



WE LIVE IN AMAZING TIMES

It's true. Technology is advancing at a faster rate than ever seen before.

Many people have fond (or adventurous) memories of learning to drive and their first time getting lost. There was no cell phone to call for directions, and no GPS. One had to stop and ask for help, or navigate to familiar territory. Those days are gone.

Throughout time, people have used a variety of methods to determine their position on Earth, and to navigate from one place to another, including measurements to celestial bodies like the sun and stars. The development of artificial satellites made the transmission of radionavigation signals possible, and sparked a reliable and two-dimensional navy system called Transit. This laid the foundation that would revolutionize navigation – the Global Positioning System. GPS is a satellite constellation that can indicate location in three dimensions, based on the distance from the user position to four GPS satellites as they orbit. It was originally developed in the early 1960s by the United States Department of Defense to meet military requirements, including weapon delivery and accurate navigation. Even before it became operational, GPS was adapted to the civilian world. By the time the GPS constellation neared completion, in the early 1990s, manufacturers were aware of its capabilities. During Operation Desert Storm, a conflict in the Persian Gulf, there were a limited number of military receivers. The Department of Defense relied on Trimble Navigation and Magellan Systems to manufacture emergency supplies. The success of the technology and news coverage of the conflict serviced as free publicity for these companies, and civilian use became widespread.

Today, GPS is commonplace in new cars, and an easy addition to an older car. The days of large

paper maps and routing a trip have been replaced by an easy to use touch screen that details directions to a destination.

Technology advancements also change the concept of time. In 1927, when Charles Lindbergh made the first solo airplane trip across the Atlantic Ocean, it was considered a "Godlike act". Now, less than a century later, aviation and air travel have had a profound impact on American life. Trips that once took days, weeks or months, sometimes on foot, now take only a few hours. Still, delays at the airport or trips with the absence of wireless Internet on the plane are seen by most as major inconveniences, when in reality, the entire concept is pretty amazing – actually sitting on a chair in the sky!

Speaking of convenience, using a credit card machine once meant the business owner dragging out a large block of a contraption to copy the plastic card's imprinted numbers, and as one comedian explains it, "a call to the president" to make sure that money was available. Today, ATM and credit card use is commonplace, a tribute to the growth of the Internet.

Internet was originally conceived in the 1960s for the United States military, to allow a community of computers to share information over a distance. Its development was spurred for both research purposes and military applications. By the 1990s, Internet was widely available, first through a dial-up modem and later with high-speed cable access. Its evolution quickly changed many things, including research opportunities, social networking, shopping, work from home opportunities and more.

A perfect example of the awesome networking possibilities, other than online dating, is the opportunity available to students preparing for college. Social networking sites, such as

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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?

DADS

Last month this column was about mothers, as it was the month when we celebrate motherhood. In June we remember that other parent, fathers. While mothers are usually with their children more and the things they do for them are more readily observable, fathers are working behind the scenes providing the wherewithal needed for life's necessities. There are those in today's society who would have us believe that, after conception, fathers are unnecessary and that the family unit itself is outmoded. If good fathers are a rarity, I was lucky to have one of the best.

As I noted last month, I was raised in the 1950's and things were somewhat different than they are today. When I was little, Dad had a job as an appliance service man for Sears. It was a good job for the era and he thought it would be his career for life. Fate dealt him a blow when the Lehighon Sears store closed in 1955 leaving him unemployed. Dad scraped together some money, bought his specialized tools for appliance repair and supplemented the family income

by moonlighting repairing major and small appliances. Over the next decade he worked various day jobs, finally landing a position as a letter carrier, the job from which he would retire some twenty years later.

During the years Dad did side jobs fixing washers, etc, I was his "apprentice". If my homework was done, I got to go along with him on evening service calls. It was our "male bonding" experience and it had a great effect on my future. It piqued my interest in things electrical and mechanical and led me into the career I have today.

Every child needs two loving parents. In my case it was one to nurture and one to inspire. Thanks Dad and Happy Fathers' Day in Heaven.

Sincerely,

Tom Lager

General Manager
Palmerton Telephone Company

Recipe June 09

Hot 'n' Spicy Buffalo Chicken Salad

Ingredients:

- > 1/4 cup crumbled blue cheese
- > 1/2 cup Ranch-style salad dressing
- > 3 large skinless, boneless chicken breast halves - cut into 1 inch cubes
- > salt and pepper
- > 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- > 2 tablespoons butter
- > 1/4 cup Louisiana-style hot sauce
- > 1 tablespoon salad seasoning mix (such as McCormick® Salad Supreme Seasoning)
- > 2 heads romaine lettuce, chopped

Directions:

1. In a small bowl, combine crumbled blue cheese and Ranch-style dressing; set aside. Season cubed chicken with salt and pepper.
2. Heat a large skillet over high heat, and pour in the vegetable oil. Just before the oil starts to smoke, add the chicken. Cook to brown evenly, about 3 minutes. Reduce heat to low, and add butter, hot sauce, and salad seasoning mix. Simmer until chicken is cooked through, about 5 minutes.
3. Toss together the lettuce and Ranch-style dressing mixture in a large bowl. Top salad with chicken, and serve.

YOU DON'T EVER HAVE TO MISS AN IMPORTANT TELEPHONE CALL!



Are you going on vacation this summer? Does your job take you from one place to another? Do you need to visit the store, but are waiting for a call from your doctor's office? With Call Forwarding, you can leave home without worrying about missing important telephone calls. It allows you to forward all calls to an alternate phone number, whether it is a cellular phone, work phone, or any other number where you'll have access to calls. Only those calls will be rerouted to your "forward to" number. All others will ring at your home phone as usual.

When the number of the caller you wish to forward is within the Palmerton Telephone network, you can activate Selective Call Forwarding from your home telephone, using the instructions below. If your "forward to" number is outside the Palmerton Telephone network, simply call our Business Office at (610)826-6650, and we'll set up the forwarding for you!

To Activate Call Forwarding, dial *72 (Rotary dial 1172) and listen for dial tone. Dial the number you want the calls forwarded. Wait for a connection with that number to be made, and keep the connection for six seconds. If the number is busy, or there is no answer, hang up and repeat the steps again. When

you hear two short tones, call forwarding service is active.

To Deactivate Call Forwarding, dial *73 (Rotary dial 1173) and listen for two short beeps and a dial tone. If you hear the beeps and dial tone, Call Forwarding has been cancelled.

To Activate Selective Call Forwarding, dial *63 (Rotary dial 1163). Listen for an announcement telling you whether the feature is currently stored in your forward list. Follow the voice instructions and dial 3 to turn the feature ON (if it is currently off) or turn the feature OFF (if it is currently on).

Please note, toll charges apply when you forward calls to a number outside your local calling area.

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

WE LIVE IN AMAZING TIMES *(continued)*

Facebook and MySpace, allow students to meet hundreds of their classmates, prior to arriving on campus. Instead of wondering who they will meet, or being anonymously assigned to a dorm, bonds of friendship can be formed from all over the country, without face to face contact.

Telephone service has also made great strides – it's more reliable than ever. Palmerton Telephone offers 99.999% uptime of service, due to crews on standby 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year for fast emergency response. We have redundancy plans in place for outages, including batteries, standby generators and mobile units. The power for most standard telephones is supplied over your telephone line. If you 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.

In addition, within the last few years, bundled packages have made it more affordable than ever to make long distance calls. Our Val-You Package offers 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, all for the low monthly price of just \$39.99 (plus applicable taxes and surcharges). As an added bonus, Val-YOU Package Customers who have or choose to add Platinum or Platinum Plus DSL automatically save \$10 per month on their high-speed broadband Internet connection.

One can only guess what technology will offer in the next few years, but one thing is certain: we live in amazing times!

Brain Teaser April 2009 Winner!

Congratulations to Margaret Shupp of Palmerton, Pa. Margaret was the winner of a \$25 Gift Card to Roadies Restaurant and Bar at Penn's Peak in Jim Thorpe, Pa.

If a rooster is perched on the top of a barn with the barn roof sloping east and west, and just as the sun rises the rooster lays an egg, on which side of the barn will the egg roll?

Answer: Neither (Roosters don't lay eggs)

Fun Facts

From birth to adolescence, selected bones in the human body fuse together. The last bone to fuse is the collarbone, and this occurs between the ages of 18 and 25.

The average minimal speed of birds in order to remain aloft in flight is reported to be about 16½ feet per second, or about 11 miles per hour.

Twenty-four-karat gold is not pure gold; there is a small amount of copper in it. Absolutely pure gold is so soft that it can be molded with the hands.

The whale has the slowest metabolism of all animals. Despite its great size, it lives on one of the smallest of all creatures: the microscopic plankton, found throughout the sea.

The only house in England that the Queen may not enter is The House of Commons, as she is not a commoner. She is also the only person in England who does not need a license plate on her vehicle.

While reading a page of print, the eyes do not move continually across the page. They move in a series of jumps, called "fixations," from one clump of words to the next.

The yo-yo is the second oldest known toy in the world (only the doll is older), and was born over 3,000 years ago in the days of ancient Greece.

Elvis Presley made only one television commercial — an ad for "Southern Maid Doughnuts" that ran in 1954.

Val-YOU Package

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAVE MONEY ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL? WITH OUR VAL-YOU PACKAGE, YOU CAN!

Every residential **Val-YOU Package** customer receives their dial tone telephone line, **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.

Val-YOU Package customers also automatically receive the new, **low international calling rates** offered by Palmerton Long Distance. For example, Mexico is only 9¢ per minute, Canada is only 6¢ per minute and Portugal is only 7¢ per minute! (These rates do not apply to mobile/special services.) A complete list is available at www.pencorsuperstore.com.

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. Palmerton Telephone DSL, Powered by PenTeleData, offers a variety of features, including a dedicated, constant Internet connection, free Spam Tagging, free Unleashed Wi-Fi Hot Spot Access, unlimited access to the Internet, five e-mailboxes with up to 50 MB per mailbox, no busy signals and 24X7 Technical Support!

This exceptional value is just \$39.99 per month, plus applicable taxes and surcharges. To order, simply call our Business Office at (610)826-6650 and ask us to include **YOU** in the **Val-YOU Package**.

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 **6/20/09**.

Good Luck!
Palmerton Telephone



Brain Teaser

A woman has six daughters and they each have a brother. How many children does she have?