



PTCI

communicator

Summer 2024

PTCI at Pioneer Days Parade and Rodeo

PTCI's Doris Valle, Toni Mathis, and Daniel Mesta cruised through the parade route, delighting the crowd as they tossed giveaways to hopeful kids. PTCI sponsored the rodeo video replay board and the Gold Buckle roping box and provided free WiFi at Henry C Hitch Arena and the Texas County Activity Center for PTCI cellular customers. Moreover, 18 rodeo queens graced our store, exciting everyone by signing autographs and posing for photos with our employees and customers.

You can catch the parade footage at [youtube.com/user/ptcivideo](https://www.youtube.com/user/ptcivideo).



PTCI

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

Office Closures

July 4 – Independence Day
August 31 and September 2 – Labor Day



GIG-CAPABLE PROVIDER

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 248th birthday. We hope you can make the most of July—from watching colorful fireworks on Independence Day to enjoying backyard barbecues all month long.

This occasion reminds us of the values of freedom, unity and community that make our nation strong. We're proud to serve you and committed to enhancing your way of life with exceptional service.



Service not available in all areas. Some restrictions apply.

Call before you dig

Communication lines, electrical lines, water lines, gas lines, and sewer lines can all be found below the surface of the ground. Oklahoma state law requires you to notify the One-Call System at least 48 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) before you start digging or doing any of the following activities:

- Planting trees
- Installing decks or mailboxes
- Digging for patios and sidewalks
- Installing or repairing drain tile
- Fencing
- Well drilling
- Burying wire, pipe, or dead animals
- Digging a foundation
- Setting a pole
- Cultivating or plowing at depths greater than 18 inches
- Ditch cleaning or grading

To request a line location, you can call 811, visit okie811.org, or download the app in the Apple App Store or Google store.



New business listings

Guymon

O-Daddy's

Susie Qs LLC

580.338.6313

580.468.4468



PTCI sponsors OPSU Doc Gardner Memorial Rodeo All-Around Cowboy Saddle

Bryce Eck of Fort Scott Community College was the 2024 champion. PTCI's Terry Green and Shelbie Rose, Oklahoma Panhandle State University Assistant Rodeo Coach, presented Bryce with his new saddle. Congratulations, Bryce!

Crooks use Caller ID spoofing to wear "mask" of a local number

One of the best ways to avoid phone scams has traditionally been to not answer calls from numbers that you do not recognize on your Caller ID. But crooks have a sneaky way around this. With Caller ID spoofing, they're able to make it appear as if their calls are coming from a local phone number. They hide behind the "mask" of a legitimate phone number to increase the likelihood that you'll pick up the phone.

How does it work? Caller ID spoofing providers allow individuals and organizations to dictate what phone number they want to appear when they place calls. They pay for a certain number of call minutes, then use an online interface to enter their phone number, the number to be called, and the number they want to appear in the recipient's Caller ID. The Caller ID spoofing service then makes the call on the spoofer's behalf.

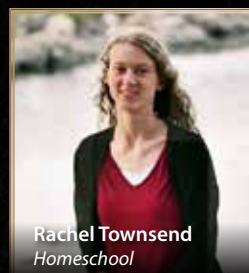
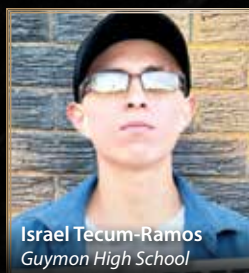
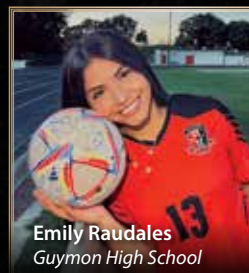
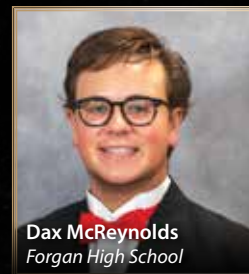
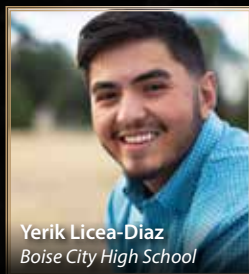
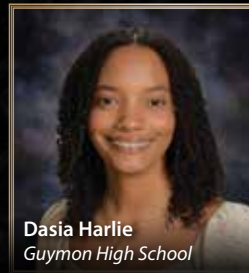
The goal of this scam is to try and get you to reveal personal information such as account numbers, passwords, and Social Security numbers. To avoid becoming a victim of Caller ID spoofing, take the following precautions:

- Never give out personal information over the phone, such as account numbers, unless you initiate the call.
- If you receive a call requesting information, ask for the name of the organization that is calling. Then, call that organization, using the phone number on your bill or statement — NOT the number on your Caller ID. If the call is legitimate, you'll be transferred to the appropriate department. If it's not legitimate, you can inform the organization of the spoofing incident.

To learn more about Caller ID spoofing, visit www.fcc.gov/spoofing.

Congratulations to the 2024 recipients of PTCI's \$1,000 Scholarship!

Each year PTCI awards \$25,000 in scholarships. \$1,000 will be given to local high school seniors to attend college or trade school. Eleven high schools are represented by PTCI Scholarships.



PTCI's 70th Annual Meeting



Almost 1,000 members and guests attended PTCI's 2024 Annual Meeting, held on Thursday, April 18. Hunny's served a delicious barbeque meal before the meeting. PTCI's CEO, Jana Wallace, updated attendees about the cooperative's status. Marketing Manager, Elizabeth Brown, presented \$5,000 in cash prizes to winning members. PTCI also gave door prizes to all members who attended the meeting.

Creating a strong password

Cybersecurity experts have been telling us for years what not to use for passwords, yet "123456" and "password" are still frequently used. In late 2023, password manager NordPass published its fifth annual list of the 200 most common passwords — and there are some repeat offenders from previous years.

The password manager evaluated 4.3 terabytes of data related to cybersecurity incidents and the top 10 passwords are truly lacking in originality:

1. 123456
2. admin
3. 12345678
4. 123456789
5. 1234
6. 12345
7. password
8. 123
9. Aa123456
10. 1234567890

People clearly like to use simple numerical passwords; seven of the top 10 passwords are comprised solely of numbers.

Are you using any of the passwords above? If so, consider this a friendly reminder to change your passwords now to make them stronger and less likely to be guessed by hackers. While we know the passwords on this list are easy to remember, this convenience is not worth paying the price of becoming an identity theft victim. According to NordPass's findings, all of these passwords took less than a second to crack.

To create a strong password, follow these tips:

- Use passwords with 12 characters or more that include uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols.
- Don't use recognizable strings of letters or numbers.
- Don't use a single word.
- Avoid using the same password over and over again on different websites.

You may also want to consider signing up for a password manager service to make using many different (and complicated) passwords less cumbersome.

Word search for Streaming

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.



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|---------------|-----------|
| DISNEY | PARAMOUNT |
| ENTERTAINMENT | PEACOCK |
| ESPN | POPCORN |
| HULU | ROKU |
| MOVIE | SHOWS |
| NETFLIX | STREAM |

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Gene Reynolds of Beaver, Don White of Hooker, and Vonda Kaye Tapp of Felt are the lucky winners of our puzzle drawing. Our winners will receive a \$20 PTCI bill credit. Congratulations!





PTCI community event calendar

- July 4 Laverne Parade
- July 4 Train rides at Thompson Park
- July 9 Beaver Free Swim
- July 15 Hooker Free Swim
- July 18 Texas County Childrens Health & Resource Fair
- July 22 Texhoma Free Swim
- July 30 Boise City Free Swim
- Aug 23-24 Beaver County Fair

A reminder of our policies regarding customer information

Under Federal Communication Commission (FCC) rules, telephone companies like PTCI are responsible for maintaining the security and confidentiality of Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI). Please remember that we follow the policies below when discussing CPNI with our customers:

- When opening a new account with PTCI, you must show a photo ID to prove your identity.
- We can only discuss account information with people authorized by the account owner.
- For some routine customer service issues, CPNI can be addressed if you have the bill or call detail information you wish to discuss.
- When you call with account questions, we must authenticate you by requesting your pre-established password, calling you back at a telephone number provided by PTCI, or sending the information to your street or email address of record.

Keeping your information secure is extremely important to PTCI. If you have any questions or want clarification on these policies, please call 580.338.2556.

Let PTCI handle 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 enables your business to increase operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness while you focus on your business, not on technology. We 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

PTCI PROTECT Endpoint Device Security runs in the background, protecting your business from outside forces. The Endpoint Device Security is monitored and maintained by PTCI's expert technicians, providing you with professional, local cybersecurity.

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 580.338.2556 to learn more.



