

Thank You for Buying Local

Each time you choose to make a purchase from a local business, it helps strengthen our local economy. According to the American Independent Business Alliance, every dollar spent at independent businesses returns three times more money to the community than a dollar spent at a chain (and almost 50 times more than a dollar spent at an online mega-retailer).



Peoples appreciates your support and encourages you to buy local whenever possible.

Peoples Telecommunications, LLC
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CEO/General Manager – Kathy Billinger

Office Hours

Monday-Friday • Lobby: 8 am to 4 pm
Drive-up Window: 7:30 am to 4 pm

Office Closures

• February 20 – Presidents' Day

24/7 Internet and TV Help

(866) 681-2085

Trouble Line Phone Service Only

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Home Automation Has Turned Science Fiction Into Reality

Remember the TV show, *The Jetsons*, featuring a futuristic family with all kinds of automated gadgets? Thanks to today's home automation, we can enjoy some of that convenience today.

Home automation refers to technology that lets you program things in your home to function automatically or control them remotely with the push of a button or a voice command. The possibilities in home automation are varied and growing all the time. Popular categories now include:

- Home control hubs
- Drapery control
- Lighting control
- Pool/spa management
- Thermostat control
- Door access
- Leak detection
- Home theater control
- Customer-monitored cameras
- Motion detection
- Door and window sensors
- Appliance control
- Smoke sensors

A big benefit of this technology is simply making your life a little easier. For example, a motion detector might sense you stepping out of bed in the morning, and then the automated coffee maker reacts to that information and starts brewing so your coffee will be ready when you get out of the shower.



Other benefits of home automation include cost savings through better management of your home's energy use and enhanced safety and security. An automated thermostat might turn the heat down when it detects you've left for the day, then back on when it thinks you're on your way back. A surveillance camera can let you know who is at the front door and let you talk to the visitor from your smartphone miles away.

The best way to begin with home automation may be to keep it simple. Think about what items you regularly turn on and off or adjust; these are often the best candidates for home automation.

Home automation devices put additional demands on your Internet connection. To discuss upgrading to a plan with higher speeds, call Peoples at (913) 757-2500.

Fight Back and Take Control of Unwanted Calls and Mail

Your time is valuable. So if you're tired of answering annoying telemarketer calls or having to safely dispose of credit card mailings, take action today by visiting the websites below.



National Do Not Call Registry www.donotcall.gov

The National Do Not Call Registry gives you a choice about whether to receive telemarketing calls at home. Most telemarketers should not call your number once it has been on the registry for 31 days. If they do, you can file a complaint at this website. The service is free and you can register up to three phone numbers (landline or mobile) in the online form.

Consumer Credit Reporting Industry www.optoutprescreen.com

Credit card offers may help you compare interest rates and get good deals, but they can also be stolen by identity thieves from your mailbox. For security reasons, these mailings should be shredded before being thrown away, which can be time-consuming. OptOutPrescreen.com is a centralized service to accept and process requests from consumers to opt-out of these credit card offers. It's a joint venture among the Consumer Credit Reporting Companies of Equifax, Experian, Innovis, and TransUnion.

Peoples PC SALES & REPAIR

Nathan Schrock,
In-house Technician

Monday-Friday, 8 am to 4 pm
(913) 757-2500

3 Tech Resolutions to Make in 2017

Don't forget about technology when making resolutions. It could save you tons of time and trouble in the coming year.

1. I will back up my data. Consider the vast amount of personal data (some of it irreplaceable) stored on your devices. What happens to these files if someone steals your laptop, your hard drive fails, or there's a nasty virus? It's imperative to back up your data regularly, either through an external hard drive or cloud storage.

2. I will keep my software and operating system updated. Software makers continually update their programs to fix problems or add more functionality. If you have the option for "automatic" updates—in software such as your operating system, Internet security programs, and Web browser—click to accept this feature.

3. I will fight back against spam. You can greatly reduce the amount of spam you receive by employing a combination of strategies. Check your email or webmail program to see what your options are for junk mail filters, and bump up your filters so they keep more spam out of your inbox.

Cold-Weather Care for Your Mobile Devices

Mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets, don't like cold weather. When a lithium-ion battery is exposed to cold temperatures, it can drain faster than normal or indicate it has ample power remaining and then suddenly go dead. Low temperatures can also make a device's glass surfaces more sensitive to cracks and breaks, especially if there's already a nick.

Here's what to do:

- To keep your device from getting too cold, don't leave it alone for long in frigid places such as a parked car. It's best to stash it inside pockets closest to your person, where it can absorb some of your body heat.
- In the event your device does shut down, do not restart it until you're inside and have given it time to warm up. Restarting immediately could actually cause more harm and shorten your battery life.
- Cases also help to keep devices warm. You may want to consider the cases designed to regulate a phone's temperature in extreme weather.

To learn more, consult the manufacturer's website.



Beginner's Guide to Streaming Movies and TV Shows

If you haven't yet jumped on the streaming bandwagon, this article is for you! It covers the basics to help you get started enjoying this entertainment technology.

What is streaming?

Streaming is content sent in compressed form in a continuous stream over the Internet and played as it arrives. The user does not have to wait to download a file to play it.



What devices are needed?

You can watch streaming movies and TV shows on your smartphone, tablet, laptop, desktop computer, HDTV, or "smart TV." For example, you could connect your laptop to your HDTV with an HDMI cable and stream on your laptop and watch on the TV screen. If you have a "smart TV," it has built-in apps (and app stores) and networking to get on the Internet. You can use them to download most of the streaming apps you'd want.

What streaming apps are available?

You have many options here, too. Here are a few of the most popular ones:

- **Netflix** – You can watch past seasons of TV shows and recent movies at a low monthly cost. Netflix also offers original shows such as *Orange is the New Black* and *House of Cards*.
- **Amazon** – This streaming service is available to Amazon Prime members. Like Netflix, it offers many TV shows and movies to choose from as well as its own original content.
- **Hulu Plus** - You can get next-day access to shows from ABC, NBC, Fox, and CW, along with some cable channels. Hulu Plus also offers some movies and original TV shows.
- **Sling TV** – Sling TV offers about 20 channels in its basic package including ESPN, ABC Family, AMC, and Food Network but no broadcast channels like CBS or NBC. Add-on packages for sports, movies, kids, lifestyles, and world news are also available.
- **HBO Now** – New episodes are available through apps about the same time they are shown on TV. Current and past seasons of most HBO shows are available on demand, as well as hundreds of movies.

What are the Internet requirements?

For a good streaming experience, you'll probably want Internet download speeds of 20 Mbps or more.

Call (913) 757-2500 or visit www.peoplestelecom.net for details on the Internet speeds we have available.

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Find the Tablet Contest

Find this issue's tablet. Then, call (913) 757-2500 with the correct page, article and paragraph by close of business on February 16, to be included in the drawing to win a \$25 bill credit on your next bill!



Find the tablet and call now!

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NOW GET THE FASTEST!

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Current Resident

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Community Calendar
February
8 - LaCygne Chamber Meeting
March
8 - LaCygne Chamber Meeting
20-24 - Prairie View Spring Break
April
12 - LaCygne Chamber Meeting
15 - LaCygne Easter Egg Hunt

PO Box 450
LaCygne, KS 66040

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