



May 2016

## New & Noteworthy

- May 3 – National Teacher Day
- May 8 – Mother’s Day
- May 30 – Memorial Day, Offices Closed
- If you find your account number in the newsletter, you will receive a \$20 credit on your next bill.

## Office Hours & phone numbers

### Commercial Office Hours

336-973-3103

8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday - Friday

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday

### Repair Office Hours

336-973-4000

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Saturday

### Wilkes Internet Technical Support

336-957-TECH (8324)

Open 24/7



Wilkes Communication News is published monthly for members of Wilkes Communications (the trade name of Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation). Wilkes Communications was established in 1951 as a member-owned cooperative serving four exchanges in Wilkes County: (Boomer (921), Clingman (984), Champion (973) and Lomax (957, 928). Wilkes Communications provides complete communication services such as local telephone access, business telephone systems, high-speed Internet and long distance services. Security services are provided through its subsidiary, RiverStreet Networks.



## Wilkes CEO Speaks at White House Rural Telehealth Event

On March 30, 2016, Wilkes Communications CEO Eric Cramer and other industry representatives met at the White House Eisenhower Executive Office Building for an event hosted by the White House Rural Council. The purpose of the event was to discuss success stories and barriers to deploying telemedicine in rural areas, including Wilkesboro.

At the event, Cramer emphasized Wilkes Communications ongoing commitment to expanding access to opportunity through quality, affordable health care. “We have been working for quite some time on how to bridge the gap between our network and how to utilize it for aiding our rural customers in greater and more readily available access to healthcare options,” he said. “Telehealth and Telemedicine alternatives can be a viable way to help rural customers that have trouble with transportation or even the income necessary to utilize traditional means for such things as appointments and follow up visits. Long term this can be a way to have access to more options for specialty care and be an easier way for people to conduct routine visits with a healthcare professional.”

While the event specifically highlighted the essential role of telehealth in reaching high-need rural families and communities, the participants identified and made recommendations on barriers and opportunities to increase deployment and participation in telehealth services.

Cramer suggests that utilizing rural medical centers and clinics are a perfect way to starting testing applications that can make a real world difference. There have been numerous examples where technology providers such as Wilkes have worked with stakeholders and healthcare providers to be proactive in really adding value to the lives of people who really need this type of service.

**If this is your idea  
of security,**  
*maybe it's time to rethink it.*



**FREE System on select  
plans - a \$600 value  
FREE Installation**

- Control panel / keypad / siren
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Certain restrictions apply. Expires 6.30.16. 36-month monitoring plan required to qualify for promotion. Basic system for free with \$30 monitoring plan or higher; \$99 with \$25 monitoring plan.

**Landscaping projects?  
Plans to dig underground?**

Call **811** first to have vital utility lines marked. It's the law.



**Day-Before Breakfast**

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 lb. spicy pork sausage
- 6 large eggs
- 2 C milk
- 1 tsp salt
- 4-6 slices white or wheat bread - cubed (*you need enough bread to cover the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking dish.*)
- 1.5-2 C grated Sharp Cheddar cheese



**PREPARATION:**

- Sauté sausage and drain
- Beat eggs with milk and salt
- In the 9x13 inch baking dish, place bread cubes in bottom of pan and layer with crumbled cooked sausage, then grated cheddar cheese.
- Pour egg mixture over the top. Refrigerate overnight if baking the next day.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 minutes. Cut in squares and serve.
- Makes 8-10 servings.

**Are You Connected?**

Everyone should have access to quality, affordable communications. This principle of "Universal Service" has been a key industry goal for decades. Wilkes Communications offers a home telephone assistance program called Lifeline. Lifeline provides a discount on the cost of local telephone service for any individual who participates in one of the following: National School Free Lunch Program, Food and Nutrition Services, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, Work First Family Assistance Program, and/or Federal Public Housing Assistance. Contact a representative today about applying for Lifeline.

**Easy Money!**

*Save money making your payments  
with Wilkes auto pay and e-bill.*

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A monthly bill credit of \$1 will be applied to your statement the following month of your enrollment into either the autodraft or ebill program. If you enroll in both the autodraft and e-bill programs, the credit will be \$2 per month starting the month after your enrollment. Certain restrictions apply.

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