

# Co-op Connection

Hamilton County Telephone Co-op

February 2023

## Affordable Connectivity Program

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.

If your household is eligible, you can receive:

Up to a \$30/month discount on your internet service.

Up to a \$75/month discount if your household is on qualifying Tribal lands.

A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)

Step 1: Check if you qualify. Visit [www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp) for qualifications.

Step 2: Apply for the Affordable Connectivity Program. Apply online at [AffordableConnectivity.gov](http://AffordableConnectivity.gov).

Step 3: Please contact our office at 618-736-2211 to let us know you have applied and qualify. Once confirmed, we will apply the benefit to your bill monthly.

## Calendar of Events:

Feb 2 - Groundhog Day

Feb 12 - Superbowl Sunday

Feb 14 - Valentine's Day 

Feb 20 - 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 14, 2022

Hamilton County Jr./Sr. High School

## College Scholarships 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, 2023. Please see application for requirements and eligibility. This is another benefit of being a Co-op Member.



Apply Today!

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

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## **Board of Director Announcement:**

At this time, we are already underway planning for our 2023 Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held on April 14 at the Hamilton County Senior High School Gym in McLeansboro. This year the Broughton (647), Dahlgren (736), and Dale (773) exchanges will be up for Director Elections.

According to the HCTC By-laws, the nominating committees for the Broughton (647), Dahlgren (736), and Dale (773) 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 647 exchange nominated Steven Douglass to serve another three year term on the HCTC Board. The nominating committee for the 736 exchange nominated Lemuel Gage to serve another three year term on the HCTC Board. The nominating committee for the 773 exchange nominated Robert Abbott to serve another three year term on the HCTC Board. The Co-op thanks the nominating committees for their time and service, making certain that we continue to have representation from these exchanges for the next three years. 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 2023.

### **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, 2023. 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 three 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: Mrs. Gordon Coy & Terence & Juliann 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.**