THANKS FOR THE MEMORY

Memorial Day is their day, isn't it? It is supposed to be the day a grateful nation pauses to quietly thank the more than one million men and womenwho have died in military service to their country since the Revolutionary War.

Or is it the day the beach resorts kick into high gear for the summer season, the day the strand is covered by fish-belly white people bastingthemselves in coconut oil, the day the off-season rates end and the weekend you can't get in a seaside seafood restaurant with anything less than a one hour wait.

Or is it one of the biggest shopping center sales days of the year, a day when hunting for a parking space is the prime sport for the holiday stay-at-homers?

Or is it the weekend when more people will kill themselves on the highways than any other weekend and Highway Patrol troopers work overtimepicking up the pieces?

I think the men and women who died for us would understand what we do with their day. I hope they would, because if they wouldn't, if they would have insisted that it be a somber, respectful day of remembrance, then we have blown it and dishonored their sacrifice.

I knew some of those who died, and the guys I knew would have understood. They liked a sunny beach and a cold beer and a babe in a black bikini, too.

They would have enjoyed packing the kids, the inflatable rafts, the coolers, and the suntan lotion in the car and heading for the lake.

They would have enjoyed staying at home and cutting the grass and getting together with some friends and cooking some steaks on the grill, too. But they didn't get the chance.

They blew up in the Marine Barracks in Beirut and died in the oily waters of the Persian Gulf. They caught theirs at the airstrip in Grenada in the little war everyone laughed at.

They bought the farm in the I Drang Valley and on Heartbreak Ridge, Phu Tai and at Hue. They froze at the Chosin Reservoir and were shot at the Pusan Perimeter.

They drowned in the surf at Omaha Beach or fell in the fetid jungles of Guadalcanal.

They died in the ice and snow of the Bulge and the Vosges Mountains.

They were at the Somme and at San Juan Hill and at Gettysburg and at Cerro Gordo and at Valley Forge.

They couldn't be here with us this weekend, but I think they would understand that we don't spend the day in tears and heart-wrenching memorials. They wouldn't want that. Grief is not why they died.

They died so we could go fishing. They died so another father could hold his laughing little girl over the waves. They died so another father could toss a baseball to his son in their backyard while the charcoal is getting white. They died so another buddy could drink a beer on his day off. They died so a family could get in the station wagon and go shopping and maybe get some ice cream on the way home.

They won't mind that we have chosen their day to have our first big outdoor party of the year. But they wouldn't mind, either, if we took just a second and thought about them. Some will think of them formally, of course.

Wreaths will be laid in small, sparsely attended ceremonies in military cemeteries and at monuments at state capitols and in small town's squares.

Flags will fly over the graves, patriotic words will be spoken and a few people there will probably feel a little anger that no more people showed up. They'll think no one else remembers.

But we do remember. I remember Smitty and Chico, and Davey and the guys who died.

I remember the deal we made: If we buy it, we said, drink a beer for me.

I'll do it for you, guys. I'll drink that beer for you today, and I'll sit on that beach for you, and I'll check out the girls for you and, just briefly, I'll think of you.

I won't let your memory spoil the trip but you'll be on that sunny beach with me today.

I will not mourn your deaths this Memorial Day. But I will honor the lives you gave so that we could have this day

God Bless America!!

The Villages Computer Club Friday, June 1st, 1 P.M. La Hacienda
This week's program will feature a presentation by Bob Petrilak on Picasa.
Picasa is an image organizer and image viewer for organizing and editing digital photos, plus an integrated photo-sharing website.

Following the presentation will be refreshments, 50/50, door prizes and a problem solving session.

If you have a computer problem you can't resolve, fill out the problem report form found at http://thevillagescomputerclub.com/meetings.php and bring it to the meeting.

Sign up to be on the VCC email list at the VCC home page (below)

For more information on the VCC please reference the clubs web site at: http://thevillagescomputerclub.com/

Guests are always welcome.

For information, email Paul Rabenold at TVCC.Pres@gmail.com

Don't forget !! iPad Meeting on June 5th 1:30 pm at Colony Cottage Recreation Center. For more information about iPad and Android meetings sign up on the email list at the web site at http://villagesipadandroid.weebly.com/

DLink Security

- 1. At the DLink site (www.dlink.com), click Setup, click Wireless Settings.
- 2. Check that the Wirless Network Settings are as follows:
 - a. Enable Wireless checked
 - b. Wireless Network name (SSID) shows the name of your network.
 - c. Wireless Channel shows the channel that you've found works best.
 - d. Enable Auto Channel Scan checked

- e. 802.11 Mode; shows 802.11b/g/n mixed
- f. Visibility Status radio dot in Visible
- 3. Under the Wireless Security Mode, click the down arrow and select WEP or WPA. Follow direction for creating passphrase and write it down and put in a safe place (not on the front of your computer), but a place where you can find it should you forget it.

Linksys EasyLink Home Networking Tools

Trying to setup your Linksys Router and/or Linksys wireless adapters and having difficulty? Let Linksys Tech Service do it for you.

- 1. Go online to www.linksys.com/support
- 2. Click Tech Support
- 3. Select Easylink Home Networking Tools
- 4. Click EasyLink Connect if setting up Linksys Router.
- 5. Click NetCheck if installing or troubleshooting a wireless adapter.
- 6. Click EasyLink Advisor (LELA) if setting up or troubleshooting Linksys Router It does all the work for you. Even will download the proper driver you need.

Tips to Personalize Your Computer

There are several ways to customize your PC and <u>Windows</u> to make screen time more enjoyable:

Increasing Internet fonts: If you have difficulty reading content online because of the small print, you can easily increase font size by clicking the CTRL and + keys simultaneously. If the font is too large, you can decrease it by clicking the CTRL and - keys

Wallpaper and screensaver: This is computer eye candy. You can either leave the desktop background as is, or select particular photos and images, which you can then swap out whenever you want. Similar to the wallpaper, the screensaver is a decorative image that shows up when your system has been inactive. Instead of the standard black screen and Windows logo, you can select a different visual.

Screen resolution: According to the tech experts, the clarity of your computer monitor is linked to the resolution. As <u>Microsoft.com</u> explains, "At higher resolutions, items appear sharper. They also appear smaller, so more items fit on the screen." Before adjusting the resolution, however, you need to distinguish what type of monitor you have.

Large keyboard: If your standard computer keyboard is too small, you can purchase

specialized ones with much larger letters that are easier to read. The keys on such keyboards run up to 1 inch x 1 inch in size.

Start menu: You can even personalize the Start menu on your system and choose which programs to feature. If you wish to remove a particular program, click Start, right-click the program you wish to remove from the menu (for example, Microsoft Excel), and click "Remove from This List."

Audio functions: How about enhancing your online experience with a little background noise? You can customize Windows to "sound off" whenever your computer performs certain functions, such as receiving new email. In <u>Windows 7</u>, for example, you can switch sound schemes or a particular sound.

Managing folders, photos, downloads, etc.: If your photos, downloads and documents are scattered randomly on your computer in a state of disarray, it's time to organize them. Windows 7 offers a <u>Libraries</u> feature, where you can store your data in specialized folders. Another option is to de-clutter your hard drive by subscribing to web storage services, where you can store documents, photos, downloads and more and access your data from any location -- not only from your home or office computer, but even from your smart phone.

Domain Name What is it

Understanding the parts of a domain name

A <u>domain name</u> usually consists of two or more parts (technically *labels*), separated by dots. For example wikipedia.org.

- The rightmost label conveys the <u>top-level domain</u> (for example, the address en.wikipedia.org has the top-level domain org).
- Each label to the left specifies a subdivision or **subdomain** of the domain above it. Note that "subdomain" expresses relative dependence, not absolute dependence: for example, wikipedia.org comprises a subdomain of the org domain, and en.wikipedia.org comprises a subdomain of the domain wikipedia.org. In theory, this subdivision can go down to 127 levels deep, and each label can contain up to 63 characters, as long as the whole domain name does not exceed a total length of 255 characters. But in practice some domain registries have shorter limits than that.

• A <u>hostname</u> refers to a domain name that has one or more associated IP addresses. For example, the en.wikipedia.org and wikipedia.org domains are both hostnames, but the org domain is not.

How to find a file you've downloaded

- 1. RightClick START...SEARCH. (or click Start and just type the file name in the search box if using Win 7)
- 2. Type the name of the file (or part of the name) you want to find in the top NAME box.
 - 1. Click the down arrow of the LOOK IN box and select the C: drive
 - 2. Click SEARCH.
 - 3. The file will then be listed along with the entire path to it's location . e.g. C:\AOLxxx\DOWNLOAD\ (and the name of the file).
 - 4. You may doubleclick to open the file from here. Or go to the WINDOWS EXPLORER, click on the C: drive you can scroll down to the AOL folder, click the + sign, scroll further down to the DOWNLOAD subfolder and doubleclick it, you will find the file listed on the right hand side of the page along with all the other files that have been stored in the DOWNLOAD subfolder.

How To Get HDTV on Your PC

06.19.08

Total posts: 7

Considering a PC for your living room, but wondering how you'll get your high-definition channels? We show you how to get HD onto your PC—no cable box or CableCARD required.

by http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2320658,00.asp - #Jeremy A. Kaplan

Looking to turn your PC into a super media center monster? The most comprehensive way is with a <u>CableCARD</u>—the buggy, hard-to-get, often-unsupported tuner cards that lets your computer decode encrypted digital cable shows. CableCARD tuners are available only on a

handful of new computers, meaning you can't just add one to your current PC. Yet they're required before your PC can unscramble <u>HBO</u>, Showtime, and the other big name TV channels.

The good news is, you don't need CableCARD for all HD transmissions. HDTV comes in two basic formats: ATSC signals, short for <u>Advanced Television Systems Committee</u>, are sent over the air from your local TV stations in glorious high-definition, widescreen, surround-sound format. If you can receive standard broadcast channels with an antenna, you should be able to receive high def signals too.

QAM, or quadrature amplitude modulation, is a technical description of the video signal your cable provider supplies. Most of it is encrypted, requiring either a CableCard or a cable box to decode. But many channels are unencrypted, or "clear," since Cox, Cablevision, and most other big providers make ABC, <u>CBS</u>, NBC, and the other basic channels available on their networks by remodulating the ATSC broadcast into QAM.

There are rumors that the FCC will make delivery of basic channels in this manner mandatory. This means that depending on your cable provider and location, you may not be able to receive any channels whatsoever, or the major networks (ABC, NBC, and CBS), or the even premium channels (HBO, Showtime, and so on).

Unfortunately, Vista's Media Center doesn't support QAM without a CableCARD. Well, it does and it doesn't. According to Microsoft's website, the format is supported. A spokesperson elaborated a bit, however, noting that "clear-QAM signals are supported with the version of Windows Media Center that is included with both Windows Vista Home Premium and Windows Vista Ultimate, a digital cable tuner, and a digital cable-ready PC. Digital cable-ready PCs are those that have been certified by the cable industry to ensure a predictable level of service." In other words, Vista doesn't support clear QAM; certain individually-certified PCs support it.

If your PC is one of the hundreds of millions of functioning PCs in American households today that aren't "digital cable ready," (and if you have to ask, you're not certified), you're stuck renting a cable box. Remind you too much of renting a phone from Ma Bell? But all is not lost. Instead, turn to one of the following three ways to get that cable signal directly into Windows Media Center: The Elgato HDHomeRun, the Hauppauge Win-TV-HVR-2250, and the AVerMedia AVerTV Bravo Hybrid PCIe. Which one should you get? Read on to find out.

Want to compare these HDTV tuners against one another? Check out our <u>HDTV tuner summary</u> of features.

FEATURED IN THIS STORY:

AVerMedia AVerTV Bravo Hybrid PCIe (\$79.99 direct)

An inexpensive TV tuner board that comes with some very impressive options, including QAM support and real-time H.264 transcoding, the AVerMedia AVerTV Bravo Hybrid PCIe is a nice multimedia package. If you're looking to break into the world of high-def video, it's a solid choice.

Hauppauge Win-TV-HVR-2250 (\$129 direct)

With two hybrid tuners and integrated QAM support—all at a very reasonable price tag—the Hauppauge Win-TV-HVR-2250 is the gold standard of Home Theater PC TV tuners.

Elgato HDHomeRun (\$199.95 list)

This network-attached HDTV tuner delivers over-the-air HD and SD programming and unscrambled cable television channels to any PC or Mac on your network. In addition, the Mac software lets you convert files, so you can watch them on mobile devices like iPods, iPhones, and PSPs.

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• HDTV Antenna Review

Online guide to choosing the right antenna for HDTV reception.

www.antennasdirect.com

• <u>HDHomeRun</u>

Networked Digital HDTV Tuner ATSC/QAM for MCE, MythTV, Sage www.9thTee.com
