



Come for Holiday Treats on December 3, 10 & 17

All of us at KMTelcom thank you for choosing us as your provider and wish you the best in the New Year. Stop by our office on any of the first three Tuesdays in December to enjoy holiday refreshments. We appreciate your business!



Business Office Closed

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

Office closing at noon

Wednesday, December 25, 2019

Christmas Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

New Year's Day

KMTelcom

18 Second Avenue NW
Kasson, MN 55944-1491
634-2511

Local call for KMTelcom customers in
Kasson, Mantorville, Rock Dell and
Dodge Center

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm
For help with service problems during
non-business hours, please call 634-2505.

24/7 Internet Help Desk

Kasson, Mantorville Area 634-2575
Rock Dell Area 634-2575 (FREE call)
Dodge Center Area 633-2575

Visit Us Online

www.kmtel.com

KMTelcom
Where technology comes with a human touch

They're back and better than ever! REINDEER GAMES 2.0

YOU'LL "DEERLY" LOVE THE FREE DEALS

DEAL 1

NEW INTERNET PLAN WITH FREE MONTH AND FREE INSTALL

- Speeds up to 1 Gig
- Savings based on plan chosen
- Existing customers can upgrade and save—ask for details



DEAL 2

NEW INTERNET PLAN OF 100 MBPS OR HIGHER WITH FREE MONTH AND FREE INSTALL

- Speeds up to 1 Gig
- Savings start at \$144.99
- \$50 Hulu gift card



DEAL 3

MANAGED WI-FI WITH FREE MONTH AND FREE INSTALL

- Ditch your old router
- Optimize your Wi-Fi for a more reliable experience
- Monthly rate – \$6.99
- SAVE \$81.99



ENTER TO WIN TECH TOYS IN WEEKLY DRAWINGS

Each Friday from 11/29 to 12/20, we'll hold a Reindeer Games 2.0 prize drawing. Weekly winners will have their choice of remaining prizes from this list:

- JBL Flip 4 Portable Bluetooth Speaker
- Tile Pro (2020) 4 Pack with Echo Dot (3rd Gen)
- Echo Dot with Clock and 2 Pack of Smart Plugs
- Fire TV Stick with Echo Dot

You'll be automatically entered in these drawings when you sign up for one of the deals below. You can also enter at our office.

**Hoof it to our office, call 507-634-2511 or visit
www.kmtel.com to join the fun of Reindeer Games 2.0!**

Some exceptions and restrictions may apply to all deals. No contracts required. Contact us for details.

Video Chats Can Help You Feel Closer During the Holidays

In a perfect world, families would all be together in one place to celebrate the holidays. But as families grow and spread to different cities, it's often not feasible for everyone to attend holiday events in person. Fortunately, video chats — via services such as Skype, FaceTime, and Google Hangouts — allow faraway family members to make a virtual appearance and participate in activities remotely. To quote the vintage commercial for long distance, "It's the next best thing to being there."

While you can use a variety of devices for video chats, you may find using a tablet to be the most practical option. Some families set a tablet at the empty spot around the dining room table so the person who's away can participate in the conversation. Or you could pass around a tablet to family gathered for the gift exchange so the person being streamed into the room can share in the excitement as each gift is unwrapped.

You don't have to limit video chatting to major holiday events either. A quick, spontaneous chat can be a fun way to stay connected at any time of the year.



Beef Up Your Virtual Recipe Box

While old family recipes are great, new recipes are fun as well. Bring your devices into the kitchen and check out these free apps for inspiration on what to make next:



Tasty. Use the comprehensive search tool to find new recipes, then follow along with helpful videos. Easily post to social media so your friends can share in the foodie fun.

BigOven. Search by keyword, course, ingredient, or collection, or use the leftover feature to enter ingredients from your pantry to see what you can make. Additional features help with menu planning and shopping.

Yummly. Perfect for those with special diets or food allergies, this app has you input some initial information to find the best recipe for you, then it keeps learning to refine future results.

Allrecipes Dinner Spinner. Get dinner on the table with less fuss and more fun. This app allows you to specify ingredients and prep time to find just the right recipe.

SideChef. Great for beginners, this app provides step-by-step recipe instructions including photos and videos. Search filters allow you to find exactly the right recipe.

When you're browsing around online looking for a recipe, try these strategies to spot a good one:

- **Read the blog text and comments.** You'll be able to tell the level of testing the author used and whether others have had success with the recipe.
- **Make sure the ingredients match the instructions.** Read a recipe all the way through before trying it. Ideally recipes should have ingredients listed in the order in which they're used.
- **Look for specificity.** An ingredient of "1 carrot" is good, "1 medium-sized carrot" is better, and "1 cup chopped carrots" is best. Similarly, descriptive text — like, "the onions should be translucent" — is useful.

KMTelecom offers a menu of internet plans to satisfy your bandwidth-hungry household. Visit www.kmtel.com for details.

Crazy About Corny Christmas Movies?

Both Hallmark and Lifetime are going all out with their Christmas movies in 2019, which is great news for fans of unbelievably cute small towns, holiday-themed businesses, and love that conquers all. Sure, almost all of the plots follow a predictable format, but these movies aren't designed to surprise you. They're meant to provide an escape from the real world that's as sweet as a plateful of cookies and as comfortable as an evening with an old friend.

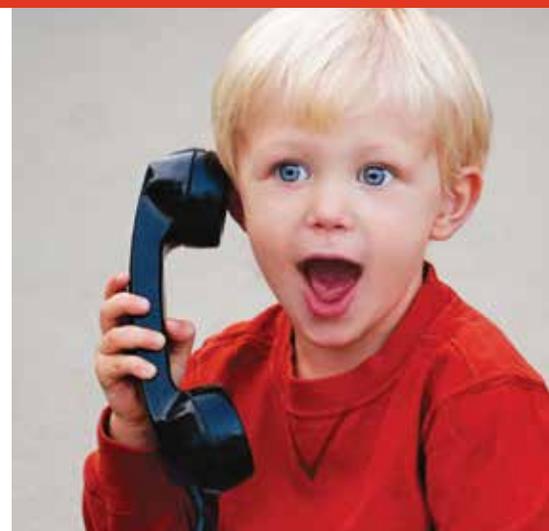


This year marks the 10th anniversary of Hallmark's hugely popular "Countdown to Christmas" event. The network will air 40 new Christmas movies—starring favorites like Candace Cameron Bure, Erin Krakow, and Dolly Parton—on the regular Hallmark channel and on Hallmark Movies and Mysteries.

To give you a taste of what's to come, here are some of the titles of the new Hallmark movies: *A Christmas Love Story*, *Christmas in Rome*, *Christmas at Dollywood*, *Christmas Town*, *Christmas Wishes & Mistletoe Kisses*, *Christmas Camp*, *A Merry Christmas Match*, *Nostalgic Christmas*, and *Check Inn to Christmas*. Look carefully and you'll see a pattern there!

Over at Lifetime, you can enjoy more Yuletide cheer during the "It's a Wonderful Lifetime" holiday event. This lineup features 28 Christmas movies including ones starring Melissa Joan Hart as an event coordinator and Tia Mowry-Hardtrick as an antique store owner. Fans of *One Tree Hill* will be pleased to hear that Lifetime will air the movie *The Christmas Contract* starring the show's cast mates Hilarie Burton, Robert Buckley, Danneel Ackles, and Antwon Tanne.

So during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, be sure to carve out some time to relax with these delightfully festive Christmas movies. You can watch the Hallmark and Lifetime channels via KMTV or by using a streaming service such as Roku combined with our high-speed internet. To learn more, call 507-634-2511.



Reasons to Love a Landline

Landline phone service gives you:

- **Reliability.** Count on constant connections, since power outages won't affect a landline.
- **Safety.** 911 operators automatically see your exact location when someone calls, regardless of whether the caller can speak or not.
- **Dependable Quality.** When was the last time your landline dropped a call or had bad reception?

These are just a few reasons to love a landline. Contact us for even more.

\$25

**Win a \$25
Credit on Your
KMTelecom Bill**

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill by December 31, 2019 for a chance to win a **\$25 credit** to your account. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Congratulations to our September 2019 winner, Anker Miller, Kasson!



Diane Krejci



John Bishop

Diane Krejci and John Bishop Retire

Please join us in extending best wishes to Diane Krejci and John Bishop, who will be retiring from KMTelecom on January 1, 2020.

Diane started at KMTelecom in August 1993 as Customer Service Representative and was later promoted to Billing Manager. She's been an exemplary member of the KMTelecom team for the past 26 years, and we'll miss her greatly.

John's employment with KMTelecom started in January 1988 at the Internet Helpdesk and he's served our customers for 22 years. His knowledge and patience will definitely be missed by the many people he's helped over the years. Moving forward, our 24/7 help desk of Security Coverage will provide internet assistance.

Thank you, Diane and John, for your many years of dedicated service to KMTelecom! We hope you enjoy your additional time with family and friends during retirement.



If you haven't yet jumped on the smart speaker bandwagon, you may be wondering what you could do with one. Well, the short answer is this: You can do a lot!

There are many brands of smart speakers on the market, each with a voice assistance platform. Some of the most popular ones are Amazon Echo (Alexa), Google Home (Google Assistant), and Apple HomePod (Siri). Do your research to find the smart speaker that would best meet your needs.

These internet-connected devices will perform a variety of convenient, time-saving functions for you and your family members. All you have to do to speak to your "friend" Alexa (or Google Assistant or Siri) to get things done.

Here are some functions you may find particularly useful:

- 1) **Play music.** You can tell your smart speaker to play your favorite radio station. It can also play music from apps (called "skills") like Pandora or Spotify.
- 2) **Get weather forecast or news updates.** Just ask your speaker to tell you the weather forecast or news headlines, and it will do exactly that.
- 3) **Perform voice searches.** This action is similar to doing a Google search on your computer, only you use your voice and get a voice response back. For example, you could ask how to spell a difficult word or who stars in a particular movie.
- 4) **Get cooking ideas and tips.** No, your smart speaker can't cook for you, but it can be helpful in the kitchen. You can get conversions (How many tablespoons are in a quarter cup?), ask for recipes, and set a timer.
- 5) **Play games.** Some of the skills include fun games like Jeopardy! or Twenty Questions.
- 6) **Operate your smart home.** Connect smart appliances, light bulbs, thermostats, and other items in your home to your smart device, then use your voice to command them.
- 7) **Make phone calls.** Different smart speakers offer their own ways for you to call people and enjoy hands-free conversations.

To enjoy strong Wi-Fi signals for your smart speaker and other devices, your home needs a strong Wi-Fi network. Call 507-634-2511 and ask about our Managed Wi-Fi, available for just \$6.99/mo.