



# BUSY LINE

McDonough Telephone Cooperative • Colchester, IL

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**MDTC 2017 Service Awards**

**Sitting L-R:** Jennifer Haines, CSR, 10 Years; Pam Downey, Administrative Assistant, 30 Years; Diane Stambaugh, CSR, 20 Years; & Jay Harrison, Engineer, 20 Years.  
**Standing L-R:** Darren Webster, Cable Splicer, 5 Years; Mike Grafton, Network Operations, 20 Years; Craig Bishop, Network Operations, 20 Years; David Lutz, Network Administrator, 10 Years; Justin Powers, Director of Technology, 5 Years; Jay Griswold, MDTC President/CEO, 20 Years; & Brandon Smith, Network Operations, 15 Years.

**Not Pictured:** Keith Donaldson, Technician, 20 Years; & Lanny Carson, Board of Directors, 25 Years.



**Just a reminder.....**For prompt attention to any service problems you are experiencing after hours, weekends or holidays, please call our repair service at **309.776.3214** or **6-1-1** from a landline phone. Messages left on our business office voice mail are not received until the next work day at 8:00 a.m.



McDonough Telephone Cooperative's Business Office will be closed Monday, January 1st



**McDonough Telephone Cooperative**  
 210 N. Coal St. | PO Box 359  
 Colchester, IL 62326  
 309-776-3211 or 888-640-4334  
[mdtc.net](http://mdtc.net) | [info@mdtc.net](mailto:info@mdtc.net)

**Board Of Directors**  
 Leroy Tappe, Chairman  
 Randy Grove, Vice Chairman  
 Rose Marie Lynn, Secretary  
 Jay Morrison, Treasurer  
 Lanny Carson | Matt Reynolds  
 Lyle Vail | Mitchell Welsh

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### 7-Can Soup

- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 can no bean chili        | 1 can 15 oz Fiesta corn |
| 1 can 15 oz Kidney Beans   | 1 can 10 oz Rotel       |
| 1 can 15 oz Pinto Beans    | Salt & Pepper to taste  |
| 1 can 15 oz Black Beans    | 8 oz Velveeta, cubed    |
| 1 can 15 oz Diced Tomatoes |                         |

Without draining the cans, empty the corn, chili, kidney beans, pinto beans, black beans, tomatoes, and tomatoes with green chilies into a large pot over high heat. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat and simmer for 10-15 minutes to bring all the flavors together. Add salt and pepper as needed.

Dice the cheese and stir it into the soup until melted. Serve immediately.



**Thank You!** A big thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Food Drive a big success! Our donated food items totaled 606 lbs!

Congratulations to the following Open House prize winners :

**\$25 Bill Credit**

Sheryl Friday, Colchester

**\$10 Bill Credit**

Marcia Blackledge, Blandinsville

Bob & Elaine Root, Colchester

Betty Jeanne Nelson, Colchester

Fran Ruebush, Good Hope

Cheryl Martin, Colchester

### Who's Dialing?

Your phone rings and the caller ID says the dialer has the same area code and prefix as yours, so you answer....only to get a telemarketer 1,000 miles away. It's called neighbor spoofing, and it's one of the hottest trends.

Spoofing with the intent to cause harm is illegal, and in June 2017, the government cracked down on one company for spoofing 96 million homes to sell timeshares. That hasn't slowed the practice.

Now regulators are considering letting phone companies block spoofers. You can take action also by registering your phone at the Do Not Call Registry (donotcall.gov) or let your answering machine handle callers you don't recognize.

### 900 NUMBER CONSUMER RIGHTS

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted rules for pay-per-call 900 services under the Telephone Disclosure and Dispute Resolution Act of 1992. These rules are designed to protect consumer rights.

Pay-per-call services are those information services that are offered through 900 numbers and carry a fee greater than the cost of simply transmitting a call. Any interstate service that charges consumers for information – other than telephone directory assistance – must be provided through a 900 number. Pay-per-call services are not allowed on toll-free calls, such as 800 numbers, unless services are paid by a prepaid account or credit card. Callers to toll-free numbers may not be transferred to 900 numbers. Local telephone companies must offer consumers the option of blocking access to 900 number services if technically feasible.

Telephone companies may not disconnect local or long distance telephone service for failure to pay 900 number charges. However, all other charges on the bill that are not part of the disputed amount must be paid. Non-payment of 900 number pay-per-call services may result in involuntary blocking of access to the pay-per-call programs. Pay-per-call services must be shown in a portion of the bill separate from local and long distance charges. Information outlining consumers' rights and responsibilities with respect to payment of information service charges must be included with the bill.

McDonough Telephone Cooperative offers blocking of 900 and collect calls at no charge to the membership on a one-time basis. Members wanting to unblock are assessed the normal service order charges.

**TO ANSWER OR NOT TO ANSWER?**

**MTC long distance customers can enjoy free calling anywhere within the continental US all day New Year's Day, January 1**

### See the number?



There is a 2-digit number embedded somewhere in the picture. If this number is the **LAST 2** numbers of your landline phone number, call our office for a prize!

## Community Calendar

- Jan 3** Winter Storytime, 10:45-11:45am, Colchester Library
- Jan 5** Celebrate Local, Western Illinois Museum
- Jan 13** Winter Birding Basics, 10-11:30am, Argyle Lake State Park
- Jan 16-Jan 31** Gallery Exhibition: Laken Bridges, 9am-4pm, WIU Art Gallery
- Jan 16-Jan 31** Gallery Exhibition: Dustin London, 9am-4pm, WIU Art Gallery
- Jan 17** Winter Storytime, 10:45-11:45am, Colchester Library
- Jan 21** "Quintesonnic Brass" Brassfest Headline Act, 7:30-9:30pm, COFAC Recital Hall
- Jan 27** Winter Birding Basics, 10-11:30am, Argyle Lake State Park

For more events or details, visit [macomb.com/events/](http://macomb.com/events/)

macomb.com