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 7:30a.m. - 5:30p.m.  
 Monday - Friday

**Help Desk**

**Internet Support**

Monday - Friday: 8:00a.m. - 9:00p.m.  
 Saturday: 8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.  
 Sunday: Noon - 5:00p.m.

**KanOkla Store**

Monday - Friday: 8:00a.m. - 6:00p.m.

**To Contact Us**

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# KanOkla Chatter

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## Time to Retire

I started in the telephone industry in 1975 and now it is 2018, so I have decided to retire. I was a combination tech from 1975 to 1987 at Haviland Telephone. In 1987, I went to work for KanOkla. I started as the Plant Supervisor in charge of five men and we were headquartered in Anthony, KS. KanOkla had just put their first fiber optic cable in the ground between the Caldwell and Bluff City exchanges. We never imagined back then just what that fiber cable was going to do for us in the future. We have buried many more miles of fiber several different times since then, and today we have 2280 miles of cable over ten counties in Kansas and Oklahoma.



In 1991, thanks to the Caldwell Economic Development committee at the time, and to Glenn Johnson for the land, KanOkla built a new headquarters building in our largest exchange here in Caldwell. We added a lot of personnel the next few years, and it didn't take us long to outgrow the original building and garage. We remodeled part of the existing garage to add on more office space in 1998, and we have built two outside buildings since.

Cell phones were becoming more popular about this same time, and KanOkla became an agent for Pioneer Enid Cellular. We opened an office in Medford, OK to sell these big bulky bag phones and installed hundreds of them at our headquarters building here in Caldwell. Some of you might still have one of those "antique" phones boxed away.

In 1998, we converted the old IOOF building in downtown Caldwell into the *KanOkla Technology Store*, which several years later KanOkla purchased a RadioShack© franchise that we kept until just recently. Many desktop computers were built and installed in those early years. The *KanOkla Store* carries a variety of technology products along with household items, televisions, small appliances, and Traeger Grills and accessories. Last year, we purchased Shidler Telephone Company and expanded our wireline customer base.

There are always new technologies right around the corner, and when they come along, KanOkla Networks will be here to provide you with the latest and greatest of everything the technology world has to offer. KanOkla has been a great opportunity for me. I have been working here for 31 years, and I will continue to watch KanOkla grow, just not from behind this desk. The KanOkla employees will continue to take care of the members and all of the customers.

I want to thank all of the Employees, Directors, and everyone else I have worked with in the industry. It has been a great run. March 30<sup>th</sup> will be my last day in the office.

Thank You, Dana L. Pierce, CEO-retired

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## Inside This Edition

- Deadlines Closing in...
- Who is celebrating 15 years?
- A New Era Approaching
- When is the Annual Meeting?
- Calendar of Events



## A NEW ERA APPROACHING AT KANOKLA NETWORKS

A lot of changes are taking place at KanOkla right now, out with the old and in with the new! These changes are taking place company wide, and are far reaching as KanOkla continues to grow.

We have purchased Shidler Telephone company which is based in Osage County Oklahoma, in the small town of Shidler. This has been quite a learning experience for all involved, from the KanOkla accountants to the people which we acquired with the company. We picked up two techs, a customer service rep/billing clerk and a grounds keeper, along with 500 plus subscribers and miles of solid rock. This rock is a big change for us, in our original KanOkla territories we have a small amount of rock to deal with but for the most part we can get through it with our equipment, down in Osage County, it is mostly solid rock. This makes construction 100 percent tougher and we have had to acquire specialized rock equipment to be able to start our build out of this new territory. It is always nice to learn new things and there is not going to be any shortage of this in the near future. We are planning new access equipment in the Shidler exchanges and also in our existing network along with a new switching platform and all sorts of other new and exciting adventures to keep us busy and our minds in top shape.

There will be quite a turnover of personnel starting in the very near future, several members of the Board of Directors have reached their term limits, our CEO and his assistant will soon be retiring along with one of the customer service representatives up front. Carolyn Ginn has already retired from our department, and will be greatly missed, I am sure that a lot of you have been helped by Carolyn over the years if you ever had to call in a case of trouble or needed something changed on your account. Marcy and Barbie are doing a great job of covering the huge gap that Carolyn has left in this department. We also have very capable people able to step up and cover our baby boomer attrition losses in the years to come. KanOkla is poised to face the trials of the future with the same great service that we have provided since 1953.

*Ed Bernard, Plant Manager*

### KanOkla Networks Scholarship

Eight \$1,000 Scholarships - High School Seniors  
Four \$1,000 Scholarships - College Students  
or Adults wanting to continue their education.

### KanOkla Technology Scholarship Program

One \$5,000 scholarship yearly  
Deadline - April 1st, 2018

All applications are in downloads at  
[www.kanokla.com](http://www.kanokla.com)  
Any questions call Kim at 620.845.5682



**KANOKLA**  
NETWORKS



## Nominate that special person for the KanOkla Networks Community Service Award!

Deadline is March 15th  
Call 611 (in the KanOkla area)  
or 620.845.5682

if you need an application or download the application from our website at [www.kanokla.com](http://www.kanokla.com)

Don't Let the Deadline Pass By...  
Nominate that special someone from your community!



South Haven Honor Society is taking advantage of the KanOkla's "Shoot for Loot" program. The Honor Society will receive all the proceeds from ticket sales. Macey Pond cashed in on the opportunity by sinking a three pointer for \$50. Pictured is Macey and KanOkla's employee, Lacy Turek.

## Deadlines are fast approaching!

KanOkla Scholarship - April 1st

Community Service Award - March 15th

Annual Meeting is set for April 27th!  
Caldwell Community Building  
Mark your calendar and hope to see you there!

April 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Lacy Turek, Bookkeeper, celebrates fifteen years with KanOkla Networks. Lacy is pictured with her family from left to right: Josie, Greg, Flint held by Lacy, and Jagger.

Congratulations, Lacy!



Vicki Ingram, Customer Care Professional, celebrates fifteen years with KanOkla Networks. Vicki is pictured with her great grandchildren from left to right: Lilly standing with Vicki holding twins, Lonnie and Anna.

Congratulations, Vicki!

## KanOkla's Annual Easter Egg Hunts

### 17th Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt

Ages 9-12  
Friday March 30th  
8:45p.m.

Flashlights will be provided  
An adult must accompany children

### 25th Easter Egg Hunt

Ages 8 and under  
Saturday March 31st  
10:00a.m.

An adult must accompany children



South Haven Sr. Center, will be serving breakfast every Monday in March at the Sr. Center, 7:00a.m. - 9:00a.m.

### Calendar of Events

#### March

17th - American Legion Post 259, St. Patrick's Day Potato Feed, 4:00p.m. to 8:00p.m., held at the Braman American Legion.

#### April

28th - Mayfield Spring Smorgasbord, Mayfield Community Center, 5:00p.m. - 7:00p.m. Pork, beef, lamb, turkey, salads, dessert, and drink. Adults \$12, Kids(3-12)\$6 and toddlers eat free. Benefiting Mayfield Federated Church.

14th Annual Manchester Car & Motorcycle Show, Manchester Main Street, 10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. for more information call: 580.278.5166. (Rain date is May 5th.)

Chatter

Would you like to have your Chatter delivered via email? Please let us know by contacting us at: [pr@kanoklanetworks.com](mailto:pr@kanoklanetworks.com).

