

THE NetworkGuy

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What's In Your Inbox?

Email provides a convenient and powerful communications tool. Unfortunately, it can also provide scammers with an easy way to contact potential victims. The best way to protect yourself from this fraud is to understand what they look like, how they work, and what you can do to avoid them.

Some of the most common email scams include:

BOGUS BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES “Work only hours a week,” “Be your own boss,” “Set your own hours,” and “Work from home.” These scams promise the opportunity to make a great deal of money with very little effort.

HEALTH AND DIET SCAMS Health and diet scams prey on the insecurities some people have about the state of their wellbeing.

DISCOUNT SOFTWARE OFFERS These scams frequently consist of advertisements for cheap versions of commercial software. The discounts offered may be hard to believe, and with good reason: the scammers either do not deliver the promised software at all, or provide illegal, pirated versions of preloaded malicious software.

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The Network Guy Quiz Challenge

PenTeleData is giving one lucky winner a \$150 Amazon Gift Card. Just visit www.ptd.net/quiz-challenge by **May 31, 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 and choose which options are common types of email scams.

Learn from The Network Guy

Does Artificial Intelligence (AI) use my Personally Identifiable Information (PII)?

The Network Guy:

PII, or Personally Identifiable Information, refers to any data that can be used to identify a specific individual, either directly or indirectly. This can include a wide range of information, from obvious identifiers like name and Social Security number to more subtle details that, when combined, could lead to identification.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and PII (Personally Identifiable Information) are closely intertwined, presenting both opportunities and challenges. AI models often process PII to provide personalized services, recommendations, and automated assistance. Whether it's for shopping or web searches, AI has many benefits. Still, this reliance on PII means that it's important to understand the privacy concerns and AI's inherent risk of data breaches.

AI systems may collect PII from various sources, such as user input, third-party data, and online activity. If PII is not properly protected, it can be used for identity theft, fraud, spam, extortion, cyberbullying, or cyberstalking. It's important that this information is managed appropriately during all stages: when it's created, when it's accessed, when it is shared with other parties, and when it's no longer needed. Remember that everything you do online creates a digital footprint, so set your expectations and privacy settings accordingly.



Things That Make You Go Hmmm...

NASA's Artemis II crew has set a record for the farthest distance traveled by a crewed spacecraft. The crew of four, including Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch and Jeremy Hansen, reached a peak distance of 252,756 miles from Earth during their 10-day mission. This surpasses the previous record of 248,655 miles set by the crew of the Apollo 13 in 1970.

The United States' space budget is far and away the largest on earth. With 62 billion dollars of expenditure on its space programs last year, U.S. government spending outweighed that of all other governments combined (\$41 billion).

According to NASA, the most distant human-made object is Voyager 1. Launched in 1977, it was approximately 15.78 billion miles from Earth as of April 7. Its twin, Voyager 2, was about 13.27 billion miles away. Both spacecraft are now traveling through interstellar space beyond the solar system.

To put these distances into perspective, even relatively nearby objects in our solar system are far away. Mars, Earth's neighboring planet, is some 249 million miles away, depending on its orbital position. In comparison, the Earth's moon is about 245,007 miles from Earth.

Unlike his successors, George Washington never actually campaigned to be president: He was simply chosen by the popular demand of the electoral college. This happened for both his first and second terms in office, with the elections of 1789 and 1792. He was also the only president ever to unanimously receive all electoral votes.

PenTeleData is Proud to Serve Center Valley, PA

Center Valley is a community located in the central part of Upper Saucon Township in Lehigh County. It's not a distinct municipality, so its addresses, police, and government services are provided by Upper Saucon Township. Center Valley has a high-end shopping center, Promenade Saucon Valley. Area students attend Southern Lehigh School District, and two college campuses also call Center Valley home: DeSales University and Penn State Lehigh Valley.

The earliest European settlers arrived in the region over a 20-year period beginning in 1732 and were primarily of German, English and Welsh descent. In 1743 these immigrants formally organized the Township. Agriculture formed the basis of the Township's economy for most of its history. Wheat, rye, oats, corn, potatoes, clover, timothy, fruits and garden vegetables were some of the Township's early agricultural products. Access to trading and selling these products was provided by the precursor to Route 309, which rested in the same general location as the present highway and extended from Allentown to Philadelphia.

The Village of Center Valley formed the principle gathering spot for the Township and evolved as a linear community initially focused on the intersection of present-day Routes 309 and 378. By 1848, the village consisted of only a general store, hotel and a 60-acre farm. Construction of the North Pennsylvania Railroad through the Township in 1856 brought improved transportation and expanded access to urban markets. The rail line established its Center Valley Station on the east side of the Saucon Creek about a quarter of a mile east of the village nucleus. Center Valley continued to grow and by 1862 boasted not only a store and hotel, but also a post office, blacksmith shop, and shoemaker, along with several dwellings.

The Center Valley Station became an important shipping point for agricultural products from surrounding farms. The community around the station was at one point locally known as "Milk Town" because of the large quantity of milk that was shipped out of the area. According to the Bucks County Historical Society, two and one half million gallons of milk were shipped annually to the Philadelphia area via the railroad.

Today, Center Valley is a Lehigh Valley hub located just one mile north of Coopersburg and offers something for everyone, from shopping to vineyards and mini golf.

Tech Myth Buster

MYTH:

AI can fully replace human creativity.

FACT:

Although AI can assist with tasks like writing or design, it lacks human intuition, emotion, and context for truly original creativity.

OUR HOMETOWN OF PALMERTON: PROUDLY POWERING AMERICA'S NEXT CHAPTER

There is no time like the present, America's 250th Anniversary, to spotlight our corporate hometown of Palmerton and its significance in the role of our country's history. PenTeleData is honored to be part of America's enduring spirit and is connecting America's future.

Learn all about it from our newest video spot at www.penteledata.net/spots

What's In Your Inbox? (continued)

SOCIAL ENGINEERING/PHISHING EMAILS Social engineering is a strategy for obtaining information people wouldn't normally divulge by preying on their natural curiosity and/or willingness to trust. These emails attempt to fool you into visiting a fraud web site to either download malware or reveal sensitive personal information.

VIRUS-GENERATED EMAILS Note that, in some cases, a familiar sender does not ensure safety: Many viruses spread by first searching for all email addresses on an infected computer and then sending themselves to these addresses.