

# THE NetworkGuy

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## A Note about CAPTCHA

CAPTCHA security challenges enable websites to distinguish between humans and bots by asking visitors to type in characters to select correct objects in an image. It's an **extremely useful tool when used correctly**. Unfortunately, scammers can use fake CAPTCHA to distribute malware, so it's important to pause before automatically responding. Be cautious of CAPTCHA pages that appear on unexpected websites or in applications, especially if they have extra verification steps. If anything on the CAPTCHA page seems out of place or unusual, it is best to avoid interacting with it. A legitimate CAPTCHA will never ask you to install software, enter passwords, download a file, or run a script.



I'm not a robot



reCAPTCHA  
Privacy - Terms

## The Network Guy Quiz Challenge

PenTeleData is giving one lucky winner a \$150 Amazon Gift Card. Just visit [www.ptd.net/quiz-challenge](http://www.ptd.net/quiz-challenge) by **February 28, 2026** to answer the contest question. We will select a winner at random from all correct entries. **Good Luck!**

Click the Quiz Challenge link and select what is NOT true about CAPTCHA.



## Learn from The Network Guy

**What are LLMs?**

**The Network Guy:**

**Large language models (LLMs)** are a category of deep learning models trained on immense amounts of data. They are the first Artificial Intelligence (AI) system that can manage unstructured human language at scale, allowing for natural communications with machines. These underlying technologies recognize how words are used and which words frequently appear together, so they can predict future words, sentences, or paragraphs. LLMs, once trained, can adapt to many applications that involve interpreting text, like summarizing an article, debugging code, or drafting a legal clause. LLMs are easily accessible to the public through interfaces like Anthropic's Claude, Open AI's ChatGPT, Microsoft's Copilot, Meta's Llama models, and Google's Gemini assistant.

## Things That Make You Go Hmm...

When Alec Guinness agreed to play Obi-Wan Kenobi in Star Wars: A New Hope, he wasn't particularly excited about the project. The role would ultimately earn him close to \$100 million during his lifetime.

During World War II, Boeing built a large fake neighborhood on top of its factory in Seattle to hide it from possible Japanese air attacks.

Before the 1980s, many airports used to make a lot of their money from full-service restaurants that were built inside of them to attract locals (not travelers).

Red Lobster's famous Cheddar Bay Biscuits didn't exist when the restaurant first opened. They were introduced in 1992 as a simple snack to serve hungry guests while they waited for a table.

Bugs Bunny, one of the most iconic cartoon characters of all time, was actually inspired in part by Clark Gable's performance in the 1934 film *It Happened One Night*.

The US version of *The Office* was almost canceled after its first season due to low ratings and mixed reviews.

## THE NetworkGuy



*"When you decide not to be afraid, you can find friends in super unexpected places."*

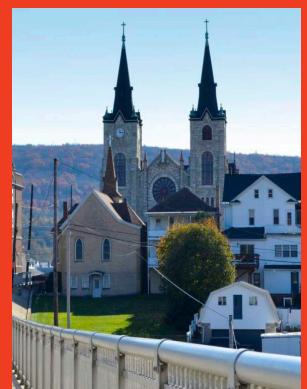
- Ms. Marvel

## PenTeleData is Proud to Serve Mount Carmel, PA

Mount Carmel in Northumberland County, PA, is rich in underground deposits of anthracite coal. The borough was not incorporated until 1862, however, its beginnings may be traced to earlier times. The area inspired settlement due to an abundance of natural flowing springs and the discovery of coal in the 1840s. In 1847, a group of land speculators, whose primary interest was the coal trade, purchased the tract of land now comprising Mount Carmel. Not surprisingly, there were many judges and political figures from Mount Carmel who served in both Northumberland and Schuylkill Counties. This group organized a land company and within a few years had the tract surveyed and a town plot laid out. They soon began selling lots and the town, as it is today, based on the plot developed by this group in 1853.

Coal mining began in the late 1840s and continues on a smaller scale to this day. In 1891, nine coal mining operations were located in the vicinity. Three railroads, Pennsylvania, Lehigh Valley and Reading, passed through the community linking it to the great urban centers of the East and the West. Coal was shipped in both directions as the nation became dependent on coal for both industrial and domestic uses until the boom ended in the early 1950s.

Mount Carmel and the region were part of the development of the incandescent three-wire electrical system. Thomas Edison maintained one of his facilities in Mount Carmel and conducted experiments in the region. Mount Carmel was one of the first communities in the world to have electricity.



Today, Mount Carmel businesses offer a wide variety of ethnic foods, including soups, kielbasa, babka, pierogies, Paska breads, and many other Old-World dishes and baked goods. Its proximity also lends to a variety of outdoor recreation, namely Weiser State Forest and Knoebels Amusement Resort.

Each year, a crowd of thousands gather in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania on February 2nd to await a special forecast from a groundhog named Phil. According to legend, if the groundhog emerges and sees his shadow, we can expect six more weeks of winter weather. But, if Phil doesn't see his shadow, we can expect warmer temperatures and the arrival of early spring.

The first official Groundhog Day celebration in Punxsutawney took place on February 2, 1887, at a site called Gobbler's Knob. The annual ritual has roots in pre-Christian traditions and was brought to the U.S. by German immigrants. The first Groundhog Day was the idea of a local newspaper editor, Clymer Freas, who sold a group of businessmen and groundhog hunters, known as the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, on the idea of celebrating the German lore.

Today, the yearly festivities in Punxsutawney are presided over by a band of local dignitaries known as the Inner Circle. Its members wear top hats and conduct the official proceedings in the Pennsylvania Dutch dialect and supposedly speak to the groundhog in "Groundhogese."

## Tech Myth Buster

### MYTH:

The more RAM, the faster your computer always runs.

### FACT:

That statement isn't always true. More RAM helps speed up your computer only if you're running out of it. Beyond a certain point, extra RAM doesn't boost speed unless you're running heavy tasks like video editing.

## FROM GERMAN LORE TO GOBBLER'S KNOB: WHEN WILL WE SEE SPRING?

