

PTCI takes part in Hansford County Heritage Days

PTCI was on hand in Spearman to help the residents of Hansford County celebrate Heritage Days on Saturday, June 3. Silvia Crawley, Cynthia Ibarra and her two daughters, Adeline and Kimberly, rode in the parade and handed out candy to all in attendance. The annual event attracts visitors from across the high plains for family fun capped off by the Main Street evening concert.



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Guymon, OK 73942

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PTCI communicator

Summer 2023

Happy Independence Day from PTCI

On July 4, we celebrate the land of the free and the home of the brave with family, friends, and neighbors. We also celebrate America's 247th birthday. We hope you can make the most of July — from watching colorful fireworks on Independence Day to enjoying backyard barbeques all month long.

Let us know if you'd like to upgrade any of your PTCI services to accommodate the changing needs of your household. We can also help you explore technology that may be new to you, such as video calls and streaming services.



PTCI Headquarters

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

Perryton Store

222 S Amherst, Perryton, TX 79070
Mon, Wed-Fri: 8:30 am-12:30 pm, 1:30-5:30 pm
Tue: 9:00 am-12:30 pm, 1:30 pm-5:30 pm

Spearman Store

721 W 7th, Spearman, TX 79081
Mon-Fri: 9:00 am-12:30 pm, 1:30 pm-5:30 pm

Canadian Store

112 N 3rd Street, Canadian, TX 79014
Wed: 9:30 am-12:00 pm, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Office Closures

July 4 - Independence Day
September 4 - Labor Day

PTCI 2023 scholarship recipients

Congratulations to these local high school seniors, who each received \$1,000 to attend college or trade school. Each year, PTCI awards \$5,000 in scholarships.



Ella Babbs
Gruver High School



Benjamin Bryant
Canadian High School



Jack Davis
Spearman High



Allie Sparks
Gruver High School



Caitlynn Thomas
Perryton High School

Dispelling myths about home WiFi networks

Given how much technology changes over time, it's not surprising that what was once true no longer applies, or that people get confused by technical jargon. To clear things up, we're setting the record straight on a few WiFi myths.

Myth: If several people in our home are downloading, then our WiFi will slow to a crawl.

Older WiFi technology couldn't cope with multiple devices downloading, gaming, or streaming at the same time. However, today's routers and access points are designed to help mitigate this.

Myth: 5GHz is always better than 2.4GHz. Which band is better depends on your WiFi needs. If you want better range, use 2.4 GHz. If you need higher performance or speed, use the 5GHz band.

Myth: My device won't connect to WiFi, so there must be a problem with my internet.

While there are scenarios where this might be the case, such as a neighborhood-wide internet outage, there are other potential connection issues. For example, if you have a device that won't connect to WiFi, start by focusing your efforts on that device. The solution could be as simple as turning the device off and back on. You can also reset your device's network's settings or have the device "forget" your WiFi and reconnect a few seconds later.

If you'd like help setting up and maintaining your home WiFi network, call 800.562.2556 and ask about our Managed WiFi service.



Your life is connected, make sure it's protected

Get ProtectIQ with the PTCI WiFi App today

 **PTCI**
800.562.2556 | ptc.net

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 Firewall 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 Firewall enable your business to increase operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness while you focus on your business, not on technology. They offer:

- 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've 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 to learn more.



The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a Federal Communications Commission program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service. It provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. The ACP benefit is non-transferrable and limited to one monthly internet discount and a one-time connected device discount.

A household is eligible if one member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines;
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in one of several Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal Head Start (only households meeting the relevant income qualifying standard) Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision.
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income program.

If the ACP ends, or when a household is no longer eligible, customers will be subject to the provider's regular internet rates, terms, and conditions.

There are two steps to enroll:

1. Go to AffordableConnectivity.gov to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.
2. Contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may ask you to complete an alternative application. Additional information about the ACP is available at AffordableConnectivity.gov, or by calling 877-384-2575. You can also call PTCI, as a participating provider, at 800.562.2556 to learn more.

Brats & Broadband events say thanks to customers

PTCI showed our appreciation for our CLEC service area customers with our Brats & Broadband events in Canadian, Spearman, and Perryton. PTCI's Daniel Mesta and Jason Epp cooked up a bratwurst lunch for the large crowds that showed up as a way to say thank you to all our loyal customers. PTCI is continually seeking ways to make our customer experience the best in the Texas Panhandle by expanding our fiber optic network and making sure we keep our personal touch that only a locally owned business can bring.



Land of the Free Because of the Brave

Thank you for your service.

Shane Evans, Air Force
Casey Keenan, Army Reserves
Frank Salgado, Coast Guard
Joseph Decker, Army & National Guard
Michele Quesenbury, National Guard
Mitch Beckley, Marine Corps
Rich Austin, Marine Corps
Jason Iverson, Air Force

You can't buy happiness, but you can buy local

You may have seen this message shared on social media platforms. It certainly offers food for thought:

"When you're supporting small businesses, you're not helping a CEO buy a third vacation home. You're helping a little girl get dance lessons, a little boy get his team jersey, a mom put food on the table, a dad pay a mortgage, or a student pay for college."

Small businesses are the heart of America, and for them to keep pumping, they need our support. This is achieved when community residents place a high value on keeping small businesses healthy and are committed to buying goods and services locally whenever possible.

Supporting small businesses goes far beyond helping their owners, since they in turn donate to local charities, sports teams, and other causes. Simply put, communities need strong independent businesses to thrive.

PTCI believes in the power of supporting one another on a local level, which is why we strive to purchase locally sourced products, partner with local vendors, and give back to our community through donations and volunteering.

