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 North Central Kansas Community Network
 Together with Cunningham Telephone & Cable

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Hello NCKCN internet members

It's October, which means pumpkins are showing up all over. Before you start carving jack o'lanterns for your home, carve out a few minutes to review this issue. It begins with an overview of a massive **retail data breach**, carried out by hackers as malicious as any Halloween ghouls. Make sure you're reviewing your payment card accounts regularly!



To really get in the spirit of October, check out the easy-to-make **fall centerpieces** in the Pinterest section, **pumpkin recipes and costume ideas** in Sites of the Month, and the time-lapse video of a **giant pumpkin growing**.

Speaking of growth, it's important to keep learning more about social media and other online topics. This issue includes an explanation of the recent brouhaha surrounding the **Facebook Messenger app** and teaches you what to do (and not do) when **making a hashtag**.

The goal of each of our eNewsletters is to keep our subscribers informed regarding their Internet connection and to improve their Internet experience. We think you'll find this information interesting.

To see what's inside this issue, simply scroll down the eNewsletter or click on the links within the index to the left. Thanks for reading!

- The NCKCN Team

Hacker Alert - Another Data Breach At A Big Retailer

Last month, Home Depot announced that hackers had broken into its in-store payments systems in what could be the largest known breach of a retail company's computer network. The total number of card numbers stolen at Home Depot from April to September 2014 could top 60 million. By comparison, the 2013 breach at Target affected 40 million cardholders.

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL THE DETAILS.](#)



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Go Pinterest-ing! - Cool Stuff To Pin On Your Pinterest Boards



Retro Calculator Adds Up To Cool Memories



You'll Fall For These Festive Fall Centerpieces



Coconut Hot Chocolate & Whipped Coconut Cream

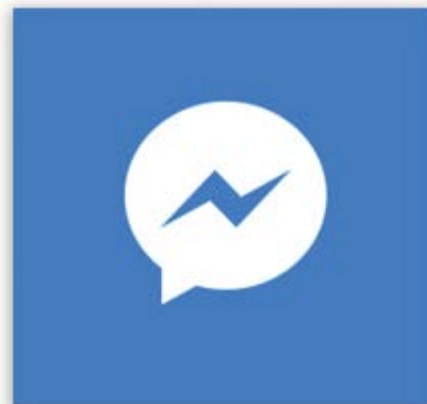
You haven't started pinning on Pinterest yet and you want to get started? If so, [click here](#).

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This Month's FAQ - Can The Facebook Messenger App Take Control Of My Phone?

Question: I've heard some people have privacy concerns about the standalone version of the Facebook Messenger app. Can this app really take control of my phone?

Answer: In mid-2014, Facebook rolled out the Facebook Messenger app, a standalone version of that social network's instant chat feature, which users accessed separately on their mobile devices (i.e., without launching the full Facebook app). That rollout prompted renewed interest in a December 2013 article by Sam Fiorella (circulated widely in August 2014) that warned potential Facebook Messenger users that the app's Terms of Service (TOS) "requires the acceptance of an alarming amount of personal data and direct control over your mobile device." Rumors started circulating that Facebook could use the app to surreptitiously take over users' smartphones to take photos or even make phone calls.



According to Facebook, those fears do not reflect reality. "If you want to send a selfie to a friend, the app needs permission to turn on your phone's camera and capture that photo," the company said in its message to users. "We don't turn on your camera or microphone when you aren't using the app." In other words, the Facebook Messenger app absolutely CANNOT do these things without YOU initiating them. It needs the permission in advance so that when you ask it to do these things, they work.

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Sites Of The Month - Great Sites To Check Out In October



Has Your Vehicle Been Recalled?

odi.nhtsa.dot.gov – The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration makes it easy to check whether any vehicle recalls apply to you. Simply enter the model year, make, and model and do a quick search. You can also enter a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) to get more detailed repair information.

Sweet And Savory Pumpkin Recipes

allrecipes.com – Pumpkin is the "in" ingredient this time of year, so join the fun by browsing through this collection of pumpkin recipes. You'll find Harvest Pumpkin Soup, Pumpkin Turkey Chili, Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Muffins, Double Layer Pumpkin Cheesecake, and more.



Easy Halloween Costumes For Kids

diynetwork.com – If you haven't yet figured out what your kids will be for Halloween, you should be able to scare up some great ideas at this site. The costumes are adorable and can be put together pretty easily, even if you aren't the crafty type.



Advice That's Right On The Money

smartaboutmoney.org – It pays to know as much as you can about money and you can learn a lot here. This site offers financial advice and information for all stages of life including calculators, quizzes, articles on hot topics, and an extensive resource library.

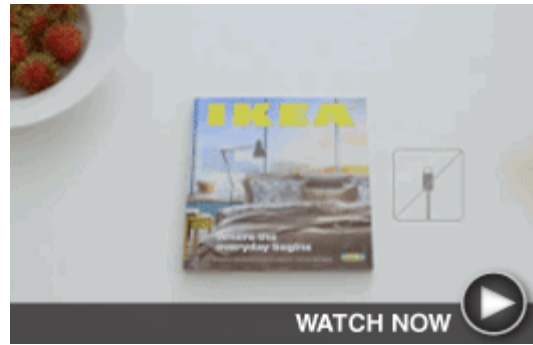
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Two To View - A Couple Of Amazing Videos You Don't Want To Miss



Watch A Giant Pumpkin Grow

Check out this incredible time-lapse video that shows a pumpkin grow from a small seedling to become a 636-pound entry in a fair.



Apple Ad Parody From IKEA

Get ready to grin! This very funny commercial for the printed IKEA Catalogue describes it as a "bookbook" with amazing new technology.

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Short Tutorial - How To Correctly Make A Hashtag

A hashtag is a phrase or keyword that is preceded by a pound (#) symbol and used by the micro-blogging community to create a thread of conversations around a specific theme or topic. Its purpose is to categorize topics, bring ideas together, inspire exchange, and encourage others to join in.

When you make a new hashtag, follow these guidelines:

- **Keep it brief.** You only need to add a # before a word to make it a hashtag. The best hashtags are those composed of a single word or a few letters. Twitter experts recommend keeping the keyword under 6 characters.
- **Use only numbers and letters in your keyword.** Hyphens and dashes will not work.



- **Don't use spaces.** Hashtags do not support spaces. So if you're using two words, skip the space between them.
- **Don't use special characters.** Hashtags only work with the # sign. Special characters like "!, \$, %, ^, &, *, and +" will not work.
- **Don't start with or use only numbers.** For example, hashtags like #123 or #123yo won't work. Numbers can be used at the end, as in #SXSW14.

In addition, don't use more than two hashtags in your post. It goes against social media etiquette.

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We hope you found this newsletter to be informative. It's our way of keeping you posted on the happenings here. If, however, you'd prefer not to receive these bulletins, click [here](#).

Thanks for your business!

Thank You

[The Staff at NCKCN](#)



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