

# FAST CONNECTIONS

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## Dear Valued Customer,

It's finally May! All of us at PenTeleData are looking forward to the warmer weather and upcoming community events. It's likely a busy time for your company too. If your business is expanding, we can help. Are your current data connections enough to meet your needs? Are your voice services a bit outdated? Do you need the support of PenTeleData's I.T. Services team? If so, give us a call!

Thank you for your business and continued support.

**Jaime Mendes**  
Vice-President of Operations  
PenTeleData

## PENTELEDATA IS PROUD TO SERVE MAHANROY CITY

**Mahanoy City (pronounced MAHA-noy) is a borough located in northern Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. It is located entirely within but is not part of Mahanoy Township. The name "Mahanoy" is believed to be a variation of the Native American word "Mag-honioy," or "the salt deposits."**

The borough's principal industries remain the mining and shipping of coal, although the demand for it has steadily declined since its peak in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The St. Nicholas Breaker was located just outside of Mahanoy City, constructed in 1931 and began operating in 1932. Half of the village of Suffolk was relocated in order to create room for the largest coal breaker in the world. Twenty miles of railroad track were laid, 3,800 tons of steel and more than 10,000 cubic yards of concrete were used. A mile and a half of conveyor lines, twenty-five miles of conduit, 26,241 square feet of rubber belting, 118 miles of wire and cable and twenty miles of pipe were installed. When they constructed the breaker, they split it into two sides and each side could be operated independently, producing 12,500 tons of coal a day. The coal, once dumped, took just 12 minutes to pass through the entire breaker. The breaker was destroyed with a controlled explosion in March 2018.

In 1948, Mahanoy City became the first municipality in the country to have cable television. The founder of PenTeleData partner Service Electric, John Walson Sr., was born in Forrest City, Pennsylvania in March 1915 and graduated from Mahanoy Township High School. After high school, he left for Chicago to attend Loyola University with intentions of becoming a physician, but later rekindled his adolescent interest with electricity and abandoned his medical school education. Instead, he chose to become an engineering student at the nearby Coyne Electrical School. This led to his early career as a line serviceman for Pennsylvania Power and Light.

His love of electronics led Mr. Walson and his wife, Margaret, to obtain a General Electric franchise, selling appliances in Mahanoy City. Soon after, Mr. Walson began selling television sets. Unfortunately, it was difficult, even impossible, to receive the three Philadelphia network stations in Mahanoy City because the town is surrounded by mountains and is located some eighty-six air miles away.

*(continued on page 2)*

## OUR FAST CONTEST

**NASA's Parker Solar Probe is the fastest man-made object ever. This craft reaches what speed as it continues around the sun?**

One lucky winner will receive a \$150 Amazon gift card. Rack your brain and figure out the answer to the brain teaser. Then send us an e-mail with your full name, address, daytime telephone number (where we can contact you), and the answer to the brain teaser below, to [chat@corp.ptd.net](mailto:chat@corp.ptd.net) All entries must be received by 5/31/24.

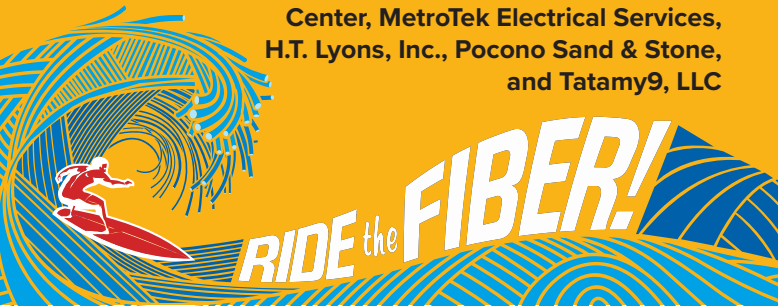
**Good Luck! PenTeleData**

# FAST CONNECTIONS

## WELCOME ABOARD!

We appreciate the opportunity to serve companies who have chosen to ride PenTeleData's Fiber Network.

Welcome aboard to:  
**Tunkhannock Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, MetroTek Electrical Services, H.T. Lyons, Inc., Pocono Sand & Stone, and Tatamy9, LLC**



## RAZORS FOR LIFE AND BUSINESS

In philosophy, a razor is a general rule of thumb that helps us to simplify our thinking by "shaving off" unlikely explanations or avoid unnecessary actions. A philosophical razor is not an unbreakable law or rule, it is not always right 100% of the time, but is therefore a useful mental shortcut that allows you to make decisions and solve problems quicker and easier. Here are a few examples:

**The Feynman Razor:** Understanding is different from knowing. Knowing means reciting but understanding goes deeper. Simplify a concept as much as possible. If you can convey the point that way, you understand. Knowledge=Experience.

**Occam's Razor:** The simplest explanation is usually the best one. Avoid unnecessary complexities when making decisions. If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck, it's probably a duck. Not a goose disguised as a duck that infiltrated the flock.

**Pareto Principle (80/20 Rule):** Focus on the 20% of inputs that yield 80% of the results. Prioritize tasks and activities accordingly.

**The Dunning-Kruger Effect:** Incompetent individuals tend to overestimate their own abilities. Be aware of your limitations and seek feedback from others.

**Confirmation Bias:** People tend to favor information that confirms their existing beliefs. Actively seek out alternative viewpoints and challenge your own assumptions.

**The Halo Effect:** Our overall impression of a person influences how we perceive their specific traits. Avoid snap judgments and consider individual qualities separately.

**The Law of Diminishing Returns:** After a certain point, the additional input or effort put into something yields progressively smaller results.

## I.T. CORNER



### Cyber Security 101: Protect Your Systems

It's important to be proactive about protecting your business from cyberattacks:

- > Keep software applications and operating systems up to date.
- > Create strong passwords and use multi-level authentication.
- > Watch out for suspicious activity that asks you to do something right away, offers something that sounds too good to be true or needs your personal information.
- > Use antivirus solutions, malware, and firewalls to block threats.
- > Back up your files regularly in an encrypted file or encrypted file storage device.
- > Use multifactor authentication (MFA). It's a critical defensive tool in your fight against criminal access to your systems.

*Any large company that depends on Internet-based infrastructure should also consider cloud-based DDoS mitigation to prevent the devastation caused by hackers or cybercriminals.*

For more information about DDoS mitigation, visit <https://www.penteledata.net/products/cloud-based-ddos-mitigation>

## PROUD TO SERVE THE MAHANAY CITY (CONT.)

Because of this situation, Mr. Walson erected an antenna tower on top of a nearby mountain so he could take his customers to that location and demonstrate his television receivers. In searching for ways to increase his sales in 1947, Mr. Walson decided to purchase some heavy-duty twin-lead army surplus wire and ran the wire on trees from a nearby mountain to his appliance warehouse. Eventually, the line was extended to Mr. Walson's appliance store, and several homes along the way were connected to the community antenna system. This began the cable industry in America.

The Mahanoy Area School District was not always one school. At one time there were three schools: the Mahanoy City School, the Mahanoy Township school, and the Gilberton High School. Two schools were located in Mahanoy City and had their own sports teams. The three schools eventually merged into one school to become the Mahanoy Area School District. This year, their basketball team won the Schuylkill League and PIAA District 11 Class AA Boys' Basketball Championships beginning their season with 29 straight wins. Congratulations Golden Bears!

