



PO Box 299
Council Grove, KS 66846

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF TCT.

Save the Date!

The Annual Meeting of The Tri-County Telephone Association Members is scheduled for
March 24, 2015.



Are you at a DEAD END with Windows XP?

TCT is here to help you make the transition to Windows 8.1!

Let the TCT PC Paramedic make the transition easy by upgrading your machine or transferring information from your old machine to a new laptop or desktop*.

Call today to setup an appointment or discuss the options that best fit your needs.

**PC requirements need to be taken into consideration.
Call for more information.*



TCT Solutions Center
120 NE 14th St
Abilene, KS 67410

TCT
620.767.5153 | 800.362.2576
www.tctelco.net

TCT Solutions Center
923 W Main
Council Grove, KS 66846

Tele-Talk NEWSLETTER

February 2015



PO Box 299
1568 S 1000 Rd
Council Grove, KS 66846

**Now offering two
Retail/Customer Service
Locations to better serve
our customers!**

TCT Solutions Center
923 W Main
Council Grove, KS 66846
620.767.5153 | 800.362.2576

Hours:
Monday–Friday 8am to 5pm

TCT Solutions Center
120 NE 14th
Abilene, KS 67410
785.479.5561 | 800.362.2576

Hours:
Monday–Friday 9am to 6pm
Saturday 9am to 1pm

www.tctelco.net

“Get Smart” about what your Broadband Connection can do for you!

Access to Broadband is important for commerce, economic development, and personal communication. More and more people in rural communities are using Broadband to go back to school, access healthcare and to communicate with family and friends. Some are using Broadband to work from home for companies across the state, or even the across the nation! In short, the internet can bring the world to you. TCT has invested in our network to bring Broadband to every member of our Cooperative, but many people still do not realize all that Broadband can do to enrich their lives. So this year TCT is inviting you to “Get Smart” about Broadband and how it can improve your life through our Digital Literacy efforts. TCT wants to teach members all about Broadband and what it can do for you!

Here are just a few things that you can do with TCT Broadband!

- Live well – quickly find health and medical information.
- Do-It-Yourself – Information for home improvement, auto repair, almost anything.
- Work from home – more employers are offering this to workers, (497-2973) but you need fast, reliable Internet.
- Employment – find a new job or a better job.
- Education – earn your GED, go to college or learn to play guitar – without traveling to a classroom.
- Send messages – communicate with friends, businesses and relatives.
- Share information – photos, events, recipes and more.
- Be informed – sports, weather, news, current events, local or around the world.
- Be entertained – online TV shows, movies, games and more.
- Get social – use Facebook, Twitter and other communication tools to connect with many people, groups and businesses.
- Access government services – car registration, driver’s license renewal, business license, tax returns- without going to a government office.
- Pay bills or do your banking – without mailing checks or going to the bank.
- Start a business right at home.
- Find information on personal interests – family, church, hobbies, travel, groups and clubs.



Special of
the Month...

Enjoy Faster Internet

Celebrate with a faster Internet connection! TCT now offers High Speed Internet speeds up to 50Mbps* download and 10Mbps* upload; ideal for video streaming, online gaming and multiple-device households.

Don't have TCT High Speed Internet? Subscribe today and receive 1-month FREE plus a FREE router.

Call today and visit with one of our friendly CSR's to see which package will work best for you.

**Offer only good through the month of February 2015. High Speed Internet speeds are maximum only and are not guaranteed since several factors affect speed, including your computer equipment. Certain restrictions apply. All prices subject to change. Contact us for details.*



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Visit us on the Web!
www.tctelco.net

Valentine's Day Dinner — Herington

Join the Herington Senior Center for a special evening, featuring a Valentine's Day meal prepared by Brigitte Wendell and entertainment by Randy Schumock. Location: Herington Senior Center. Date: Saturday, Feb. 14, 5–9pm. Menu: Schnitzel with noodles, German potato salad, and black forest cake. Cost: \$12 per person or \$22 per couple. Please RSVP to the Herington Senior Center at 785.258.2231.



Community Luncheon — Junction City

The little country church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 9719 Clarks Creek Road, Junction City, is hosting a luncheon on Valentine's Day from 11am–1pm. Spaghetti, chili, and Chicken Noodle soup will be served. Bring your Valentine and enjoy the food, craft sale and bake sale. This is a Ladies Aid sponsored event and proceeds will go to kitchen remodeling. A free will donation is accepted. Questions please call 785-482-3213.

Important Legislative Coffee — Council Grove

The public is encouraged to participate in the Morris County Legislative Coffee Saturday morning, Feb. 14, at the Courthouse, located at 501 West Main Street in Council Grove. Newly-elected State Senator Rick Wilborn, 35th Senatorial District, and State Representative Tom Moxley, 68th House District, will meet the public in an informative session regarding the 2015 Kansas Legislature.

Learn about issues impacting all Kansans – with the opportunity to ask questions and offer input as the 2015 legislature enters its second month of session.

Community Blood Drive — Council Grove

Join us on Feb. 16, 11am–5pm, at the Council Grove Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 106 East Main. Those with diabetes and high blood pressure may donate as long as their condition is monitored by a physician and controlled with medication.

To be a donor it is very important to eat breakfast and lunch and drink plenty of liquids, do not drink tea, it can affect your hemoglobin count. All types of blood are urgently needed. To schedule a time call 620-767-5994. Walk-ins are welcome.

Thank you for being a donor. One unit of blood can help two or more patients. The lunch sponsors are: Farmers Insurance Group, Community Thrift Store and Morris County Hospital Auxiliary.



Annual Pancake Feed — Navarre

The Navarre Lions Club is hosting their Annual Pancake Feed on Saturday, March 7, from 11am–7pm at the Navarre Community Center. The menu will consist of pancakes, sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy, homemade desserts and a drink. Cost is by donation. A Silent Auction will also be held with assorted items donated by local businesses.

Bus Trip to Prairie Band Casino — White City

The White City Senior Center is sponsoring a bus trip to Prairie Band Casino on April 9. The bus will leave the Senior Center at 7am. Cost is \$20 a person and you get \$10 back plus a noon meal. For reservations call: Judy Stewart at the Senior Center 785-349-2813, Carolyn Holm 785-349-2307, or Stella Roediger 785-349-2901.

We are pleased to serve our local communities and would like to include your Community Events in our newsletter.

Submission for this section is the 10th of the previous month.
Please mail items to: TCT, PO Box 299, Council Grove, KS 66846
620.767.5153 ▪ 800.362.2576 ▪ tctelco@tctelco.net

TCT Scholarship Opportunities

The TCT Board of Director's Scholarship Program is for graduating high school seniors, with a GPA of 2.5 or higher, planning to attend a four year college, junior college or trade school in the fall of 2015. Six (6), \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students whose parents or legal guardians are members of the Association. Students must completely fill out the application, including signatures from their school's counselor and principal. Completed applications must be returned to the TCT Business Office, 1568 S. 1000 Rd. Council Grove, or by mail to TCT, Attn: Scholarships, PO Box 299, Council Grove, KS 66846, by March 3, 2015. Applications are available on TCT's website: www.tctelco.net.

Another scholarship opportunity offered by TCT is the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) annual college scholarship. The FRS program helps further higher education among rural youth. FRS awards one-time \$2,500 scholarships to students from rural America for their first year of college, university or vocational-technical school. Students will be sponsored by TCT as an NTCA member company. FRS funds \$2,000 of the scholarship, with TCT providing the remaining \$500. The FRS College Scholarship Program seeks to encourage students to return to their rural communities upon completing their education. Applications must be postmarked to FRS by March 2, 2015. Winners will be announced by May 1. An online link to the FRS application can be found at TCT's website: www.tctelco.net.

Finally, students may also apply for a \$500 scholarship through TCT's affiliation with Public Relations Independent Marketing Organization or PRIMO. The PRIMO scholarship is open to any full time, undergraduate student of an accredited university, college, or technical school. The scholarship committee will give preference to applicants whose field of study is Marketing, Public Relations, or Telecommunications, or a related field. The PRIMO scholarship application deadline is by March 20, 2015. Applications can be found on TCT's website: www.tctelco.net.

For more information please contact Angie Schwerdtfeger at 800.362.2576 or publicrelations@tctelco.net.

Rules for Nominating Directors

The following is a summary of requirements for nominations to be selected for possible election to the TCT Board of Directors:

- The Cooperative is divided into five (5) Districts for the purpose of nominating the Board of Directors. Each District is represented by two (2) Board members, along with one (1) "At-Large" representative, making a total of 11 Directors to serve on the Board. The Districts contain, as nearly as possible, an equal number of members. The Board reviews the composition of the Districts each year for possible re-delineation.
- The Board appoints a Nominating Committee consisting of two (2) members from each of the five (5) Districts, making a total of 10, to select candidates for election to the Board of Directors. No current member of the Board may serve on the Nominating Committee. This committee, keeping in mind the principle of equitable representation, shall prepare and post at the headquarters' office at least 20 days before the Annual Meeting of Members, a list of Board Member nominees which shall include at least two (2) candidates for each Board position to be filled by the election. The nominations for Directors are listed in the "Official Notice of the Annual Meeting of Members" each year and printed in our monthly newsletter.
- Any 15 or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition, provided they are received in the office five (5) days before the Annual Meeting so they can be included on the official ballot. Other nominations shall be treated as nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting. No member may nominate more than one (1) candidate.

The meeting of the nominating committee will be held on Feb. 11, 2015 at 2 p.m. at The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc business office.

Board Members: Anita Hummel, Dan Reiff, Randy Parker, Jan Oleen, Larry Johnson, Kent Rock, Alona Hedstrom, Kenny Stroda, Shawn Tiffany, Linda Wessel and Ellen DeLay.

NEW LISTINGS

Aldrich, Scott & Robyn	785-257-3001
Bohnen, Tiffany	620-767-5009
Braswell, Lawrence	620-767-5007
Crippen, Colby	620-767-5023
Davies, Jacob	620-767-5006
Evans, Joshua Scott	785-479-2006
Gagnon, Bryon & Amanda.....	785-349-2179
Hewitt, James	620-767-6003
King, H W	785-497-2053
King, Jo	620-767-5229
Lawrenz, Matthew	785-349-2273
Metcalfe, Jay & Kim.....	785-497-2252
Nixon, Jasmine.....	785-349-2930
Owen, David & Cassi.....	620-767-5020
Pavek, Jesse	620-767-5032
Rogers, Alice	785-479-2027
Ryan, Heather	620-767-6001
Sherwood, Casey Ray & Lynessa....	620-767-5013
Smith, Anthony.....	620-767-5039
Tampa Grill.....	785-965-2054
Watkins, Steven	785-366-7010
Young, Jessica	620-767-5011

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2015

Rural telephone companies are directed by the KCC to increase the KUSF assessment rate from 6.05% to 6.47% and the residential access rate from \$16.75 to \$17 and business access rate from \$19.75 to \$20.

WINNERS CIRCLE

Congrats to our
January winner(s):
... unclaimed ...

Be sure to look through the newsletter for two phone numbers in parenthesis. If it's your number call our office to claim your prize!