



# PTCI

# communicator

Spring 2024

## Follow PTCI on social media

Are you following us on our social media? We're constantly sharing product news, promotions, and things happening in our service area. Win great prizes with one of our many social media contests or find links to our live streams. You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

If you're unsure what speed is right for you, call us at 580.338.2556. Based on your number of devices and online activities, we'll help you decide which PTCI internet plan will work best.



## District meetings completed and 70th Annual Meeting scheduled

Earl Wells retired from the PTCI Board of Trustees after 24 years of service as the Laverne/Logan exchange representative. During district meetings, representatives were elected, reelected and reappointed:

- **District 2 (Guymon)** – Larry January was reelected.
- **District 7 (Turpin/Tyrone)** – Milton Headrick was reappointed.
- **District 8 (Felt/Kenton/Boise City)** – Alan Shields was reappointed.
- **District 9 (Laverne/Logan)** – Richard Wells was elected

Invitations to the 70th Annual Meeting—to be held on Thursday, April 18—were recently mailed to cooperative members. The meeting will include a meal, a business meeting, cash prizes, and member giveaways. We look forward to seeing you!

**PTCI**  
PO Box 1188, Guymon, OK 73942  
580.338.2556 | ptc.net  
**Office Closures**  
May 25 & 27 - Memorial Weekend



**GIG-CAPABLE PROVIDER**

*Sign up for paperless and get \$10 credit*

Offer ends April 30, 2024

• Sign up for paperless billing from the app

- Login to your account
- Click "Settings"
- Click "Paperless Bill Settings"
- Toggle switch to green under "Paperless"

• Sign up for paperless billing from your computer

- Login to your account
- Click "My Profile"
- Click "Update My Printed Bill Settings"
- Click "OFF" under "Printed Bill Status"

View & pay your bill

Access your bill

• Sign up or login at [ptci.smarthub.coop](http://ptci.smarthub.coop) or

• Download the SmartHub app on your phone

\*Member a one-time \$10 PTCI bill credit by enrolling in paperless billing. Offer expires April 30, 2024.



## Who can call numbers on the Do Not Call List?

Telemarketing is more prevalent now than ever, causing more than 246 million phone numbers to register on the national Do Not Call list. If you've registered, you may have noticed that your registration only affects certain types of callers.

That's because the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), who administer the Do Not Call list, have limited jurisdiction. As a result, the following groups can still contact you:

- Political groups
- Charitable organizations
- Phone surveyors when their sole purpose is to conduct a survey
- Companies with whom you have a business relationship — this includes anyone from whom you've made purchases; they can call you for up to 18 months after your last purchase
- Those who have received written permission from you

**For additional details or to register your phone numbers (including both home and cell phone numbers), visit [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov). Most telemarketing calls should stop within 31 days of your registration.**

## New business listings

### Beaver

A&M Panhandle  
Beef Partners 580.625.5315

### Boise City

Heart Bar Junction LLC 580.544.2038

# PTCI recognized area honor roll students

Each January PTCI honors seventh grade through senior year students who achieve honor roll status in the first semester with a school-specific T-shirt across all schools in our coverage area. The unique designs are only available to those whose excellence stands out in the classroom.



**Congratulations to all honor roll T-shirt recipients! PTCI is honored to honor you!**



Hooker High School



Balko High School



Tyrone High School



## PTCI shares 'Tech Tales' to teach kids how to stay safe online

The internet can be an incredible learning tool, but it can also be a dangerous place, especially for a child. With 'Tech Tales,' first and second grade students at local schools learned about a baby chick who shared too much information online, a mouse who missed so much because he was too busy staring at a phone, and a ninja who learned how to unplug from electronics.

The books and worksheet reinforced these important lessons to students:

- Do not share personal information online.
- Never chat with strangers online.
- It's good to limit screen time.
- Get outside to play.

PTCI is happy to help kids use the internet safely and enjoy a balanced life.

## Get help from a neighbor nearby

When you need to get a question answered or a technology problem solved, nothing beats working with a local company. We hope you enjoy the neighborly customer service you receive from PTCI as much as we enjoy providing it to you.

Our entire team—whether in the office or out in the field—is committed to bringing you the best possible communications solutions and making your customer experience a consistently positive one. As your local provider, we live and work alongside you in this community and understand your needs in a way that distant competitors simply can't.

With PTCI, you can stop by for in-person assistance or call to talk to one of our local employees. Unlike national companies, you're not limited to 800 numbers answered by a revolving door of people from across the country or on the other side of the world.

**For complete contact information, including our office hours and technical support details, visit [www.ptci.net/about/contact](http://www.ptci.net/about/contact).**



## Participating in College & Career Day

PTCI participated in Guymon High School's first College & Career Day in March. The event was designed to help students see all the possibilities their future can hold in the Oklahoma Panhandle. Students learned about a wide range of career opportunities available to them — some requiring advanced degrees and others that only need a high school diploma. PTCI was happy to show these students how much potential exists right in their own backyard.





# How to protect yourself from SIM swap scams

Your cell phone is probably your go-to device for online activity, and scammers are looking to take advantage of this by hijacking your cell phone number with a SIM card swap.

**How do scammers pull off a SIM card swap?** They may call your cellular service provider and say your phone was lost or damaged. Then, they ask the provider to activate a new SIM card connected to your phone number on a new phone they own. If that happens, the new SIM card will get all your text messages, calls, and data on the new phone.

The scammer could open new cellular accounts in your name or buy new phones using your information. They could log in to your accounts that use text messages as a form of multi-factor authentication because they'll get a text message with the verification code needed. Armed with your login credentials, the scammer could access your bank account and steal money or take over your email or social media accounts. They could also change the passwords and lock you out of your accounts.

## Here's how to protect yourself:

- **Don't reply to calls, emails, or text messages that request personal information.** If you get a request for your account or personal information, contact the company using a phone number or website you know is real.
- **Limit the personal information you share online.** An identity thief could find that information and use it to answer the security questions required to verify your identity and log in to your accounts.
- **Set up a PIN or password for your cellular account.**
- **Use strong passwords for personal or financial information.** If you're concerned about SIM card swapping, use an authentication app or a security key.

If you're the target of a SIM swap scam, contact your cellular service provider immediately to take back control of your phone number. After you regain access to your phone number, change your account passwords. Also check your financial accounts for unauthorized charges or changes and report them to the company or institution. You'll find more information at [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.identitytheft.gov).

## Word search for spring

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.

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

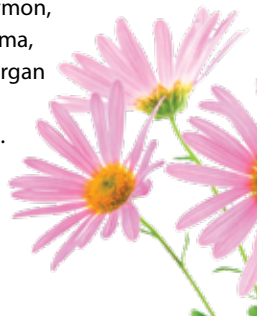
APP	PROTECTIQ
CONNECTION	PTCI
EXPERIENCEIQ	RELIABLE
GAMING	SECURE
GIGABIT	STREAMING
INTERNET	WIFI
LOCAL	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Carol McMurry of Guymon, Karen Stewart of Optima, and Jake Slatten of Forgan are the lucky winners of our puzzle drawing. Each will receive a \$20 PTCI bill credit. Congratulations!





## You could win cash in our Directory Photo Contest

It's time to show off your talent. PTCI invites you to submit your best photo for a chance to have it featured on the cover of our next telephone directory. The person who submits the winning photo takes home \$100 in cash!

### Details for entering your photograph:

- 1) The contest is open to amateurs, hobbyists, pros, and anyone anywhere in between.
- 2) Photos must be submitted in digital, jpeg format. No more than three photo submissions per contestant.
- 3) Photos should be taken at the highest resolution of at least 300 ppi. (Photos submitted with lower resolution are not judged. To obtain higher resolution, change your camera settings to a minimum of 2550 x 3300 pixels.)
- 4) Photos must be taken within our service area. Capture its uniqueness!

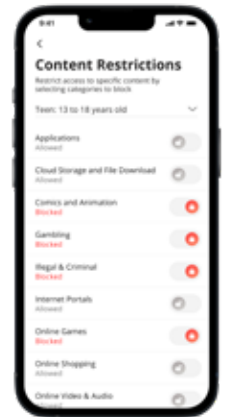
**CONTEST DEADLINE IS JUNE 28, 2024. Email files to [jason.epp@ptci.net](mailto:jason.epp@ptci.net) or mail CDs/DVDs to PTCI, Attn: Directory Contest, PO Box 1188, 2222 NW Hwy 64, Guymon.**

# PTCI provides a better WiFi experience

The free PTCI WiFi App works with PTCI's Whole Home WiFi to provide access to many different features that help keep your home WiFi network secure and under control.

### These features include:

- Advanced parental controls with customizable content filters so you can ensure your family isn't getting exposed to anything harmful
- Ability to set time limits on certain devices on your network, see what devices are connected, and kick off any unwanted devices
- Full control of your network, including changing network names and passwords
- Option to set up guest networks
- Ability to prioritize any device on the network to get the best WiFi experience



PTCI Whole Home WiFi not only allows you to control your home WiFi network but also provides you with additional security. It comes with a firewall that automatically protects your home network and ensures your router always has the latest firmware updates. This means you can enjoy a safer internet experience.

**If you're interested in Whole Home WiFi, call us today at 580.338.2556 or visit [ptci.net](http://ptci.net) and chat online with a representative. If you already have Whole Home WiFi, download the PTCI WiFi App on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store for free.**





PO Box 1188  
Guymon, OK 73942

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

Local Postal Customer

## Strain to attend FRS Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

PTCI is sending Maecee Strain of Turpin High School to our nation's capital for the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Youth Tour in June. Maecee will join more than 100 students from across the nation to learn about the important role of broadband services in rural communities. This unique educational experience provides the opportunity to visit Capitol Hill and meet members of the federal government, as well as tour many historical sites, including Arlington Cemetery, the Lincoln Memorial, and Mount Vernon.



## Save big with PTCI Totally Unlimited bundle.

**UNLIMITED DATA AND NATIONWIDE COVERAGE**

PTCI's nationwide service and advanced data give you the cell coverage you need.

Sign up for the Totally Unlimited Bundle for monthly savings on any cell plan.

[Shop Now](#)

**GREAT INTERNET FOR YOUR WHOLE HOME**

PTCI provides fast internet for your whole home with the Smart by Choice™.

**PTCI**  
800-562-2556  
ptci.net

**Call now for Totally Unlimited**