



The Connection

A Monthly Newsletter for the GBT Communities and Patrons

Rush Center Office

103 Lincoln St. • Rush Center, KS 67575
785.372.4236
Hours: 8:00am - 5:00pm
| Mon-Fri

Ellis Office

101 W. 9th • Ellis, KS 67637
785.726.3200
Hours: 8:00am - 5:00pm | Mon-Wed-Fri
Closed for lunch 12:30pm-1:30pm

Ness City Office

114 W. Main
Ness City, KS 67560
785.798.3100
Hours:
8:00am - 5:00pm
Mon-Fri

Larned Office

122 W. 5th
Larned, KS 67550
620.910.7676
Hours:
8:30am - 11:30am &
Noon - 4:30pm
Mon-Fri

St. John Office

602 N US Hwy 281
St. John, KS 67576
620.377.5555
Hours:
11:00am - 5:00pm
Mon-Fri



Applications for the GBT Junior Board are now Open

Applications for the 2021-2022 GBT Junior Board are now open! The Junior Board program is a unique and prestigious opportunity for High School Seniors to learn how technology works. No matter what career path they take, Junior Board members will not only gain hands-on, valuable learning experiences, but will also earn a \$750 scholarship!

GBT also benefits from the Junior Board, as we want to not only educate students, but also hear their ideas about what services GBT can provide to better reach their generation and improve our business!

Applicants must be 2021-2022 High School Seniors who reside with a parent or guardian, and who has had GBT service for at least six months prior to September 15, 2021. Please visit www.gbta.net/junior-board for more information and to submit an application.

Make sure to spread the word about this opportunity to any High School Senior you may know - but hurry, deadline is September 15!



GBT Directory Photo Contest Winner

We would like to congratulate our 2021-2022 Directory cover photo winner, Debbie Stiawalt of Beeler! Debbie took this beautiful photo in southeast Ness County. For winning the contest, her photo will be featured on the cover of the upcoming GBT Directory and she will be receiving a \$100 prize. Congrats, Debbie!

We would like to thank everyone who entered a photo in the contest. Each year we receive so many great entries and wish we could feature them all!

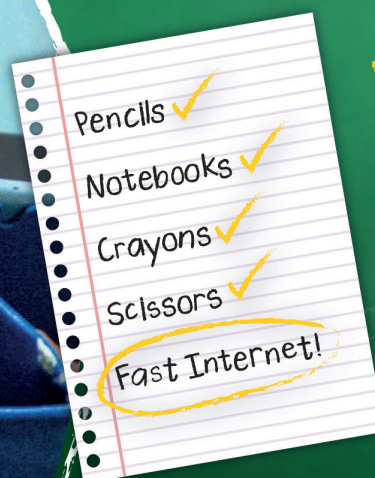


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on Social Media





Add **FAST**
INTERNET
to your school supplies list!



www.gbta.net | 785-372-4236



*Available for new GBT Internet customers only. Certain restrictions apply. Expires 9/30/21.

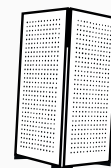
TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOUR JOB.

I am GBT's Broadband Support Technician. My job mainly consists of supporting customers who have our Managed Protection. I chat with customers and the GBT team to try and solve troubles so we can get any issue fixed quickly! I also dispatch, do auto-provisioning, and am a CPI (Certified Professional Installer) for our Wireless Internet.



IN YOUR OPINION, WHY SHOULD A CUSTOMER GET MANAGED PROTECTION?

First off, yes, you pay a little more each month for Managed Protection, but you save so much money if you ever have a trouble ticket! If you don't have Managed Protection, every time a technician comes out to your home you have to pay, where if you have Managed Protection, there is no fee and no trip charge. Secondly, we provide customers with a great router that we manage. If a customer is ever having any problems, we can look and see what issues they're having and are able to fix them easier. Plus we do all of the router firmware updates for you.



WHAT DO YOU LIKE DOING IN YOUR FREE TIME?

I'm married and have two kids and enjoy being with them. Here lately I have been fishing a lot. I also play a bass guitar which I enjoy doing too.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:
PATRICK



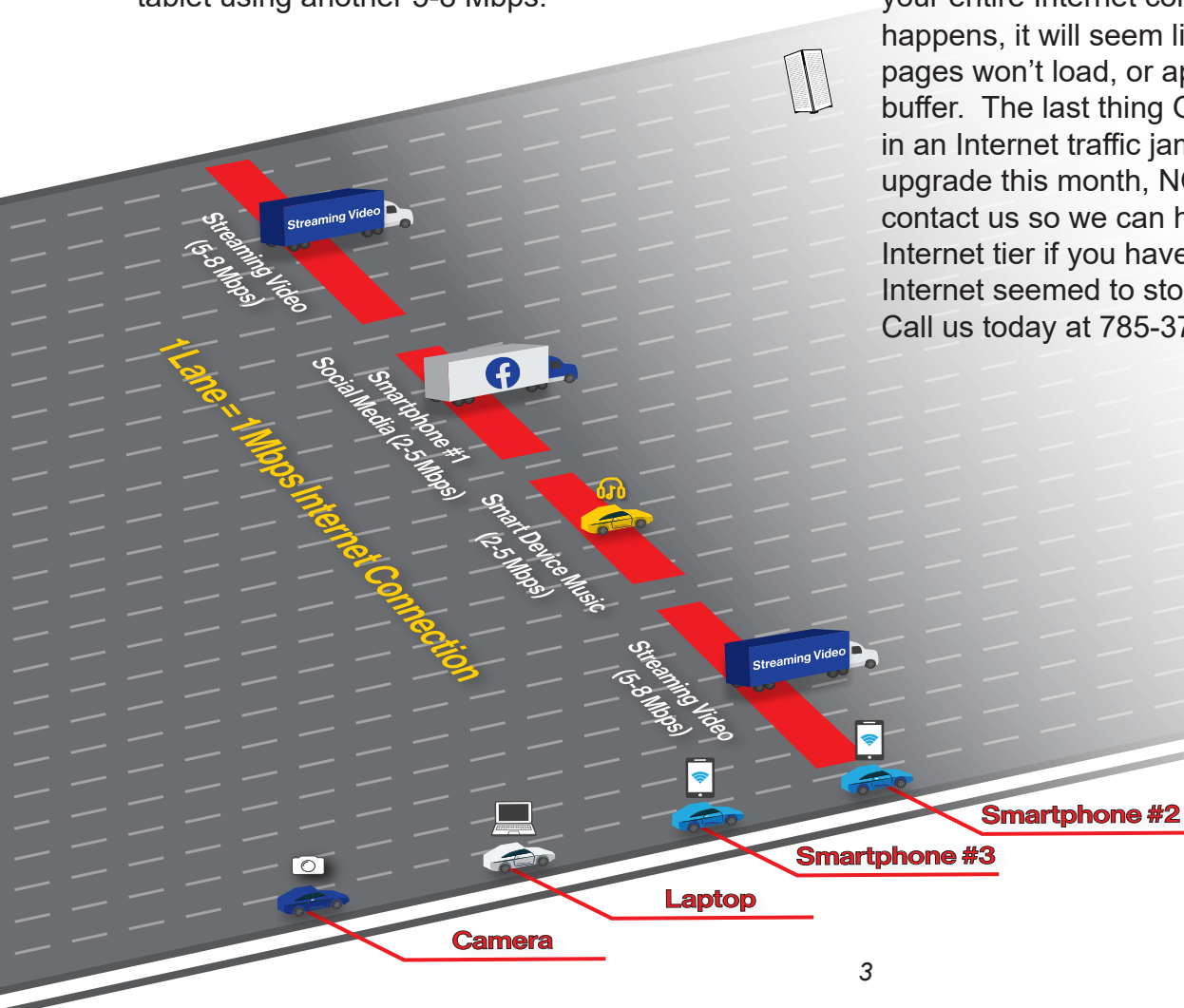
How Big of an Internet Highway Do You Need?

GBT doesn't expect everyone to understand how the Internet works or gets to your home; that's why we are here to be your communication partners to ensure you have the best experience possible! Many of us don't realize how much bandwidth a device is using when we utilize the Internet. GBT has Internet tiers that range from 25 Mbps all the way up to 1000 Mbps, but how many of us truly know what that means, or which Internet Tier is best for your home or business?

Think of your home Internet like an information highway with a set number of lanes. The graphic below depicts a 25-lane highway, or a 25 Mbps Internet connection. Now let's pretend a child in your home starts streaming video, which will use anywhere from 5-8 Mbps (unless it's in 4K which uses a whopping 25 Mbps), while on their smartphone browsing all the social media accounts they have, using another 2-5 Mbps. Meanwhile, you're in the kitchen listening to music on your smart device, using another 2-5 Mbps while you cook. At the same time, another child is streaming video on a tablet using another 5-8 Mbps.

If you're starting to do the math and look at the graphic, you can see your Internet Highway is full between the 4 connected devices, but not exceeding the 25 Mbps. So why is the streaming video buffering, or the music cutting in and out? We forgot to account for the other 2 smartphones in the house that aren't being used, but are connected to the Internet, with apps and updates running in the background (even though nobody is on them). Throw in the connected camera and the laptop that is running an update, you can see that your Internet has a traffic jam, and it is causing slow or buffering conditions.

This is a typical scenario in many homes, with the average U.S. household now having 10 connected devices. All those devices are fighting for some of the Internet lanes subscribed to in your home. What we didn't describe in this typical setting is what happens when you have someone that is gaming or downloading a large file. Did you know that gaming or downloading files can use anywhere from 25-100 Mbps? That's right, someone gaming could be using your entire Internet connection! Often when this happens, it will seem like your Internet isn't working, pages won't load, or applications just sit there and buffer. The last thing GBT wants is your home to be in an Internet traffic jam! With GBT's free 3-month upgrade this month, NOW is the perfect time to contact us so we can help get you on the right Internet tier if you have experienced times when your Internet seemed to stop working or buffered a lot. Call us today at 785-372-4236 to get started!





Statement of Non-Discrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usda-program-discrimination-complaint-form.pdf> or at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1) Mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

2) Fax:
(202) 690-7442; or

3) Email:
program.intake@usda.gov

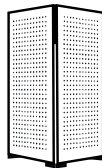


GBT Hunting

Phone Hunting Winner - Rita Liggett

Rita won a \$10 bill credit from GBT just for playing August's Hunting Game! There were 15 black phones in the August Issue.

Count this one too!



It's time to count... throughout this issue of the Connection there are black routers. Can you count them? When you find them all, e-mail us by the 10th of the month at gbthunting@gbta.net with the total number of black routers, and you will be entered into a drawing to win a \$10 bill credit on your next GBT bill!



****Notice we have a NEW email address to submit your entries! Make sure to email gbthunting@gbta.net***

If you have questions or comments about this newsletter or any of our services, please email us at marketing@gbtlive.com

Kyle Bahr, Editor
Kara Jecha, Editor
Addison Flax, Graphic Design



PHONE



TV



INTERNET



COMPUTERS



BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY



SECURITY



WIRELESS

Mandatory 10-Digit Dialing Will Begin in October

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has adopted 988 as a new three-digit number to be used nationwide to reach the National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline, starting July 16, 2022. Customers must continue to dial 1-800-273-TALK to reach the Lifeline until July 16, 2022.

In order for 988 to work in your area code, 10-digit local dialing must first be implemented. **Beginning October 24, 2021**, you must dial 10-digits (area code + telephone number) for all local calls. On and after this date, local calls dialed with only 7-digits may not be completed, and a recording will inform you that your call cannot be completed as dialed. You must hang up and dial again using the area code and the 7-digit number. If you have any questions, please call us. You can also visit the FCC website at <https://www.fcc.gov/suicide-prevention-hotline>.