



PTCI

communicator

May 2020

Beware of scammers trying to exploit COVID-19 fears

Scammers use every opportunity to try and trick you out of money or personal information, and the COVID-19 pandemic is a case in point.

The U.S. Attorney General issued a warning about these coronavirus scams:

- Individuals and businesses are advertising and selling fake cures and vaccines for COVID-19 online and engaging in other forms of fraud.
- Phishing emails are being sent from entities posing as the World Health Organization or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Malicious websites and apps appear to share coronavirus-related information in order to gain access to your devices and lock them until payment is received.
- Scammers are seeking donations fraudulently for illegitimate or non-existent charitable organizations.

PTCI urges you to watch out for these types of scams, and rely only on reputable sources for the products and information you need.

PTCI
PO Box 1188, Guymon, OK 73942
580-338-2556 | ptc.net

Office Closure
May 25 – Memorial Day



GIG-CAPABLE PROVIDER

Honor roll students receive backpacks from PTCI

Hooker High School and Hooker Junior High Honor Roll students show off their new, free backpacks from PTCI. Junior and senior high students in PTCI's service area, who made their schools' honor rolls, received custom-made backpacks. PTCI is proud to reward students who make good grades. Congratulations to our area's hard-working students.



Easy steps for streaming TV

Are increasing cable TV costs, fees, and long-term contracts causing you to consider alternate TV options? With faster fiber-to-the-home internet, you have more options than ever before. Cutting the cord and streaming TV over the internet may be just the ticket.

Here is a checklist to help you cut the cord:

- **Internet:** Reliable internet is a must, and PTCI offers up to 1 Gig internet speeds. We would be happy to help you determine which speed you need depending on the number and type of devices running in your home. If you want to stream in multiple locations of your home, PTCI offers Whole Home WiFi that also eliminates lag times.
- **Smart TV or streaming players:** Most newer model TVs have streaming options built right in. If you don't have a smart TV, streaming players like Roku, Fire TV, Apple TV, or Chromecast will work too.
- **Prioritize networks and shows:** Make a list of the shows and live networks you watch. Visit cord-cutting websites like www.suppose.tv or www.thestreamable.com and use their tools to show which streaming services, or channels, offer the content you want.
- **Choose a streaming service:** If you subscribe to Netflix, you are already streaming TV. Other services include Sling TV, Hulu Live, AT&T Now, and YouTube TV, to mention a few. You may want to look for free trials before selecting your streaming provider.

Since PTCI's TV service ends June 30, 2020, now is the perfect time to try streaming TV. PTCI is now offering virtual streaming workshops each month. Call 580-338-2556 for more information, or see page 2 for May's schedule.



How cybersecurity affects you

Millions of cyberattacks are launched daily, including adware, trojans, spam, viruses, keyloggers, and fake security software. The goal of a cyberattack is often to steal financial or personal information, typically with the victim not realizing the threat.

With these threats becoming more common, it's important to take steps to protect yourself. Always be leery of unexpected emails and internet pop-ups, use secure passwords for online accounts, and never share any personal information or passwords.

You also need to have the right defenses in place. PTCI offers solutions to help keep you and your information safe. TechHome provides computer security to protect from viruses, worms, and missing Microsoft patches. It also includes features like parental controls, password management, disk optimization, file backup, and spyware protection. You can get TechHome for only \$6.99 per month, which is much cheaper than paying off a cybercriminal.

To learn more or sign up TechHome, please call 580-338-2556 and speak to one of our Customer Service Representatives.

Virtual streaming workshops

Subscribe to PTCI's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/ptcivideo for virtual streaming workshops.

YouTube – May 4 | 2-4 pm

YouTube – May 18 | 2-4 pm

New business listings

Hooker

Floor Crafters Inc. 580-652-0645

Beaver

FDL Operating LLC 580-625-2909

How to safely stay connected during the COVID-19 pandemic

As COVID-19 continues to spread, daily life is changing—including the way we work, play, and interact. You may find it difficult to maintain connections with family, friends, and coworkers due to social distancing guidelines.

Here are some useful tools to help:

- **Video Apps:** Apps like Zoom, Marco Polo, Skype, and FaceTime let you participate in video calls so you can see who you're speaking to—whether one person or a group.
- **Voice Apps:** Skype, Discord, and WhatsApp have voice-only calling options so you can make calls over WiFi instead of your cellular service. They also include instant messaging, which is like sending a text message over your internet connection.
- **Social Media:** Sites like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram help you stay connected with a large number of your friends and family via instant messaging and viewing their posts. They can also help update you on the news, but focus on trusted news sources. Not everything you read on social media is true!
- **Gaming:** If you or your kids miss doing fun activities together with your friends, gaming might be a solution. Choose a fun multi-player online game like Fortnite, connect a microphone to your computer, and then you can use the in-game chat or Discord to talk to each other while you play. Gaming offers a range of adventures for people to share.



As social distancing becomes the new normal, it's important we remember to keep in touch with those who matter most. PTCI is here for you, continuing to provide reliable internet and cellular service to keep you connected to your world.

Annual Directory Photo Contest



For more information go to www.ptci.net/annual-directory-photo-contest

Heavy internet use

100 Mbps

AT&T TV NOW - 12 Mbps

AT&T TV NOW - 12 Mbps

AT&T TV NOW - 12 Mbps

NestThermostat- 2 Mbps

Security Camera - 2 Mbps

Security Camera - 2 Mbps

Security Camera - 2 Mbps

Gaming System - 6 Mbps

Gaming System - 6 Mbps

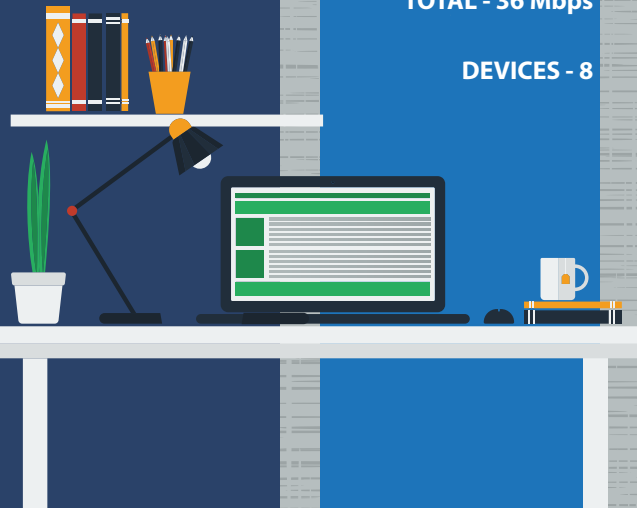
Google Speaker- 2 Mbps

Google Speaker- 2 Mbps

FaceTime - 2 Mbps

TOTAL - 62 Mbps

DEVICES - 12



Moderate internet use

50 Mbps

Hulu + LiveTV - 10 Mbps

Hulu + LiveTV - 10 Mbps

NestThermostat- 2 Mbps

Security Camera - 2 Mbps

Security Camera - 2 Mbps

Gaming System - 6 Mbps

Robot Vacuum - 2 Mbps

Google Speaker- 2 Mbps

TOTAL - 36 Mbps

DEVICES - 8

See how many Mbps these Heavy Use, Moderate Use, and Light Use homes consume and the number and types of devices they use.

Light internet use

20 Mbps

YouTube TV - 7 Mbps

Alexa Speaker - 2 Mbps

Ring Doorbell - 2 Mbps

Social Media - 1 Mbps

FaceTime - 2 Mbps

TOTAL - 14 Mbps

DEVICES - 5

If you need to do more with your internet, PTCI offers speeds up to 1 Gig. Some speeds available to Fiber-to-the-Home customers only.

What can you do with your internet speed?



Word search for May

To be qualified for a drawing for a \$20 credit toward your PTCI services, mail your completed puzzle to: PTCI, Attn: Puzzle, PO Box 1188, Guymon, OK 73942, or drop it into the envelope with your monthly payment.

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

DAY NATURE
 MEMORIAL STORMY
 SPRING MAY
 WEATHER RAIN
 FLOWERS SUNSHINE

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Juan Rodriguez of Guymon was the lucky winner of our April puzzle drawing. Juan received a \$20 credit on next month's PTCI bill. Congratulations!

Is working from home new to you?

Many more people are now working from home to help slow the spread of COVID-19. If this work arrangement is new to you, you may be struggling to maintain productivity and focus (not to mention balance work and parenting responsibilities).

Here are a few tips from seasoned pros who've worked from home for years:

- **Stick to your workday routine as much as possible.** Work roughly the same hours you did before and continue to get dressed in real clothes. Resist the temptation to work in your pajamas!
- **Set up a designated workspace.** Work from a desk or table in an area away from other family members so you have the quiet you need to stay on task. Also sit in a supportive chair to help prevent back pain.
- **Stay connected to coworkers.** Use applications such as Zoom or FaceTime to help maintain morale during this period of isolation.

If you need to make changes to your home's internet service to accommodate working from home, call us at 580-338-2556.



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PTCI provides your connection to the world.

Stay connected to friends, family, work, or school while keeping your family safe with PTCI's cellular and internet service.



Call now at
580.338.2556

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