

The Phone Line

Volume 14

March 2007 Issue

Bringing Back the BBQs

Due to customer request, BVTC will again hold Regional BBQs!



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Above: Nancy Holle, Customer Service Rep., & 692-4574 Buster Schmitz, Outside Plant Technician

BVTC Opts for Regional BBQs & Mail-In Ballots

Due to customer requests, **BVTC is bringing back the Regional BBQs!** The Board of Directors and the BVTC Management Team 353-2479 have decided to reinstate the BBQs after deciding to have a smaller annual meeting in April 2007. Patrons will receive the schedule for the Regional BBQs in April. "We felt this was a more efficient way to get in front of all of our customers. With a more laid-back atmosphere, and a smaller crowd than what attends our annual meetings, we will be able to address issues more efficiently and answer more patron's questions," said Terry O'Neil, BVTC General Manager.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 26th. It will be held at the Frankfort Cigna Center at 7:00 p.m. The annual meeting this year will be a business meeting only for patrons. There will be no meal served and no door prizes since BVTC will be providing these at the Regional BBQs. Patrons can expect to see a packet in their mailbox in mid-April that will contain the Annual Report, and a mail-in ballot for Board of Directors. Patrons are asked to follow the instructions on the mail-in ballot and return them to BVTC promptly.

If you have any questions or concerns about the changes with the Annual Meeting, please call BVTC at (877)876-1228. ☎



USDA Recognizes BVTC as an "Outstanding Partner"



L to R: Chuck Banks, USDA State Director; Jada Ackerman, BVTC PR/Eco. Devo. Director; and Richard Boyles, USDA Regional Director. 857-3371

USDA state director, Chuck Banks, recognized Blue Valley Tele-Communications for its outstanding support and partnership towards economic development on Friday, February 23.

"We are proud to be involved with the USDA programs promoting rural economic development; something we take very seriously. This is an integral part of promoting economic growth in the areas we serve," said Terry O'Neil, BVTC General Manager.

BVTC has been involved in the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program since 2004 and has assisted several area businesses in receiving zero interest loans for the development and expansion of their businesses. Jada Ackerman, PR/Economic Development Director for Blue Valley is available to assist Patrons with the application process and for consultation on the various other pro-

grams and options. "This program has enabled several of our Patrons to expand their businesses when more traditional methods weren't an option. I am thrilled to see how this program has helped create new jobs and brought new families into our exchanges. I am honored to have been involved in the process," said Ackerman.

The loan process generally takes three to six months with a ten year amortization period. The loans are not guaranteed; applications compete at the national level against other businesses 736-2756. Criteria for a successful application include the nature of the project, a completed business plan, and job creation for long term economic development. Businesses interested in applying for a zero percent interest loan through USDA Rural Development can contact Ackerman at 877-876-1228. ☎

Fiber to the Home Update

BVTC is proud to announce that the Fiber to the Home project in the Onaga exchange is complete! Along with their local phone service, Onaga customers can now get High-Speed Internet and **BVtv**!

Technicians are currently working on the Westmoreland exchange and are predicting that the town will be tested and ready for all Blue Valley services by the end of March 2007. Customers in Westmoreland should keep an eye out for a packet of information on their doorknob. Three-nine-six-four-four-three-eight. BVTC technicians will leave this packet once the premise has been tested and is capable of receiving all BVTC services, including High-Speed Internet and **BVtv**.

On March 2, 2007 the BVTC Board of Directors voted to begin Fiber to the Home upgrades in the original 10 exchanges. The first exchanges to get the upgrades will be Beattie, Axtell and Centralia. BVTC expects to start on these upgrades this Spring and will be working with Mastec North America, a contracting company out of Minnesota. 744-3362 The first exchange to be upgraded will be Beattie. ☎

TAKE OUR ADVICE...

With **cellular** becoming more and more popular with both the older and younger generations, many questions seem to arise all the time. Some of the main questions people have are about batteries, signal strength, voice mail problems and customer service.

Life of a battery is different for everyone. It makes a big difference if you are in an area that has a good digital signal. If you don't have good digital signal, the phone is going to work harder and this results in wearing down the battery much faster. 348-5497.

Removing the battery from your phone can fix some minor problems that your phone may be having. Removing the battery re-boots the phone and may help fix problems like alarms not working or phones not ringing properly. It may seem like a silly trick, but it really does work!

Another concern is the delay in **voice messages**. Some customers have complained about getting a voice mail a day or two late. It is a good idea to turn your phone off at least once a day. This will activate your phone in the system and help to fix this voice mail problem.

If you have any concerns or problems with your cellular phone or plan, be sure to stop in. However, some problems like billing issues, must be directed to Alltel Customer Service. Their number is 800 ALLTEL 1 (800-255-8351). ☎ - **submitted by Colleen Voet, Customer Svc.**

From our Kitchen to Yours... recipe compliments of Gina Gerstner, FHS Senior

Dessert Pizza

Ingredients

- 1 - 18 oz. pkg of refrigerated sugar cookie dough
- 1 - 8 oz. pkg frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1/2 cup sliced banana
- 1/2 cup sliced fresh strawberries
- 1/2 cup crushed pineapple, drained
- 1/2 cup seedless grapes, halved

799-3575

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F
2. Press cookie dough evenly into a 12" pizza pan. Bake for 15 to 20 min. until golden brown. Cool in pan or on wire rack.
3. Spread whipped topping over cooled crust. Arrange fruit in a decorative pattern.
4. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Gina Gerstner, a senior at Frankfort High School, took a day away from school to spend some time job shadowing Angie Armstrong and the Marketing/PR Department 889-4112. During her visit to BVTC, she learned more about what marketing is and what it entails.



Gina Gerstner

Gina is active in volleyball, basketball, track, drill team, show choir, and student council. She enjoys hanging out with friends, watching movies, dancing, and playing piano in her spare time. She plans on attending the University of Kansas in fall of 2007. Gina says that one of her favorite foods is any kind of pizza and she hopes you enjoy this recipe! ☎

Uncashed Capital Credit Checks

Below is a list of uncashed capital credit checks. If you are on this list, or know information on how to reach someone on the list, please call us at (877)876-1228. Thank you!

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| ACKERMAN CARMELLA | GEHRT IRENE | MEADE THOMAS & AMY | SLABBERT JOHANNES |
| ALFLEN VIRGINIA | GENSCHORECK ELVIN | MICHALAK SCOTT | SMITH SHELLY |
| ALLRED KAREN | GEPNER RANDY | MILLER HAROLD | SPOONTS SEAN & AMY |
| ARGO MIKE | GIBSON JERRY L | MILLS NICOLE | STANDIFERD LIN |
| ARROYO ANITA | GRIFFEE STEPHEN | MINNEMAN DOUG | STARKS JOE |
| ATLAND GENE | GROVER FRED | MINOR SHIRLEY A | STEELE ROBERT L |
| BAILEY C E | GROVER MARJORIE | MITCHELL DOROTHY P | STOHS LEONA |
| BAKER KIRK | HALL NINA | MOGA FRED | STOLLER LIBERTY |
| BALLARD NORMAN | HAMILTON ED & BETTY | MURRAY ANDY | STUENKEL ERNA |
| BARDOT R J & N M | HARDESTY RICK | NICKELSON ALAN | SWANSON CLINTON |
| BEATTY JOLENE | HARPER C L | NICKELSON GREG | SWEARINGEN STEVE |
| BEERBOWER CHESTER | HART DAVID | NIETFELD DAVID | TAGTMEYER BILL |
| BELDEN RANDI | HICKS MARGARET | NORMAN GAIL | TEETERS DIANNA |
| BELTRAN JESUS | HILL NATHANIEL | OLLER TONY | THOMPSON FRED |
| BENNIE KRUGER | HOFFSCHNEIDER TODD&SHERRY | OLSON STANLEY TRUST FUND | TIBBETTS EULA |
| BENOIT TONY & TAMI | HOLLIDAY CHRIS | ONAGA HOUSING AUTHORITY | TONY NELLIE |
| BETH ERIC | HOLMGREN ESTHER | ORR BLAKE E | TORGERSON JOHN |
| BIG M TOWING | HOOVER CHRISTINA | OSTERHAUS JIM | TUNISON SHERMAN |
| BLANKENSHIP PATSY | JACK MARK & SUZANNE | OUTHET STEVE | TYNER GREG & TERRI |
| BOBYRYEVA YANA | JENKINS JUSTIN | OWEN CECIL B | VANDORN DAN |
| BOCHY JAMES & HOLLY | JENNINGS SHANNON | PARKS LUCILLE | VERSCH CHARLENE |
| BOEHLKE CRAIG | JOHNSON JIM | PARNELL MICHAEL & JOANNA | VLASEK GEORGE |
| BOLEN AMY A | JOHNSON VICKI | PATTON JOSH | VOLLE MERVIN LEE |
| BOSTON MIKE | JONES MARY | PAULSON JOHN | WACKER ANNA |
| BRINKLEY ROB & TRISHA | JORGE UGALDE | PETREE BILL | WALTER CLINTON |
| BROUGHTON EDWARD | JOSHUA JEANNERET | PEUGH MICHAEL | WARFORD SANDRA |
| BROWN CHARLES | JUAN DELGADO | PIKE ARTHUR | WARREN ROGER W |
| BROWN DAVID | JUAN MARTINEZ | PIPPIA DINO | WASHINGTON CO RWD NO 2 |
| BROWN LANNA | JUNEK DORAN & AUDRA | PLATT JOYE | WATTS DAN & ALESIA |
| BURGER CHARLES | JUNGWIRTH TERENCE | PORTER DAVE | WATTS PATRICIA |
| BURGREEN JOHN REV | KANSAS PARENT NETWORK | PORTING JOE & TONI | WAY JAMES |
| BURR DELLA | KEATING GREG | POULIOT CHRISTINA | WEBSTER EUNICE |
| BUTTS DOW | KELLEY WILLIAM | POWERS MONA | WEST ERIC |
| CHAYER CLYDE | KOWALSKI MICHELE | RAY NEIL | WESTY FITNESS CENTER |
| CILLIERS CORNELIS & | KRAMER PHYLLIS | RAYA JOSE | WHITMORE SHANE& DENNISE |
| HEATHER | KRAMER SHERRI | REECE DOROTHY | WILKERSON TODD |
| COLLIER MAUDE G | KRAUSHAAR KEN | REISINGER PAUL & HELEN | WILLEDEN CYNTHIA |
| CONNERS REGINA | KRUSE MIKE | REYES ARTEAGA | WILLIAMS J |
| CORY DIEBALL | LADD JASON & BRONWYN | RICARD GERALD G. | WILLIAMS LARRY |
| CRADDOCK CHELLE | LAFOUNTAIN ARTHUR | RICHARDSON STELLA | WILSON SHANE & IRIS |
| (PHELPS) | LAMB GLEN | RICKS FULL SERVICE | WIPPEL ROBERT P SR |
| DAWSON B & D | LANGE OTTO | RODGERS STEVEN | WOERNER CRAIG |
| DEBIAK-CORNELISON | LEARNED DELBERT L | RODRIGUIS JOSE | WORKMAN JAY & RHONDA |
| KATHLEEN | LECHWAR ROBERT | ROE RICHARD | YOUNIE JENNIFER |
| DEBORD BRETE | LEER DWIGHT & PHYLLIS | ROGERS LONNIE | |
| DELAP ELIZABETH | LEISHING MONTGOMERY | ROGGE MILTON K | |
| DETERS JAMES | LESTIE TODD | ROOT IDA M | |
| EDWARDS BARB CRAIG | LEWIS PHILLIP Z | ROOT RONALD | |
| ESPARZA JAVIER | LEWIS ROGER | ROUSH FRANCIS & EILEEN | |
| FALK DORIS I | LINDHORST CRAIG & JA | RUTHERFORD JOHN | |
| FENCL JAMES | LINDQUIST TODD | SALLEE JOHN | |
| FEYH DAVID | LOCKHART EUGENE | SAMBRANO ERNESTINA | |
| FINKNER CAROLE | LOCKHART RONALD | SARVER MARGARET | |
| FOLKERTS LEONARD | LONG ELMO | SAVAGO EVA | |
| FORREST CARMEN | LOY LELAND & DANA | SCARBERRY HERB JR | |
| FOTHERGILL ANTHONY | LUEA ZACH | SHELL JON | |
| FRALIN SHAWN & D J | MARTIN BRIAN | SCHMIT TERRY | |
| FRANK CAROL | MARTIN PAMELA | SCHREINER DAVID W | |
| FRAYNE DAVID&CYNTHIA | MATTSON JEANNE L | SCHROLLER DALE | |
| FRICK CHAISE | MCGEENEY JOHN F | SCHULTZ JANICE | |
| FRIMOOD LORAIN | MCGUIRE R A | SCOTT DAWN | |
| GAFFNEY MICHELLE | MCNEAL HORACE L | SHRUM MANDY | |

New Directory Listings

Axtell 736

Kent Buessing.....736-2791
 Anthony Eck.....736-2811
 Eric Kohake.....736-2951
 Blake Ronnebaum.....736-2253
 Scott Schremmer.....736-2890
 Matt Wagner.....736-2875

Beattie 353

Susan McHenry.....353-2574

Centralia 857

William Brownell.....857-3741
 Jason & Marcie Koch.....857-3712
 Leslie Mayfield.....857-3814
 Craig Meade.....857-3589

Home 799

Brandon Linck.....799-3430

Linn 348

Brock Peters.....348-5783
 Amanda Rothfuss.....348-5496
 Joyce Wohlbrandt.....348-5842

Oketo 744

Jerry Allison.....744-3261
 Tony Behrens.....744-3439
 Travis Mason.....744-3314

Onaga 889

F L Armstead.....889-7156
 Elizabeth Davis.....889-1021
 First Trust Co. of Onaga.....889-4213
 Raymond H Garcia.....889-9215
 Joel Green.....889-4120
 Vestana Kolterman.....889-9225
 Melinda May.....889-7186
 Jamie McMullen.....889-4249
 Jessica Myers.....889-4177
 Russ Roe.....889-4159
 Donna Ronnebaum.....889-4823
 VM Schafer.....889-4110
 James Smith.....889-4131
 Will Stephens.....889-0133
 Theresa Vanover.....889-4176
 Lance Wright.....889-7146

Palmer 692

Julia Konochenko.....692-4377

Kent & Amanda Welch.....692-4366
 Leland & Janell Wohler.....692-4558

Summerfield 244/248

Darcie Farrell.....244-6230
 Ray Palmer.....402-248-6460
 Rohr's Trucking Inc.....244-6275

Vermillion 382

E-ScapeDesign/JeremiahEngelken..382-6348

Westmoreland 457

Ozzy Dorcey.....457-3783
 Sherri Erwin.....457-3839
 L Lively.....457-3829
 David Miller.....457-3821
 Ed Simon.....457-3936
 Bonnie Samuelson.....457-3826
 Reginald Sanderson.....457-3763
 Danny Stockwell.....457-3020

Wheaton 396

Matt Wessell.....396-4553



New Building Nears Completion

The snow, rain, and cold temperatures have been in abundance this winter 382-6375, but the construction crews have persevered. Before the end of the summer, BVTC should be operating from its new location. The new facility, located just east of the current building, will be designed to better assist the needs of the patrons. "When I started work for BVTC in 1994 I was employee number 15 - today we have 36. This building will give us the room we need for today and for future growth." said Assistant Manager, Dennis Doyle. ☎

BVTC Acquires Cable Properties

As of January 1, 2007, BVTC acquired 6 new cable properties from Rainbow Communications of Everest, KS.

These properties include Axtell, Centralia, Frankfort, Onaga, Summerfield and Vermillion.

BVTC 457-2167 will release more information on the plans for these cable properties at a later date. ☎

FIND YOUR PHONE # AND GET \$20 TOWARD YOUR PHONE BILL!

There are 12 hidden phone numbers in this newsletter. If you find your number, call us at (877)876-1228 to get \$20 credit towards your next Blue Valley bill!



1557 Pony Express Hwy
Home, KS 66438

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U.S. Postage
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Home, KS
Permit No. 0001

You think Ch. 13 is Local? Think Again.



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244-6476



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Home, KS 66438
Toll-free # (877)876-1228
www.bluevalley.net
Office Hours: M-F, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President
- Gary Becker.....District #3
Vice President
- Wes Johnson.....District #4
Secretary
- Gerald Smith.....District #1
Treasurer
- Galen Walters.....District #2
- Pamela Lauer.....District #5
- Doug Linkugal.....District #6
- Larry Reith.....District #7
- Steve Argo.....District #9

MANAGEMENT TEAM

- Terry O'Neil.....Manager
- Dennis Doyle.....Asst. Manager
- Bob Baker.....Plant Manager
- Mike Teeples.....Controller

CO-EDITORS

- Angie Armstrong...Marketing Dir.
- Jada Ackerman....PR/Econ. Dev.