

PC Telcom

CONNECTIONS



A Year Gives You 365 Opportunities

Happy New Year from all of us at PC Telcom. We hope 2018 brings you 365 days of learning, growing, exploring, and connecting.

Should any of those days present challenges with communications technology, you're always welcome to contact us for information and advice.

Contact

Holyoke Office:

240 S. Interoccean Avenue • PO Box 387
Holyoke, CO 80734
970-854-2201 • 866-854-2111
Hours: Monday - Friday,
8:00am to 5:00pm

Julesburg Office:

123 Cedar Street
Julesburg, CO 80737
970-474-5002 • 866-854-2111
Hours: Tuesday and Thursday,
9:00am to 1:00pm

For help during non-business hours,
please call 970-854-2201 or 866-854-2111.

Office Closure:

January 1st for New Year's Holiday

Internet Tech Support: 970-854-7500

Toll Free: 866-398-1660

Email: customerservice@pctelcom.coop

Visit Online: www.pctelcom.coop



Would you like to watch more channels than our Local Plus Package provides? PC Telcom is here to help you explore the many streaming options available including:

- **Live TV services** such as DirecTV Now, Sony Play Station Vue, and Sling TV
- **Video-On-Demand services** such as Amazon Prime, Netflix, and Hulu

These and other services are affordable ways to get access to some of your favorite shows via your home's internet connection. **To help you get started with streaming, we'll give you a FREE Roku Express streaming device and set it up for you, when you sign up for our 30 Mbps internet service.***

Call 866-854-2111 now!



*Offer applies to PC Telcom Fiber & Cable Internet customers only and is valid for new 30/5 Mbps customers and current customers that upgrade to 30/5 Mbps. Customer can choose either a FREE Roku Express or a \$30 credit toward a higher end Roku. One device or credit per account. A 12-month agreement is required. Streaming devices require activation and a streaming service (free and/or pay). PC Telcom will assist with device activation and basic streaming service set-up at subscribed customer's premise. Additional cable(s) may be required. Other restrictions apply. Offer expires March 31, 2018.

Notice of Annual Meeting on April 5

Phillips County Telephone Company's 2018 Annual Meeting is right around the corner. Mark your calendars for Thursday, April 5, 2018. A free catered meal will be served in Holyoke High School's old gymnasium at 5:30 pm, followed by the Annual Meeting in the school's auditorium. During the Annual Meeting, children can enjoy watching a movie and snacking on popcorn and juice.

PC Telcom (which consists of Phillips County Telephone Company; PCC, LLC; and PC Telcorp, Inc.) has expanded its footprint over many years and now offers services beyond its original cooperative service area. While the public is welcome to come and enjoy our meal, only members of Phillips County Telephone Company may register to vote on Cooperative matters at our business meeting.

Phillips County Telephone Company's membership will elect two directors during the Annual Meeting—one to fill the position of Rural Director and one to fill the position Urban Director. Our Bylaws currently permit directors to serve four consecutive three-year terms, for a total of 12 consecutive years of service.

Phillips County Telephone Company's Board of Directors will be appointing a Nominating Committee as the date gets closer. Watch your bill messages and our website for details as they become available.

As a Phillips County Telephone Company Cooperative member/shareholder, your opinion is always valued. The Annual Meeting is one of many ways to become involved in your company. Exercise your right as a member and plan to join us on the evening of Thursday, April 5, 2018, at Holyoke High School.



Slow Down and Enjoy Slow Cooking Month

January is officially Slow Cooking Month and the perfect time to take advantage of this convenient kitchen appliance. Spend just a few minutes in the morning throwing ingredients into a slow cooker, and dinner can be waiting when you get home from work or other activities.

Slow cookers offer many benefits. They use less electricity than an oven, and because of the long, low-temperature cooking, they help tenderize less-expensive cuts of meat. Plus, they reduce the amount of cleanup required after the meal. Slow cookers are also versatile—use for soups, stews, side dishes, main dishes, meats, poultry, and desserts. Hungry for ideas? Visit www.crock-pot.com/recipes or search YouTube.

While slow cooking is wonderful, slow downloading can be frustrating. If your home's internet service is no longer fast enough to meet your needs, call us at 970-854-2201 and ask about a speed upgrade.





How and Where to Safely Store Family Heirlooms

Hopefully, you're storing computer files in the cloud to keep them safe. But not everything you want to protect from environmental damage can be stored online. What about the physical objects passed down through generations in your family such as old letters, photographs, newspapers, books, furniture, and clothing?

Experts in conservation stress that temperature, humidity, light, and dust are the most common threats to family heirlooms. Here's how to help prevent damage caused by those four factors:

Temperature Damage

Heirlooms should be stored in rooms where the temperature stays between 65 and 70 degrees. This is why attics, garages, and sheds are not good storage locations in many parts of the country, given the extreme temperature fluctuations between summer and winter months.

Humidity Damage

Ideally, these objects should be kept in an environment with humidity between 45 and 65 percent. But the biggest thing is to avoid major humidity fluctuations. You also want to store things high up off the floor to minimize the chance of water damage and keep the air circulating in the room to avoid mold growth.

Light Damage

Ultraviolet light breaks down the chemicals in the pigmentation in items including photographs, papers, and clothing. This leads to photo degradation, which causes colors to fade. So heirlooms should be exposed to the least amount of light—from the sun, light bulbs, or any source—as possible.

Dust Damage

You may think dust is harmless. Wrong! Dust can hold moisture, which leads to mold. It's acidic, which causes materials to weaken. And bugs like to live in dust. Keep treasured objects protected using acid-free archival supplies and containers. For example, flat paper items should go inside plastic sleeves. Things like books and clothing belong in appropriate containers.

An excellent back-up solution is to use your smartphone and take photos of all your family heirlooms. That way, if the physical objects are ever destroyed by fire or flooding, the images will live forever and can be shared with family members.

Fast Speeds Lead to Winning Results

There are times when you simply need speed to succeed.

World-class athletes competing in luge, bobsleigh, alpine skiing, and speed skating all race against the clock, and moving quickly is also essential to winning performances in other winter sports such as figure skating and ice hockey. While it takes many years of practice to reach the medal podium, the difference between gold, silver, and bronze can come down to mere fractions of a second.

Speed is also vital in busy households, even if you're just a weekend athlete or get most of your exercise running errands. You need a fast internet connection for winning results when you stream movies or TV programs, play online games, or have multiple people using devices simultaneously.

PC Telcom offers affordable internet plans with download speeds up to 1,000 Mbps (1 Gig). Check out all the options at www.pctelcom.coop or call us at 970-854-2201 for help selecting a winning plan for you.



Employees

Vince Kropp
CEO / GM

Bill Thompson
Manager of Plant
Operations

Jessica Cumming
Controller / Office
Manager

Marlin Kumm
Lead Internet /
Broadband
Technician

Steve Beavers
Combination
Technician

Brent Fine
Lead CATV /
Broadband
Technician

Jason Greenman
Cable / Computer
Repair / Broadband
Technician

Dillon Tharp
Combination
Technician

Diana Garfio
Customer Service
Representative

Janet Roberts
Customer Service
Representative

Kim Dickmeyer
Customer Service
Representative

Susanne Drescher
Capital Credits
Representative

Brenda Adams
Accounting
Assistant/
Customer Service
Representative

Michael Cline
Marketing Manager

Broadband is the Backbone for Medical Devices

You've probably heard of the Internet of Things (IoT), which includes items like smart refrigerators and smart thermostats. But did you know there's a subset within this category called the Internet of Medical Things (IoMT)?

The IoMT covers equipment used in a variety of places:

- **On body** – wearable devices, peripherals, and implants
- **In home** – digital and virtual assistants, activity monitors, and home medical devices
- **Within the community** – automated kiosks and emergency response intelligence
- **In clinics and hospitals** – handheld medical devices, care coordination technologies, and patient/personnel flow tools



Board of Directors

Terry Andersen
President –
PCTC - PCC, LLC.
Vice President –
PC Telcorp, Inc.

Jerold Brandt, D.C.
Secretary –
PCTC - PCC, LLC.
President –
PC Telcorp, Inc.

Glenn Huwa
Director –
PCTC - PCC, LLC.

John Schneider
Vice President –
PCTC - PCC, LLC.
Director –
PC Telcorp, Inc.

Deb Williamson
Secretary –
PC Telcorp, Inc.
Director –
PCTC - PCC, LLC.

Vince Kropp
Director –
PC Telcorp, Inc.

PC Telcom Employees Celebrating Anniversaries

Vince Kropp – 33 years
CEO / GM

Jessica Cumming – 12 years
Controller / Office Manager

Marlin Kumm – 22 years
Lead Internet / Broadband Technician

Kim Dickmeyer – 10 years
Customer Service Representative

Broadband has a profound impact on the medical industry by serving as the wired backbone supporting connectivity to the IoMT. Access to broadband is critical for communication between medical devices as more health organizations depend on this technology.

PC Telcom is working toward a healthier tomorrow by providing broadband internet service in Phillips and Sedgwick counties.

January 28 is Data Privacy Day

Given the frequency and magnitude of identity theft, it's vitally important to do what you can to protect your personal information. January 28 is designated as Data Privacy Day, which serves as an excellent reminder to stay vigilant.

The National Cyber Security Alliance offers these tips to help manage your privacy:

- **Secure your devices:** Use strong passwords, passcodes, or touch ID features to lock your devices. These security measures can help protect your information if your devices are lost or stolen and keep prying eyes out.
- **Think before you app:** Information about you, such as the games you like to play, your contacts list, where you shop and your location, has value—just like money. Be thoughtful about who gets that information and how it's collected through apps.
- **Stay up to date:** Make sure your security software, web browser, and operating system are updated regularly, which is the best defense against viruses, malware, and other online threats.

You can learn more at staysafeonline.org.

