

By Jan Schultz

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Great Plains Cable TV customers wondering where some of their favorite stations went last week should be able to find them now, but they might be on a different channel.

The company was busy realigning some of its channels last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, said LeaAnn Quist, director of cable television for Great Plains.

That meant some of the stations were off the air temporarily, and not on their familiar channels after the work was done, she said.

All the work was completed the end of last week.

Letters to Great Plains cable customers were sent last month, explaining the channel changes that will also be coming with rate increases that take effect with the July billing.

Quist said those who subscribe to Great Plains' cable TV only will realize increases over 20 percent.

However, those customers who bundle two or more services from Great Plains will see smaller overall increases, Quist said.

The majority of Great Plains' customers have received the Basic Cable and Extra Value Tier in the past, Quist said, which now are known as Limited Basic and Expanded Basic.

Customers who are continuing with the Limited Basic and Expanded Basic will receive all of the same stations they have before, in addition to newly added ESPN Classic and RFD-TV, the latter being a direct request from their customers, Quist said.

The Limited Basic subscribers will receive channels 2-22, while those adding the Expanded Basic will also have channels 23-67.

The May 29 letter to customers noted that current basic service customers were to be automatically changed to both the Limited Basic and Expanded Basic service tiers, unless the company is contacted that both services aren't wanted.

Quist said they tried to minimize the changes in channels during the realignment work last week, and noted this is the first increase in cable rates in several years.

The letter to customers last month included a new channel card directory. More of those directories have been sent to the Great Plains office in Imperial, or can be received by calling Great Plains' customer service office at 1-888-343-8014.