

Plugging into York County via the Web

Discover York's constantly growing online resources

By
Sara Viener



There are some common misconceptions about York. One that we hear often from outsiders and residents alike is, "York is behind the times". While most small towns struggle to keep up with technology, I think some investigation would prove that York is well on its way to becoming an Internet savvy community.

In this issue we would like to focus on some key York County sites that benefit all of us. I think you will be surprised at the abundance of information that is currently online. The following sites are a good start, and more sites can be found listed on the Cyberia Web site (<http://www.cyberia.com/local.htm>).

Both the City of York (<http://www.yorkcity.org/>) and York County (<http://www.york-county.org/>) are online with valuable information that was not easily accessible in the past. The City site, in particular, covers a range of topics including tax information, the Memorial ice rink, Police and Fire department sites, sewer rates, and a calendar of downtown events.

Both the City and County have recognized the power of the Internet and are moving to improve communication with residents. The Mayor is even rumored to have his very own email address!

The York Chamber (<http://www.york-chamber.com/>) and its related site, (<http://www.yorkonline.org/>) are excellent sites focusing on the local business community. The Chamber site hosts a list of all Chamber members with their email and Web sites addresses. The Yorkonline.org site features a list of business events happening on a daily basis. For a listing of other events around town you can take a look at (<http://www.1st.org/>) or (<http://www.hereswhatsup.com/>).

Are you planning to take the family out to see a flick or looking for the perfect "date" movie? Make York Movies (<http://www.yorkmovies.com/>) your first stop. Not only does this site list showtimes for

most of the local movie theaters, but it also provides links to reviews, movie trailers, future

releases, this week's top grossing films, and much more. Film buffs will appreciate the smorgasbord of information laid out for the taking.

The York Daily Record (<http://www.ydr.com/>) is your stop for local news

information on the Web. Daily headlines and news articles will keep you current on local information. The Daily Record site includes a host of valuable sub-sections. Some of these are a School Finder site to help you find information on local schools, Sports Sites providing news and information on local teams, a Live site dedicated to the famous band from York, a searchable database of past articles, TV listings, and more.

Many local organizations are making a mad dash to the Internet, helping us to be more informed and encouraging us to take part in our communities. Keep an eye on our "local sites" page and don't be surprised if this "behind the times" community out paces some of the larger, lumbering cities as we race through the information age.

Sara Viener (sara@cyberia.com) is a partner at Cyberia and heads the Human Resources Department. She is also involved with Web site design and new venture development.

Inside...

[York's 250th Anniversary Commision turns to the Web](#)

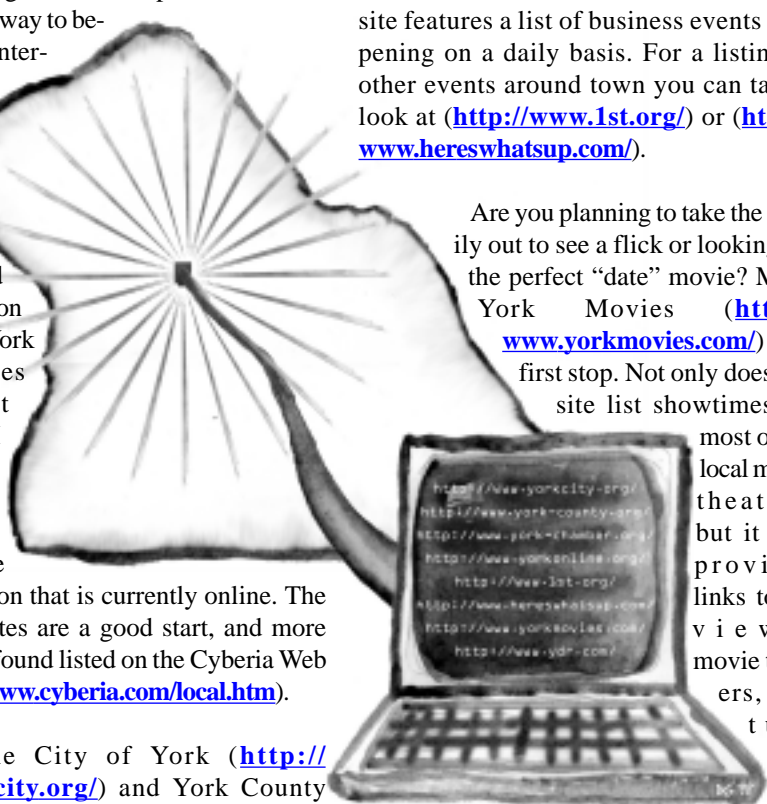
- Page 2

[Cyberia releases updated Internet software package](#)

- Page 3

[Chat with your AOL friends without switching to AOL](#)

- Page 4



From the desk of Adam Viener



I want to apologize for the slight delay of this quarter's @cyberia.com newsletter. We wanted to use the newsletter as an opportunity to send you the new 4.0 version of our Cyberia Internet Tools. The enclosed CD represents a major upgrade of our Internet connection software and I hope you will be as excited about using it as we are about giving it to you. I want to thank those of you who responded to my email inquiry about what Internet tools you were using. We have made every effort to pre-download the latest versions of your favorite tools to this CD so others can try them without having to download them from the Internet.

Although the Internet is global, we often find ourselves looking for local content and information. This issue of @cyberia.com is devoted to the many local Web sites that tell us what's going on in our backyard and make our lives in York so much better. It would be hard to talk about local sites without devoting a portion of the newsletter to the new York250.com site, which we helped develop for the County. We were honored to be chosen as the Web site design team to be responsible for creating and maintaining the 250th anniversary Web site. Be sure to visit <http://www.york250.com/> often to see what's new!

Cyberia celebrated its 5th year of operation in June of 1998. We couldn't have come so far, so fast without the support of each and every one of you. Thank you for your support and please consider the enclosed software our gift to you for helping make Cyberia what it is today.



Adam J. Viener
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Photo by Cisco Adler cisco@pictureperf.com

From being the first capital of the United States to winning the Great American Main Street Award earlier this year, York has had quite a history. To commemorate the city's upcoming 250th anniversary, the York County Commission and various appointed committees are planning a large-scale celebration – including a parade, a tree-planting festival, souvenirs, special features in the York Daily Record capturing York's rich history, and more. An honors choir will also perform at

various events throughout 1999, performing music selected to represent the richness and diversity of York County's heritage.

"What we're doing is connecting the past to the present to look to the future," said Commission member Dan Meckley.

According to Meckley, well over 100 people are involved in the project so far, and the Commission hopes that more will volun-

(continued on back page)

New Web Sites on Cyberia



Columbia Bridal (<http://www.columbiabridal.com/>) *

Check out Columbia Bridal's new Web site, a great source for bridal accessories. Browse through pictures of beautiful, well-crafted bridal headpieces, veils, fabrics and laces. Columbia Bridal offers online ordering for your convenience.



Bennett Williams (<http://www.bennettwilliams.com/>) *

Cyberia recently redesigned Bennett Williams' site with information about their professional agents, central Pennsylvania, and the services they provide. Whether your family is considering a move or your business is looking for a new location the Bennett Williams site will give you the information you need to get started.

* site designed by Cyberia

Ascior, Inc.
Bottomline Gift Shop
Columbia Bridal
Dream Wrights
Fader's Tobacco Stores
International Visibility Users Group
Manchester Township
Poly-Lite Winshield Products - in Spanish!
USA Bowl
Wagman Metal Products

<http://www.ascorinc.com/> *
<http://www.bottomline.net/>
<http://www.columbiabridal.com/> *
<http://www.cyberia.com/dreamwrights/>
<http://www.faderstobac.com/> *
<http://www.ivug.org/>
<http://www.cyberia.com/manchester/>
<http://www.poly-lite.com/> *
<http://www.usabowl.com/>
<http://www.wagmanmetal.com/> *



Q&A

Q: What are modem drivers and when and how should I update them?

A: A modem driver is a piece of software that is responsible for running your modem. Modem driver problems include “the computer you are dialing into is not answering” errors, “you have been disconnected from the computer you dialed” errors, slow connect speeds, and disconnects, to name a few.

With this in mind, the answer to the “when” part of the question is, whenever you are experiencing these types of phenomenon and don’t have any other known explanation for them.

The “how” depends on the modem. Generally, it will go something like this: establish the make and model of the modem, visit a search engine, and search for the make of the modem. Once the modem maker’s home page has been found, look for links like “Support”, “Driver Downloads”, “File Library”, etc. Then look for the link to download the driver for your specific modem and follow the instructions on the site. If you need help with this, please call tech support at 848-1439.

Q: Are cookies worth worrying about?

A: No, they aren’t. Cookies are harmless. The cookie file is a method of storing information about you and customizing the way you see the Web.

Here is a very simple example: Let’s say you visit my Web site. When you get there, you are asked for your favorite color and you say “blue”. The site magically changes to a blue background and writes the fact that your favorite color is blue to a cookie file on your computer. Now let’s say you visit my competitor’s Web site. They want to know your favorite color, too and they know that I am keeping track of it. Can they get it from your cookie file? No! The only Web site that can read a cookie is the site that wrote the cookie. Cookies in no way enable people to manipulate the data on your computer’s hard drive. For example, cookies cannot open Quicken and start sending out checks.

Tech Corner

with John Bliss john@cyberia.com



Cyberia has developed a new and improved software package for your Internet enjoyment. Connecting to the Internet is now automatically a one-step process. The Windows 95/98 software features a control panel to centralize all of your Internet functions. From this control panel, you have easy access to Cyberia news, Cyberia Web sites, Cyberia’s Top 10s, how many email message you have waiting, how long you have been connected, and all of your favorite Internet applications. This control panel is, of course, easily configurable. The CD also contains new Mac and Windows 3.1 versions as well as many of the most popular pieces of software downloaded from the ‘Net every day.

Here are the instructions for upgrading your existing Cyberia Easy Internet Tools and installing the new Win95/98 software package: Place the disc in your CD-ROM drive. An introductory window will appear after a few seconds. Click on Install Software. Read the following window and click Next. The next window will ask you to choose between Typical and Advanced Installations. We recommend Typical for most users and Advanced for users with more Internet experience. Select Typical and click Next and you’ll be shown the Internet Explorer License Agreement. When you’re ready to proceed, click Next.

The next window will ask you where you would like the software to be installed on your hard drive. The default is c:\Program Files\cyberia which is where Cyberia’s old Easy Internet Tools were installed. If you have the old Internet tools installed, we suggest you install the new software in the same folder as the old tools, so that your old tools are upgraded to the new versions. If you don’t have the old tools installed, we still recommend that you install the new tools to c:\Program Files\cyberia so that they are easier for Cyberia’s technicians to find, if you ever need help. Click Next when you are done.

The next windows will ask for your Full Name, User ID, and Password. Type these in the corresponding boxes and click Next. The next window will ask you to select the access number that is local to you. When you’re satisfied, click Finish.

The software will then install itself into the folder that you specified. If you have any questions or concerns during this process, please call Cyberia tech support at 848-1439.

Hot Sites

<http://www.spinner.com/> - The Web’s premier personalized radio, giving you just the music you want, the way you want it using RealAudio streaming technology.

<http://www.tvguide.com/> - It’s a huge entertainment outpost! Users get customized TV listings and soap opera recaps, but also sports wires, a movie database, stock quotes, games and even CD reviews.

@cyberia.com

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<http://www.cyberia.com/newsletters.htm>

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Referral Program Changes

Our customer referral program will be changing starting September 1st. The new program will work like this: every time a new customer signs up and tells us that they have been referred by you or brings in a referral coupon with your name on it, you will be entered in a monthly drawing for various prizes. In September, refer people for your chance to win one full year of Internet access. Also, free t-shirts will be given away to five lucky contestants.

Check our Web site (<http://www.cyberia.com/>) for more details and an updated list of prizes.

York250 (continued from page 2)

teer to help out. "The idea is to make this as broad a county-wide base as possible," Meckley said.

To heighten public awareness of the project, the Commission will run advertisements on television, radio, and in the newspaper. In addition, printed historical brochures and souvenirs will be available. But one of the biggest promotional efforts for the 250th anniversary project is the introduction of the official Web site, designed by Cyberia. The site serves many purposes, providing detailed information on all the events, a timeline of York's history, an online store, and a place for people to discuss issues surrounding York's past, present and future.

"I think if you're living today you can scarcely not have an event of this kind involved without a Web site," Meckley noted. "I'd had some familiarity with Cyberia, and when we met Adam Viener (Cyberia's president), he seemed to be very much interested in the project and he made a very good proposal."

Viener said that Cyberia is "excited to be working on this important project and appreciates the Commission's confidence in our Web design and management capabilities."

The site, which was launched at a press conference at the Yorktowne Hotel on June 25th, is constantly being updated with new features and information.

If you are interested in volunteering for any aspect of the 250th anniversary project, please call Wayne Harper at 771-9711, email him at dwharper@york-county.org, or fill out the form on the York250 site.

Modems for Sale!

U.S. Robotics Ext. Courier 56k-v.90

\$150 for Cyberia customers!

\$175 for everyone else.

Call 848-1439 for more information



Chatting with America Online Buddies with Cyberia

Are your kids bugging you to get an AOL account so that they can talk to their friends who have not yet graduated to a direct Internet account? There is a solution that will allow you to keep your faster, direct connection and still offer your children access to the AOL buddy list and instant message feature.

The AOL Instant Messenger is a free Internet program that extends AOL's buddy list program to all Internet users. The program, included on the Cyberia Internet Software CD-ROM, will allow you to see when your friends log on to AOL, or their ISP accounts. Once you are both online, the AOL Instant Messenger makes it easy to have a "real time" conversation.

Our staff and customers have tried a number of Internet Pager-style products. The current favorite among them seems to be ICQ. It offers far more functionality than the simple AOL instant messenger including Internet paging, chatting, file transfers and more, but will only interface with AOL customers who are also running the ICQ program. For more information about ICQ and other pager products, see our Fall '97 newsletter article at <http://www.cyberia.com/newsletters.htm>.

New Faces at Cyberia

Jen McLaughlin

Jennifer joined Cyberia Communications in May of 1998 as Cyberia's receptionist. She was born and raised in York County. She graduated from Central York High School and is currently pursuing a degree in Business Administration at Penn State University.

Jen likes to spend her free time at the beach and with her friends, but her favorite past time is playing with her three-year-old son.



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Sam Justis

Sam is one of Cyberia's growing team of tech support specialists. He is a 1996 graduate of York College of PA, where he obtained a B.S. in Accounting and was involved in Habitat for Humanity.

Before coming to Cyberia, Sam was an Assistant Branch Manager at Commerce Bank. In his spare time, Sam enjoys reading, watching TV/movies, and playing games. He also likes to attempt both golfing and fishing.



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