

MUST-SEE VIDEOS**New Twist on Biking**

The Trocadero Fixie is an experimental bike with a frame that twists in the center. Would you want to ride one?

**Amazing Fire Ant Engineers**

A Georgia Tech study shows fire ants linking together to form tower-like structures using their bodies as blocks.

NEWS AND VIEWS**Cunningham Telephone & Cable receives 50% grant to help extend fiber outside of Concordia!**

May 20th, Governor Laura Kelly announced the second-year awards for the Kansas Department of Commerce Broadband Acceleration grants. Cunningham Telephone & Cable will be one of ten companies to receive funding to help bring more broadband to Kansas. The Cunningham Telephone & Cable award is for a rural Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) build outside of Concordia.

"We are excited to be one of the awardees," says Brent Cunningham, Vice President and General Manager of Cunningham Telephone and Cable. "We had sent in four applications for rural broadband; one for Jewell, Mitchell, Republic and Cloud counties. Each was about a million-dollar total project and would have extended broadband into rural areas of the respective counties. Our Cloud County application made it to the final round and then we found out recently it will be awarded."

The Kansas Department of Commerce (KDoC) Broadband Acceleration Grant is a 50/50 matching grant. Fifty percent funding for a proposed broadband build in an eligible area will be funding by the KDoC and the other fifty percent by the broadband company. Eligible areas are based on previous mapping of broadband availability and the proposed area's needs.

"Each county had a little bit different area that was eligible to apply for a KDoC broadband grant. For instance, in Mitchell County, it was a large area west of Highway 14. In Cloud County, the eligible area was about a 2-mile circle surrounding Concordia. We put together project proposals based on the eligible areas of this round of grants. We applied where we could get more broadband in the rural areas of the counties to fill in gaps," says Cunningham.

"During the final round interviews with the Department of Commerce committee, one of the keys to our Cloud application being considered was that we already had an existing fiber broadband project in Concordia. This grant will allow us to extend that existing fiber project outside the city limits into the less populated rural area," continues Cunningham. "We'll be able to do this project more efficiently than anyone else since we've already got a lot of the core pieces in place with our current Concordia Fiber-to-the-Home build. We can in-turn leverage that existing infrastructure and extend service outside of town."

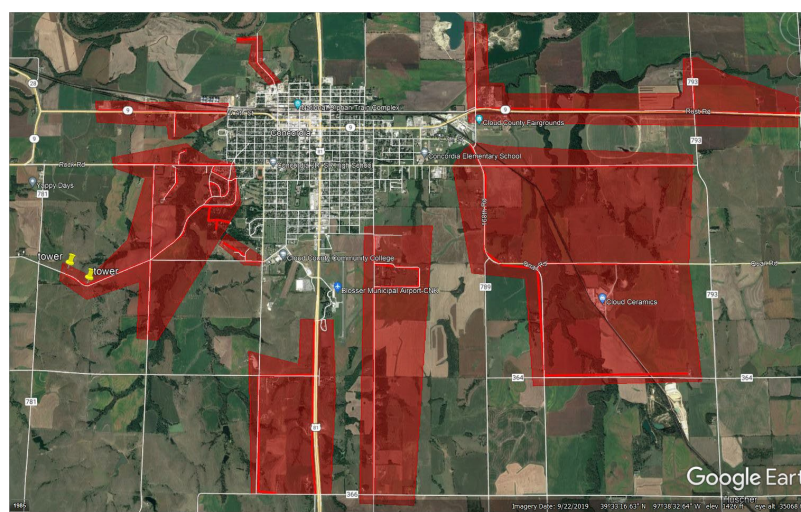
"Another key piece is our partnership with North Central Kansas Community Network aka NCKCN Wireless. By partnering with NCKCN Wireless to put up antennas at the edges of our fiber network, they can push broadband deeper into harder-to-reach rural areas. It's a one-two punch that helps get more

broadband to more people," says Cunningham.

"In rural areas, where customer locations could be miles apart, it takes outside help to make a business case. These grants help make rural broadband projects feasible," states Cunningham. "We are starting immediately and will have until October 31st, 2023, to have construction completed. It's going to be a busy year and a half."

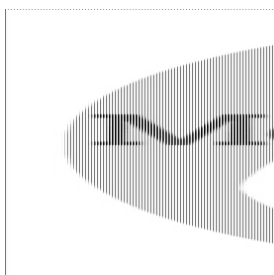
"Customer pricing will be the same as our in-town Concordia FTTH plans and we'll be able to offer the same level of services. Residential internet will range from \$40 to \$99. \$99 will get you a Gig of internet speed in both the up and download. Business Class packages range from \$100 for 250x250Mbps up to \$300 for 1GbpsX1Gbps for our regular packages. If business customers have greater needs than 1Gbps, we can go higher," says Cunningham. "We'll be able to offer our streaming TV service and phone services over the new fiber also."

"It'll be a push for sure given the short 18-month timeline for a project this size. Hopefully by mid- summer next year we'll be turning up the first customers on the new builds outside of town," says Cunningham. "We've got a lot of irons in the fire right now but didn't want to pass up on the chance to do more for the area through the Dept of Commerce grant program. The end goal would be for everyone in the county to have good broadband access. We'll keep applying for eligible grants to help make that happen."



*Red indicates the Cunningham Telephone & Cable's KDoC Broadband Acceleration Grant project area

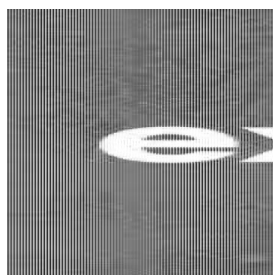
SITES OF THE MONTH



All Aboard Meal Train

This site helps you organize meal delivery for someone who has a new baby or is recovering from surgery or grieving a loss.

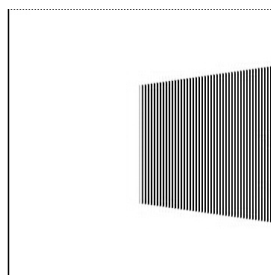
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Take a Mini Vacation

Explore beautiful spots from around the world via these live cams, which feature wildlife in the sea, on land, and in the air.

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Nail Your Home Projects

Get tips on home repair and building projects from Family Handyman, including how to enhance your home's curb appeal.

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CUSTOMER ALERT



PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM IDENTITY THEFT

Child identity theft happens when someone takes a child's personal information and uses it to commit fraud...

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COOKING DEMOS



8 Quick Appetizers

These appetizers will be party pleasers, yet they're super easy to throw together with four ingredients or less.



Ice Cream Pie 5 Ways

I scream. You scream. We all scream for ice cream. Can't decide between these five luscious pies? Try them all!

CRAFTY IDEAS



See 20 Seashell Crafts

You'll be inspired by all the things you can decorate using seashells from picture frames to candles to flower pots.



"Cut Above" T-Shirts

No sewing or glue needed! Grab a T-shirt and a pair of scissors to create a whole new look that will generate compliments.

FAQ / TUTORIAL



WHAT HAPPENS TO MY FACEBOOK ACCOUNT WHEN I DIE?

You can choose to either appoint a legacy contact to look after your memorialized account...

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