



the talk of Bloomer...



Newsletter – Summer 2011
Volume 2 – Issue 3

Bloomer Telephone Company Awards Scholarships to Local Students

Meghan Lueck and Whitney Seibel are the recipients of Bloomer Telephone Company's 2011 scholarships, according to Jim Smart, General Manager of Bloomer Telephone Company. Both Ms. Lueck and Ms. Seibel are 2011 graduates of Bloomer High School. Each student will receive \$1,000 to help further their education beyond high school. Ms. Lueck plans to attend the University of Wisconsin Stout in the fall to pursue a career in clinical psychology. Ms. Seibel plans to attend the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire in the fall to pursue a career as an orthodontist. Smart went on to state "it is a pleasure to award these scholarships to Meghan and Whitney. Based on their success in high school, they are outstanding students who will excel as they continue their education."

Selections are based on a number of factors, including academic achievements, extracurricular activities and professional goals. This is the sixth year that Bloomer Telephone Company has awarded these scholarships to Bloomer area students.

Pictured from Left to right: Whitney Seibel and Meghan Lueck.
Photo courtesy of Curtie.Com



ATTENTION FIBER CUSTOMERS: Summer Clean-Up

Typically when we convert your home to a new fiber facility, we clear out all of the old copper facility equipment. However, should you notice that there is an old protector on your home, copper drops hanging from the protector, or more than one Bloomer Telephone Company pedestal (over 30 inches tall) on your property, please call our office at 715-568-4830. We will gladly stop by and remove our old copper facility equipment as part of our summer clean up project.

DVR Set Top Box Firmware Updates

Occasionally Bloomer Telephone loads new firmware (software stored on your DVR) into the DVR set top boxes to insure that you are getting the best quality service. These updates should automatically download to all DVR set top boxes. In the event that you encounter trouble with your DVR set top box, the first step is to reboot your DVR set top box.

Here is how to reboot your DVR: Unplug the power cord of the DVR set top box for 5 seconds. The power cord is located on the back of the DVR set top box on the left side. While plugging the power cord back into the DVR set top box, press and hold the OK button until you see the "Download" screen appear on your TV. The OK button is located on the front of the DVR set top box on the right side. Your DVR set top box will take roughly 2-6 minutes to reboot. If you continue to have trouble with your DVR set top box, please call our office at 715-568-4830.



Manage My Phone Portal – Save Time and Never Miss a Call

Bloomer Telephone was one of the first to offer e-mail notification for your voice mail. Our new Manage My Phone Web Portal allows you to customize how you use your phone and voice mail. There is no charge for this feature. Simply call our office to get started.

Here is how it works: You can delete, play or save voice messages without having to pick up the phone. You can manage which callers get through to you directly as well. The service is secure and simple to use. Any changes that you make are transmitted directly to the system and are effective immediately.

Unified Messaging is Voice Mail to e-Mail: You had this service with Phone Central. This new version of the service works the same way. It converts the voice message to a wav file and e-mails it to single or multiple e-mail addresses. Today everyone checks their e-mail, and voice mail to e-mail makes it easy to manage voice messages. You can save the wav file to your computer's hard drive in order to keep messages for future reference. And, you can use the save or delete links within the message to remove message waiting indication from your line without having to call into the system.

Plus the Unified Messaging service has built-in Automated Attendant/Bulletin Board features that allow you to define as many levels of menu options as desired. Automated Attendant can be set to play a message, forward a call to a specific telephone number, implement a dial by name directory, and activate the service for operation on specific time of day and day of week configuration.

Automated Call Screening: Now you can use Terminating Call Manager as an automated screener for those unwanted solicitation calls and also to restrict incoming calls when you don't want to be disturbed.

How? Terminating Call Manager allows calls to complete without intercepting them. When telemarketers do call, they hear the announcement "The number you have reached does not accept calls from Telemarketers. If you are a telemarketer, please add this number to your do not call list and hang up now. Otherwise, please press

'1' or stay on the line." Regular long distance callers will hear the announcement the first time they call and then the service 'learns' that they are an accepted caller.

These are just a couple of the great features available through the Bloomer Manage My Phone Web Portal. Please call our office to get started with this feature. Once your login is established you can access the service from Bloomer.net, My Internet tab. Click on the Manage My Phone Web Portal and log in.

PREMIUM CHANNEL PROMOTIONS:

Don't miss the opportunity to get great original programming on HBO, Showtime and Starz. You'll get the most popular premium channel series as well as a broad variety of movie choices all the time. And don't forget, with your DVR service you can record your favorite premium channel programs and movies and watch them at your convenience.

HBO/CINEMAX Offer:

Order HBO today and get the first month free! Keep HBO at the regular price of \$13.95 per month and get CINEMAX at no charge for 6 months.

STARZ \$25 Rebate:

Subscribe to STARZ and receive a \$25 rebate after your first three months of service. A rebate form can be obtained from the STARZ website at www.starz.com or from our office. This offer expires December 31, 2011.

SHOWTIME \$25 Rebate:

Subscribe to SHOWTIME and receive a \$25 rebate after your first three months of service. A rebate form can be obtained from the SHOWTIME website at www.sho.com or from our office. This offer expires December 31, 2011.

Digital TV service offered through Celect Communications – an affiliate of Bloomer Telephone Company.

See You at the Fair!

Bloomer Telephone will be exhibiting at the 67th Annual Bloomer Community Fair. The fair runs from August 4th (kicking off at 5:00 pm) through August 7th. Bloomer Telephone will be sharing a booth with Citizen's Telephone Cooperative again this year. We hope you'll stop by and visit us at the fair.



Channel Line-Up Updates:

Two new channels in your Expanded Basic line-up:

- * Channel 81 – PBS Create
- * Channel 82 – PBS WI.

Two new channel in your Digital HD line-up:

- Channel 415 - WGN -HD
- Channel 461 – History Channel-HD

And you probably already noticed the following channel number changes were made to your channel line-up:

- Science-HD moved from channel 461 to 410
- HD Theater moved from channel 459 to 402
- Animal Planet-HD moved from 463 to 459
- OWN (Oprah Winfrey Network) moved from channel 113 to 83

