



A wholly owned subsidiary of Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association, Inc.

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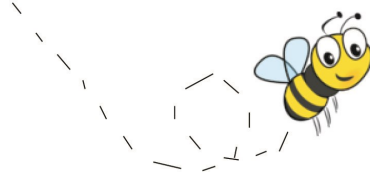
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# Tech Buzz

## From the Desk of Tony Lyons, Network Systems Supervisor

Be Prepared for Microsoft Changes.....

Microsoft has made several announcements in the last two years and everyone who uses a PC needs to be aware of the changes that have already happened, as well as what's to come.

Let's start with Windows XP: everyone loved it and used it but those of you that are still using it need to be aware that as of April 2014 Microsoft essentially shut down all maintenance and updates for the operating system. Some of you may not think this is a big deal but it truly is. Microsoft has publicly stated that when the company quit producing patches for the product it became 66% more vulnerable than newer versions of their operating systems. More recent studies found that XP users are 5 times more likely to fall victim to some form of malware.

Microsoft's next product in line for the chopping block is Internet Explorer (IE) versions prior to IE9 and IE10, depending on what operating system you are running. Again, some users may be reluctant to update their browsers, but in today's world **this is a must**. When Microsoft released Internet Explorer 11, protection against malicious software increased from 60% to 99%. Most experts feel that third party browsers, specifically Firefox and Chrome, are the way to go and I agree. When using Firefox or Chrome, every time you close the browser it automatically installs updates, making sure you are as up to date as possible.

In a nutshell, being as up to date as possible is by far the best thing to do. Windows XP is, at this point, dead and should be replaced. Running Internet Explorer on Windows XP will eventually be like leaving your front door open when you are on vacation for two weeks.

Tony

## 2015 Annual Meeting of the Members

On June 16th, the 63rd Annual Meeting was enjoyed by over 200 attendees. Board Members Jim Collie, Lyle Ravenkamp, and Keith James were re-elected to the board. Board President Keith James introduced all Board Members and guests along with presenting board member Jerry Smith with a 20 year service award, and employees Tony Lyons and Ken Stroud with 15 year service awards. General Manager, Pat White presented the General Managers Report along with discussing future plans for Eastern Slope. The Members enjoyed entertainment provided by the Kuzins Band. Congratulations to all of the cash and account credit drawing winners. The big winners of the night were Jerilyn Vick of Boyero, winning the weather station and George and Barbara Garner of Flagler winning the Smart TV. We enjoyed the opportunity to visit with you. Thank You to all who attended.





## Meet the Employees of Eastern Slope

**Ryan Lane — Combination Technician**

Ryan has been with Eastern Slope since April of 2013. He is Combination Technician for the Eads, Haswell, and Kit Carson service areas. His responsibilities include installing telephone, internet, and video for customers. He also takes care of repairing customer troubles and maintaining the outside plant.

Ryan attended Northwest Kansas Technical College studying Communication Technology. Outside of work Ryan enjoys spending time with his family, wife Clair and daughter Aubree.

### Buffalo Chicken Dip

**Ingredients:**

- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) PHILADELPHIA cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup FRANK'S® REDHOT® Original Cayenne Pepper Sauce or FRANK'S® REDHOT® Buffalo Wings Sauce
- 1/2 cup blue cheese or ranch dressing (I used ranch)
- 2 cups shredded cooked chicken.
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese or your favorite shredded cheese (I used a combination of white and yellow sharp cheddar cheeses)

**Directions:**

- PREHEAT oven to 350°F.
- COMBINE all ingredients in a 1-quart baking dish, except for chicken. Mix chicken in last to prevent it from falling apart too much. (I also added a handful of shredded chicken and more cheese to the top of the mixture to form a crust.)
- BAKE 20 min. or until mixture is heated through. (I broiled the dip for another 5-7 minutes to brown the cheesy crust.)
- SERVE warm with crackers, Tortilla chips, or vegetables.

### Kids' Rules for Online Safety

*These rules are aimed mostly at younger children, at oldest pre-teens. Appropriate "rules" for online use vary by age, maturity of the child and family values (updated June, 2013)*

1. I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number without my parents' permission.
2. I will tell my parents right away if I come across something that makes me feel uncomfortable.
3. I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" online without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring a parent along.
4. I will talk with my parents about posting pictures of myself or others online and not post any pictures that my parents consider to be inappropriate.
5. I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away.
6. I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going online and using a mobile phone. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.
7. I will not give out my passwords to anyone (even my best friends) other than my parents.
8. I will check with my parents before downloading or installing software or doing anything that could possibly hurt our computer or mobile device or jeopardize my family's privacy.
9. I will be a good online citizen and not do anything that hurts other people or is against the law.
10. I will help my parents understand how to have fun and learn things online and teach them things about the Internet, computers and other technology.

SafeKids.com



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Before  
You Dig**