

January 2026

THE CVT CONNECTION
CONNECTIONS MATTER

YEAR IN REVIEW





A YEAR OF CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY



Copper Valley Telecom is proud to reflect on a year filled with connection, collaboration, and community spirit. Thanks to the support of our members, employees, and partners across Valdez, the Copper Basin, and Cordova, our cooperative had an impactful and memorable year.

We kicked off the year in Cordova at the Iceworm Festival, serving up our crowd-favorite Hot Cocoa Bar. This warm treat made its mark once again as we connected with customers and joined in the winter festivities. In the spring, we held our Annual Meeting and supported local businesses including Baked in the Deez, Poor Betty's, and Cast Iron Café. CVT employees also joined the community during Fourth of July parades, handing out candy and enjoying the activities. In addition, CVT participated in career and job fairs for high school students in Glennallen and Valdez, helping connect youth with potential career paths in technology, accounting, telecommunications, and plant operations.

One of the biggest highlights of 2025 was our county-fair-themed Customer Appreciation Event, a huge hit in both districts. Complete with nostalgic games, fresh-squeezed lemonade, a nacho bar, a petting zoo, and even a dunk tank, it quickly

became one of our most memorable celebrations yet. Despite a little extra wind in Valdez, the turnout and energy were incredible.

In the fall, CVT stayed active in the community through several fun and educational initiatives. We partnered with the CVEA Pumpkin Patch, sponsoring local food vendors and hosting a ring-toss game that gave members the chance to win prizes. We welcomed elementary students from Glennallen, Valdez, and Kenny Lake to our Central Office, teaching them all about fiber-to-the-home technology. CVT employees also volunteered with ROAR Recycling, supporting the Copper Basin recycling community.

Beyond our own events, CVT supported more than 35 local groups, clubs, and community organizations throughout the year. Our contributions were tailored to meet community needs and included sponsorships, monetary donations, auction items, and in-kind services such as internet, landlines, and wireless support. As the new year begins, we encourage local organizations to apply through our Community Connection page. We'd love to partner with you and continue building strong, supportive relationships across our region.

Let's work together!

BUILDING A STRONGER NETWORK FOR OUR COMMUNITIES



This year, Copper Valley Telecom has made major strides to keep our members connected with reliable services, built for today's needs. We introduced broadband internet without a required landline, giving members more flexibility while keeping connections fast and dependable. This option is perfect for those who primarily use wireless devices or no longer need a home phone, while still enjoying all the benefits of cooperative membership.

Our Broadband Revamp project is strengthening our network like never before. By adding a second headend in Glennallen with a secondary upstream provider, we're reducing the risk of service disruptions caused by fiber cuts or equipment failures outside our network. Transitioning to self-hosted IP addresses gives us greater control and reliability, laying the groundwork for even higher speeds in the future.

Fiber expansion continues with the completion of our network out to the western edge of our service area at Tahnetta Pass, marking the final area for conversion away from copper lines. Fiber provides stable, fast, symmetrical internet that outperforms satellite services and is built for our community, by our community. Every connection supports local jobs, infrastructure, and the region itself.

Looking ahead, our Fiber-to-the-Home project along McCarthy Road promises up to 1Gbps/1Gbps service for more than 100 homes and cabins. Currently in the initial environmental review stage, this project is funded entirely by the USDA ReConnect 4 grant. This effort complements CVT's broader fiber expansion work, including a separate USDA ReConnect 5 funded project that is delivering subsea fiber and gigabit-capable service to Tatitlek and neighboring Ellamar community, reinforcing our long-term commitment towards bridging the digital divide to rural areas.

Finally, our partnership with RINA—the Rural Independent Network Alliance—is enhancing wireless service across our coverage area. Six new towers are live on the RINA network, boosting speeds, and nationwide roaming options, with a clear path toward 5G. Customers simply update their SIM or eSIM to access the network, with fees waived during the transition period.

From broadband upgrades to fiber deployment and wireless expansion, 2025 has been a year of network growth and innovation. Copper Valley Telecom is building a foundation for the future—fast, reliable, and community-focused—making connections that matter.



RISING STARS IN THE COMMUNITY

Copper Valley Telecom proudly supports further education! Whether students pursue a traditional college path or a skilled trade, we are cheering on the youth of our communities and wishing them the very best in their post-high school journeys.

This year, we received several outstanding scholarship applications. Each submission was reviewed by a committee made up of members from both Valdez and the Copper Basin, who carefully selected this year's recipients. Scholarship applications for 2026 are now open!

We encourage all eligible students to apply and take the next step toward their future.

From Left to Right: Carlie VanBuskirk, Eli Critchlow, Kelsey Prax, Rhiannon Easton, Sydney Cronk, Madeline Hamby, Madison Carlton, Joseph Hauptman, Kesler Seifert, Andrew Severs, Thomas Nothstine.

Scholarship Committee Members: Jessa Comer, Kayla Goodwin, Brian Hodges, Barb Doty, Amber Cawley, and Cheryle Fleming.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW YEARS: Our stores will be closed on January 1st. Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year!
CORDOVA ICEWORM: Celebrate with us February 2-7! Stop by our Cordova location for special promotions, and don't miss our Hot Cocoa Bar during the parade on Saturday, February 7th. We'll be open 11:00 AM – 2:30 PM that day, serving up treats as we embrace the festival's 'Ice and Dice' theme. Come join the fun!"

Visit www.cvtc.org for more information.

The CVT Connection

Enter to Win a \$50 Account Credit

January 2026

WORDSEARCH

Locate the given words in the grid, running horizontally, vertically, or down diagonally.

T	L	Y	M	C	S	L	W	V	H	B	N	N	H	L	O	C	A	L	U
N	Y	B	F	P	O	T	B	P	K	T	J	U	E	L	K	Z	G	J	V
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| 1. Stars | 3. Highlights | 5. Strengthening | 7. Local |
| 2. Expansion | 4. Contributions | 6. Future | 8. Community |

Solve the wordsearch, tear off, then mail or drop off at the Glennallen or Valdez business office. Return by the 10th of the month to ensure your entry is included in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to the last issue's winners, **TOM LAMBERT** (Glennallen), **CRISTA ANDERSON** (Valdez), and **JAMIE PALLAS** (Cordova). **REMEMBER TO FILL IN YOUR NAME!**

Name: _____ Phone: _____



CVTC Board Members: Karen Linnell (P), Ryan Morgan (VP), Jennie Sodergren (Sec/Tres), Shanna Conway, Scott Malone, Mike Rego, Terry Valentine, and Jessica Vincent