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Well the calendar says that spring is here!

"Well the calendar says that spring is almost here!" The calendar says we're well in to 2008 and that Daylight Savings Time begins on March 9th, it also says that spring begins on March 20th. I think it'll show up later here...



Accounting Department and assistant

I don't get to see most of you very often, so here I am once again so you can put a face with the voice. Please let me know if you are going to be late paying your bill so that I can mark it down and don't have to bug you. Remember that we have an online payment option on our website to make things easier and faster for you.



Connection Services Update - DSL vs. Cable or Satellite

We touched on this in a global email a couple of months ago. As broadband service is becoming more common, you can start to see more video broadcast in HD. Most of the studios are re-airing some of their shows online (in fact that's what the writer's strike is all about). iTunes has recently announced that it will be broadcasting some of their selection in high definition. Other sources like Netflix and Blockbuster will be offering their rentals in HD.

Computer monitors already have the ability to display in high definition but these monitors are relatively small for watching movies or TV shows so we recommend that you use an LCD screen as a big monitor and plug in your computer. Plasma screens while not as flexible do have a better picture for use in purely entertainment environments. The number of pixels that are displayed measures the density or quality of computer monitors and high definition screens. The most basic high definition is 480p or like a DVD; mid-grade is 720p or like an HD feed through your cable; and lastly the highest grade is 1080p or like a BluRay disc. HD is one of those leading edge kinds of technology in which you will get more for your money if you buy a brand name - like Sony or Sharp.



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## Tech Tips

As most of you know, spam is a constant problem for anyone with an email address. More and more are sent each day and even changing addresses will only delay the inevitable for a short time before the flood begins anew. We have an alternative though to help filter out not only spam but viruses as well - Postini.

Postini is not a passive software program but a company whose job is to actively filter email. The nice thing is, they are constantly working to upgrade their filters as new spam comes out, similar to anti virus programs. Another advantage to this is that you have full access to not only see what it's caught, but to adjust the filters, create a blocked sender list and also teach the filter to always allow those email addresses you want to let through.

Along with the spam filtering comes anti virus too. Postini uses McAfee anti virus to scan your mail for bad things before it even gets to our server. So if you are running an anti virus on your computer, you are double covered (We always recommend an anti virus program on your own machine).

The cost for this system is 95 cents a month for up to 3 email addresses for pyramid customers and \$1.95 a month for those with their own domains that we host. All it takes to set up is a call or an email to the office and request it be set up.

## Reasons Why You Need the Internet

- °Shopping - Price Comparison & Convenience
- °Education - research for kids at school
- °Communication - Instant & Convenient

## Moving?

If you are planning to move and have DSL with us, you need to let us know at least two weeks ahead of time so that we can plan a smooth transition for you and minimize the time when your Internet will be down. DSL Line Sharing does not transfer automatically with your phone line. If you are unable to let us know about your move a couple weeks in advance; please expect to be offline for two to three weeks depending on your individual situation. If you can call ahead, there are ways that we can make the transition smooth and almost seamless. So please - call Bob @ 884-3202, and give us your new information.



## The Importance of Battery Backups

"The weather is starting to turn unpredictable again." Computers are very temperamental when it comes to a steady flow of power, because of wind, snow, power is not the most stable in terms of voltage. Be it in the minerals in the ground, or lightning, we are stuck with fluctuating voltage. This can lead to problems over the long run if you leave things running all the time. A good investment is a surge protector. A better investment is a battery backup. Both of these will help in keeping voltage at a more steady input. The battery backup will last longer and provide more power especially to a network of computers. If there is lightning in the area, it is best to not only shut down computers, but to unplug them from the wall and this includes the phone line. Surges from lightning can and do travel through the phone lines and can damage computer parts. Those power strips you see advertised as able to take lightning strikes are not able to withstand a direct or near direct strike, so better safe than sorry. Just turn things off and wait it out.

## New Backup System!



UPDATE: We are still beta testing the new backup system. All good things take a little longer than planned! The design is finished and we are deep in the testing phase, our testing customers are still putting it through its paces. It should be available to our customer base sometime in the spring of this year! We have created this system with all of our customers in mind; it should work with all the major operating systems including Windows, Macintosh and Linux. This backup system is not something that you want to use to backup your entire computer (hard drive) complete with applications but more compatible with compilations of data like client lists or important emails, anything that you would miss in case of a fire or theft. If you have any questions about when this will be available for you or what you personally should use it for, please call Todd or send an email to support@pyramid.net.

## About Our Organization

Pyramid.Net aims to provide you the best that the latest and greatest communication resources that are available. We offer free Internet classes once a month and unlimited phone support until 6pm weekdays to make this activity as convenient for you as possible. Remember that Pyramid.Net has a referral policy in which we will extend you a \$5 credit on your next bill plus a month free for the new customer that you refer. Call us at 884-3202 and tell us how we can best serve you!



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