



One Call PC Solutions



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Bits and Bytes...

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past issues of the
newsletter.

It's time again for our newsletter! In this issue: Windows security issues, photo websites, personalized email, more special projects and recommended maintenance.

Windows Security Vulnerability...

You have no doubt heard of the serious security issue found in several versions of Microsoft Windows. This pertains to a recently discovered flaw in Windows 2000 and Windows XP that could allow an attacker to take control of your computer. There is a patch release to cover it and it is very simple to install. Simply go to the windows update icon on your start menu or <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com> and follow the instructions listed to keep your computer's security up to date. This bug only affects Windows XP and Windows 2000 but it is a good idea to keep your computer up to date regardless of your version of windows. This would be a good time to check your Anti-Virus software as well.

Family Photo Websites...

Have a lot of family photos to share? You might want to consider a website to share them on! We can setup an easy to use photo website on which you can easily add and remove pictures. We can also register an easy to remember web-site address such as www.yourfamily.com to make it easy to find and also provide your entire family with personalized e-mail addresses. Adding pictures is very simple if you have a digital camera or get the Kodak Picture CD's when you have your film developed. Prices start around \$65/year for domain registration, picture hosting and email services. To see an example of one of these sites, click [here](#).

Another Special Project...

We had the opportunity to add another project to our special projects page recently. While rebuilding a hand-me-down computer destined for a young lady, we were able to add a little flair to help make it her own. After doing the normal upgrades and reloads, we were still left with a plain beige computer that just seemed like it was missing something. After some consideration and a little paint we had a perfect computer for her. Heather painted the computer light purple with pink and blue butterflies and flowers. If you would like to see the results of Heather's paintbrush, you can click [here](#).

Periodic Maintenance...

People often ask what kind of periodic maintenance they should do to keep their computers happy and healthy. There honestly isn't much that a computer requires to stay in good shape. You should run Windows Defrag and Scandisk at least once a month and make sure that your Anti-Virus software is up-to-date and performing weekly virus scans. Also, another thing to check is your Surge Protectors. Chances are good that the one on the floor under your desk isn't affording you much protection, the electronics designed to protect your computer in the event of a power surge typically are only effective for about a year. So if your surge protector is more than a year or two old, you may want to consider a new one. Belkin is a good brand name of surge protectors that can be found at most retailers.

Final Bits...

Still have a second phone line just for the fax machine? We have a solution! We send and receive all of our faxes over the internet using a service called eFax. This inexpensive service allows you to send and receive all of your faxes as emails. For more information check out <http://www.efax.com>. Monthly rates start as low as \$10.

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