be members of co-ops as they were 50 years ago? Well if they're not, they should be; here's why...

Cooperative businesses generate hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions in income for their communities while also supporting local causes ranging from education to the environment, according to a series of case studies compiled to help mark October as National Co-op Month.

The 20-plus pages of case studies, put together by the National Co-op Month Planning Committee, show that co-ops take a back seat to no other sector when it comes to making economic and charitable contributions to their communities.

Nearly 3,000 farmer cooperatives, for example, account for as many as 300,000 jobs nationwide and a total payroll of more than \$8 billion. Some 270 local, consumer-owned telecommunications cooperatives employ an average of 47 people each and generate more than \$2 billion in revenues annually. BEK Communications employs 53 people and generates \$15 million in revenue annually.

But that's not all co-ops do. They also have a strong commitment to the communities in which their members live and work. Every day, in every sector, through cash contributions and volunteerism, co-ops support local causes ranging from education to the environment. They also invest in new community businesses.

BEK Communications Cooperative encourages and supports community involvement. In fact, the BEK theme "Live Better in Your Hometown" is backed by its many employees who live and work in the communities they serve. It gives them a different perspective from businesses owned by distant investors.

Cooperatives serve 120 million members, or four in 10 Americans. They operate in virtually every industry and range in size from small storefronts to Fortune 500 companies. Despite this diversity, co-ops have some things in common. They are owned and democratically controlled by the people who use their services or buy their goods. They are motivated by service to their members, not by profit. These characteristics give co-ops an uncommon loyalty and commitment to the communities in which they are located.

"Community is not just where we work; it's why we work," BEK Board President Leo Meier said, "Cooperatives are motivated to serve their members. Doing that means we must also serve the communities in which our members live, work and play."

Case studies are available on the National Cooperative Month website at www.coopmonth.coop.



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August Trivia Winners:

Kent Weiser, Hazelton;
Lorrene Schiermeister, Linton;
Marlys Strom, Steele;
Patty Flegel, Hazelton and
Ralph Fischer, Wing.



Board of Directors

- Leo Meier, President..... Hague336-7258
- Doug Kalianoff, Vice President Steele475-2839
- Sanford Williams, Secretary/Treasurer Wing943-2474
- William (Bill) Becker Wishek452-2928
- Anton Braun..... Napoleon754-4440
- Richard Hausauer Wilton734-6116
- Virgil Horner Strasburg336-7208
- Brett Stroh Tappen327-8201
- Michael Wickenheiser..... Linton254-4949
- Derrick Bulawa, CEO/General Manager,
Manager Feedback..... 701-475-1234
managerfeedback@bektel.com

Beacon Trivia Questions

- | Downloading and sharing FREE files could be illegal. True or False (circle)
- | If you have BEKTV service, do you need to purchase a converter box for your TV? Yes or No (circle)
- | _____ is National Cooperative Month.

Entries must be received by November 7, 2008.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Clip and send to the BEK office with your phone payment. You can also email to bekcomm@bektel.com. We will be drawing for five \$5.00 credits to be applied to the winners' phone bill.