



For those that have the KanOkla web site set as your default homepage, you may already know that our web development team has been busy updating the look and features located at www.kanokla.com. For those of you that haven't explored the new site, give it a look and check out some of the new features listed below:

Convenient links to KanOkla features

One of the first things you'll notice when visiting the newly re-designed website are the convenient menu buttons on the top of the page. These are a quick way to get to some of the key features of the KanOkla site, including the free user classifieds, the KanOkla calendar (which features community events), the new photo album feature (which allows a convenient location for users and KanOkla staff to share photos of local events and photo-worthy sights, and the new and improved KanOkla Webmail – now with exciting new features like web-based calendar, task list, and address book. Also on the site you'll notice the extended menu in the upper left hand of the page – this expanded menu contains all the options from the menu buttons above, plus a few more – like a direct link to KanOkla news, a community directory, employee directory, and more.

Personalized Pages

Looking to customize the items you see on the KanOkla home page? Want to participate in the photo gallery and free classifieds? Sign up for the site and gain these options, plus the ability to customize and store personalized bookmarks under the bookmark section, and even add a personal notepad to the site for notes, phone numbers, and more (under the "Edit your Homepage" in "My Account" section). Registration is free and the process is simple – just click the ("My Account" feature, then "Register").

Support & Computer Information

It's important to keep your computer protected from the threats of virus and spyware infestation – and as your local ISP we're providing info to assist you with these computer tasks – along with helpful Internet support information to help you resolve problems in the event they do arise – including step by step information for setting up your computer to access KanOkla Internet. Look for new information posted to the Internet Support, Virus Threats, and Downloads sections for updated computing information to assist you with keeping your computer working in tip-top shape. For those hard to solve problems or upgrades, remember that our experienced staff at the KanOkla Store is available – all at competitive rates with exceptional customer service.

Thanks and have a great week!

-The Whiz

Survey Winner

Marvin Gingerich of Braman, OK won a \$25 KanOkla Gift Card for returning the survey. Congratulations!

We have a \$50 Winner

Jesse and Ilene Madrigal of Braman, OK won the drawing for paying their bill by the 10th of the month. Congratulations!



KanOkla
PO Box 111, Caldwell, KS 67022-0111
(620-845-5682)

Greg Aldridge.....CEO
Board of Directors
Scott Bannister.....President
(Corbin-Mayfield)
Randy Lanie.....V. President
(Manchester-Waldron)
Sue Schwerdtfeger.....Sec./Treas.
(Capron-Hardtner)
Howard Osborne.....Director
(Bluff City-Danville-Freeport)
Kim Miller.....Director
(Caldwell-Renfrow)
C.R. Tyson.....Director
(South Haven-Geuda Springs)
Harold LeValley.....Director
(Braman)
Mark McEachern.....Director
(Jet-Goltry)
J.C. Feist.....Director
(Director at Large)

KanOkla Headquarters and KanOkla Store
7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Office closed Saturday and Sunday
Help Desk
Internet Support
Monday-Friday.....7:30a.m. to 9:00p.m.
Saturday.....8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.
Sunday.....Noon to 5:00p.m.

COMPANY TELEPHONE NUMBERS
(No toll charge within KanOkla service area)
Customer Service, Trouble Reporting, and
Other Business.....620-845-5682
Or dial 611 inside the KanOkla Service Area.
In emergency.....Dial Operator

PHONE CHATTER
A member newsletter published by the
KanOkla Telephone Assoc., Inc.

Editor – Pam Schneider
Assistant Editor – Kim Reilly



P.O. Box 111
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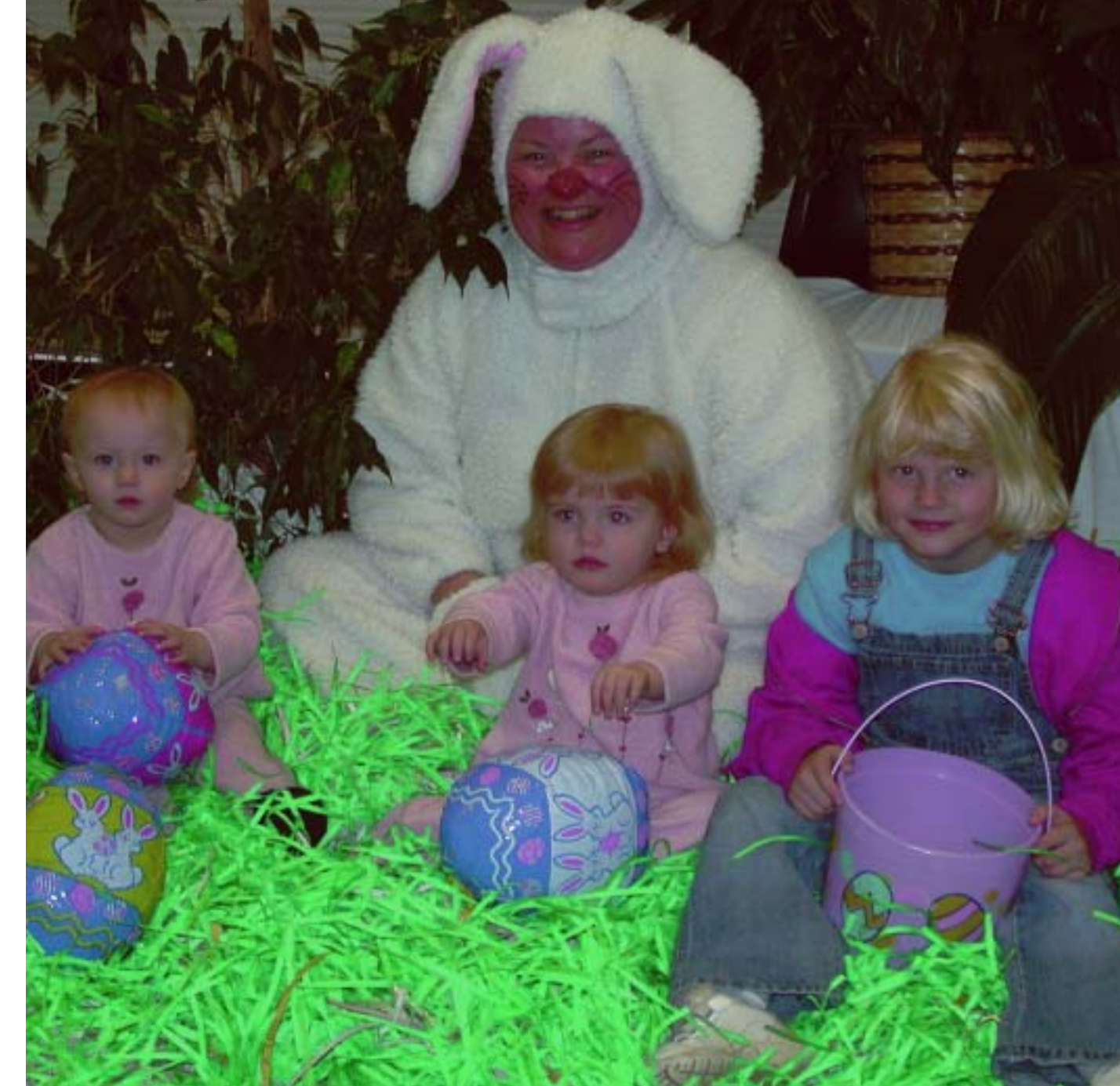


Volume 33

March 2005

No. 03

Happy Easter!



WINTER PRICE THAW!

Stop by the KanOkla Technology Store and receive
Up To **75% OFF**
Select
Software & Hardware!

Certain restrictions apply. Sale prices good for the month of March only. Call 611 for details.

KANOKLA ANNOUNCES STRATEGIC ROAMING ALLIANCE WITH PIONEER CELLULAR AND SPRINT

Greg Aldridge, CEO for KanOkla Telephone Association, has announced an alliance between PIONEER PARTNERSHIP GROUP, a partnership with telephone companies, KanOkla Telephone Association, Caldwell; Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Kingfisher, OK; South Central Communications, Medicine Lodge; and Hinton Cellular Co., Hinton, Oklahoma, who form Cellular Network Partners and now operate in the northwest quadrant of Oklahoma, and WirelessCo, L.P., a subsidiary of Sprint Corporation, will expand Sprint's wireless footprint in Oklahoma and Kansas.

"With this strategic roaming agreement with the Pioneer partnership, Sprint is expanding its geographic footprint for its customers, creating seamless service in western Oklahoma and southern Kansas," said Bennett Gamel, director - Business Development, Sprint. "Once the Pioneer partnership's wireless network is constructed, when Sprint wireless customers travel to the territory covered by this network, not only will their CDMA phone work to make voice calls, but all of the other features, such as Sprint PCS VisionSM, will also work on the Pioneer partnership's network." The alliance also includes a nationwide voice and data roaming arrangement with Sprint that allows Pioneer wireless customers to have access to Sprint's network.

As a part of the project, PIONEER PARTNERSHIP GROUP will be building or leasing an additional 167 PCS tower sites in western Oklahoma and southern Kansas. Sprint North Supply, a supply-chain solutions provider with expertise in wireless materials, logistics and project management, will manage the provision of all materials used in the cell site build-outs in western Oklahoma and southern Kansas. Service to existing Pioneer Cellular customers will be improved almost immediately, while the complete build-out and development of this system to KanOkla's Kansas customers will occur over the next 30 months. "This is very great news for KanOkla," said Aldridge, "and we are excited to be able to provide this improved wireless service to our members."

~Greg Aldridge, CEO



Town Meeting Dates

- District #4 South Haven/Geuda Springs - March 2, 2005 - South Haven Community Building-6:00pm
- District #7 Goltry/Jet - March 8, 2005 - Goltry Community Center-Noon
- District #3 Mayfield/Corbin - March 14, 2005 - Mayfield Community Center-6:00pm
- District #2 Danville/Freeport/Bluff City - April 19, 2005 - Danville Catholic School -5:30pm
- District #6 Hardtner/Capron - April 20, 2005 - Hardtner United Methodist Church -5:30pm

A Piece Of KanOkla History Passes On



It is with sympathy that KanOkla announces the passing of Ronald Albright who was instrumental in helping to organize KanOkla Telephone Association in its beginning.

Ronald D. Albright was born November 26, 1921 at Florence, Kansas. He passed away on January 17, 2005. Mr. Albright is survived by his wife of 63 years, Carmen and his three children: Lynne Gregory, Dennis Albright and Sarah Wickware and their families.

In 1950, a group of Harper County farmers came to see Mr. Albright about getting telephone service in the rural area surrounding Anthony, and Mr. Albright began researching and organizing a rural telephone company. In December of 1951, Mr. Albright filed articles of incorporation with the state of Kansas for The Harper County Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. The initial incorporators were: Dean Hughes, Casper Rife, W.J. Greve, George W. Harmon, Clyde Downing, Dale Hughes, Robert Stark, C.W. Stark, Leland Grasser, F.H. McKee, Harold Warnock, Herbert Schmidt, Henry Duwe, A.A. Fisher, L.B. Parsons, Harold Prouse, Charles Linn, Jr., R.R. Bird, J.C. Hoath, Lloyd Jones, James R. Sharp and Kenneth Palmer. On May 1, 1959, the name was changed to "The KanOkla Telephone Association, Inc."

Mr. Albright served as KanOkla's attorney from 1950 to 1987. During the early years, he prepared and filed all of the rate tariffs, and processed all of the REA loans. Mr. Albright also assisted KanOkla with the extension of service to the Manchester exchange, and with the acquisition of the following exchanges: Hardtner, Capron, Jet, Goltry, Mayfield, Perth, Corbin, South Haven, Geuda Springs, Braman, Renfrow, and Caldwell. In addition, Mr. Albright was KanOkla's attorney when the Kansas Cellular partnership was formed.

KanOkla Community Reinvestment

In January of 2001, the KanOkla Economic Development Committee designed a program to provide area communities within KanOkla's boundaries, an avenue to enhance the quality of life, safety, or other causes that assist community growth and sustainability. The KanOkla Board of Directors pledged \$100,000 in matching funds to the program in the years 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004. A total of 112 applications, with 94 approved, have been received over the years from communities in KanOkla Country. A total of \$302,768 has been paid out by KanOkla, which has been matched by the communities thus totaling \$605,536 reinvested in KanOkla Country communities. Have you noticed the changes in your community?

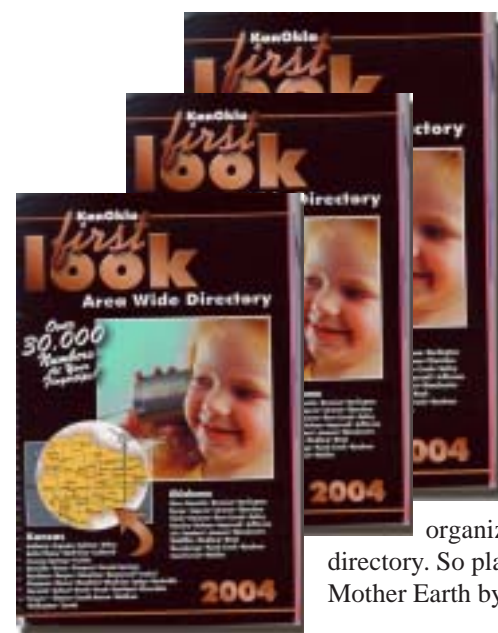
A key to the success of your community is sustainability. Several communities have applied for matching funds to remodel or update their community center, add equipment to the library or fire department, repair a community swimming pool, and better their school in some way. To sustain your community you need to be willing to reinvest in the foundation.

KanOkla is excited about helping these groups and others by matching the money they raise to reinvest in their communities. Because of the success of the KanOkla Matching Funds Program, the KanOkla Board has committed another \$100,000 in matching funds for the year 2005. For more information on this program, contact Pam Schneider at KanOkla 620-845-5682.

Pam Schneider, Member Relations/Economic Development



The front page picture is KanOkla Bunny a.k.a. Kathy Blubaugh with Jenna, Emma, and RyAnn Sturm. The three girls are daughters of Ryan and Jennifer Sturm of Caldwell, KS.



Attention All Youth Groups... Want to Earn Fast Cash?

2005 Directories will be arriving soon along with the opportunity to earn fast cash for your organization. KanOkla will pay 50¢ for each KanOkla directory. So plan to collect old directories, earn cash, plus help Mother Earth by recycling.

CROCHETING THE STARS AND STRIPES BY MONA



Mona Scribner has been crocheting since she was fourteen years old. Her mother taught her this skill and she has made miles and miles of colorful crocheted gifts for family and friends. She has made over thirty afghans within this past year. Mona enjoys crocheting... that is apparent but she also enjoys the spirit of giving these colorful beautiful stitched items. Mona has crocheted an American flag afghan, which is striking. The afghan is 6 foot 5 inches long by 54 inches wide and has 57,584 stitches. This piece of work took 41 1/2 hours to make plus the two hours placing the stars just so. The idea of making the red, white, and blue project came from her great grandson, Mason Eckermann. He requested one after he had made a paper flag at school and wanted Granny to make one...., which of course Mona did. The rest is history as this started the making of several "Old Glory" wall hangings. She made one for her son-in-law, Bill Schwertfeger, and that is when the request for one to be raffled was made. The St. Martins Altar Society will raffle off the afghan that is pictured. Tickets may be purchased from any member of the Altar Society or at Spanky's for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will be March 19, 2005 following Bingo at St. Martin's school basement.



~Kim Reilly, Member Relations/Econ. Dev. Assistant



Be looking for this postcard with the date of the town meeting near you!

4th Annual Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt

Friday, March 25, 2005

Starting at 8:30pm

KanOkla Headquarters

Ages 9-12

Flashlights will be provided and an adult must accompany children.



12th Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 26, 2005

10:00am

KanOkla Headquarters

Ages up to and including 8 years old an adult must accompany Children.

Starting soon...Town Meetings!

Be watching for postcards and the dates in the Chatter!

March 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13	14 Mayfield Town Meeting 6:00pm	15	16	17 Wear Green! St. Patrick's Day	18	19
20	21	22 Braman Blood Drive 12pm-6pm at Town Complex	23	24	25 KanOkla Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt 8:30pm	26 KanOkla Easter Egg Hunt 10am Hardtner Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt 10am
27	28	29	30	31		
April 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 KanOkla Scholarships Due!	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

High School Seniors You Could Win One Of... \$-\$1,000 KanOkla Scholarships
 Deadline is April 1, 2005
 Fill out application online www.kanokla.com
 or call 620-845-5682 and ask for Pam or Kim