

KMTelecom Receives the MTA Economic Development Award

KMTelecom was nominated and selected for the 2006 Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) Economic Development Award.

The nomination read as follows:

KMTelecom's support of economic development in the Dodge County area is exemplary. Both Mary Ehmke and her father Jon Tollefson have served on the Kasson EDA Board of Directors for over 15 years, contributing more than \$50,000 for projects during that time. Mary has been involved in the Dodge County Trails Association helping to develop bike trails between Kasson and Mantorville. They also support area chambers by having employees serve on Chamber of Commerce Boards in two communities, Kasson and Dodge Center. KMTelecom in recent years provided the "triple play" to Dodge Center including high speed Internet to Dodge County regional businesses and job creation powerhouses such as McNeilus Trucking & Manufacturing. Their other exchanges enjoy the benefits of quality telecommunications services too, bringing the Kasson, Dodge Center and Mantorville citizens to the world through the Internet. The City of Mantorville has benefited from significant annual contributions to its EDA as well.



KMTelecom has also provided leadership, capital and an entrepreneurial spirit for many years in regional telecommunications companies such as Onvoy and Midwest Wireless. Both

of these companies bring state of the art communications to rural Minnesota and provide many rural jobs. The company also collaborated with other local businesspeople to build a new convenience store bringing jobs and services to the community of Kasson. Quality of life is very important to KMTelecom as is evidenced by their generous contributions to area organizations such as the Boy Scouts, FFA, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Care and Share, American Cancer Society, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Dodge County United Way and many others. A \$50,000 donation to the Dodge County Youth Hockey Association helped build the Four Seasons Arena in Kasson.

Any person visiting the community of Mantorville realizes what an important part history plays in the area. Mantorville was founded on a stage coach line between Iowa and the Twin Cities and the town is listed on the National Register of Historical places. KMTelecom makes yearly contributions to the Dodge County Historical Society and donated an additional \$75,000 to save the Historic Brick Water Tower located in Kasson.

The Kasson-Mantorville Dollars for Scholars scholarship program has been providing scholarships to local graduates annually. The program and students are fortunate that KMTelecom is a significant contributor to this effort. KMTelecom has donated \$220,000 since 1992. Many of those graduates have settled in the area and are now part of the local workforce.

Mayor of Kasson, Duane Burton, was quoted as saying, "KMTelecom has been a tremendous contributor and asset to Kasson and the entire Dodge County area. They have provided leadership, financial support and vision for the economic well being of this area for decades. The Tollefson family, their employees, and the services provided by KMTelecom has led to strong growth during recent years. We're pleased and proud they are here."

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KMTV Launch in Kasson

KMTelecom is expected to launch KMTV digital television in Kasson very soon. Construction is complete in the greater part of Kasson and testing has begun. Our target date for launch, assuming all things go well with testing, is mid to end of April. Residents will be notified by mail when service is available.

KMTV service will be rolled out in most parts of Kasson. Territories north of Houstons Greenhouse and south of the Conoco station will require additional construction before service is available. These areas will not be ready for the initial launch. Apartment buildings will also be excluded at this time.

Kasson's digital television will include Digital Video Recorder (DVR) service. Pause live TV or play back something you've recorded. Record one channel while you watch another. Pause, stop, rewind or fast forward to make the most of your TV experience.

[watch]



When KMTV is launched in Kasson you will have options to bundle your services and save. Those bundles will include a combination of three products; telephone, internet and television.

There's some exciting changes coming to Kasson! Watch your mailbox for details!

Student Design An Ad Contest

KMTelecom sponsored three 5th grade classrooms in Kasson-Mantorville schools to participate in the Newspaper In Education (NIE) program offered by the Post Bulletin. The 5th graders were given a task to "design an ad" for KMTelecom. We met with the students to help them better understand what services KMTelecom offers in their community. They went back with this knowledge and used their creativity to develop an advertisement. When these students finished their hard work, a group of KMTelecom

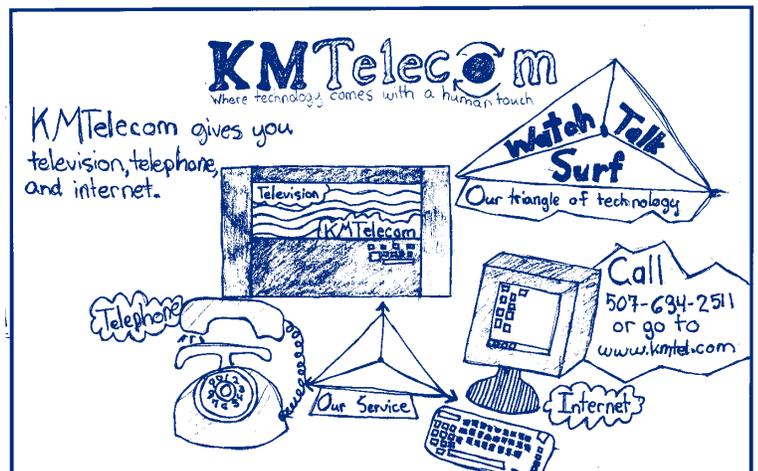


Students from Mr. Mann, Mrs. Suess and Mrs. Johnsons's 5th grade classrooms who participated in the contest .

employees voted on the winning ad. Derek Wiebke's ad was selected as the outstanding KMTelecom advertisement. His ad was clear and concise in describing KMTelecom and it's services. Thank you Derek, great job! Derek's ad appeared in the Post Bulletin, March 9th.



Winner, Derek Wiebke



DIRECTV Update

For more than a decade, KMTelecom has been proud to be your local DIRECTV provider. We have worked hard to offer you the best value in television service and the highest level of customer care. Over the years, we have added new programming packages and popular channels based on customer feedback and launched advanced products such as high-definition programming and TiVo services to enhance your television-viewing experience.

You may have heard that DIRECTV was purchased by News Corporation last December and has entered into new relationships with some of its distributors. As a result, the business has changed for KMTelecom, and we have made a decision to exit the DIRECTV business. Beginning March 31, 2006, DIRECTV will provide your programming services and customer care.

We made this decision after serious consideration and always with our subscribers' best interest in mind. We are confident that our customers will continue to enjoy their DIRECTV service in this new environment and will receive excellent customer care from DIRECTV.

Going forward, contact DIRECTV at (800) 531-5000 for all your customer service needs.

Again, it has been a pleasure to be your DIRECTV service provider. We remain a part of the community and hope to have the opportunity to serve you in the future.

A math trick that might get you thinking...

1. Grab a calculator. (*you won't be able to do this one in your head*)
2. Key in the first three digits of your phone number (*NOT the area code*)
3. Multiply by 80
4. Add 1
5. Multiply by 250
6. Add the last 4 digits of your phone number
7. Add the last 4 digits of your phone number again.
8. Subtract 250
9. Divide number by 2

Do you recognize the answer?

Technology Tips

Preserve Your Photos Properly

1. Back Up Your Digital Photos



If you frequently take photos of your family, friends, activities, or special events, back up your digital shots often. Set monthly reminders in your computer's organizer

or personal calendar so you remember to back up your work from your hard drive onto long-lasting media such as Photo CDs or DVDs. Your kids and grandchildren will appreciate your forethought.

2. Make Photos Accessible

While some people save backup copies of their digital photos, few have an alternative should those backups be lost. One convenient, free way to back up your pictures is to upload them to an online photo site, many of which offer unlimited uploads and storage. Sites to explore include Shutterfly (www.shutterfly.com), HP's Snapfish (www.snapfish.com), and Kodak's EasyShare Gallery (www.kodakgallery.com). Google's free Picasa 2 (picasa.google.com) will help you organize your photos, as well as back them up. You'll be able to access your photos from any Web-connected computer with the added benefit that friends and family can access cherished photos, as well.

3. Heirloom Photos

Have family heirloom photos you would like to preserve? Start by scanning your aging prints and adding them to your digital library or creating a CD to share with other members of your family. Try to handle the original photos as little as possible, as natural oils from your hands will break down the prints. Store your photos in acid-free boxes (many boxes designed for photo storage are acid-free) or display them in acid-free mounts. If you'd like to hang a favorite old picture of your great-grandmother on the wall, use ultraviolet screening glass to protect it from sunlight. For extra help preserving heirloom photos, look for a professional photo archivist in your area to have the photos copied and reprinted.

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KMTelecom Numbers

Business Office: 634-2511
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

After Hours Repair Service: 634-2505

24/7 Internet Help Desk

Kasson Area: 634-2575
Dodge Center Area: 633-2575

WildBlue (*satellite internet*)
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