

# Co-op Connection

Hamilton County Telephone Co-op

March 2018

## FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK:

It's hard to believe we are two months into 2018 and this brings us a little over one month away from our Annual Meeting. I look forward to seeing all members at this meeting as we have very important information to share. As you know over the last couple of years there have been many changes taking place on the federal level that affects us locally. This year is no exception. However, this time we see a positive. The FCC has now allowed a path for your co-op to offer a high-speed broadband service that does not require a phone.

As we move toward offering a high-speed broadband only service, we have to consider how everyone's membership is affected. Currently, everyone who purchases services from our co-op is required to have a phone which also allows them to be a member. At this year's annual meeting, we will be proposing amendments to our bylaws to allow customers not only with telephone service, but also with high-speed broadband only service to be accepted as members.

It is important that you are aware of our plans to keep us on the right path for our co-op's survival. Each year, broadband continues to grow in importance as the demand for landline telephones continues to diminish. It is our goal to continue to adjust to the ever-changing federal requirements, while at the same time continuing to serve our members with the services they need and want.

Around the beginning of April, you will receive the Annual Meeting booklet that will spell out the proposed changes mentioned above and I will provide you with a more comprehensive detailed report at the meeting.

The Annual Meeting is the best time to come and talk with our team of employees, your board of directors and myself about your concerns or suggestions for our Co-op. In addition to a great dinner, we also give out some pretty cool prizes. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely and may God Bless,

Kevin Pyle  
General Manager

### College Scholarships

College scholarship applications for Hamilton County Telephone Foundation are available online at: [www.hamiltoncom.net/foundation.php](http://www.hamiltoncom.net/foundation.php) or you can request a copy from your high school guidance counselor. Deadline to submit application is March 16, 2018. Please see application for requirements and eligibility. This is another benefit of being a Co-op Member.



### Calendar of Events:

- Mar 11 - Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day 
- Mar 20 - Spring Begins
- Mar 30 - Good Friday  
**OFFICE CLOSED**
- Apr 13 - HCTC Annual Meeting

### HCTC Annual Meeting

Friday, April 13, 2018

Dinner: 5 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

*Provided by Jim McPeak*

Business Meeting: 7 p.m.

Hamilton County Sr. High  
School Gym - McLeansboro

### New Directory Listings:

Danny & Miranda Atkinson	773-4599
Jamie Isom	647-2225
Timothy & Kelli Knight	773-4336
Brandon Pool	647-2400
Kizzy Richards	736-5721
Jordan Schumacher	736-2035
Kyle Wellen	648-2574
Edward & Deborah Wilkerson	756-2354

*Welcome to Hamilton County  
Telephone Co-op!*

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## Board of Director Announcement:

The Annual Meeting will be held on FRIDAY, April 13, 2018 at the Hamilton County Senior High School Gym in McLeansboro. This year Belle Prairie (648) and Macedonia (728) exchanges will be up for Director Elections.

According to the HCTC By-laws, the nominating committees for Belle Prairie (648) and Macedonia (728) exchanges were selected, met, and have chosen candidates in their respective exchanges.

Although the nominees have been selected, the by-laws also allows for any other certified member of these exchanges the same right in running and serving a three year term as Director for their exchange. If you are interested, you can pick up a petition (required to be signed by 15 certified members or 10%, whichever is less, of your exchange) at the co-op from the General Manager, along with the specific details and requirements of serving as a Director.

You will have until **MARCH 15** to file your certified petition with the Co-op for your name to be placed on the ballot at the annual meeting. The deadline to get your name printed in the annual meeting booklet has passed. We look forward to seeing all members at the Annual Meeting.

Kevin Pyle  
Executive Vice President &  
General Manager

### Board of Directors:

647 Exchange  
Steven Douglass

648 Exchange  
Alan Monroe, Secretary

728 Exchange  
Chris Sink, President

736 Exchange  
Lemuel Gage, Vice-President

756 Exchange  
Rob Kiefer, Treasurer

757 Exchange  
Justin Woodrow

773 Exchange  
Robert Abbott

## New Employee

On February 12, we had a new employee, Chris Hickox join our team. Chris is a Technician for our Co-op territory. Over the next several weeks, you will meet Chris as he accompanies one of our other technicians to service calls and learns our plant.

Chris joins us with many years of telecommunications experience and we are happy to have him on board.

## Pay your bill by phone:

1-855-386-9912

## Pay your bill online:

<https://hcc.smarthub.coop>



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

# WIN \$15 OFF YOUR BILL!

Complete the following questionnaire, cut out this section and mail the completed form by March 10, 2018. Your name will be placed in a drawing for \$15 off your telephone bill with HCTC. There will be two winners in March.

1. What is the name of our new employee? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What number can you call to pay your bill over the phone? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the deadline to file a petition for a director position? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What day will our office be closed in March? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations to February's winners: Dorothy Thomas and Larry & Karen Severs.  
They each received \$15 off their telephone bill.

Check out our website at [www.hamiltoncom.net](http://www.hamiltoncom.net) for more information about the Co-op.