



PTCI

communicator

Summer 2020

Happy Independence Day from PTCI

We hope you and your family are able to make the most of July — from watching colorful fireworks on Independence Day to enjoying backyard barbecues all month long.

Please let us know if you want to upgrade any of your PTCI services to accommodate changes in your household this summer. We can also help you explore technology that may be new to you, such as video calls and streaming services.



PTCI
PO Box 1188, Guymon, OK 73942
800.562.2556 | ptc.net

Office Closure
July 3 – Independence Day (observed)

PTCI 2020 Scholarship Recipients



Alessandra Huizar
Spearman High School
Texas Woman's University



Laura Araujo Ramirez
Perryton High School
Texas Tech University



Scarlett Shields
Spearman High School
Frank Phillips College



Stephen Pulliam
Canadian High School
Baylor University



Sydney Fishburn
Spearman High School
West Texas A&M University

\$1,000 given to local high school seniors to attend college or trade school.

Each year PTCI awards \$5000 in scholarships

Tips to beat technophobia

While seniors' online presence is growing, there are still sizeable numbers of people over 65 who shy away from technology. This technophobia can stem from a variety of causes. For example, changes in vision, coordination, and dexterity may make it more difficult for some people to comfortably view a screen or use a keyboard or mouse. In addition, seniors who have had frustrating experiences with technology in the past may be reluctant to try again. Here's how to help:

Keep it simple. There's no need to buy a desktop for someone who just wants to email and do occasional web surfing. Tablets are ideal for first-timers because of their simple design and intuitive, touch-screen interface.

Increase accessibility. Software packages are available that transform a busy screen into an easy-to-navigate, large-text interface that makes email and photo sharing a breeze.

Write instructions down. After introducing a new skill, leave a simple list of steps the person can refer to while practicing.

Offer generous tech support. Seniors will be more likely to invest time and effort in technology when they know someone is available to help with problems and answer questions.

Above all, show your loved one how technology can make life easier and more fun. Relate your teaching to the person's needs and interests, whether that means streaming music, making online purchases, or viewing photos of the grandkids.

Let PTCI's Managed Services meet your business IT needs

Just like larger companies, small and medium-sized companies need to operate efficiently and effectively. But IT resources are often very limited with smaller businesses. PTCI's Managed Services can fill the gap by providing you with access to the best WiFi network, cybersecurity, data recovery, and disaster recovery solutions.

PTCI's Managed Services enable your business to increase operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness while you focus on your business, not on technology. It offers:

- Protection against phishing attacks, intrusion vulnerability, application/URL filtering, virus attacks, malware, spam, and ransomware
- Entry point security you can customize for your business — block unwanted websites and get daily reports on internet usage and thwarted cyberattacks

You have worked hard to make your business a success. Stay ahead of cybercrime and gain peace of mind with network monitoring from PTCI's Managed Services.

Call [800.562.2556](tel:800.562.2556) to learn more.



10 reasons why streaming services are so popular

Streaming services — such as Hulu, Netflix, and YouTube TV — offer many advantages compared to traditional TV plans like satellite or cable. They include:

1. **Cost Savings** – Subscribing to a few streaming services usually ends up costing much less than paying for satellite or cable TV.
2. **Bigger Variety of Content** – Streaming services maintain huge libraries of TV shows and movies from which to choose.
3. **More Original Content** – Some streaming services pride themselves on their award-winning original content that's not available with any other streaming service or on network TV.
4. **Less Mindless TV Viewing** – Instead of turning on the TV to watch whatever is on or engage in aimless channel surfing, users of streaming services tend to turn it on to intentionally watch a specific show or movie.
5. **Lack of Weather Issues** – If you now have satellite TV and struggle with spotty service during high winds or heavy rains, you'll appreciate the fact that streaming services won't have those issues.
6. **Added Convenience** – You can watch your programs on any device, whenever and wherever you want.
7. **Scalability** – Many streaming services allow you to choose the features and functions you want.
8. **Personalized Recommendations** – You can get viewing ideas based on your profile and interests.
9. **Ad-Free Entertainment** – With traditional television, a good third of the viewing time tends to be consumed by ads.
10. **Simplified Binge-Watching** – You can easily binge-watch an entire season of a series, pausing an episode whenever you want and returning at a later time.

An essential companion to streaming services is a fast and reliable internet connection. For details on availability and pricing, call [800.562.2556](tel:800.562.2556).

WiFi and internet work together

WiFi and internet go hand-in-hand, but they are not the same thing. Internet service is what gives you the ability to access the web. WiFi is what distributes internet service throughout your home so that you can access it wirelessly. Without WiFi, you can only connect to your internet service through a wired connection. Typically, WiFi connects your laptop, phone, tablet, and other devices to the internet. WiFi is the easiest way for most devices to access the internet.



Think of internet service as a delivery truck that brings food to a restaurant. WiFi is the wait staff that delivers the food to different tables. WiFi and internet are two separate things that work together to provide you with a great internet experience.

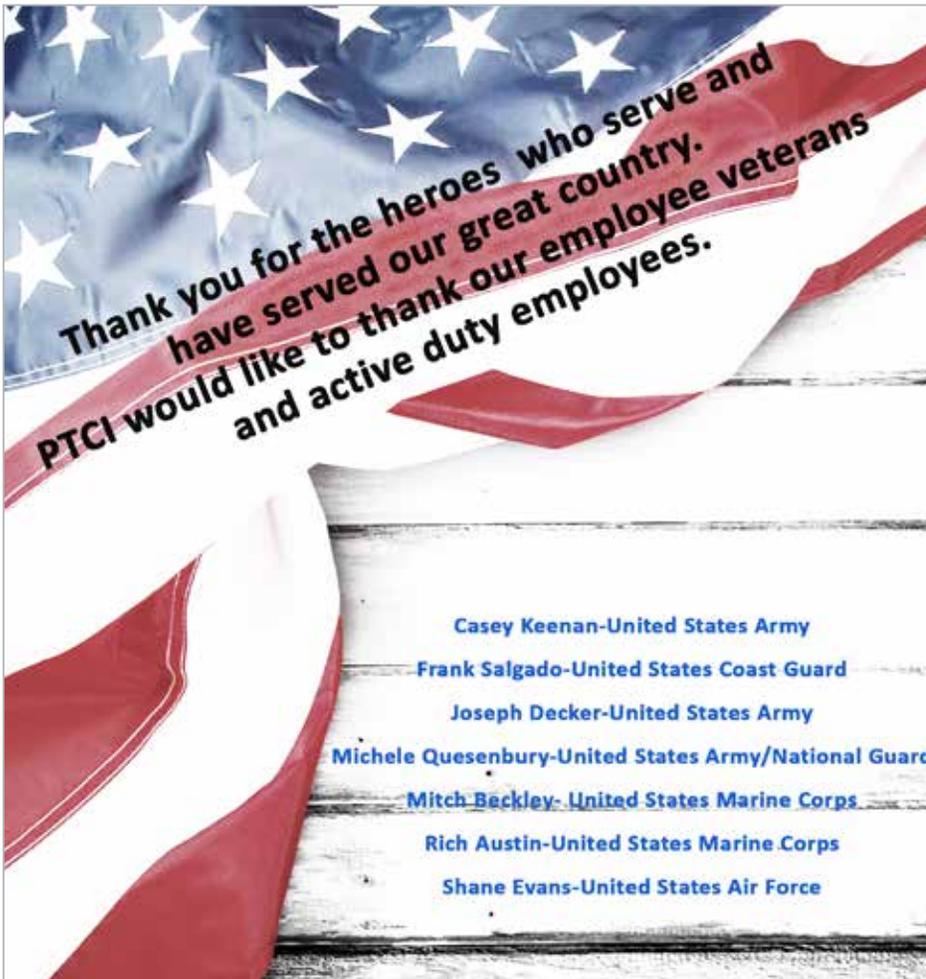


July is National Independent Retailer Month

Shopping locally and supporting small businesses is the focus of National Independent Retailer Month, which is celebrated in July. The promotional campaign began in the U.S. in 2011 and has since expanded to Canada and the United Kingdom.

During this annual event, we're asked to remember the many benefits of doing business with independent retailers (as opposed to big box retailers or chain stores). For example, when you shop at a small local store, more of your dollars stay here to help the local economy. Plus, local businesses provide the most new jobs nationally, and new local businesses have the potential to create high-paying jobs in the form of business ownership.

Think of it this way. We celebrate Independence Day on July 4, and throughout the month, we celebrate independent retailers. PTCI is proud to be your local provider and encourages you to buy local whenever possible.



How to protect your personal information

Here's what to do:

- Carry only necessary identification. Do not carry your Social Security card with you.
- Take steps to reduce the amount of mail you receive that displays personal information.
- Be cautious when providing your Social Security number. It's okay to ask whether it is needed for the application or transaction.
- Check your credit report annually using annualcreditreport.com.
- Never provide personal information over the phone or internet unless you have initiated the contact and have confirmed the business or person's identity.
- Avoid leaving any personal information in your car.
- Shred unnecessary documents, especially those containing your personal information.
- Take your outgoing mail to the post office or postal box rather than using street-side mailboxes.

One way to cut down on the amount of mail you receive that contains personal information is to pay your bills online. To learn about eBilling with PTCI, visit www.ptci.net.



PO Box 1188
Guymon, OK 73942

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AMARILLO, TX
PERMIT NO. 664

Local Postal Customer



Manage your account

View and pay your bill

Monitor your usage 24/7

Report service issues

PTCI

smart hub

Receive a one-time \$20 bill credit when you sign up for SmartHub and paperless billing.

One-time \$10 bill credit when you sign up for SmartHub for the first time. One-time \$10 bill credit when you sign up for paperless billing for the first time. Offer expires August 31, 2020.

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