

Customer Connection | September 2023

From the Manager's Desk

Dear Valued Customer,

With school starting, we thought it is important to talk about cyberbullying and possible signs your child is experiencing it.

Cyberbullying is a reality all parents must face. You might be surprised to learn more than 59% of US teenagers claim they've experienced online bullying or harassment. More than half is way too many. Preventing it takes vigilance, awareness, and knowledge. Here are the facts so you can better protect the ones you love.

Cyberbullying is the targeted sending, posting, or sharing of harmful, falsified, and malicious content about someone else. It includes sharing personal or private information for the sake of embarrassment or humiliation.

There are certain warning signs cyberbullying experts say you should look out for:

- Unexpectedly stops using their device(s).
- Appears nervous or jumpy when using their device(s).
- Becomes uneasy about going to school or outside in general.
- Appears angry, depressed, or frustrated after going online (including gaming).
- Avoids discussions about what they are doing online.
- Desires to spend much more time with parents rather than peers.
- Becomes unusually secretive, especially when it comes to online activities.

The most common places where cyberbullying occurs are:

- Social Media, such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Tik Tok.
- Text messaging and messaging apps on mobile or tablet devices.
- Instant messaging, direct messaging, and online chatting over the internet.
- Online forums, chat rooms, and message boards, such as Reddit.
- Email messages.
- Online gaming communities.

We strive to make the internet - and all of our services - safe for your family to enjoy. If you have questions about our products or services, please don't hesitate to reach out to us for more information at 610-826-6650, visit our website at www.ptelco.com or stop in.

Best Regards,

Tim Hausman

General Manager, Palmerton Telephone Company

Community Calendar

If you'd like to see what's happening to benefit the non-profit groups in our area, visit our Community Events Calendar at www.ptelco.com. Just select 'Menu', then 'Community Calendar'.



Phone Feature of the Month:

Caller ID Blocking

When you make a call, the person you are calling may see your telephone number and/or name on a Caller ID display unit. If you would like to block the display of this information, you have two free blocking options: per call blocking and line blocking.

There is no charge for per call blocking. Line blocking is also free. There is only a charge if you remove and reconnect it.

You do not need to order per call blocking; you do need to order line blocking. Display of your telephone number on calls to 911 and to 800, 888 and 900 services cannot be blocked.

To use Per-Call Blocking dial *67 (Tone) or 1167 (Rotary) before placing each call. The code to turn off Per-Line Blocking is the same as the one to use Per-Call Blocking, *67 or 1167.

For more information, call us at (610) 826-6650.





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Product of the Month

LIVE ANSWER

Live Answer is Palmerton Telephone's business answering service. No recorded message or voicemails. Our LOCAL, friendly operators are available 24/7 and 365 days a year to answer your calls whenever you need them to.

LIVE ANSWER - \$40 per month

- Great for small businesses and organizations who get few calls in a month.
- Answer times are flexible and customized to suit your business needs.
- Our local operators will answer calls with your business/organization name and take messages.
- Simply call in to retrieve messages at your convenience.

LIVE ANSWER PRO - \$100 per month

Includes all the features of Live Answer

- Great for larger businesses and organizations who get a large amount of calls in a month.
- Your business determines which calls are required to be forwarded.
- Forward pre-determined calls to a specified contact via phone, email, or email to text.

We answer your calls when you are unable to!

Call us before September 30, 2023 at (610) 826-6650 and receive FREE SETUP!

*Call forwarding service required to subscribe to Live Answer. Other restrictions may apply.

Brain Teaser

Palmerton Telephone is giving away a \$25 Gift Card to Claude's Creamery in Palmerton, PA.

To enter, e-mail the correct answer to jbrixius@brctv.com or send a 3" x5" index card titled "September Brain Teaser" to 613 Third Street, 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 9/20/23. Good Luck!

I have four wings, but cannot fly, I never laugh and never cry; On the same spot I'm always found, toiling away with little sound.

What am I?



Brain Teaser | July 2023 Winner

Congratulations to **Paul Svetik,** of Palmerton, PA. **Paul** was the winner of a \$25 Gift Card to Claude's Creamery in Palmerton, PA.

Question: : I am a box that holds keys without locks, yet they can unlock your soul. What am I?

Answer: A piano

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