



OUR TECHNOLOGIES MAKE LIFE EASIER!

**THINK BACK TO YOUR CHILDHOOD. HOW DID YOUR MOTHER GET YOU TO DINNER?
SHE PROBABLY CALLED YOU – MAYBE A SHOUT OUT FROM THE FRONT PORCH.
NOW, FAST FORWARD. HOW ARE MANY TWEENS AND TEENS CALLED TODAY? FOR MANY, THE
ANSWER IS A CALL TO THEIR CELL PHONES.**

Technology has brought us more advances than we could have imagined. Not only can we charge a cell phone in our car, but a new gadget makes it possible to charge three items, neatly tucked in a small case, using one car charger. This can include MP3 players, or even GPS units.

Palmerton Telephone is one of the more traditional communications providers, but that doesn't mean that technology hasn't made awesome advancements in our service. Here are a few services that have enhanced our service (and although it may seem like they've been around forever, most of us probably still remember party lines!).

CONVENIENCE

Voice Mail with Unified Messaging

Not only is it amazing that someone can leave a recorded message, but the fact that it can be retrieved through an e-mail is astounding!

Deluxe Caller ID with Call Waiting

Decide whether to take a second incoming call while on another. Maybe it's the school, a doctor's office or work – Deluxe Caller ID will show the name and telephone number of the incoming call.

TIME SAVINGS

***69**

Even our customers who prefer not to subscribe to Caller ID can identify a missed call.

Repeat Call

Have a friend who still uses dial-up Internet? How about someone with a teenager in the house? If a called number is busy, Repeat Call with continue dialing for up to 30 minutes to signal when the called number becomes available.

Call Forward No Answer and Selective Call Forwarding

Perfect for anyone on the go! Never miss an important call!

Speed Dial 30

Talk about easy: Speed Dial 30 dials your preprogrammed most-used numbers in just two digits.

Call Waiting

Spend a lot of time on the phone? Call Waiting makes it easy to answer someone trying to reach you who would otherwise receive a busy signal.

Three-Way Calling

Some decisions are just too important to wait and with Three Way Calling, a three-way conversation can create an instant meeting.

DSL

Broadband speeds to travel a world of information, and with Unleashed Wi-Fi, it's available on the go! Never before have we been so connected to the entire world.

PRIVACY PROTECTION

Per Line Blocking

In the age of identity theft, personal privacy has never been so important. The ability to block your name and number from appearing on another person's Caller ID Unit is a great tool.

Call Trace

In the event of life-threatening, obscene or harassing calls, this service can be a tremendous help to law enforcement.

Selective Call Rejection

Who doesn't love the ability to block callers from a predetermined list of numbers?

Selective Call Acceptance

The option of accepting calls from a select list is perfect for anyone who values their privacy or works alternate shifts and needs to sleep during the day.

**COULD ANY OF THESE SERVICES MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER? IF SO,
CALL US TODAY AT (610)826-6650.**

Phone Numbers

Customer Service
610-826-6650

Business Office
610-826-2115

Repair Service
610-826-3444

Gilbert Office
610-826-9321

*Palmerton Telephone
Company continues
to engineer and
advance technology
for tomorrow while
providing reliability
and quality service
that Pennsylvanians
count on today.*

SERVING THIS AREA SINCE 1900

465 Delaware Avenue • Palmerton, PA 18071 • www.ptelco.com

From the Manager's Desk...

Do you know that Palmerton Telephone has been serving the area since 1900?

THERE ARE NO STOCKINGS IN AFGHANISTAN

I recently received an appeal from an organization I support, the USO, with this statement at its heading. It went on to ask for funding so that the USO could provide some holiday cheer for those serving overseas. While it's tough for our armed services personnel to be away from home during a major holiday season, it's doubly hard for them to be in a place that doesn't even recognize those holidays. This makes contact with the folks back home extremely important for them.

A few months ago I wrote about the son of a friend who was deployed to Afghanistan and how the unit he was serving with was supported by the local group Operation Touch of Home. He recently returned from that far-away place and came home on leave to visit his parents. I heard firsthand accounts from him about what it meant to him and his fellow Marines just to get soup, hot chocolate and candy from home. Things we can just walk into a store and buy without a second thought became precious to these men who were fighting for us.

If you know of someone serving overseas, please take the time to send a package to that person. If you act today, with priority mail, it's not too late for them to get your packages before the holidays. If you don't know anyone in particular who is currently serving, I urge you to contact Operation Touch of Home. You can contact them via e-mail at touchofhome@hotmail.com, or by phone at 570 977-1724 to find out how you can help. Contributions can be sent to: Operation Touch of Home, P.O. Box 162, Brodheadsville, Pa. 18322.

Best wishes to you and yours for a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year from all of us here at Palmerton Telephone Company.

Sincerely,

Tom Lager

General Manager
Palmerton Telephone Company

15 MOST VISITED WEBSITES IN THE UNITED STATES

According to Alexa.com, a web information company, as of September 22, 2009, the top 15 visited websites in the United States are:

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|--|--|
| 1. Google (google.com) | 9. eBay (ebay.com) |
| 2. Yahoo! (yahoo.com) | 10. Microsoft Network (msn.com) |
| 3. Facebook (facebook.com) | 11. Blogger.com (blogger.com) |
| 4. YouTube (youtube.com) | 12. Twitter (twitter.com) |
| 5. Myspace (myspace.com) | 13. Amazon.com (amazon.com) |
| 6. Wikipedia (wikipedia.org) | 14. AOL (aol.com) |
| 7. Windows Live (live.com) | 15. Go (go.com) |
| 8. Craigslist.org (craigslist.org) | |

What site do you visit the most? If you haven't already, add our website to your favorites. Visit us at www.ptelco.com for everything telephone related, including an online listing of our telephone book!

Apple Crisps

Ingredients:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| > 4 cups sliced apples | > 1 cup white sugar |
| > 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon | > 1/2 cup butter |
| > 1/2 cup water | > 3/4 cup all-purpose flour |

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease an 8x8 inch baking dish.
- Place apples in prepared dish. Sprinkle with cinnamon. Pour water over all. In a bowl, cream together sugar and butter. Blend in flour. Sprinkle mixture evenly over apples.
- Bake in preheated oven 30 to 40 minutes, until apples are tender and crust is golden.

Recipe Dec09

HACKERS AND SPYWARE AND VIRUSES: OH MY!

DON'T PUT THESE ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST!

WHAT'S ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST THIS YEAR? MAYBE YOU'D LIKE A COMPUTER, AN MP3 PLAYER, A CAMERA?

NO MATTER WHAT YOU HAVE IN MIND, NONE OF US WILL ASK FOR A MALICIOUS INTRUDER ON OUR COMPUTER, BUT ONE THING'S FOR SURE – IF SANTA DID DELIVER THEM (OF COURSE HE DOESN'T), HE'D NEVER RUN OUT!

To avoid an attack on your computer, it's best to understand what these threats entail and what precautions are necessary.

A **hacker** is someone who attempts to access a network or computer without permission.

A **virus** is a code that is implanted in a computer program, intended to cause damage or shut down a system or network. It can cause permanent damage to your most important computer files.

Spyware is software designed to take partial or full control of a computer, without the knowledge of the user.

Bots are software or devices that can execute commands, reply to messages or perform tasks with little or no human intervention. For example, a bot could send your personal information from the computer to an outside source without your knowledge.

Phishing is a term used to describe a scam that attempts to obtain personal information, often to be used for identity theft. The phishers impersonate legitimate companies, such as Internet Service Providers, financial institutions and other respected organizations, and ask for passwords, login names or social security numbers. Don't take the bait! No credible organization will ever ask you for sensitive or personal details in an e-mail. In addition, never click on the link provided in a

questionable e-mail. It may contain a virus that can contaminate your computer. Instead, if you believe the contact is legitimate, go to the company's Web site by typing in the site address directly or using a page you have previously bookmarked.

What should you do to protect your computer and personal files from these intruders?

- > When surfing the Internet, beware of the "rough neighborhoods"; that is, sites with questionable content. Visiting them can make you more vulnerable to becoming a victim of these crimes. Participating in Internet Relay Chats (chat rooms) can also put you at risk.
- > Never give personal information to an unconfirmed source.
- > Keep your computer's security systems patched.
- > Block unsolicited inbound traffic at your firewall.
- > Install and run up-to-date virus and spyware protection.

Additional information from PenTeleData is available online at: www.ptd.net/security_tips.

Still confused? If you would like personal assistance with protecting your computer, consider PenTeleData's Computer Patrol. Visit them online at www.ptdpatrol.com or call **1.877.610.9090**.

*Do you know that
Palmerston Telephone
copper wires, connected
end to end, circle the
earth 4 times at the
equator?*

THE IMPORTANCE OF A CORRECT TELEPHONE NUMBER (AND HOW TO FIND SANTA!)

The North American Aerospace Defense Council (NORAD) is a very busy place, especially at this time of year, and it all began with a wrong telephone number. According to their website, here's what happened:

On Dec. 24, 1955, a call was made to the Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD) Operations Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. However, this call was not from the president or a general. It was from a girl in Colorado Springs who was following the directions in an advertisement printed in the local paper – she wanted to know the whereabouts of Santa Claus.

The ad said "Hey, Kiddies! Call me direct and be sure and dial the correct number." However, the number was printed incorrectly in the advertisement and rang into the CONAD operations center.

On duty that night was Col. Harry Shoup, who has come to be known as the "Santa Colonel." Col. Shoup received numerous calls that night and rather than hanging up, he had his operators find the location of Santa Claus and reported it to every child who called.

Thus began a tradition carried on by the North American Aerospace Defense Command when it was formed in 1958. Today, through satellite systems, high-powered radars and jet fighters, NORAD tracks Santa Claus as he makes his Yuletide journey around the world.

Every Christmas Eve, several hundred volunteers staff telephone hotlines and computers to answer calls and e-mails from children (and adults) from around the world. Live updates are provided on the NORAD Tracks Santa Web Site (in six languages); over telephone lines and by e-mail to keep curious children and their families informed about where Santa really is and if it's time to get to bed.

This year's official NORAD Santa Tracker website is www.noradsanta.org. Happy Holidays!

Brain Teaser October 2009 Winner!

**Congratulations to
Joy Engler of
Kunkletown, Pa.
Joy was the
winner of a \$25 Gift
Card to Roadies
Restaurant and Bar
at Penn's Peak in Jim
Thorpe, Pa.**

*I begin and end with
the letter 'e', I have
eight letters, but just
one letter within me.*

Answer: envelope

Fun Facts

The # symbol is often referred to as a "number sign" or "pound sign." Its actual name is an octothorpe.

In a first-of-its-kind business arrangement, Visa International signed a \$3 million deal in 1993 to become the official credit card of Atlanta, the host city of the 1996 Summer Olympics.

The birthstone for May, the emerald, is perceived as a symbol of success. Even more than the diamond, this jewel has been a favorite of emperors and kings.

During the heating months of winter, the relative humidity of the average American home is only 13 percent, nearly twice as dry as the Sahara Desert.

The highest mountain on Earth, Mount Everest, reaches only about halfway through the lowest layer of the troposphere.

A 15-pound turkey typically has about 70% white meat and 30% dark meat.

The White House receives approximately 6,000 visitors a day and has 6 floors (two are basements), 132 rooms, 32 bathrooms, 147 windows, 412 doors, 12 chimneys, 3 elevators, and 7 staircases. It takes 570 gallons of white paint to cover the outside.

The bow used by Olympic archers measures a maximum of 6 feet for men, 5¼ feet for women. It is made of laminated wood, and is coated with graphite or fiberglass.

When glass breaks, the cracks move faster than 3,000 miles per hour. To photograph the event, a camera must shoot at a millionth of a second.

The Statue of Liberty's index finger is 8 feet long, and it displays a fingernail measuring 13 by 10 inches.

The raven is the first bird mentioned in the Bible. It was sent out by Noah to see if the waters had abated.

Val-YOU Package

By now, you've probably heard of our bundle plan, the **Val-YOU Package**. If you're like some of our customers, you've compared the features and benefits to the ones offered by your cell phone provider. It's true, the costs may be similar – but they are definitely not the same!

With the **Val-YOU Package**, there's no tracking minutes. Calls within the continental United States are included in the package price, so there's no reason to worry about overage charges. That's right; the minutes are unlimited regardless of the time of day!

The call quality is incomparable. Unless you have a low quality cordless phone, when was the last time your landline phone echoed or dropped a call? It just doesn't happen. At Palmerton Telephone, we believe that communication is essential, so the reliability and quality of a call should never be compromised.

We're on, even when the power is out! Unlike some providers, Palmerton Telephone provides the power to make a call directly through the phone line. We have plans in place for outages, including batteries, standby generators and mobile units. That means no back-up batteries to worry about (which typically last only a few hours – a power outage can last much longer). If you do rely exclusively on a cordless phone, keep a wired phone handy for emergencies. That way, if the power does go out, you can simply switch the jack from one phone to the other.

Since the **Val-YOU Package** bundles all of our most requested features, including **unlimited local and long distance calling within the Continental United States**, 3-Way Calling, Touchtone Service, Call Forwarding, Repeat Call, Call Waiting, Voice Mail, Return Call Service, Caller ID Deluxe and Speed Dial 30 for just \$39.99 a month (plus applicable surcharges and taxes), it's a perfect combination of value and reliability.

As an added bonus, **Val-YOU Package** Customers who have or choose to add Platinum or Platinum Plus DSL will automatically save \$10 per month on their high-speed broadband Internet connection.

TO MAKE THIS GREAT DEAL EVEN BETTER, SIGN UP DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER AND WE'LL WAIVE THE SET-UP FEE! FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL US TODAY AT 610.826.6650.

Can you beat this **BRAIN TEASER?**

Palmerton Telephone is giving away a \$25 Gift Card to Roadies Restaurant and Bar at Penn's Peak in Jim Thorpe, Pa.

To enter, e-mail the correct answer to ptelco@ptd.net or send a 3" x 5" index card to 465 Delaware Ave. Palmerton, PA 18071. Please include your name, address, daytime telephone number (to call only if you win), and the Brain Teaser answer. All entries must be received by **12/20/09**.

Good Luck!
Palmerton Telephone



Brain Teaser

If you threw a white hat with a blue ribbon into the Red Sea, what would it become?