



This School Year Will Include New Lessons for All

Given the pandemic, the 2020/2021 school year will be unlike any other. KMTelecom applauds the hard work of local administrators, teachers, and parents to continue providing learning opportunities while taking appropriate steps to help everyone stay safe.

These challenging times require all of us — whether in school or not—to learn lessons of patience and resilience as we navigate the uncertainty ahead. Please contact us if you need help with your communications technology.

Business Office Closed

Monday, September 7th, 2020
Labor Day

Thursday, November 26th, 2020
Thanksgiving Day

KMTelecom

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Local call for KMTelecom 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

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KMTelecom
Where technology comes with a human touch



SCHOOL HAS CHANGED. SO SHOULD YOUR **INTERNET.**

This year going back to school might sometimes mean staying at home. Your living room and bedrooms may double as virtual classrooms, with video calls putting more demands on your internet connection.

To accommodate increased school-related usage as well as the rest of your busy family's internet activities, upgrade your speed now to the next higher tier.

CALL 507-634-2511 FOR DETAILS.

Ask about our speeds of 200 Mbps and faster. They include Managed Wi-Fi and an Amazon Fire TV Stick for the ultimate internet experience and access to streaming options.

Service availability and internet speed will depend on location. Call for details.



Tech Giants Celebrate Major Anniversaries in 2020

It may seem like these companies have been around forever, but it's only been 15, 25, and 45 years!



YouTube – 15 Years

YouTube was registered on February 14, 2005, by Steve Chen, Chad Hurley, and Jawed Karim — former employees of PayPal. They had the idea that ordinary people would enjoy sharing their “home videos,” and they were certainly right. Almost 5 billion videos are watched daily on YouTube.



eBay – 25 Years

Originally called AuctionWeb, eBay was launched by founder Pierre Omidyar as a site “dedicated to bringing together buyers and sellers in an honest and open marketplace.” The first item Omidyar listed on the site in 1995 was a broken laser pointer, which sold. Today, there are 1.5 billion live listings on the eBay Marketplace.



Microsoft – 45 Years

Microsoft was formed in 1975, at a time when most Americans used typewriters, by childhood friends Bill Gates and Paul Allen. The company name came from “microprocessors” and “software.” Microsoft grew to become the biggest software company in the world.

In 2020, KMTelcom celebrates 119 years in business. Thanks for being part of our success!

While Social Distancing, Enjoy Distant Socializing

Social distancing—limiting physical contact with other people—is a vital tool to help slow the spread of COVID-19. However, it's also important we find ways to stay connected to friends and family despite the current limitations.

You may have heard the term “distant socializing” to refer to this new category of interactions. Here are strategies for staying close to others while remaining physically distant.

Try tailgating without the game.

This idea is easy to implement and sure to boost your spirits. Arrange for a few friends to meet you in a parking lot and space your vehicles at least 6 feet apart. Then open up the hatches, sit on the blankets and pillow you brought from home, and have a pandemic-safe party.



Schedule virtual social events.

It's time to get creative. Check out Netflix Party and watch TV shows or movies with friends. Or host a virtual cocktail party or dinner party on Zoom.

Find a more peaceful place on Facebook.

Has your Facebook news feed become too stressful or depressing due to the prevalence of posts related to COVID-19? This might be the time to seek out a more supportive place on social media such as a Facebook Group dedicated to only positive and uplifting posts.

Have fun with multiplayer games.

We're not necessarily talking about battle games like League of Legends or Fortnite (although they're played by millions of people daily). There are plenty of tamer multiplayer games to add socialization to your isolation. Try the Scrabble-ish Words with Friends or one of the many chess apps.

Join an online book club.

With time at home, now's your chance to catch up on reading. Your established in-person book club could easily switch to online meetings. Or check with your local library or bookstore to ask about online book clubs they sponsor.

Go old school and write a letter.

This form of communication will be particularly appreciated by the elderly people in your life, for whom letters have always been treasured. If you can include a picture drawn by a grandchild, all the better!

Answers to Your Questions About Live TV Streaming

Live TV streaming services—such as AT&T TV NOW, fuboTV, Hulu Live TV, Philo, Sling TV, and YouTube TV—deliver prime-time network shows and sports over your internet connection. That's why they're often referred to as cable replacements.

If you're thinking about switching from cable TV to a live TV streaming service, you'll want to do your homework to select the service that will provide the channels you most want to watch. To help you get started, here are the answers to frequently asked questions:

What channels are available through live TV streaming services?

Each service offers a different number and variety of channels. To compare, you can visit thestreamable.com/channels.

How much does a live TV streaming service cost?

The price varies from service to service, but most cost between \$55 and \$65 per month. This makes live TV services a less expensive alternative to cable.

Can I get a free trial for a live TV streaming service?

Yes, many of these services offer free trials. Check their websites for details on current offers.

After I subscribe, how many people in my family can watch a live TV streaming service at the same time?

Most services offer subscribers the ability to stream to two or three devices simultaneously.

Will I be locked in a contract?

No. Live TV streaming services are all month-to-month with no commitment. You can cancel at any time without penalty.

Which devices can I use to stream live TV?

Live TV streaming services work with smartphones, tablets, computers, and streaming devices like Roku, Fire TV, Chromecast, and Apple TV.

For the best experience while watching a live TV streaming service, we recommend an internet speed of at least 25 Mbps. Call 507-634-2511 to ask about the speeds and prices of our current selection of internet plans.



Give a Shout Out to Local Businesses

Now more than ever, it's important to support the heart of our community—our local businesses. The pandemic has taken its toll, and many of these businesses are struggling to make a go of it. You can help by not only making purchases whenever possible, but also by sharing the love on social media.

When you post about a local business on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, your words will remind friends and followers about the business and what it offers, which can inspire them to make in-person or website visits. Your social media community can, in turn, share your content to broaden the reach and spread the word to more people.

For example, if you've eaten at a local restaurant lately and had a positive experience, give it a shout out. If a local store is offering a special deal, let people know about it. If a plumber or painter has done exceptional work on a project, give them an online pat on the back.

A few words can make a huge difference!



\$25

Win a \$25 Credit on Your KMTelcom Bill

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill by September 30th, 2020 for a chance to win a **\$25 credit** to your account. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Congratulations to our June 2020 winner, Ella Mitchell, Kasson!



Kayla Head Receives MTA Scholarship

The Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) is a trade organization based in St. Paul representing over 44 telephone companies and cooperatives in the state. It received 110 scholarship applications from across Minnesota and one winning student is from Kasson.

Kayla Head was selected to receive a \$2,000 Bud Morrow scholarship for the 2020-2021 academic year from the MTA Foundation. Kayla plans to attend the University of Minnesota Duluth. She is the daughter of Ryan Head and Jennifer Head.

It makes us all proud at KMTelecom when we have a statewide winner selected from our area. Congratulations, Kayla!

Congrats to Grads and Their Moms and Dads

KMTelecom congratulates all the graduates in this area and wishes them well as they continue their life journeys. We know these students have been busy all year with lots of activities—from homework and part-time jobs to sports, clubs, and community volunteering. Getting it all done isn't easy and we applaud their hard work.

We also want to recognize the parents of these graduates. Your support and guidance throughout childhood have enabled these young adults to get where they are today. Congrats on a job well done!

Graduating Seniors Benefit from Scholarship Programs

KMTelecom has been a supporter of continuing education for many years through our contributions to the scholarship funds at the Kasson-Mantorville and Triton Schools. Our company proudly gives back to the communities we serve and is pleased to announce the 2020 scholarship recipients.

This year, \$9,000.00 in awards will be split between the following graduates. Congratulations and best wishes as you pursue your college education!



Ashley Johnson (K-M) – Ashley plans to attend North Dakota State University in the fall, majoring in music education. She is the daughter of Kimberly and Randy Johnson.



Olivia Larson (K-M) – Olivia, daughter of Kristie and James Larson, plans to attend Winona State University, majoring in finance.



Derek Lilledahl (Triton) – Derek is the son of Kris and Tom Lilledahl. He plans to attend Minnesota State University Mankato as a baseball recruit and major in sports management and business.



Kendra Petersohn (Triton) – Kendra was recruited to play basketball at Gustavus Adolphus College and is majoring in exercise physiology. Her parents are Tracy and Michelle Petersohn.



Melissa Seljan (K-M) – In the fall, Melissa plans to attend Winona State University, majoring in nursing. Melissa is the daughter of Laura and Christopher Seljan.



Reid Spreiter (K-M) – Reid plans to attend the University of North Texas – Denton, majoring in music composition this fall. His parents are Sheri and Darren Spreiter.



Grace Worden (K-M) – Grace is the daughter of Kevin and Tina Worden. She will be attending the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse, majoring in elementary education.