

# Ayrshire Communicator

## Industry Updates

By now, most of you have heard about the Anti-Texting Laws passed by the Iowa Legislature and signed by the Governor, but what is really included in this law? Here are a few of the highlights.

### Prohibited for Adults:

Reading, writing or sending a text message or e-mail while driving unless the car is at a complete stop off the roadway.

### Penalties:

A violation of this law is a misdemeanor with a fine of \$100, including court costs. It is not a moving violation and is not cause to suspend a license. Penalties are heightened if you kill or seriously injure someone in an accident.

### Prohibited for Teens:

Using ANY electronic communication or entertainment device while driving is prohibited unless the car is at a complete stop off the roadway.

### Penalties:

Penalties are the same as for adults not following the law, with the exception that the DOT CAN impose license restrictions and suspend or revoke the license, as with all beginner license violations.



## this issue

Don't Get Crammed [P.1](#)

Wireless Needs Wires [P.1](#)

Upcoming Events [P.2](#)

## Don't Get Crammed!

The best way to protect yourself from cramming is stay informed and aware. So, what is cramming? Cramming is when phony charges are added into your phone bill.

I know what you're thinking, 'you're the telephone company, why don't you prevent this?'. Here's how it works. Since 1984, 3rd party billing has been included in your telephone bill to help reduce the number of bills you receive each month. Things like long distance, ring tones, charitable donations and more can be added as 3rd party charges.

So, how can you prevent additional charges, that you did not authorize, from appearing on your bills? The easiest way is to carefully examine your phone bill each month. This will ensure only charges you authorize appear on your bill.

Another way to prevent cramming, is to request that no 3rd party billing be allowed on your account. Since some people do utilize their option for 3rd party billing, Ayrshire Telephone cannot implement this restriction on all accounts. However, if you know you will not be utilizing 3rd party billing, simply contact our customer service department at 712-426-2800 and request a 'third party block' on your account.

## Wireless Needs Wires

Ditching landlines and going wireless is a growing trend in the United States. According to a May 2009 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in five households has cut the cord and eliminated landline telephone service. With 85% of all Americans now having a cell phone, it might seem that landline is headed toward obsolescence. But the wireless network – the one that provides so much freedom and flexibility – still relies on the landline network to complete mobile calls, texts and emails. Without the support of your landline, wireless service would not exist.

Wireless service is convenient, easy and portable, but you still need a landline. There are many reasons why you should keep your landline telephone, including:

- More accurate 911 locating services
- Telephone access during power outages (be sure to have a non-cordless phone in your home)
- Consistent coverage
- Make and receive collect calls
- Unlimited local calling - no watching your monthly minutes
- Clarity, reliability, and quality



## Billing Reminders

- Payments are due on the 20th of each month.
- Accounts with past due balances are subject to a late payment of 1.5% of the total outstanding balance.
- Please include bill stub with your payment.
- For your convenience, we offer automatic bank deduct. Payments can be taken out of your checking or savings account.
- There is a drop box at our Ayrshire office.
- You may also make a payment by phone using a debit or credit card from Visa, Master Card or American Express.

**MESSAGING PHONE SALE!**

**1¢\***

- » Slide-out QWERTY Keyboard
- » MP3 Player, micro SD™ slot
- » 1.3 MP Camera

i wireless WHY PAY MORE. T-Mobile AFFILIATE

## Upcoming Events

**Computer Class** June 15, 2010 from 6 PM - 7 PM at the Ayrshire Telephone Office

Topic: Intro to Excel

**Computer Class** July 20, 2010 from 6 PM - 7 PM at the Ayrshire Telephone Office

Topic: Browsing and Searching

**Computer Class** August 17, 2010 from 6 PM - 7 PM at the Ayrshire Telephone Office

Topic: Basic Email

## New Additions to your Telephone Directory

Ayrshire

Koenig Portable Toilets

835-2018



**AYRSHIRE**  
Communications

## Your Hometown Telephone Company

1405 Silver Lake Ave.

PO Box 248

Ayrshire, IA 50515

712.426.2800



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