

# Co-op Connection

Hamilton County Telephone Co-op

February 2024

## Affordable Connectivity Program Update


The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program that replaced the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB Program) to help low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices.

As of the printing of this newsletter, the Affordable Connectivity Program will stop accepting new applications and enrollments on February 7, 2024. Consumers must be approved and enrolled with a service provider before 11:59 p.m. ET on February 7 to receive the ACP benefit.

Households who have applied, been approved, and are receiving the monthly internet discount before February 8, 2024 will continue to receive their ACP benefit until ACP funds run out, as long as the household remains enrolled in the program. After the ACP funds run out (projected in April 2024), households participating in the ACP will no longer receive the ACP discounts.

If additional funding is passed in Congress, we will update you next month on the status of the program.

## Calendar of Events:

- Feb 2 - Groundhog Day
- Feb 11 - Superbowl Sunday
- Feb 14 - Valentine's Day 
- Feb 19 - President's Day  
(Office Open)

Kevin Pyle  
Executive Vice President &  
General Manager

### Board of Directors:

- 647 Exchange  
Steven Douglass
- 648 Exchange  
Alan Monroe, Secretary
- 728 Exchange  
Chris Sink, President
- 736 Exchange  
Lemuel Gage, Vice-President
- 756 Exchange  
Rob Kiefer, Treasurer
- 757 Exchange  
Justin Woodrow
- 773 Exchange  
Robert Abbott

Save the Date

Hamilton County Telephone Co-op

Annual Meeting

Friday, April 5, 2024

Hamilton County Jr./Sr. High School

## College Scholarship Applications Now Available:

College scholarship applications for the Hamilton County Telephone Foundation are available on our website: [www.hamiltoncom.net](http://www.hamiltoncom.net), under About Us. You can also request a copy from your high school guidance counselor. Deadline to submit application is March 15, 2024. Please see application for requirements and eligibility. This is another benefit of being a Co-op Member.



Apply Today!

<https://www.hamiltoncom.net/scholarships>

P.O. Box 40 • Dahlgren, IL 62828  
[www.hamiltoncom.net](http://www.hamiltoncom.net)  
[support1@hamiltoncom.net](mailto:support1@hamiltoncom.net)

 Hamilton County  
Telephone Co-op

618-736-2211  
Fax: 618-736-2616  
Mon - Fri / 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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## Board of Director Announcement:

At this time, we are already underway planning for our 2024 Annual Meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 5 at the Hamilton County Senior High School Gym in McLeansboro. This year the Belle Prairie (648) and Macedonia (728) exchanges will be up for Director Elections.

According to the HCTC By-laws, the nominating committees for the Belle Prairie (648) and Macedonia (728) exchanges have been selected by the Board of Directors. It is the responsibility of the nominating committee to select at least one certified nominee for Director to represent their exchange for a three year term. The nominating committee for the 648 exchange made the nomination for their exchange for nominee Alan Monroe to serve another three year term on the HCTC Board. The nominating committee for the 728 exchange made the nomination for their exchange for nominee Chris Sink to serve another three year term on the HCTC Board.

Although the nominees as candidates are selected by these committees, the by-laws also allow for any other certified member of these exchanges the same right in running and serving a three year term as Director for their exchange. If you are interested, you can pick up a petition (required to be signed by 10% or 15 certified members, whichever is less, of your exchange) at the co-op from the General Manager, along with the specific details and requirements of serving as a Director.

You will have until March 15th to file your certified petition with the Co-op for your name to be placed on the ballot at the annual meeting. If you are not the nominee selected by the committee and would like your name printed in the annual meeting booklet, you will need to file your petition by February 15th due to the printing lead time requirements.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in 2024.

Pay your bill by phone:

1-855-386-9912

Pay your bill online:

<https://hcc.smarthub.coop>



The Co-op is currently looking for an Accounting Assistant/Billing Clerk.

For more information about this position - call our office at 618-736-2211. A job description is available on our website - [hamiltoncom.net](http://hamiltoncom.net) ~ About Us ~ Employment.

## WIN \$15 OFF YOUR BILL!

Complete the following questionnaire, cut out this section and mail the completed form by February 10, 2024. Your name will be placed in a drawing for \$15 off your telephone bill with HCTC. There will be two winners in February.

1. Do you hope the Groundhog sees its shadow or not?    Yes                      No
2. What two exchanges are up for re-election? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the deadline to file your certified petition to run for the director position? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the deadline for college scholarship applications? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations to January's winners: Donald & Treva Bennett and Edward L Rapp.  
They each received \$10 off their telephone bill.

Check out our website at [www.hamiltoncom.net](http://www.hamiltoncom.net) for more information about the Co-op.