

RADIO ROUNDUP

a collection of features, oddities,
and helpful tips



**NORTH AMERICAN
PRECIS SYNDICATE, INC.**

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183 WORDS, 60 SECONDS

TECHNOLOGY IN OUR LIVES

THE NATION'S SMALL, INDEPENDENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS MAY HAVE SERVICE CHANGES IN STORE FOR THEIR CUSTOMERS. THAT'S THE WORD FROM EXPERTS WHO SAY AMERICANS WHO LIVE MOSTLY IN RURAL AREAS AND SMALL TOWNS MAY SOON GET MORE AND BETTER COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, BUT THE KEY IS KEEPING COSTS AFFORDABLE. MANY CARRIERS ARE NOW STRIVING TO UPDATE THEIR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS WHILE KEEPING RATES AFFORDABLE FOR THEIR CUSTOMERS. BECAUSE OF THE WAY FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION UNIVERSAL SERVICE RULES ARE CURRENTLY STRUCTURED, SOME CONSUMERS IN RURAL AMERICA ARE BEING FORCED TO SELECT SERVICES THEY DON'T WANT—SUCH AS LANDLINE TELEPHONES—TO GET HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND AT AN AFFORDABLE RATE. TO HELP, N-T-C-A—THE RURAL BROADBAND ASSOCIATION IS WORKING WITH THE F-C-C AND LAWMAKERS TO UPDATE THE RULES SO RURAL AMERICA CAN ENJOY A SYSTEM FOR BROADBAND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INCLUDING INTERNET-BASED VOICE SERVICES, SUPPORTED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. RATHER THAN CUTTING THESE CRITICAL SUPPORTS, N-T-C-A BELIEVES POLICYMAKERS SHOULD UPDATE AND RESTRUCTURE THEM. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT F-C-C--DOT--GOV OR N-T-C-A--DOT--ORG OR CALL 7-0-3--3-5-1--2000.