

## **APCUG VIRTUAL TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE – February 8, 2020**

<https://apcug2.org/apcugs-free-2020-winter-virtual-technology-conference-vtc35/>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-winter-virtual-technology-conference-tickets-90438246229>

### **Track 1**

1:00PM The Browser - Your Most Important App

2:00PM What will 5G mean to you?

3:00PM Getting started in researching your Family History (Even if you have been researching it for years.

### **Track 2**

1:00PM Future of Technology

2:00PM Introduction to Home Automation

3:00PM Creating a Podcast for your group

## **FALL 2019 VTC & ANNUAL MEETING VIDEOS.**

You will find the YouTube videos at:

2019 Annual Meeting – <https://youtu.be/O9iQQKwQAmo>

Android 10's New Features, Bill James - <https://youtu.be/YPDgV5PcthQ>

Easy Transition from Windows to Linux, John Kennedy - [https://youtu.be/\\_yMHUcqVDzw](https://youtu.be/_yMHUcqVDzw)

Protecting Your Digital Life, Bob Gostischa - <https://youtu.be/1QDknHoavwg>

Saving Your Life with Technology, Ron Brown - <https://youtu.be/hZ-sZBkW4ec>

What's New with iOS 13? Jere Minich - <https://youtu.be/H6KfPm9jRpM>

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### **The decade's top 10 most 'important and influential gadgets' - with Apple's original iPad taking the top spot (submitted by Lynn Walker)**

TIME magazine has revealed its list of ten technologies that it deems 'the decade's most important and influential gadgets.'

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-7799059/The-decades-10-important-influential-gadgets-Apples-iPad-ranking-first.html?ITO=applenews>

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## **Printing problem in Office 365 applications**

In Outlook, after clicking Print, the printer shown was not the default printer but the last printer on the list. In the Preview pane it indicated "an unexpected error has occurred".

No problem printing to any printer from MS Office on another computer.

Tried switching to first printer in list - Brother LaserJet and that worked. But when selecting any other printer, received same error as above.

Opened Word and it only had problem when trying to print from a program called pdf reDirect v2.

Uninstalled pdf reDirect v2 and re-installed. Was then able to print using that program from both Word and Outlook, although Outlook still exhibiting same behavior as above with other printers.

Uninstalled one HP printer and reinstalled. Then all printers started working. Had been having issues with that printer indicating it was offline and, possibly, uninstalling and reinstalling that printer first might have resolved the problem.

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## **Unable to use Charter email for almost two weeks**

On November 25, 2019, worked with individual who had not been able to access Spectrum email since November 12.

Individual had called Spectrum three times since then. First two times told it was problem in local area and last time told it was national problem.

On Chrome browser when logging into Spectrum only showing white screen.

Using Edge browser and logged into Spectrum and accessed email with no problem.

On Chrome cleared History and cache for All Time. After that was able to log into Spectrum and access email.

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## **HP laptop computer - 2 years old, battery no longer charging, can't update to latest version of Windows 10.**

Running version 1803 of Windows 10. Indicated ready to update to version 1903. Checked computer for progress and discovered computer had shut down. Thought maybe it was just restarting but waited several minutes and still off. Powered computer on and it indicated it was restoring previous version. Fortunately, it restored successfully.

Indicated error Oxc190101. Research indicated that error may indicate old drivers. Checked Windows Update History and noted that the update had failed two times previously. Had already checked HP Support Assistant for updates and none found. Rechecked and still no HP updates. Went to Settings in HP Support Assistant to see if any updates for Support Assistant and got server error. From HP website downloaded and installed latest version of HP Support Assistant. Reran check for HP updates and 13 updates found. Ran all updates except HP Orbit which was listed as critical update and a BIOS update. Restarted computer and ran UP Orbit update.

Indicated battery had to be 40% charged in order to install the update. Removed the battery and that updated completed successfully. Attempted to run BIOS update and it indicated the update was no longer applicable. Reran check for updates and it again showed a BIOS update. This time BIOS Update ran successfully.

Restarted computer and checked for Windows updates. No longer offering version 1903 but after a couple rechecks, it offered version 1909. Update completed successfully.

Left battery out since computer is plugged in all the time.

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### **HP G72 PC - After hard drive failure, install Chrome OS instead of Windows**

Replaced hard drive with used Western Digital drive. Was going to reinstall Windows 7 but when attempting to download Windows 7 ISO from Microsoft website it indicated Windows Product key could not be verified and to contact vendor computer was purchased from. Computer is probably close to 10 years old so didn't think HP would be much help.

Computer just used to browse internet using Google Chrome, check email and occasionally use Google Docs.

Found information on site called [neverware.com](http://neverware.com) for downloading CloudReady which is a version of Chromium that runs on PCs. The Neverware site contains good instructions and CloudReady is available free for home users. There is a USB Maker tool that requires having another PC to create the bootable USB with installation files, but the process was straightforward. Creating the USB and installing on the G72 PC took about 30 minutes. The site has a list of PCs it is guaranteed to work on but indicates it will probably work on other PCs. The G72 wasn't on the guaranteed list but the program worked fine.

There isn't a Powerwash function as on a Chromebook, but can reinstall anytime with bootable USB.

CloudReady does not support Google Play store so apps may be limited but for someone who is just browsing the Internet, maybe email, and an occasional document, it is an inexpensive option, and good use for old pc.

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### **Can putting cell phone on laptop keyboard cause computer to shut down?**

Apparently, yes.

Most laptop computers have a magnet in the cover which shuts down the computer when the cover is closed. If the cell phone has a magnet and is placed in close enough proximity to the sensor, the computer will shut off.

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### **Is it safe to shut down a computer by pressing power button?**

<https://www.howtogeek.com/181295/yes-its-okay-to-shut-down-your-computer-with-the-power-button/>

This procedure says briefly pressing the power button sends the same signal to the computer as clicking Shut Down.

If the computer is not responsive, holding down the power button forcibly cuts power to the computer.

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### **October episode of Leo LaPorte - This Week in Tech – Episode 740**

discussion starts at about 44 mins 10 seconds into the episode.

Leo recommends turning off Fraudulent Website Warning on Apple devices

Apple Safari browser sends some user IP addresses to Chinese conglomerate.

<https://reclaimthenet.org/apple-safari-ip-addresses-tencent/>

To turn off:

Tap Settings

Scroll to and tap: Safari

Under section: Privacy & Security

move slider to left to turn off Fraudulent Website Warning

### **LeoLaporte The Tech Guy! episode 1650 December 7, 2019**

Leo recommends using Brave browser for privacy.

<https://brave.com/twit/>

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### **Add custom shortcuts to Windows Start Menu - in alphabetical listing**

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/windows-10-tip-add-custom-shortcuts-to-the-start-menu/>

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### **Nord VPN fails to notify users about a vulnerability. October 2019**

**After the breach, Nord is asking people to trust its VPN again**

<https://www.cnet.com/news/after-the-breach-nord-is-asking-users-to-trust-it-again/>

**Nord's Response: Why the NordVPN network is safe after a third-party provider breach**

Information has recently surfaced about a NordVPN breach caused by vulnerabilities in a third-party datacenter's server. We'd like to give you a clear timeline of the events followed by some key facts about the NordVPN breach story.

<https://nordvpn.com/blog/official-response-datacenter-breach/>

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**Paul Thurrott - App picks - 10/24/2019**

Touch Tasks - \$4.99 - Bring "Zones" to your Windows 10 Touch Screen with TouchTasks.  
<https://www.stardock.com/news/496927/new-windows-touch-screen-app-lets-users-assign-actions-to-specific-screen-locations>

Firefox 70 - has online tracking blocker. Offers dashboard so you can see what companies are trying to track you around the Internet.

Opera has new version for Android. Themes that switch with it.

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**Windows Edge based on Chromium Browser**

<https://www.tomshardware.com/news/microsoft-edge-chromium-browser-leak-download>

Release version will replace the version of Edge that came preinstalled and the only way to go back to the original will be to reinstall Windows 10.

**NOTE:** Because it will be based on Chromium, this new version of Edge should support casting to Chromecast. Was tempted to try it but didn't want to be faced with prospect of having to reinstall Window 10 so will wait until it is officially released.

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## HOW-TO GEEK Articles

**You can still get Windows 10 free with a Windows 7, 8, or 8.1 Key** – January 3, 2020  
<https://www.howtogeek.com/266072/you-can-still-get-windows-10-for-free-with-a-windows-7-8-or-8.1-key/>

(As noted in a previous article in this document, I was unable to download Windows 7 ISO from Microsoft using Product Key from label on computer. Don't know if that would be an issue if installing Windows 10 on a computer already running Windows 7, or if I had installed Windows 7 from a recovery DVD created on another computer vs. trying to download.)

**Best of CES 2020** – January 9, 2020  
<https://www.howtogeek.com/487071/best-of-ces-2020-all-the-best-things-we-saw-this-year/>

**Wrap text around images in Google Docs** – January 9, 2020  
<https://www.howtogeek.com/450952/how-to-wrap-text-around-images-in-google-docs/>

**Beware these 7 Facebook Scams** - December 18, 2019  
<https://www.howtogeek.com/449710/beware-these-7-facebook-scams/>

**How a Password Manager protects you from Phishing scams** – December 17, 2019  
<https://www.howtogeek.com/451177/how-a-password-manager-protects-you-from-phishing/>

**How to stop people from stealing your packages** – December 9, 2019  
<https://www.howtogeek.com/422947/how-to-stop-people-from-stealing-your-packages/>

**How to use your calendar from Windows 10's Taskbar** – December 9, 2019  
<https://www.howtogeek.com/450185/how-to-use-your-calendar-from-windows-10s-taskbar/>

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**Lawmaker alerts residents of current scam**

Sen. Jim Stamas is urging area families to be alert for a new scam fake letters about past-due state taxes.

“Scam artists are becoming bolder in their demands and more creative in disguising who they really are,” said Stamas, R-Midland. “While their techniques may change, their intentions remain to trick people into giving them money or valuable information. I encourage everyone to continue to be on the lookout for scams, especially a new one in which the thieves send fake government-looking letters about an overdue tax bill.

“The new scam uses publicly available information about a taxpayer’s past-due taxes to try and trick the person into believing the letter is real.”

According to the Michigan Department of Treasury, in the scheme taxpayers are told in the fake letter to immediately contact a toll-free number to resolve a state tax debt. The letter aggressively threatens to seize a taxpayer’s assets — including property and Social Security benefits — if the debt is not settled.

“Although the state does mail official letters to taxpayers, they provide several options to resolve outstanding debts and outline your taxpayer rights,” Stamas said.

“If you get a letter that threatens to seize your property unless you pay immediately over the phone, it’s a scam.”

Taxpayers who have received the scam letter or have questions about a possible state debt can call Treasury’s Collections Service Center at 517-636-5265.

Published in Midland Daily News

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