



SKT

Connection

SUMMER 2015

Here's to the Heroes Also Known as Dads

"One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters." – George Herbert

Master of the barbeque. Smasher of spiders. Investigator of closet boogie-monsters. You, dad, are a child's first hero. Throughout their lives, you help your children learn, explore, and grow.

It's the time of year when your tie collection swells and handmade cards decorate your desk. SKT would like to join the celebration and wish all the fathers, grandfathers, and other father figures in our community a very happy Father's Day!



Contact

SKT
112 S. Lee, Clearwater, KS 67026
620.584.2255 or toll-free 888.758.8976
Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For help with service problems during non-business hours, please call 888.758.8976.

24/7 Internet Help Desk
800.968.1855

Visit Us Online
www.SKTMainstreet.com



Bring Your Challenges to SKT's Business Customer Consultant

What challenges does your business face? Are you struggling to find the time to keep up with today's rapidly changing technology? Do you need help comparing the many options in communications products and services?



SKT is your local source for solutions to these and other related challenges. Michelle Snell, our Business Customer Consultant, will work with you to meet the communications needs of your business, large or small. SKT offers a full menu of products and services under one roof including:

- Business local and long distance telephone service and calling features.
- High-Speed Internet with standard speeds ranging from 4.0 Mbps to 25 Mbps.
- Business class data connections and hardware.
- Wired and wireless networking and equipment.
- Business surveillance service and equipment, including cameras that can be accessed from a smartphone or computer, with automated notifications to keep you on top of your business, even when you are away.
- Business computers, laptops, netbooks, printers, phones, and more.
- Cable TV services, with the latest business news and weather.
- Business security services, including security systems and monitoring, smoke and heat detection, with 24/7 monitoring by a UL-approved station.

"I truly enjoy learning about the businesses SKT serves—especially the vital processes that make each business successful. With that understanding, I can suggest SKT services that will help you support those processes as efficiently as possible," says Michelle Snell.

By bundling communications services from SKT, your business can achieve significant savings each year, compared with buying the services separately. You also gain the convenience of one billing, and one call for all of your service needs, from a local company who cares about your business.

What's the first step? Schedule a time with Michelle to visit your business. She'll learn from you what your business goals are, and help you determine the SKT services that will help you meet those goals.

To get started with this process, contact Michelle at 620.584.8339 or michelle.snell@sktcompanies.com.



Top 3 Benefits of High-Speed Internet

When you choose high-speed Internet, you can do what you've always done online—but *so much faster*. There are many advantages to having faster Internet. Here are the three most important:

- 1. Faster load time.** With high-speed Internet, webpages will load faster than the average speed—even when you have multiple tabs open, and even if there are videos or photos present on the pages.
- 2. Continuous streaming.** Stream TV shows, movies, and music without interruption when you have high-speed Internet. Buffering is a thing of the past!
- 3. Support for multiple users.** If more than one person in your household is using the Internet, you may experience a slow connection without a high-speed connection. For the modern family, faster Internet isn't a luxury anymore—it's a necessity.

High-speed Internet means faster social networking, faster video streaming, and faster multi-player online gaming—not just for you, but for the whole family. To sign up for faster Internet speeds with SKT, call 888.758.8976.

SKT Joins Quilt Trail With 'A Star in a Star'

SKT co-owner Elaine Mikesell Webb and Lonnie Stieben, SKT's Community Economic Development Manager, are working together to help the efforts of the Cowley County Tourism Alliance. One such effort that has really caught on is Cowley County's Barn Quilt Trail, formed to celebrate our agricultural heritage, promote rural pride, and attract visitors. Cowley is one of 22 Kansas counties participating in the Flint Hills Quilt Trail, which branched out from the "Barn Quilt Movement" begun in Ohio in 2001.

Elaine was instrumental in planning and creating a quilt block to display on the SKT warehouse in Burden. SKT—a third-generation, family-owned business—is celebrating 75 years of service this year! It's a great year to become part of the quilt trail.

Deb Firebaugh, Administrative Assistant at Cowley First, helped find the "Star in a Star" quilt pattern, a perfect complement to SKT's logo. Gayle Bodwell, SKT Marketing Assistant, helped select the colors for painting the 4' x 4' quilt block. The work was completed with the help of many SKT employees, and on March 9, Todd Dannenberg, SKT Customer Systems Manager, put the quilt block into place.

If you are interested in making a 2', 4', 6' or 8' barn quilt, the next class is August 22 at the Winfield Chamber of Commerce, 123 E. 9th. Call 620.221.2420 or email tourism@winfieldpartners.org for pricing and to register. If you would like to have a barn quilt made for you, call Deb Firebaugh at 620.221.9951.

If you want to take the Cowley County Barn Quilt Trail tour, printable maps are available at www.cowleycounty.org/barn-quilt-trail, where you'll find a map for the Cowley County Stone Arch Bridge tour, as well. While driving the back roads of Cowley County, you're sure to find your own treasures, along with plentiful shopping and dining options. And while you're at it, check out SKT's shining star at 311 N. Main in Burden—we're on the map!



SKT's Elaine Mikesell Webb and Lonnie Stieben help SKT join the Quilt Trail.





In an Emergency, Would the 911 Dispatcher Know Your Exact Location?

Unfortunately, many people have discovered the answer to the question above is “No.” If you use a cellphone to make the call to 911 — and you can’t say the address due to a medical condition or other reason — dispatchers may not be able to pinpoint your exact location quickly.

Why? In most communities, 911 systems are not equipped to provide dispatchers with specific location information from the phone record if you call from a cellphone. The best they can do is to try and get a general indication of your location based on the cell tower site closest to where you are. This data exchange can take minutes; sometimes, it doesn’t return a location at all.

This situation often comes as a surprise to people since mobile apps like Facebook and Uber can tell where you are located with impressive accuracy. The fact is, not all cellphone calls transmit location data. Your chance of a 911 operator getting a fix on your location from a cellphone can be as low as 10 percent.¹

By contrast, if you call 911 from a landline phone, the phone record is tied to a specific physical location, and the dispatcher will be able to locate you quickly and send the appropriate help. The 911 system was designed for landline phones, and it transmits your call and your location instantly over a hard-wired connection.

The FCC estimates that about 70 percent of 911 calls are now placed from cellphones, and that number is growing. While cellphone convenience is a great thing when you’re out and about, your safety and security are two important reasons to also keep a landline phone at home. Having one enhances the likelihood of emergency personnel locating your home when every second counts.

To sign up for landline service, call SKT at 888.758.8976.

¹USA TODAY. “911’s Deadly Flaw: Lack of Location Data,” February 22, 2015. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/02/22/cellphone-911-lack-location-data/23570499/>

Forgotten Item Market Awarded ‘2015 Leader of the Year’

The Forgotten Item Market in Burden, Kansas, has received a “2015 Leader of the Year” award from Kansas State University’s Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development. “It is very humbling to think that we were even a candidate for this award, much less chosen,” said Sherrie Conklin, owner of the market with her husband, Scotty. This year’s five winners were chosen because they demonstrated outstanding leadership in business and service to communities and families.

How did Forgotten Item Market get its start? It’s all in the name! One day, while doing her Christmas baking, Sherrie ran out of powdered sugar — and the nearest store was 25 miles away. In order to provide local access to needed supplies, she and her husband created the market. Celebrating its second anniversary, they offer groceries, hand-made items from local artists, and even a custom shopping service for elderly customers.

Sherrie is also an agent for SKT. Stop by the Forgotten Item Market to sign up for new services or to talk with Sherrie about upgrading your current SKT services. For more information, call 620.438.2048 or email forgottenitem@yahoo.com.



Sherrie Conklin’s market receives KSU award.

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Refer friends to get **FREE MONTHS** of **SECURITY MONITORING**

When you refer a friend to SKT who is not a current Security System customer and he/she purchases a Security System from us, you get one month of FREE Security Monitoring. Refer a dozen friends, and you could get an entire year FREE.*

Ask about our \$99 Security System with FREE installation.



*Referral must be referenced at time of sale to receive credit. Limited to 12 referrals per year. Referral credit valued at the current monitoring monthly rate. Services may not be available in all locations. Call for details.

