

May 2026

THE CVT CONNECTION
CONNECTIONS MATTER

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES

CONNECTING OUR FUTURE





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Copper Valley Telecom supports our local economy in many meaningful, everyday ways. As a member-owned cooperative, we're built on local investment, local decision-making, and a shared commitment to the communities we serve. That means the dollars spent on services stay here, supporting the people and places that make our communities strong.

Providing essential services in areas where Alaskans rely on connection is something we take pride in. Reliable telecommunications infrastructure supports our schools, libraries, hospitals, businesses, and public services. CVT delivers high-capacity special access services of all sizes and speeds through robust fiber optic and digital microwave networks, helping local organizations operate, grow, and better serve our communities.

Employees of CVT are your neighbors, friends, and family members, and people who care about our beautiful state and our local

economy. With local offices in Valdez, Glennallen, and Cordova our team lives and works here, contributing directly to the local economy and understanding the unique needs of the region. That local presence matters. It means responsive service, real relationships, and a workforce that is personally invested in the success of our communities.

Copper Valley Telecom cares about more than just connectivity, we care about the connections that matter. Through member benefits, capital credit retirements, community events and scholarships, we reinvest back into the communities we serve. Our co-op promotes economic development and quality of life across the region.

It's inspiring to see people from our communities grow, succeed, and stay connected to the places they call home. We're proud to support those connections and to play a role in building a strong, sustainable future for Valdez, the Copper River Basin, and Cordova.

MUST-HAVE APPS FOR SUMMER TRAVEL

There's nothing quite like hitting the open road and leaving the state for a summer adventure. The freedom of travel, new scenery, and spontaneous stops make road trips a timeless way to explore. But even the best journeys can come with traffic, long drives, and planning challenges. The right apps can make the trip smoother, more affordable, and a lot more enjoyable.

Roadtrippers helps you plan the journey, not just the destination. Plug in your start and end points and discover quirky stops, scenic overlooks, parks, diners, and hidden gems you'd otherwise drive right past.

Waze keeps you moving with real-time, crowd-sourced updates on traffic, crashes, road closures, and speed traps so you can avoid delays

and reroute on the fly.

GasBuddy helps you find the cheapest fuel nearby or along your route, saving money at every fill-up and helping you plan fuel stops more efficiently.

AllTrails is perfect for stretching your legs, finding nearby hikes, scenic walks, waterfalls, and parks so you can take a break from the road and enjoy the outdoors.

Audible keeps everyone entertained with audiobooks, from thrillers and fantasy to history or comedy, making long stretches of driving fly by.

With the right apps, travel becomes less about the logistics and more about the open road, new places, and the stories you bring back with you!

BEYOND THE INTERNET

WHAT REALLY AFFECTS YOUR STREAMING



Nothing ruins a good moment like a buffering wheel right as the game-winning shot drops. While slow internet can sometimes be the cause, it is not always the full story. Even on a fast fiber connection from Copper Valley Telecom, streaming quality can also be affected by your device, settings, and home network setup.

Smart TVs and streaming devices are basically small computers, and like any device, they slow down over time. If menus feel sluggish but the picture looks fine, the issue may be the device itself rather than your internet. Regular restarts, removing unused apps, and checking for updates can all help improve performance. In some cases, an older device that is no longer supported by updates or apps may struggle no matter how strong your connection is. A low-cost streaming stick can often be an easy upgrade that improves speed and responsiveness without replacing your TV.

Streaming settings also matter. Many apps default to "Auto" quality,

which may not always give you the best resolution. If your connection and subscription allow it, manually selecting HD or 4K can help you get the most out of your service.

Your home network setup can also impact performance. WiFi is convenient, but it is affected by distance, walls, and interference. A wired Ethernet connection is the most reliable option when available. If you are using WiFi, placing your router in a central location and using the 5 GHz band can improve results. Some networks also allow you to prioritize streaming devices so they get bandwidth first during busy usage times.

At the foundation of it all is your internet connection. Fiber from Copper Valley Telecom delivers fast, symmetrical speeds designed to handle streaming, gaming, video calls, and multiple devices at once. With the right setup, buffering is often less about the connection itself and more about optimizing everything around it.

COPPER VALLEY TELECOM

WELCOMES NEW CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

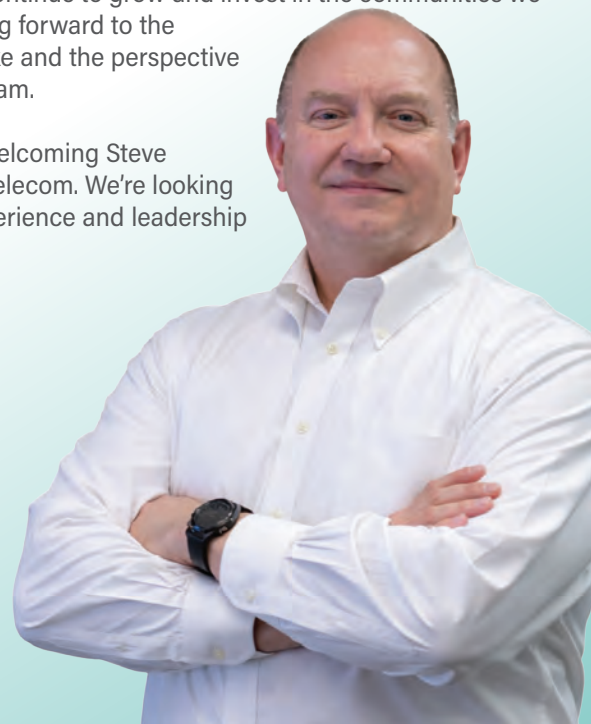
We're excited to welcome Stephen Gebert to the Copper Valley Telecom team as our new Chief Operations Officer. Steve brings a strong background in telecommunications and operations, along with extensive experience leading complex organizations through growth, modernization, and change. His work spans network operations, enterprise security, program management, and regulatory compliance, giving him a well-rounded perspective that aligns closely with the work we do every day to serve our members.

Throughout his career, Steve has overseen large-scale initiatives including broadband expansion in remote regions, subsea fiber system operations, and multi-state facilities management. He has also led enterprise cybersecurity, business continuity, and emergency response programs, helping organizations strengthen reliability while maintaining a clear focus on long-term resilience and accountability.

Before his career in telecommunications, Steve served more than 20 years in the United States Navy as a Naval Flight Officer and test director, completing thousands of flight hours and hundreds of aircraft carrier landings. That experience continues to shape his leadership style, grounded in discipline, mission focus, and a strong belief in the power of people and teamwork.

Steve's proven leadership and strategic approach make him a great fit for CVT as we continue to grow and invest in the communities we serve. We're looking forward to the impact he will make and the perspective he brings to our team.

Please join us in welcoming Steve to Copper Valley Telecom. We're looking forward to the experience and leadership he brings.





COPPER VALLEY TELECOM'S

PLANT BINGO

AT SAMMIE'S GARDEN SPOT

MAY 15TH | 5:30-7:30 PM

Bring a friend, grab a card, and join the fun for a chance to win a plant and connect with your community.

AT MILE 91.5 ON THE RICHARDSON HIGHWAY



UPCOMING EVENTS

PLANT BINGO: Join us for a community Plant Bingo event at Sammie's Garden Spot in Glennallen on **May 15th** from 5:30-7:30 PM, where you can enjoy a fun night of bingo and win a variety of plants as prizes.

MEMORIAL DAY: Our offices will be closed on Monday, **May 25th** in observance of Memorial Day.

VALDEZ 125TH ANNIVERSARY: Valdez's 125th Anniversary celebration kicks off June 11th with three days of events, including CVT hosting Family Bingo at Kelsey Dock on **June 12th** from 5:30-7:30 PM.

Visit www.cvtc.org for more information.

The CVT Connection

Enter to Win a \$50 Account Credit

May 2026

WORDSEARCH

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

W	H	L	X	H	N	E	E	Z	E	V	S	H	D	O	Y	B	C	O	C
C	E	Z	Q	B	Q	M	L	A	B	J	T	C	M	Z	F	E	C	W	F
H	O	I	B	Y	A	A	D	M	L	I	A	I	Q	W	Y	G	E	R	I
W	F	H	M	J	O	A	N	H	U	A	N	H	A	F	I	R	N	V	L
L	E	A	D	E	R	S	H	I	P	M	S	G	S	G	O	J	M	E	V
S	T	R	E	A	M	I	N	G	K	W	V	K	O	M	J	W	M	H	H
E	A	F	R	O	Y	U	L	A	Q	Y	I	V	A	G	C	F	A	E	U
E	P	Z	N	T	E	A	M	P	G	W	O	F	Z	N	P	T	V	S	C
M	O	D	E	R	N	I	Z	A	T	I	O	N	I	D	S	Q	F	U	E
C	O	M	M	U	N	I	T	I	E	S	Q	H	R	Y	E	Z	C	Z	P

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Modernization | 3. Wifi | 5. Team | 7. Alaskans |
| 2. Leadership | 4. Communities | 6. Streaming | 8. Bingo |

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, **TYLER BEGLEY** (Glennallen), **BARBARA EZELL** (Valdez), and **CLIFFORD NICHOLS** (Cordova). **REMEMBER TO FILL IN YOUR NAME!**

Name: _____ Phone: _____



Listing reflects board membership prior to election results.



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