

# GRAND MOUND PHONET NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Newsletter Published for our Customers

March 2006

## **To Report Outages for Telephone and CATV Service,**

please call **847-3000**. If after hours or on weekends, also please call 847-3000 and leave your outage information on the answering machine. Our technicians will check the answering machine several times during the weekend for any emergency calls.

**Remember to call 847-3000, 24 hours a day/7 days a week to report any outages.**

## **FIND OUT WHAT'S ON TV**

**There is never a TV program guide around when you need one. Now with [www.zap2it.com](http://www.zap2it.com) you can get program listings easily through your PC.**

**Just type in Grand Mound's zip code (52751), click TV Listings, and choose Grand Mound as your provider. You'll get a listing of programs being provided by Grand Mound Communications Co. You're able to adjust your lineup display by hours, date, time, category, stations or channels. Plus you can print off a copy to have with you when watching TV.**

**Don't forget to add it to your Internet Favorites or create a desktop shortcut to make it more easily accessible.**

## **NEW DIRECTORY LISTINGS AND UPDATES**

-H-

Humpal, L.

507 Fulton St Grand Mound.....847-1344

## ***TECH TIP***

**When burning or mowing ditches, be aware of telephone pedestals and equipment. You may not only damage the equipment and cables, but vital emergency services could be cut off to your neighbors or yourself.**

## **GMCTA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SET FOR MARCH 11, 2006**

The Annual Meeting of the members of Grand Mound Cooperative Telephone Association will be on Saturday, March 11, 2006.

The meeting will be held at the Grand Mound Community Center beginning with a 12:00 noon luncheon followed by the business meeting at 1:00 p.m.

The business meeting will be for the purpose of electing directors and transacting other business as necessary.

The official notice of the meeting will be mailed to the members of GMCTA on March 1, 2006.



## **SOLAR INTERFERENCE**

During the month of March, we will be experiencing solar interference during which degradation or loss of Satellite signal will occur on our CATV system. This will occur between the hours of 2:00-4:00 p.m. for approximately 10 days.

## **IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!**



**Call Before You Dig!  
1-800-292-8989**

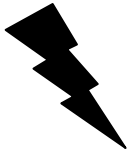
**Notification service for locating underground**

Spring and summer are just around the corner. Of course, that means the digging season is knocking at our door.

Please call Iowa One Call at  
**1-800-292-8989**

to have the underground facilities located and marked. Call 48 hours in advance of digging and remember that

**IT'S THE LAW!**



# THUNDERSTORMS.....



## ...AND COMPUTERS

Spring is about here and summer is fast approaching. We know from past experience that we are fast approaching the thunder-storm season. As an important reminder to you, during a thunder-storm, it would be wise to unplug your modem from the power and phone line. This is a good practice to keep you connected and trouble-free rather than getting fried with unnecessary repairs.

## ...AND TELEPHONES

Phones dead after a storm? Before calling the telephone office to generate a trouble ticket, you can do some simple checks of your own. Unplug your answering machine, cordless phone, computer modem, fax machine or regular phones one at a time from the phone jack. When plugging back in one at a time, check to see if you get a dial tone, if not, then you have found the equipment with the short. If no such luck, then call the telephone office. Remember, you can save us time and yourself money.



Published quarterly for customers of

**Grand Mound Coop.  
Telephone Assn.  
and  
Grand Mound  
Communications Co.**

providing local telephone service for the Grand Mound area, PCS Wireless, Voice Mail, Paging Services, travel calling cards, data and fax services, CATV, Internet, DSL and Wireless DSL.

**(563) 847-3000**

705 Clinton Street  
P.O. Box 316  
Grand Mound, IA 52751

[grmd@gmcta.coop](mailto:grmd@gmcta.coop)

**Business Office Hours**  
Monday to Friday  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**General Manager**  
Mark Harvey

**Office Manager**  
Terri Bumann

**Office Assistant**  
Dee Dee Banowetz

**Combination  
Technician**  
Chris Beuthien

**Board of Directors**  
Dennis Campbell  
Joe Dierickx  
Roger Green  
Rick Mineck  
Ruth Schroeder  
Harry Slaymaker  
Wayne Whitman



## INTERNET TIPS

### Quickly scroll using the space bar when browsing:

Quickly scroll one page at a time in Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox by pressing the spacebar. Move back up a page at a time by pressing SHIFT + SPACEBAR.

### Automatically enter URL:

Automatically enter the www. and .com into an Internet Explorer's address by typing the name of the page and pressing CTRL + ENTER on the keyboard.

### Print only sections of a web page:

Save on your printer ink by selectively printing in Windows programs such as Microsoft Word, Internet Explorer, WordPad, Outlook, etc. To do this, highlight portions of the text you wish to print and click print. In the printer dialog window under Page Range choose the option Selection. It is important to realize that not all programs or printer drivers support this feature.

### Quickly find text on a page:

Quickly find anything on the current page by pressing CTRL + F.

## Landline vs. Wireless

As convenient as wireless phones are to use when we're out and about, the fact is they cannot compare to the landline local telephone service in many ways. The poor quality of wireless communications is well known. While we are prone to put up with problems while we're driving or at the store, it's not really what we need when we want to have a good old-fashioned conversation. Nothing can compare with the excellent quality of the landline phone system of the United States. Landline use is regulated, meaning there are quality and service standards put in place by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Wireless use is not regulated and the FCC has no control over quality or pricing.

The wireless industry acknowledges that quality will not improve in the foreseeable future. The competing wireless companies currently do not use the same technology, making sharing between markets and constant roaming a problem. There is also a very real possibility of privacy invasion as your conversations are not secure on a wireless phone. Although wireless service does have a useful place in our lives, the landline service offers more security in an emergency, consistent quality reception and is more reliable with fewer dropped calls.