



PTCI

communicator

September 2022



Did you know PTCI does all this?

- **Supports local schools/students** each year with donations, sports sponsorships, custom t-shirts for honor roll students, \$25,000 in college scholarships, and the NTCA Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.
- **Supports OPSU** athletics, computer team, and rodeo teams, and works with OPSU to incorporate student interns into our workforce.
- **Supports local fire departments, police and sheriff departments, and EMTs** with donations and provides extra support when affected by disasters such as fires or tornados.
- **Generously sponsors town celebrations** in Guymon, Boise City, Beaver, Laverne, Texhoma, Perryton, Spearman, Gruver, and Canadian.
- **Provides financial support of area economic development** through Panhandle Regional Economic Development Coalition, Inc. (PREDCI).
- **Generously supports all Chambers of Commerce** in our service territories.

PTCI

PO Box 1188, Guymon, OK 73942
580.338.2556 | ptc.net

Office Closures

September 3 - Labor Day weekend
September 5 - Labor Day



GIG-CAPABLE PROVIDER

PTCI to host first large-scale eSports tournament in the Panhandle region on Oct. 15

If you're not familiar with the term, eSports are gaming competitions involving different video game disciplines. It's becoming an increasingly popular sport around the world and here at home. In 2021, eSports saw a larger audience than the NFL and has become a billion-dollar industry. Panhandle area schools are forming their own eSports teams, and some local students have received significant scholarship opportunities through eSports.

Because of this community interest, PTCI will be hosting our first annual Gigaverse eSports Tournament on October 15 at the Texas County Activity Center in Guymon, OK. PTCI has partnered with the Oklahoma Scholastic eSports League (OKSE) to ensure our local school teams will have a chance to participate as well as other local gamers who want to form teams. Players must be 14 years or older, and all competitors aged 14+ are welcome.

PTCI sees a great opportunity in eSports for our local school teams to become formidable forces in the State of Oklahoma. In many cases, they already are! In addition to the OKSE, PTCI has partnered with reputable gaming brands, local companies, and energy drink sponsors to bring the Gigaverse eSports Tournament to the next level. It will feature Rocket League (3v3) and Halo Infinite (4v4). Registration is open.

If you or someone you know would like to compete in the Gigaverse eSports Tournament, gather your teams and prepare. Winning teams will receive prizes awarded by HyperX and Ulti Energy. Other prize opportunities include a GeForce RTX 3090 sponsored by TCIT, gaming gear, and PTCI merch. We hope to see you there for a day of fun and friendly competition.

Register your team to compete in PTCI's Gigaverse tournament now. Go to www.ptci.net/gigaverse and sign up today!





Spend less time and gain more security with eBilling

You've probably heard many times that switching from printed bills and payments to eBilling is good for the environment by reducing paper use and saving trees. What you might not realize is just how beneficial eBilling is to you in other ways.

First of all, eBilling is much faster than paying bills the old-fashioned way by writing checks and mailing them. Most importantly, eBilling eliminates having printed bills and envelopes with checks in your mailbox, where they could be stolen and used for identity theft.

PTCI offers free eBilling, which lets you receive your monthly bills from us by email and pay them online with your credit card or debit card. To get started with eBilling and set up an account, visit <https://ptci.smarthub.coop/> today and follow the step-by-step instructions. If you have questions, call us at 580-338-2556.

New business listings

Beaver

High Plains Hospice LLC 580-625-7902
Panhandle Natural Gas 580-625-9970

Forgan

Kinder Morgan Company 580-487-0442

Guymon

Happy Green Buds LLC 580-338-0803

PTCI took part in Children's Health Fair and sponsored Texas County Fair

PTCI jumped into the fun of the annual Texas County Children's Health Fair at the Texas County Activity Center on July 21. PTCI gave out free jump ropes and encouraged kids to get up and move to help maintain good health.

The Texas County Fair kicked off on August 11, when PTCI's Marketing Manager, Elizabeth Brown, cut the ribbon with many of the Chamber Orange Coats and fair board members on hand. PTCI has been the presenting sponsor of the fair for the past six years. We continued our fair traditions of providing fresh popcorn and giveaways. We also hosted bingo for the second time and gave prizes to the winners.



Children's Health Fair



Texas County Fair

Subscribe and enjoy PTCI's YouTube Channel

Is a busy schedule preventing you from making memories with your local community? Relive some of those great times with PTCI's YouTube Channel.

On PTCI's YouTube Channel, you'll find Guymon High School graduations, prom red carpet events, the All Sports Banquet, and action from the Guymon Elementary Oklahoma Land Run Reenactment.

You can also view events across the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles, including the Hansford County Heritage Days Parade, Guymon Pioneer Days Parade, Wheatheart of the Nation Parade, and Santa Fe Trail Daze Parade and festivities.

To get your Aggie fix, check out the OPSU commencement, Art Jubilee, Paul Farrell Art Auction, and a bevy of Aggie sports coverage to keep you in the know about happenings on campus. Relive the excitement of our area high school sports teams with archived games in softball, volleyball, football, basketball, and soccer.

You can also find great educational information and how-to videos on everything from WiFi help to cell phone tips.

PTCI's live stream coverage of area sports is now back in full swing. Be sure to subscribe to our channel and turn on the notification so you can tune into local teams while we're streaming live on location.



Fiber is the best choice for current and future connectivity

Only fiber-based networks can meet the growing demand for broadband in virtually all aspects of daily life. It enhances the delivery of news and entertainment and helps us stay in touch with friends and family. In addition, fiber significantly expands community opportunities in these areas:

Economic development and vitality. Fiber helps communities see immediate benefits, such as making them more attractive destinations for people to relocate and businesses to start or grow. It also provides the critical infrastructure for economic diversification and job growth in agriculture, healthcare, and energy.

What's more, fiber allows communities to benefit from smart grid modernization, resulting in a 43% reduction in power outages.¹ For homeowners, a fiber-to-the-home connection can raise a home's value by 3%.²

Education. Increased bandwidth is needed to support learning opportunities for children both at home and in school, including video conferencing and educational applications.

Teleworking. Video conferencing is the new norm for business meetings. Fiber provides the speed and capacity required, while virtual private networks (VPNs) provide security.

Telehealth. This technology is especially critical in rural areas, where people would otherwise have to travel long distances to get to their doctors, specialists, or hospitals.

Precision agriculture. This allows farmers to increase crop yield while preserving precious natural resources.



What makes fiber so much more beneficial than other types of networks?

- **It's the fastest.** Fiber enables Gigabit broadband speeds and beyond.
- **It's symmetrical.** With fiber, upload and download speeds can be equally as fast.
- **It's future-proof and sustainable technology.** Fiber is the best choice for ensuring that a network being built now will be capable of satisfying user demand over its useful life. Fiber anticipates future demands and allows for services that will remain affordable and efficient for years to come.
- **It's able to meet today's needs.** Dr. Christopher Ali, a University of Virginia associate professor who studies the digital divide, put it this way: "If you have a family of four working and learning at home, a total of 25 Mbps is just not adequate. You can only jam so much information down a single wire unless that wire is fiber."

Clearly, fiber is best for communities and the people who live and work in them.

¹Chattanooga Economic Impact Study, Professor Bento Lobo, UT-Chattanooga <http://bit.ly/fiberdeliverssmartgrid>

²National Association of Realtors <http://bit.ly/fiberdelivershomevalue> www.ntca.org/fiberdelivers

Word search for September

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.



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

CHEER SCORE
 FIELD TEAMS
 GOALPOST FANS
 STANDS GAME
 CROWD SIDELINES
 FOOTBALL

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Jon Elfers of Beaver is the lucky winner of our puzzle drawing. Jon will receive a \$20 PTCI bill credit. Congratulations!



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