

SKT Connection



MARCH 2015



Spring Forward With New Technology

March is when we "spring forward" and set our clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Savings Time. This got us thinking—in what other ways might you want to "spring forward" this month?

Perhaps it's time for an Internet speed increase to keep pace with your household's usage. Maybe you need to replace an older computer before problems develop or get a tablet to expand your options for enjoying online content.

To get help moving forward with these types of updates, contact us at SKT.

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



Speed Up Your Internet for a Shamrockin' Good Time

It costs only a wee bit extra to upgrade your Internet speed. And you'll feel like doing a jig when you have the speed you need for video streaming, online gaming, and multiple users.



**CALL
888.758.8976
NOW AND GET
3 MONTHS OF YOUR
SPEED INCREASE
FOR FREE!***

MENTION PROMO CODE SHAMROCKAD.

**Some restrictions apply. Call for details.*

KNOW WHAT'S BELOW...

CALL
811

BEFORE
YOU DIG

There may be more than roots underground on your property. All sorts of utility lines, pipes, and cables could be buried there. In some cases, they're close to the surface and easily damaged by even shallow digging, which can result in service interruptions to your neighborhood.

That's why every digging job — from planting a bush to installing a fence — requires a call to 811 to have utility lines marked. Simply tell the operator where you're planning to dig and what type of work you'll be doing. The affected local utilities will send a locator to your property, free of charge. Then you'll know what's below and be able to dig safely.

As one of your local service providers, we thank you in advance for your cooperation!



Internet Use Improves Learning, Collaboration, and Engagement

The Internet has changed daily life in many ways, perhaps most notably in the area of gathering and exchanging information. A 2014 study by the PEW Research Center, *Americans Feel Better Informed Thanks to the Internet*, released survey results from 1,066 Internet users over 18 years of age. Below are selected statistics from this study, which highlight some of the key Internet advantages cited by the respondents:

- **Enhanced Learning:** 87 percent credit the Internet and cell phones with improving their ability to learn new things; 53 percent say this connectivity has helped enhance their learning “a lot.”
- **Informed Students and Non-Students:** 77 percent say the Internet has made today's students informed, while 76 percent believe that Internet access has made average Americans better informed.
- **Greater Idea Sharing and Collaboration:** 72 percent of survey respondents say digital technologies have enhanced idea sharing and collaboration with others, which might be attributed to social networking sites.
- **Higher Engagement with News and Civic Life:** 75 percent say, as a result of their Internet and cell connectivity, they feel better informed about national news; 49 percent say they feel they know more about civic and government activities in their local community due to digital technology.
- **Better Informed about Products and Services:** 81 percent of respondents claim they know more about products and services today than they did five years ago, thanks to their Internet and cell phone use.

In addition, most of the Internet users surveyed in this study expressed positive attitudes about having so much information at their fingertips, as opposed to feeling negative effects from information overload.

To see other information from the Pew Research Center, visit www.pewresearch.org.

Social Media is Going to the Dogs (and Cats)

Social media has been all the rage for human beings for years. And now pets have joined the fun. There are a growing number of pet-focused social media sites where pets and their pet parents can interact with others, share photos, get answers to pet questions, and more.

If you'd like to paw through some of the pet possibilities online, check out these sites:

www.petpop.com

Petpop bills itself as the “only online pet community owned and operated by pets.” You can create a customized profile for your pet. Make new pet friends and set up play dates. Share stories and videos of your pet. Find local pet businesses, parks, and sitters. And enter monthly contests.

www.dogster.com

Socializing takes place on this site's community section, where you can join Dogster and add your photos to the photo galleries, join an existing group or create your own, and give and receive Paw Mails. There are plenty of educational resources as well including an online magazine, videos, articles, and answers to common questions.

www.catster.com

Everything you find on dogster.com is here as well, except it's geared to cats and the humans they live with. Recently trending were features on bald cats and the use of many nicknames for cats.

www.youpet.com

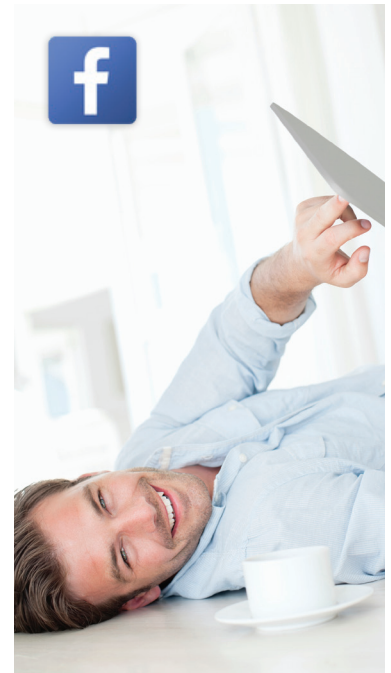
A global pet community, it includes a mixture of dogs, cats, horses, fish, birds, reptiles, rabbits, and others. You'll find a health center, games, and forums as well as Rainbow Bridge, which is a place to recognize lost pets.

www.pawsonpost.com

One of the leading social media sites for pets, PawsNPost's mission is to give pet owners a platform to share, connect, and seek connections with other pets and their owners.

www.zootoo.com

There's plenty to learn and do on this site including joining groups, using the pet symptom checker, and discovering which dog breed best fits your lifestyle. You can also shop for pet products from a variety of brands.



“Share” the Love on Social Media

SKT is on Facebook! We encourage you to visit our pages and “Like” or “Follow” us. We want you to have an active voice in our social community. By doing so, you'll be able to take advantage of special promotions and events. You'll also be the first to know what's happening at SKT including:

- Special offers and discounts
- Company news
- New products and services
- Community activities
- Contests and giveaways

To join our social media community, visit www.SKTMainstreet.com. Once you're there, simply click on the “Like” or “Follow” button located under the blue Facebook tab in the center of the screen.

Your engagement on our site is appreciated! Thank you for commenting and sharing our posts. Stay connected with SKT and continue to “share” the love.





A Bit o' Trivia About St. Patrick's Day

You may think of St. Patrick's Day as simply a time to wear green and dine on corned beef and cabbage. But how much do you really know about St. Patrick and the holiday that honors him? Here's a list of some interesting trivia:

- St. Patrick was known as the Apostle to the Irish, for converting the nation to Christianity.
- The Catholic Church has never officially canonized Patrick as an actual Saint.
- The largest St. Patrick's Day parade does not take place in Ireland, but rather in New York City, where about two million spectators turn out each year.
- Guinness is the most popular Irish beer consumed on St. Patrick's Day.
- Congress proclaimed March as Irish-American Heritage Month in 1955.
- Every year, the Chicago River is dyed green for the city's St. Patrick's Day parade.

Speaking of green, you can save green on bill paying by not using checks and stamps. Sign up for eBilling with SKT at www.SKTMainstreet.com.



112 S. Lee
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Watch For Our Free SKT March Mania
College Basketball Contest Coming Soon!



Mommy, Where's the Phone?

Picture this scenario: An emergency happens in your home—let's say you're choking or experiencing another medical crisis—and your young child needs to call 911. If there's no landline, your child will have to locate your cell phone (which could be anywhere), unlock it, enter a passcode or tap on the word "Emergency," find the phone icon, get to the keypad, enter 911, and then tap on Call or Send. That's a long list of steps for a child, especially during the stress of an emergency situation.

By contrast, when your home has a landline in a set location, your child can get to it easily without searching. Calling is much easier as well, since he or she just needs to pick up the receiver and punch in 911. A landline phone can also be a lifesaver if your child can't provide your home's address. By calling 911 from a landline phone, the dispatcher can more quickly locate your home's exact location.

To learn how affordable a landline can be, call SKT at 888.758.8976.