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A quarterly newsletter from your friends at KMTelecom

## We Really Believe in Real Service from Real People

While KMTelecom offers modern communications technology, we take a somewhat old-fashioned approach to customer service. For example, a real person answers the phone when you call. You receive real help when you walk into our office with questions. And our technicians take a real interest in resolving issues real fast. We really want to please you!

### Business Office Closed

**Monday, September 2nd, 2024**  
Labor Day

**Thursday, November 28th, 2024**  
Thanksgiving Day

### KMTelecom

18 Second Avenue NW  
Kasson, MN 55944-1491  
507-634-2511

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 507-634-2505.

#### 24/7 Internet Help Desk

Kasson, Mantorville Area 507-634-2575  
Rock Dell Area 507-634-2575 (FREE call)  
Dodge Center Area 507-633-2575

#### Visit Us Online

[www.kmtel.com](http://www.kmtel.com)

#### Stay Up to Date

Follow KMTelecom on Facebook  
and Instagram @kmtelcomwhippet

**KMTelecom**  
Where technology comes with a human touch



## DISCOVER A WHOLE NEW WORLD IT'S AMAZING HOW FAR TECHNOLOGY WILL TAKE YOU

What was once science fiction is becoming science fact! Virtual reality headsets can transport you to outer space, let you travel through time, or place you in the middle of a video game world. This technology can also be used to help students become more engaged in learning through immersive visual experiences.

No matter where you are in your technology journey, our super-fast fiber internet will help you move forward and fully enjoy each adventure.

**CHECK OUT [WWW.KMTEL.COM](http://WWW.KMTEL.COM) FOR  
A WHOLE NEW INTERNET SPEED**



## Employee Spotlight: Jill Boyum

Please join us in welcoming Jill Boyum to the KMTelecom team as Customer Service Representative! She comes to us with diverse knowledge and experience, having worked with amazing companies in the past.

Jill moved to Kasson with her family when she was 3-years-old and made this community her home. She has two wonderful children and a grandson. Her son and daughter-in-law live south of Kasson on a hobby farm, and they enjoy teaching their son about country living as he helps with daily chores. Jill's daughter is completing her PhD in Dietetics at Ole Miss in Oxford, MS.

When Jill isn't at work, she likes to give back to the community. She volunteers her time to Faith in Action, which helps elderly residents stay in their homes as long as possible. Jill is also an active member of the KM Snowdrifters and helps with youth snowmobile training, fundraisers, and trail maintenance.

KMTelecom is happy to have Jill onboard!

# Fiber Internet is the Gold Standard

Fiber internet has long been considered the gold standard for data transmission since fiber-optic cables offer unparalleled speed and reliability. This technology is the great infrastructure story of the 2000s, just as railroads and electricity grids were for the previous two centuries.

**What makes fiber-optic cables so much better than traditional copper cables?**

**Virtually Unlimited Speed Capacity** – Fiber is by far the fastest of all broadband technologies, with 10 Gbps networks now commonplace and 25 Gbps networks on their way. (To put that in context, 1 Gbps is roughly equivalent to 1,000 Mbps.) Fiber internet is so fast because, unlike other internet options that rely on electricity, it uses light for data transmission.

**Can Support Advanced Technologies** – Due to their security, scalability, and unlimited bandwidth potential, fiber-optic cables are being chosen to support advanced technologies such as 5G, Big Data, and IoT that rely heavily on real-time data collection and transfer.

**Higher Network Reliability** – Unlike copper cables that can lose a connection due to temperature changes and harsh weather, fiber-optic cables routinely offer reliability levels of 99.999%.

**Better Design for Data Transmission Over Long Distances** – Overall, fiber's design is simply better for data transmission over long distances than the electrical signals of copper cables. Fiber-optic cables can also carry more bandwidth than similarly sized copper cables and are immune to interference because there are no electrical signals in use.

**More Energy Efficiency** – Fiber-optic cables transmit data more efficiently, resulting in reduced power requirements for data transmission. This not only leads to cost savings but also contributes to a smaller carbon footprint.

**Higher Security** – Fiber-optic communication technology transmits data via pulses of light, which are harder to tap or intercept than the electrical signals used by cable internet or the wireless signals used by satellite internet.

**KMTelecom continues to expand our fiber-optic network to bring fiber internet to customers in more areas. Visit [www.kmtelecomfiber.com](http://www.kmtelecomfiber.com) to learn more.**





## Educational Technology Helps Students Learn

Technology has been in classrooms for decades, but its use has grown dramatically in recent years. Today's teachers must prepare students for the future, so schools need to stay ahead of the technology curve.

The benefits of educational technology (or EdTech) include its ability to support diverse learning styles, foster better communication and collaboration, create an engaging experience, offer enhanced learning, and accommodate students with special needs.

Here are classroom examples that are changing the face of education:

**Tablets** – They're one of the most-used types of technology in the classroom and allow students to work at their own pace and complete independent activities.

**Smartboards** – Chalkboards gave way to dry-erase boards, which were replaced with smartboards. These devices allow teachers to project slides, textbook examples, webpages, and more, offering students a more engaging visual than words on a page.

**Augmented Reality (AR)** – This can be especially effective for more sophisticated educational purposes, such as using in medical school to project a three-dimensional model of the heart or digestive system.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)** – Teachers can save time by using AI to help them grade objective exams, generate a lesson plan outline in minutes, and detect learning gaps to create personalized learning plans to fill them. AI can also be beneficial to students when it's used to improve writing skills and simplify complex topics into easier-to-understand material.

**Digital Field Trips** – These are becoming increasingly popular with teachers since they allow classes to "travel" far beyond the usual bounds of nearby towns. By using virtual reality (VR) headsets, these digital field trips can become even more realistic and valuable.

**Multimedia Lessons** – Gone are the days of only chalkboard lessons. Teachers can use technology to create multimedia lessons that apply to different learning styles. They may include podcasts to explore a subject in an innovative way and recorded lectures so students can work at their own pace, rewinding and going slowly through parts they don't understand.

**Gamified Learning** – Since many students grew up playing online games, gamified learning can be an effective way to tackle a topic and encourage concentration.

## An Online Review Helps Us and You

You probably read online reviews before you order clothing, book a hotel, make a restaurant reservation, or choose a plumber. Reviews give you valuable information about what others have liked or disliked about their experiences and enable you to make purchasing decisions with more confidence.

These days, almost all companies count on reviews to help attract new customers, and KMTelecom is no exception. We would greatly appreciate it if you took a few minutes to write a Google Review about us.



Thanks in advance for your support!

**\$25** Win a \$25 Credit on Your KMTelecom Bill

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill by September 30th, 2024 for a chance to win a **\$25 credit** to your account. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

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

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

To qualify for the drawing, please answer the question below. (The answer can be found in this issue.)

Who is the newest KMTelecom employee?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Congratulations to our June 2024 winner, Barbara Loquai, Mantorville, MN. Barbara answered the question correctly to qualify: Always dial 811 before you dig!**



## Key Ways for You or Your Kids to Improve Typing Skills

The ability to type with speed and accuracy is a useful skill at any age—whether for work or your personal life. Plus, with software designed for babies as young as 6 months old, some children start using a keyboard before they pick up a pencil.

These websites are often recommended as free resources to build typing skills: typing.com (for adults) and typingclub.com (for children). In addition, keep the following strategies in mind:

### Start by testing your current speed.

The average typing speed is 40 WPM (words per minute). You can check your speed at typing.com or use one of the many free online typing tests. From there, set a goal for your progress.

### Type slowly to avoid making mistakes.

Accuracy is more important than speed. As you practice, speed will come.

**Learn to touch type.** This means not looking at your keyboard and limiting your overall finger motion by using all of your fingers.



# 2024 Scholarship Recipients

At KMTelecom we have been long time supporters of students and their continuing education by contributing to the scholarship funds at Kasson-Mantorville and Triton schools. This year KMTelecoms contributions to those scholarship funds totaled \$11,000. The following students are being recognized as receiving a portion of the total that KMTelecom contributed. Congratulations and best wishes in your future endeavors!



**Adam Darveaux (K-M)**  
Parents: Sara & Michael Darveaux  
Iowa State University  
Major: Actuarial Science



**Litany Peterson (Triton)**  
Parents: Karen & Kevin Peterson  
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire  
Major: Psychology



**Andria Fitch (K-M)**  
Parents: Danielle & Nicholas Fitch  
Black Hills State University  
Major: Exercise Science



**Calleigh Richards (K-M)**  
Parents: Angela & Adam Richards  
Bemidji State University  
Major: Economics



**Skylar Flicek (K-M)**  
Parents: Casey & Shawn Flicek  
University of Wisconsin – LaCrosse  
Major: Biology-Biomedical Science



**Emmett Ricke (K-M)**  
Parents: Paula & Thomas Ricke  
Minnesota State – Mankato  
Major: Exercise Science



**Paige Friedrich (K-M)**  
Parents: Stacy & Brad Friedrich  
University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point  
Major: Nursing



**Cullen Santjer (K-M)**  
Parents: Brook & William Santjer  
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities  
Major: Chemical Engineering



**Megan Giese (K-M)**  
Parents: Angela & Brian Giese  
North Dakota State University  
Major: Nutrition Science & Dietetics



**Sydney Shubert (K-M)**  
Parents: Carron & Kyle Shubert  
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities  
Major: Biomedical Engineering



**Kaia Langemo (K-M)**  
Parents: Jennifer & Trent Langemo  
University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point  
Major: Urban Planning



**Abbigail Simons (K-M)**  
Parents: Kimberly & Jason Simons  
Augsburg University  
Major: Biology



**Grace Lau (Triton)**  
Parents: Elizabeth Lau & Jeremy Lau  
Rochester Community and Technical College  
Major: Graphic Design & Animation