

SKT Connection

WINTER 2017



Wishing You a Season of Sweet Smiles

All of us at SKT hope your holiday season is a jolly one. Be sure to savor all the details that make this time of year so fun!

Thanks for choosing us as your communications provider in 2017. You make us smile.

Contact

SKT
112 S. Lee, Clearwater, KS 67026
620.584.2255 or toll-free 888.758.8976
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 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.SKTMairstreet.com



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You'll instantly be amazed at the difference it makes when you move up to faster speeds. It's a sure way to make everybody smile, from your game-playing kids to your movie-buff spouse.

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— NO OVERTIME FEES**

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**CALL NOW AT
888.758.8976
TO SIGN UP
AND SPEED UP**



Don't Be Fooled by Caller ID Spoofing

One of the best ways to avoid phone scams has traditionally been to not answer calls from numbers that you do not recognize on your Caller ID. But crooks have a sneaky way around this. With Caller ID spoofing, they are able to make it appear as if their calls are coming from a local phone number—perhaps even from someone you know. That way, you're more likely to pick up.

The goal of this scam is to get you to reveal personal information such as account numbers, passwords, and Social Security numbers. To avoid becoming a victim of Caller ID spoofing, take these precautions:

- Never give out personal information over the phone, such as account numbers, unless you initiate the call.
- If you receive a call requesting information, ask for the name of the organization that is calling. Then, call that organization, using the phone number on your bill or statement—NOT the number on your Caller ID.

If you have questions about Caller ID or any other aspect of your landline service, call us at 888.758.8976.



Why Talking on the Phone Can Be Better Than Texting

Despite the convenience of texting, certain situations simply call for a phone call. If you're texting more than calling these days, you may want to reconsider after reviewing these phone call advantages:

You hear the tone of voice for more straightforward communication.

During a phone call, it's usually easy to determine the other person's mood or intent based upon the way the words are spoken. Text messages, by contrast, often become guessing games. Is he serious or joking? What does that emoji mean? This can lead to miscommunication and hurt feelings.

A phone call is more personal.

There's something about hearing the voice of someone you care about that can't be replicated in written form. Think about it: Would you rather hear the sound of someone's laughter or read "Ha, ha, ha" in a text? When you're on a call, it feels more like being in the same room together.

The conversation has a definite end.

There's no ambiguity with a phone call. When the conversation is over, the call ends. But with texting, the conversation may meander on for hours with unpredictable stops and starts.

Talking can be much more efficient (and less tiring).

Tapping letters on a keyboard becomes annoying when you and the other person have a whole lot to discuss. Save the effort and make a phone call instead, since your mouth can move faster than your fingers. To prove this point, read this paragraph out loud. Let's say that took you 15 seconds to complete. Now grab your smartphone and enter the same words as a text message. Which was faster?

SKT believes in the power of the human voice and encourages you to incorporate phone calls into your regular routine. Visit www.SKTMainstreet.com for details on our selection of voice services.

Let Smart Home Technology Automate and Elevate Your Holiday

You're probably aware that smart home technology can help you remotely manage your home's systems such as lighting, appliances, and the thermostat. But did you know this technology can also be used to enhance your holiday decorations and impress your holiday guests?

Consider these examples of smart new ways to tech the halls:

App-Connected Outlets

These devices plug into your home's regular outlets to control small appliances and lights. Add an app-connected outlet behind your Christmas tree to avoid climbing under the branches and control the lights via your smart-phone or tablet instead. The same goes for your home's outdoor holiday lights.

Lights in Sync With Your Songs

Thanks to home automation, you can easily take your holiday decorating to the next level. Technology is available to sync your lights to your holiday playlist, customize your holiday tunes to play at certain times of the day, and control the light patterns and colors from a mobile device.

Web Cams to Capture Holiday Moments

Affordable web cams are a popular part of smart home systems. Sure, they're great for safety and security all year long. But during the holiday season, your web cams could record Santa's late-night visit or let you know if the kids are peeking at their presents early.

Voice-Enabled Digital Assistants

Think of these devices as "digital elves" that work with many smart home gadgets and applications. You just talk to them and say what you want, such as "Play Santa Clause is Comin' to Town" while you're wrapping gifts or "Set the oven timer for 10 minutes" while you're baking cookies.

Don't settle for a ho-hum holiday when today's smart home technology can make it a ho-ho-ho lot more exciting. Have some fun exploring all the possibilities this year!

SKT offers smart home devices and the high-speed Internet plans you need to support them. To learn more, visit www.SKTMainstreet.com.



Fruitcake Month is Fodder for Laughs

Since December is National Fruitcake Month, take a minute to review the history of this often-joked-about food. After all, reading about fruitcake may be more enjoyable than eating it.

"The worst gift is fruitcake. There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep sending it to each other."

—JOHNNY CARSON

Fruitcake wasn't always ridiculed—it used to be a popular staple. Romans served fruitcake at festivals, their recipe calling for pomegranate seeds, pine nuts, and barley mash. Soldiers fighting the Crusades carried a version that included preserved fruit, spices, and honey. By the 19th century, fruitcakes similar to what we know today appeared, made with fruits and nuts from the Mediterranean and soaked with alcohol to extend the shelf life.

Talk-show host Johnny Carson is often blamed for the sudden downturn in popularity when he told this famous joke: "The worst gift is fruitcake. There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep sending it to each other." Jay Leno, heir to Carson's throne, got in on the gag, sampling a piece cut from a fruitcake that had been passed down within a family for 125 years.



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SKT Customer Care will be glad to review your Internet speed needs for all the devices you have in your home—call us today at 888.758.8976.

SKT customers are invited to play the SKT PICK-IT BOWL CHALLENGE!

Join the challenge:
pick the winning college football teams this bowl season and win CASH from SKT!

Top Prize	\$150
2nd	\$100
3rd	\$75
4th	\$50
5th	\$25

Sign up to play:
skt.pickitchallenge.com

Contact us at 888.758.8976 for details
www.SKTMainstreet.com

Grenola Resident Wins SKT Photo Contest

Velma Conklin of Grenola, Kansas, won SKT's 2018 Southeast Kansas Area Telephone Directory Cover Photo Contest. Her winning photo—of an old threshing machine on a snowy day—will be on the cover of the new directories, which will be delivered this month. Winning second place was Janice Billiter of Atlanta, and receiving third place was Kayci Bowman of Burden. Thanks to everyone who entered. SKT customers in the Clearwater and Viola areas are invited to participate in the next photo contest, which will decide the cover for the 2018 Clearwater/Viola Telephone directories. That deadline is Friday, February 16, 2018. Details are at www.SKTMainstreet.com.

