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1953

YEARS

2018

# The... Connection

A Monthly Newsletter for the GBT Communities and Patrons

### Rush Center Office

P.O. Box 229 • 103 Lincoln  
Rush Center, KS 67575  
800.432.7965 • 785.372.4236  
Hours: 7:30am - 5:00pm | Mon-Fri

### Ellis Office

101 W. 9th • Ellis, KS 67637  
800.966.5183 • 785.726.3200  
Hours: 11:00am - 5:00pm | Mon-Fri

### Ness City Office

114 W. Main  
Ness City, KS 67560  
800.966.5186  
785.798.3100  
Hours:  
8:00am - 5:00pm  
Mon-Fri

### Larned Office

122 W. 5th  
Larned, KS 67550  
800.432.7965 • 620.910.7676  
Hours:  
8:30am - 11:30am &  
Noon - 5:00pm  
Mon-Fri

### St. John Office

PO Box 86 • 602 N US Hwy 281  
St. John, KS 67576  
620.377.5555 • 620.377.5556  
Hours:  
11:00am - 5:00pm  
Mon-Fri



## Welcome to the GBT Team

GBT has recently welcomed an addition to our part-time staff; we asked her to introduce herself:

My name is Andrea McKiearnan. I currently live in St. John, but grew up in Macksville, graduating in 2010. I received my Associates of Applied Science from Barton County Community College in 2012.

I am married and we have 3 kids, our daughter Brooke is 10, our daughter Morgan is 5, and our son Carter is 2. My husband, Tim is the transportation director for the Macksville School district and recently started helping with the transportation department for the St. John-Hudson school district. We are blessed to be able to lead the youth group at Macksville Christian Church as well. I am very excited to assist local residents and businesses with their GBT and Nex-Tech Wireless needs! Stop by our St. John office to welcome Andrea!

April is here and we at GBT could not be more excited! The cold weather should be cleared out which means the nice mild spring weather and hopefully spring showers will be headed our way soon. Last month was a busy one for our staff, including the St. Patrick's Day parade in Rush Center, Annual Meeting and of course March Mania is a nail biter as always! Make sure and watch our GBT Facebook page after the NCAA Championship game on April 2nd to find out who the winners of our March Mania contest are.



This month we have some special guests dropping by for an informal coffee hour; check out the details on page 3 and plan to attend if possible. Save some green this month by earning up to \$20 with our great promotion and learn how to make sure you don't get scammed with some great tips from GBT.

## Community Connected with GBT



*Verda Flinn reads to a 1st grade class at Washington Grade School in Ellis.*



*GBT is proud to be a sponsor for the new Grocery Store in St. John.*



*Gerald Bittel & Aaron Grumbein present at a safety meeting in Ness City.*

Follow Us on Social Media



## Did you know Wi-Fi and Internet are two different things?

Save some **GREEN** this month and earn up to \$20 when you sign up for Paperless Billing and Auto Pay.

\*Certain Restrictions Apply. \$10 credit for paperless billing and \$10 credit for auto pay; can sign up for one or both.

*Expires April 30th, 2018*

People often confuse the Internet with Wi-Fi, and when they can't get a device to connect or if buffering occurs, they think their Internet isn't working. Internet is essentially a wide area network that connects you to other computers, sites, or servers around the world, enabling you to do the various things to which we have become accustomed. Wi-Fi is just the vehicle that carries Internet to your device. Wi-Fi is a very convenient method for connecting our devices because it allows you to not have wires running all over your home or business to connect to the Internet. However, there can be some down sides to Wi-Fi.

Wi-Fi is difficult to understand because you can't see it. Your devices use a wireless adapter to translate data into a radio signal and transmit that signal using an antenna. Several factors can affect your Wi-Fi experience: distance; interference from walls, floors, other electronics (e.g. cordless phones, baby monitors, microwaves, and TVs); and interference from neighboring homes' Wi-Fi networks. Some devices have better wireless adapters in them than others, which can explain why you might be able to watch Netflix on your iPad with no buffering, but buffering occurs when you watch Netflix on your Smart TV.

Hopefully after reading this, you now know why when you call GBT with an "Internet" issue, we ask if you are hardwired into the Internet or using Wi-Fi only, and if you're having issues connecting all of your devices to the Internet or just having trouble with one or two. If one or two devices can't connect, in reality your Internet isn't broken; Wi-Fi is the issue. Thankfully GBT has a Smart Wi-Fi product available that can ensure all of your devices connect throughout your entire home. If you have questions or would like more information regarding our Smart Wi-Fi solution, call or email [customerservice@gbtlive.com](mailto:customerservice@gbtlive.com) today!

## April

# Directory Updates

**BISON**  
Sharie Thille 256-2024

**ELLIS**  
Kasandra Bliss 726-2514

**GARFIELD**  
Andrew Froetschner 910-5005  
Jeff Quimby 569-2259  
Aaron Woods 569-2258

**LARNED**  
Golden Valley Inc 285-2333

New Beginnings Church  
of the Nazarene 285-6392

**MCCRACKEN**  
Linda A Seymour 394-2400  
Miranda Vargusvenegas 394-2215

**NESS CITY**  
Bryan & Morgan Bishop 798-2043  
Deborah McInnis 798-2116  
Sagenet LLC 798-2045

**OTIS**  
Curtis Croisant 387-2260  
Patrick Piper 387-2275

**PAWNEE ROCK**  
Danny Sullivan 923-4248

**ALEXANDER**  
Robert Barlow 343-2204

**RUSH CENTER**  
Aubrey Keller 372-4029

**UTICA**  
S & A Delo 391-2266



# GBT Trivia

**March's Trivia Winner:**

**Elaine Schneider - Albert**

March's Newsletter Trivia

Question answer was: Ellis was the first Satellite office opened by GBT in 1997! Elaine won a \$25 bill credit from GBT just for playing!



How many General Managers has GBT had over the last 65 years? \*Hint\* Go to [www.gbta.net](http://www.gbta.net) and check out the About Us/History tab for help!!

E-mail us by the 10th of the month at [marketing@gbtlive.com](mailto:marketing@gbtlive.com) with the answer to the trivia question, and you will be entered into a drawing to win a \$25 bill credit on your next GBT bill!



**HBO** **CINEMAX**

## 4-DAY FREE PREVIEW

Friday, April 20th - Monday, April 23rd



**YOU DESERVE THE BEST ENTERTAINMENT**

Big new movies, addictive shows, family favorites and so much more

Cinemax - Channels 300, 302, 304, 305 & 306  
HBO - Channels 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 339 & 340

*\*Some areas may require a Digital Box to receive free preview.*

# Legislative Coffee Hour

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity for you to meet your State legislators and ask any questions you may have.

**April 18th  
10:00 AM**

**Rush Center GBT  
103 Lincoln St.**

<b>Representative Troy Waymaster</b>	<b>Representative Leonard Mastroni</b>	<b>Senator Mary Jo Taylor</b>

# Caller ID "Spoofing"

**What is Spoofing?**  
When a caller deliberately falsifies the information transmitted to your Caller ID display to disguise their identity. Spoofing is often used as part of an attempt to trick someone into giving away valuable information so it can be used in fraudulent activity or sold illegally. Caller ID lets consumers avoid unwanted phone calls by displaying caller names and phone numbers, but the Caller ID feature is sometimes manipulated by spoofer who masquerade as representatives of banks, creditors, insurance companies, or even the government.

**What to do if you think you are being spoofed:**

- Never give out personal information.
- If you get an inquiry from someone who says they represent a company or a government agency seeking personal information, hang up and call the phone number on your account statement, in the phone book or on the company's or government agency's website to verify the authenticity of the request.
- Use caution if pressured for information immediately.

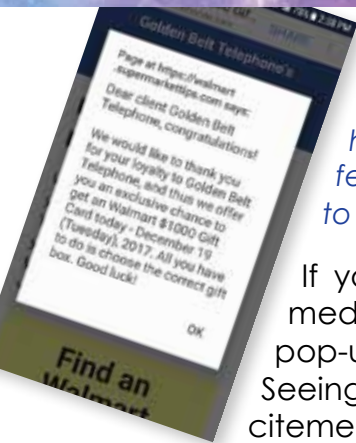
**Spoofing is not the same thing as blocking a phone number.**  
FCC rules require telephone companies to make phone number blocking available and free for all calls between states. If you receive a phone call from an "unknown number," that phone number has been blocked, but not necessarily spoofed. Also, you can legally block the transmission of your phone number when you make calls, so your number will appear as "unknown."

**-Federal Communication Commission**

**Call us for more information  
800.432.7965**



# Don't get scammed!



"Congratulations, you have won a \$1,000 gift card from Golden Belt Telephone, click here to claim your prize. This offer will expire in 5 minutes so hurry to claim your gift card!"

If you use the Internet or social media, you might have seen a pop-up like this on your screen. Seeing this might bring joy and excitement and a feeling that it is legitimate because it has your Internet Provider's name on it, and you might be apt to click on it. Unfortunately this is just one of the many scams people utilize to grab your attention and information. Scammers know humans are curious by nature, and when you offer trips, money, or gifts for "FREE", it is human nature for us to click on that, especially when they put a personal touch on it by using a business name you recognize. When you click on these offers, it typically redirects you to another page or asks you to enter in personal information, like your name, email address, home phone number and maybe more. If they gather personal information, they are able to target you or sell your information. Sometimes they have malware and viruses attached to these links that can affect your devices and create ways for them to demand money from you to fix the issues you have now opened your device up to. Instead of you winning \$1,000, they are winning!

The best advice GBT offers is to not click on anything or give your personal information in these types of scenarios. We know companies like ourselves periodically run competitions or special offers and do offer giveaways through social media or their websites. These types of giveaways are always run through GBT's official website [www.gbta.net](http://www.gbta.net) or GBT's official Facebook page, not someone else's site. It is important that you ensure you are on that company's official site when checking the legitimacy of an offer. At the end of the day the old adage "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is" still fits.



## SEEKING Recipes

If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share to be featured in an upcoming newsletter, send it to [marketing@gbtlive.com](mailto:marketing@gbtlive.com).

### French Onion Chicken and Rice Bake

Submitted by Alicia Bahr - Otis

#### Ingredients:

- 2 Cups Instant White Rice
- 2 Cups Water
- 2 Cups Cooked Chopped Chicken (about half of a rotisserie chicken)
- 1 Cup refrigerated Sour Cream French Onion Dip
- 1 (10.75-oz) can Cream of Chicken Soup
- ½ Cup Chicken Broth
- 1 Cup Shredded Cheddar Cheese
- ½ Cup French Fried Onions

#### Directions:

Preheat Oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 9x13-inch pan with cooking spray. Set aside. In a medium saucepan, bring water to a boil. Add instant rice, cover and turn off heat. Allow to stand for 5 minutes, until all water is absorbed. In a large bowl, combine chicken, chicken soup, French onion dip, cheddar cheese, chicken broth and cooked rice. Spread into prepared pan. Top with French Fried Onions. Bake for 20-25 minutes, until cheese is melted and bubbly.

If you have questions or comments about this newsletter or any of our services, please email us at [marketing@gbtlive.com](mailto:marketing@gbtlive.com)

Kelly Baalman, Editor  
Kyle Bahr, Editor



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