

## HELP SECURE YOUR COMPUTER...



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According to the United States– Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CET), users should be aware of potential email scams, fake antivirus and phishing attacks regarding the Mississippi flooding disaster. Email scams may contain links or attachments that may direct users to phishing or malicious websites. Fake antivirus attacks may come in the form of pop-ups that flash security warnings and ask for the user’s credit card information. Phishing emails and websites requesting donation for bogus charitable organization commonly appear after these types of natural disasters.



Users should take the following measures to protect themselves:

- Do not follow or open unsolicited web links or attachments in email messages.
- Maintain up-to-date antivirus software.

- Review the Federal Trade Commission’s Charity Checklist @ <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/telemarketing/tel01.shtm>

- Verify the legitimacy of the email by contacting the organization directly, through a trusted contact number. Trusted contact information can be found on the Better Business Bureau National Charity Report Index @ <http://www.bbb.org/charity-reviews/national/>

- And remember, that most official charities will not contact you through email unless you are already a member of their organization. Therefore, if you want to donate, go to their official website .

It’s never too late to protect yourself, because if you don’t– who will?

## MANAGER'S CORNER



As summer approaches, we are hoping the wind dies down and more moisture comes our way for greener fields and pastures. This seems like the longest spring with wind I can remember but maybe I say that every year. March was always windy and a little bit in April. Even now as I am writing this, the wind is howling in my office windows and it is now May.

AMTCA has new changes that have come about since our last newsletter. We now have a new website for Agate Mutual Telephone. This gives you information for our offerings in local and long distance, DSL and Wildblue Satellite Internet, our newsletters, community links and a contact tab. We will have a link for making payments on line. This is in negotiation with our Credit Card vendor.

One tab I want to focus on is the community links. We have links to our Prairie Networks site, offer for anti-virus for your computer, NOAA Weather, CDOT Road Conditions, Elbert County Government and Colorado State Government. These features can be valuable so no searching is necessary to find any of the items listed.

Our Home page has a link to the Eastern Colorado Regional Phone Book. This gives you access electronically with a click of a button to local numbers as well as all the listings in our paper phone book.

May has brought changes in our DSL business. We now have access to the CCT fiber and have a new Internet Provider. This will cause our DSL customers to change their email address to [yourusername@amtca.net](mailto:yourusername@amtca.net).

Our speed packages have increased and this should help your wait time. Once again, I want I reiterate that if you sign up for the 786 package, the speed is up to 786k and it is dependent on the number of customers who are on our network at the same time. At the present time, burying fiber for backbone is not an option as it costs approximately \$10,000 per miles and that does not include the electronics.

I want to take this time to express my gratitude and appreciation for you, the customer. Without you allowing us to provide you service, your Cooperative would not be in business. We strive to provide the best customer service and if you have questions or concerns, please call, email or drop in for a cup of coffee and we can visit with you any time.

I hope you have a good summer.

*Gail Pitzer*

General Manager

*Gail Pitzer, has been the manager of Agate Mutual Telephone since 1985. She has worked for Agate Mutual Telephone starting in 1975, until current. Gail grew up in the Agate area, and is married with one daughter. Gail is also the Chief Financial Officer of Prairie Networks, L.L.C. (as subsidiary of Agate Mutual Telephone, that provides Satellite Internet, DSL, & Long Distance Services), and has helped start that company from the beginning.*





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Office Hours:  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Monday—Friday

## SHORT SHORTS

Two men, Jim and John, were walking their dogs when they passed by a restaurant. "Let's go in and get something to eat," Jim suggested. "We can't, don't you see the sign that says no pets allowed?" John replied. "Don't worry about it" Jim said, taking out a pair of sunglasses, he walked up to the door. As he tried walking into the restaurant he was stopped at the door. "Sorry no pets" the doorman said. Jim responds, "Can't you see that I am blind, and this is my seeing eye dog?" "But it's a Doberman pincher, who uses a Doberman as a seeing eye dog?" the man asked. "Oh, you must not have heard, this is the latest type of seeing eye dog, they do a very good job." Seeing that it worked, John tried walking in with his Chihuahua.

Even before he could open his mouth, the doorman said, "don't you tell me that a Chihuahua is the latest type of seeing eye dog." Thinking quickly, John responded in an angry voice, "You mean they gave me a Chihuahua?"



## UPDATED AGATE DIRECTORY CARDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

**H**ot off the presses, the June 2011 Updated Agate Directory Card is available for free at our office. Come in and ask for one, or give us a call and we can mail one to you.

For your convenience we have also posted one on our website that you can download and print.



## F U N F A C T S

Did you know...

- Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes.
- On an average work day, a typist's fingers travel 12.6 miles.
- Moscow weathermen can be fined for inaccurate weather forecasting!
- There is a city called Rome on every continent.
- The United States produces more tobacco than it does wheat.
- According to some estimates, Americans are sitting on \$30 billion worth of unredeemed gift cards.



*Do you have something you want to put in our newsletter? Contact us.*