The Connection

F&B

Vol. 10, No. 5 May 2010

Exercise caution during ditch burns

With spring in full swing, some landowners take advantage of the warmer weather by burning roadside ditches.

If you plan to burn your ditch, be on the look out for communications pedestals or hand-holes. Pedestals are light green colored metal boxes that stand about three-feet tall. Hand-holes are boxes level with the surface of the ground and are usually marked in the rural areas with a post and F&B caution sign.

A recent ditch burn north of Toronto melted a hand-hole causing severe damage to copper and fiber optic cables resulting in a service outage. Interestingly, the ditch burn took place during a county-wide burn ban.

Repairs are costly and will be the responsibility of the person burning the ditch.

Help us help you by guarding pedestals and hand-holes during ditch burns.

BURNED CABLES. Damage to copper and fiber optic cable facilities due to ditch burning north of Toronto on April 1 melted a hand-hole causing damage to the cable resulting in a service outage. To view additional photos, go to *www.fbc.bz* and click the Photo Gallery link.

BRIEFLY

Mark your calendar

Our annual Customer Appreciation Days are just around the corner. Mark your calendar:

June 8 - Calamus
June 9 - Delmar
June 10 - Wheatland
June 16 - Bennett
June 17 - Lowden

Offices closed

The F&B office and Technology Solutions will be closed Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day.

Directory advertising

Representatives from Nova Directories will soon be calling on businesses in the F&B service area. Nova Directories is the company that produces the Eastern Iowa Regional Telephone Directory, F&B's official directory.

If you have questions about the directory advertising process, contact the F&B office.

Expo drawing

Congratulations to Vicky Looney of rural Calamus. Looney is the winner of four months of high-speed DSL Internet.

The prize was given away at the F&B and Technology Solutions booth at the Wheatland Business Expo last month.

May Training Schedule COMPLETE SCHEDULE ONLINE AT *WWW.FBC.BZ*

eBay: Getting Started

Wednesday, May 19
6 to 7 pm

This introduction class to the buy-and-sell leader covers all the basics, including registration, searching, feedback, using PayPal and more. Conflict resolution is discussed and customers are encouraged to bring personal experience.

eBay: Listing and Selling

Wednesday, May 19
7:15 to 8:15 pm

Our advanced eBay class covers how to list items for greater visibility, proven listing strategies, e-commerce and security, and conflict resolution. Customers are encouraged to bring personal experience and an actual auction will be created as a sample.

Internet & Computers for Beginners

Wednesday, May 26
6:30 to 8 pm

Designed for the novice computer user who wants to learn the basics of operating a computer and use the Internet for browsing and e-mail, this entry-level course covers using Windows 7, Internet Explorer and Windows Live Mail. This class is targeted to beginning computer users or anyone looking to get their first computer.

The above classes are FREE to F&B and Technology Solutions customers

Preregistration is required as class space is limited. Call 374-1322 to sign up or register online at *www.fbc.bz*.

Classes may be cancelled if minimum registration requirements are not met.

Classes held at the Technology Solutions store.

IOWA ONE CALL

1-800-292-8989
www.iowaonecall.com

811 Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Iowa law requires that any person, homeowner, professional, public or private entity, planning to engage in any form of excavation within the state of Iowa, must notify the Iowa One Call notification system, at **1-800-292-8989** or **811**, at least **48** hours prior to excavating. The Iowa One Call notification system is a free call and a free service to all persons planning an excavation. The required 48 hours advance notice does not include Saturdays and Sundays or legal holidays.

New HD Digital Video Channels

Channel 602

Channel 684
SD Channel 84
(WE moved to channel 88)

Channel 616

Channel 662

Channel 689

Channel 617

Attn: Cubs and White Sox Fans!

Comcast Sports Net Chicago is your home to Chicago area professional sports, including the Cubs and White Sox. When there are two games on at the same time, Comcast has a "plus" channel that carries the extra game. The "plus" games will air on F&B Digital Video channel 401. For a complete schedule of "plus" games, go to *www.fbc.bz*, click the Video link and choose CSN+ Program Schedule.

TECHNOLOGY TRIVIA

The origin of the phrase 'to put someone on hold' was Alexander Graham Bell handing over his telephone instrument to his partner Mr. Watson and saying, "here, hold this."

NEW DIRECTORY LISTINGS

BENNETT
Lilienthal, Don and Marijo 890-2157

CALAMUS
McCulloh, Chris 246-2519

LOWDEN
Brennan, Matthew and Kristina 941-5803

WHEATLAND
Berner, Eva L. 374-3447

Congratulations high school and college graduates!

FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Smart Telemarketer Call Screening

($3.95/month or $35.40/year)

Put an end to those annoying telemarketing calls that interrupt your busy life-style. Smart Telemarketer Call Screening blocks unwanted calls and lets the people you want to talk to ring through. **Smart Telemarketer Call Screening also stops telemarketing calls that the national Do Not Call Registry does not cover!**

Sign up in May and save!

Order Smart Telemarketer Call Screening in May and receive the rest of the month free. If you like the service, do nothing and begin paying June 1. Call the office at 374-1236 to sign up. The $10 installation charge is waived for the month of May.

F&B COMMUNICATIONS

F&B

The Connection is published monthly for the customers of F&B Communications.

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www.fbc.bz

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