



## MOVIE PIRATES

### (AND WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT JOHNNY DEPP!)

**"MOVIES! GET YOUR MOVIES HERE!"**

If you've ever seen a sidewalk vendor selling VHS tapes or DVDs for \$5 or found a reproduction of a movie on the Internet, then you're familiar with movie piracy. In fact, it's a rampant and profitable business.

Piracy takes many forms. Sometimes it's the unauthorized reproduction of a copyrighted book, sometimes it's software, or even a recording, television program or patented invention. No matter what the form, it's illegal.

How does this affect you as a Palmerton Telephone DSL customer, and what can you do about it?

First, be aware that it's theft—no matter what reasoning you may hear. A popular argument is that actors and actresses, especially the most popular ones, have enough money and don't deserve to make more. Just watch the credits—those hundreds of names across the screen have contributed their time and talents and all need to make a living too. The same theory applies to other art, books, and other media.

In addition, piracy is often involved with organized crime. That's right, some of the same groups that profit from drug trafficking, prostitution and counterfeiting also make money from this copyright infringement. It's a large scale problem and a task that takes many in the chain of command to complete. One recent media story explained that the distributors of these materials are often blindfolded and taken to secret locations to obtain their supply.

One way to avoid unintentionally purchasing counterfeit or pirated material is to shop at a retail location or visit websites you trust (which is also important since another downside of pirated materials is the high-risk of viruses, spyware and other problems). It's true that some groups or individuals will hide a camcorder or other device to record while inside the movie theater, but the once murky and muffled reproductions have been replaced with new technology that keeps hackers one step ahead of security experts. Using peer-to-peer and file sharing programs like BitTorrent, transferring large amounts of data can be easily organized and shared with others, with quality that is better than ever, but that doesn't make it legal.

Please remember that any taking of any copyrighted or pirated material is a crime. Evidence such as a watermark that producers use to decipher one movie theater from another or tracking a computer user's IP address make it possible to trace and prosecute anyone who participates.



## Happy New Year!

**THANK YOU FOR RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH PALMERTON TELEPHONE!  
WE'RE PROUD TO HAVE YOU AS OUR CUSTOMER AND WE WISH YOU A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS 2010.**

**WHAT ARE YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS? OURS ARE THE SAME AS ALWAYS. WE PLEDGE TO  
ENGINEER AND ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY FOR TOMORROW WHILE PROVIDING RELIABILITY AND QUALITY  
SERVICE THAT OUR CUSTOMERS COUNT ON TODAY.**

SERVING THIS AREA SINCE 1900

465 Delaware Avenue • Palmerton, PA 18071 • [www.ptelco.com](http://www.ptelco.com)

### 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.*

## From the Manager's Desk...

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

Hello and welcome to the new decade. If you count, as some do, the year 2000 as the beginning of the century, then we've just completed ten years. If you don't start counting until 2001 starts, then it's only nine years and I can use this column over again next year.

Hey, we're still here! I thought everything mechanical and electrical was supposed to stop working at midnight December 31, 1999 and we were all going to get wiped out by a comet or something equally nasty. I remember that New Year's eve well. We had made all the preparations recommended by our equipment vendors and filed our reports with the FCC and PUC to ease their minds that we had taken precautions. Since midnight came in Asia and Europe before here and since our major vendor had equipment working on those continents, they had a website that tracked the progress of the new millennium and updated us on how their equipment was faring. (Yes kiddies, we did have the Internet ten years ago.) Nothing broke! Everything kept working! A lot of doomsayers had egg on their faces the next morning.

Just to be on the safe side, I came in to the office a little before midnight and made some test calls after the big ball dropped. I got to wish the folks at the various emergency communications centers and some connecting offices, as well as our operator on duty, a Happy New Year, then went home to bed.

The next "doomsday" is just around the corner, December 21, 2012. The TV documentary folks are already making a big deal out of that one. Personally, I think they've peaked too early. It's almost two years away. They've already managed to scare the pants off the gullible ones so I guess they'll use the next two years to convince the rest of us. Anyway, best wishes for a safe and prosperous 2010.

Sincerely,

*Tom Lager*

General Manager  
Palmerton Telephone Company

## COMING SOON: COMPUTER PATROL STORE

There's construction going on at 524 Delaware Avenue in Palmerton. By now you've probably heard a few rumors about what future may bring to the space. Here's the official answer: a Computer Patrol store.

Computer Patrol is PenTeleData's team of dedicated professionals who help homes and businesses with computer and networking solutions, including custom-built PCs. That's right – Computer Patrol is an official reseller for Dell and Hewlett Packard, and will offer the convenience of buying these well-recognized and respected brands right here in Palmerton!

### Slow Cooker Spare Ribs

#### Ingredients:

- > 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed tomato soup
- > 1 onion, chopped
- > 3 cloves garlic, minced
- > 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- > 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- > 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- > 2 pounds pork spareribs
- > 1 teaspoon cornstarch (optional)
- > 1/4 cup cold water (optional)

#### Directions:

1. Place ribs in a large stock pot, and cover with water. Bring to a boil, and cook for 15 minutes.
2. In a mixing bowl, mix together soup, onion, garlic, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, and soy sauce. Remove ribs from water, and transfer to a slow cooker. Pour sauce over ribs.
3. Cover, and cook on Low for 6 to 8 hours, or until ribs are tender.

If sauce is too thin when cooking time is done, drain sauce from ribs, and pour into a sauce pan. Combine 1 teaspoon cornstarch with a small amount of cold water, stir into sauce, and bring sauce to boil. Cook until sauce has reached desired thickness.

Recipe January 2010

# PERSONAL EMERGENCY ALERT

## HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF PALMERTON TELEPHONE'S PERSONAL EMERGENCY ALERT?

You or your loved one can maintain or regain the independence many of us take for granted. Anyone recovering from injury or with a permanent disability can benefit from this 24-Hour a day Emergency Response Service – even in the shower!

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

An Alarm Unit, installed by our specially trained technicians, connects to a telephone jack (preferably a special alarm jack). The user wears a waterproof alarm sender, either in the form of a wristwatch or a pendant, which summons help with the press of a button. **Our local operators**, not someone in another state or country, are able to talk and hear the caller through the communicator console - typically up to a range of 250 feet away. They can find out what help is needed, and will **notify up to four predetermined contacts**, including 911. **These can be family, friends, emergency personnel or caregivers---you decide!** The unit also has power failure and power restore options, as well as an inactivity alarm.

**Don't wait until something happens, subscribe to genuine peace of mind. In addition to the Palmerston Telephone service area, if someone you know lives in Walnutport, Slatington, Lehighton, Parryville, Weissport, Kresgeville, Saylorburg or Effort and could benefit from Personal Emergency Alert, please tell them about our service!**

This exceptional service is as low as \$17.95 per month.  
For more information, please call our Business Office at (610)826-6650.

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

## 1966 HIGH-TECH WONDER LEADS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET AND PHYSICIST'S NOBEL PRIZE

By now you've probably heard of fiber optics, the fibers that are as thin as hair and can transmit light signals over long distances at very high rates. After all, it's the technology used for Internet, television and telephone service.

Charles K. Kao's 1966 discovery of the lightening fast transmission through miles of glass without having the glass itself absorb the signal recently won him a Nobel Prize. His high-tech wonder changed

the world of information. Today, fiber optics are responsible for Palmerston Telephone's phone and DSL services and much of the voice, video and high-speed data around the world.

What will today's inventions mean to us 40 years in our future? Who knows: maybe we'll be taking an elevator to the moon!

## THE VALUE OF LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE

**LOCAL TELEPHONE PROVIDERS, LIKE PALMERTON TELEPHONE, ARE REQUIRED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION TO OFFER BASIC TELEPHONE SERVICE TO ITS CUSTOMERS. WE WORK ESPECIALLY HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR 'BASIC' SERVICE IS MORE THAN ITS TITLE IMPLIES.**

For example, our enhanced telephone service for single party customers (otherwise known as basic service) includes touch tone, Repeat Call, 30 Number Speed Dialing, Three-Way Calling, Call Waiting, and Variable Call Forwarding. In addition, each Palmerston Telephone exchange has a fantastic local calling area. (Do you know that customers within the 826 exchange can call Lehighton at no additional charge, but Lehighton customers must pay to call a 610-826 exchange?)

Another benefit is the security of 9-1-1 service. Not all wireless, cable and Internet phone companies are equipped to automatically provide emergency responders a callback number and location. Palmerston Telephone does.

Last, but certainly not least, we have plans in place for outages and problems, because telephone reliability is important for everyone. Some companies don't have 24/7 plans for maintenance, repair and outages.

What does all this mean? Simply put, thank you for choosing Palmerston Telephone. With us, you can feel safe knowing that our services are reliable and affordable.

## Brain Teaser November 2009 Winner!

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

Every year in November, despite how many feathers I have ruffled, I receive a Presidential pardon. What am I?

*Answer: a Turkey*

### Fun Facts

Most roofs in the Washington, D.C. area are designed to withstand at least 15 to 20 pounds of snow per square foot.

At birth, baby kangaroos are only about an inch long — no bigger than a large waterbug or a queen bee.

PEANUTS has appeared in some 2,600 newspapers in 75 countries and has been translated into 21 languages. United Feature Syndicate started the strip in syndication on October 2, 1950. Snoopy first appeared on October 4, 1950.

A violin contains about 70 separate pieces of wood.

The first stethoscope, invented in 1816, was made from a roll of paper.

Ten percent of frequent fliers say they never check their luggage when flying.

Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, weighs over twice as much as all of the other known planets combined.

Brazil is a land with a lot of big creatures — it is home to the world's largest snake (the anaconda, measuring up to 35 feet in length), largest spider, largest rodent (the capybara, a sort of guinea pig the size of a police dog), and the world's largest ant.

Onions are usually eaten in such small amounts that they make very little difference nutritionally, but the most nutritious ones are scallions, with four times the vitamin C and 5,000 times the vitamin A as other onions. If you enjoy eating onions by the pound, one pound has about 175 calories.

The plastic covering on the end of a shoelace is called an "aglet".

The largest movie theater in the world, Radio City Music Hall in New York City, opened in December, 1932. It originally had 5,945 seats.

### Caller ID

**Caller ID:** It's freedom from answering unwanted telephone calls. Caller ID allows you to see who is calling, before you pick up the phone. No more surprise interruptions, or running to answer because you are afraid of what you will miss.

Perhaps you have a family member who needs extra care, or children who are involved with after-school activities. Maybe you have a friend or relative out of the area. You can know when they tried to call you — whether you are at home or not. Even if the caller chooses not to leave a message, you will see the number and the time of their call on the history of your Caller ID display.

Not only can you see the telephone number of incoming calls, but you can also block your own information on outgoing calls. This valuable feature is beneficial for all households, but is especially important for occupations requiring calls made from home, where personal privacy is a safety concern, including doctors, lawyers, teachers, public officials and law enforcement. This service is available via two methods: per call blocking and line blocking. It is not necessary to order per-call blocking service, you simply enter \*67 (or 1167 on a rotary phone) to block Caller ID information from being displayed for that call only. Line blocking service, ordered through our Customer Service, blocks your Caller ID information for all outgoing calls except those to 911 and to 800, 888, or 900 numbers.

**THIS MONTH, WE ARE OFFERING NEW CALLER ID CUSTOMERS FREE INSTALLATION, A FREE CALLER ID DISPLAY UNIT, AND THREE FREE MONTHS OF SERVICE WITH A ONE YEAR AGREEMENT. TO SIGN UP, CALL US TODAY AT (610)826-6650! OFFER ENDS JANUARY 31, 2010.**

### Have You Been Thinking about Palmerton Telephone DSL?

If you've been considering high-speed Internet from Palmerton Telephone, stay tuned for our February newsletter. We'll be offering our best DSL deal ever!

### 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](mailto: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 **1/20/10**.

**Good Luck!**  
**Palmerton Telephone**



### Brain Teaser

If you divide 14 by 1/2,  
what do you get?